

# PARENT NEWSLETTER

372 South Main Street ~ Climax, Michigan 49034 ~ (269) 746-2300

Climax-Scotts Junior/Senior High School—Home of the Panthers

## PARENT NEWSLETTER

Winter, 2011



Dear Parents and Members of the Panther School Community:

### Academics

It seems as though the year is cruising by us quickly. With the first marking period completed, we now look forward to the second half of our semester. This is the opportunity for students who are excelling to continue their path of excellence, and the opportunity for students who have struggled with skills or effort, to start a new marking period with a fresh and motivated outlook. Please contact Judi Mentzer, our school counselor, if you feel your child needs academic or emotional/social support. She is a great resource to point students and parents in the right direction if struggles are happening in school or home.



### Athletics

I would like to congratulate all of our athletic teams for their dedication and hard work during the fall season. I would like to acknowledge the Varsity Football Team for winning the District Championship. They lost a hard-fought battle during the Regional playoff game against Mendon. I would also like to acknowledge our Panther Cheerleaders and Panther Marching Band. We are very proud of all of our Panthers!



It has been my pleasure to meet many of you and I look forward to getting to know more of the students and families of Climax-Scotts Community Schools.

Warm Regards,

Kimberly M. Kirshman, Ed.S.

Principal

Please join us for the:

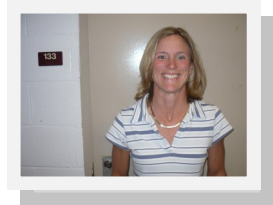
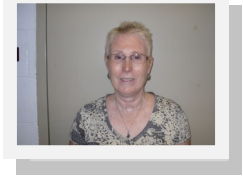
**Attorney General's**

**Cyber Safety Presentation**

**Monday, November 21 6:00PM (HS Library)**

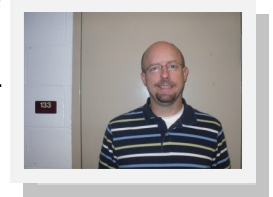
# WHAT ARE TEACHERS DOING IN THEIR CLASSROOMS?

8th grade Science: Creating a comic strip about the rock cycle. Due Tuesday, November 1st. 7th grade Science: Learning how to read and interpret the periodic table. ~Ms. Loegel, Science Instructor

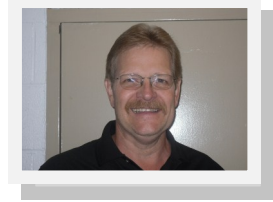


In my 6th grade science class we are doing a biome in a box and a letter to the science teacher about the biome they have selected. In our MOTION UNIT in our Introduction to Physics course, students used motion detectors connector to a vernier lab pro to communicate with a logger pro program on the laptops. Students then got to visualize position vs. time graphs after they created them by projecting their own motion off the detector. We used the same equipment so students could visualize the various graphs for a free falling object. ~Ms. Pollack, Science Instructor

BMA Computer Classes are building a business plan for a business idea that the students have come up with themselves. Two or three students are working as a team and are learning what it takes to start and run a business. We will be using their businesses for contextual examples the rest of the year. ~ Mr. Kirk, Business, Management and Accounting Instructor

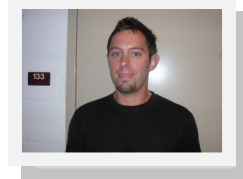


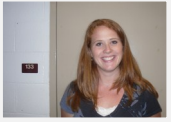
We are beginning a unit on mathematical proofs where we'll visualize the relationship between different figures. We'll also be looking at how to see various figures built into one figure in Geometry. 7th grade is examining ratios and will be looking at the ratio of male to female students and seeing if it matches along grade levels, and across grade bands. Algebra B will continue its study of quadratic functions, mostly related to seeing solutions in various ways. They will begin looking at exponential functions, which can help us monitor population growth and will help us determine which bank to invest our money in. ~ Mr. Leep, Mathematics Instructor



We are working on trying to raise money for a few technology upgrades in the math department, namely funding for TI-Nspire calculators for students to use in discovering and visualizing various mathematical concepts. We are also looking to find funding for LCD projectors to use on a regular basis for various teaching methods, including demonstrations of various topics that cannot be done on a whiteboard with a marker. ~Mr. Robinson and Mr. Leep, Mathematics Instructors

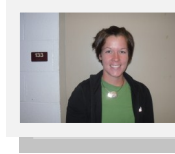
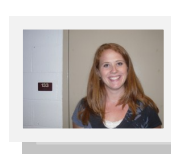
Freshman English: We are studying the epic poem "The Odyssey." They love it!!  
Sophomore English: We are studying the Holocaust memoir "Night." This is a English/History cross-curricular activity. Focus on Freshman: Students have completed their first marking period portfolios, which are complete with resumes, references, and other materials to give potential employers or scholarship committees some insight into the student's abilities, personality, and work ethic. ~Mr. Jones, English/FoF Instructor





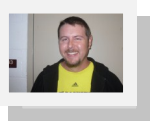
Jr./Sr. High Art Current Projects 6th Grade: Color Theory: Students are working on creating a color wheel and learning how to use it. By the end of this unit, students should be able to define color terms, and mix colors of paint appropriately. Mixing paint is fun! 7th Grade: 3-D Color Order: Students will use color order to create an image that looks 3-D though 3-D glasses. This is a really cool thing to see when it is finished. 3-D images will be displayed at conferences. High School: All levels of high school art students are currently working on a self-portrait. Students had three options to choose from in this project: 1. A straight forward grid picture. 2. A picture showing the student in another time or place. 3. A picture of the student surrounded by things that symbolize him/her. These portraits will be done in graphite on 12x18 white paper. • All artwork from 1st marking period will be returned to students after conferences. ~ Ms. Richards, Art Instructor

## SOME OF OUR EXTRA CURRICULAR NEWS:

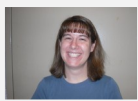


**Student Council** • We enjoyed “Red Ribbon Week”. Wearing a red ribbon displayed support for “Students against Destructive Decisions”. Students showed support by wearing red ribbons all week long. • Our next project in student council will be to organize a canned food drive for this holiday season. • Winter Fest will be here before we know it! What will those teachers have in store this time? • Look forward to hearing more about a school wide talent show this spring. ~ Ms. Richards and Ms. Campbell, High School Student Council Co-Advisors

**Ski club** registration is now taking place. \$14/punch card, which allows for \$14 lift ticket at Timber Ridge. Jr. or Sr. High School students welcome. ~ Mr. Groll, Ski Club Advisor

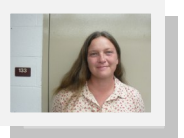


NHS had a very successful Blood Drive back in Sept. and have another one coming up in December. ~ Mr. Robinson and Ms. Eldred, NHS Co-Advisors Mrs. Eldred is collecting Box Tops for Education, Spartan labels, Campbell's soup labels, etc in her room. The goal is to collect 5000 labels from the junior high by Christmas. We are have collect 22% of our goal so far. 2.

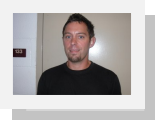


Junior High students and parents will be getting information about our HUGE adopt a family project in the middle of November. We will be collecting food, presents and money to bless a family at Christmas time.

The fundraiser for junior class began Nov. 2nd and ran through Nov. 16th. The students sold coupon books. All funds raised go to pay for Junior class projects and save towards their senior trip. The library is collecting Box Tops For Education, Spartan UPC labels, and Campbell's labels. ~Ms. Maxa, Junior Class Advisor



**Junior High Boys Basketball**- 6th, 7th, and 8th grade boys started their basketball season on Wednesday, November 2nd. **Seniors**- Deposit money for the senior trip is slowly making its way into my hands. The class of 2011 has a variety of creative ideas and destinations in mind for their senior trip. ~Mr. Jones, Jr. High Boys Basketball Coach and Senior Class Advisor



# ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REMINDERS

## Verification Forms:

If you have not received a pink student verification form, please contact Kim Langs in the main office at 269-746-2300 to obtain another one and submit it right away, so that we have correct information on file for your family.

2012 Yearbook is now on sale. Can be ordered by credit card online by going to [www.jostensyearbooks.com](http://www.jostensyearbooks.com) or by check, made out to Climax Scotts Schools delivered to Mrs. Rethard

## Student Support:

If your son/daughter is struggling academically, he or she may be assigned a **teacher-mentor** who will check in with him/her weekly to promote student success.

Additionally, teachers will be trying to reach you if your son/daughter falls **below a 70% in a class**. We thank you, in advance, for your support in promoting great work habits and organization at home as we partner together to provide each and every student here with the best possible educational experience.

Please continue to monitor your child's progress on the Parent Internet Viewer (PIV) and contact your child's teachers if you have any concerns. If you need your log-in or PIN, please contact Kim Langs at 746-2300.



## Upcoming Important Dates to add to your calendar:

M	11/21@ 4-7hr	Att. Gen.Cyber Safety Assemblies
	@6:00	<b>AGCSI Community Presentation</b>
	@7:00	Board of Education Meeting
W/TH	11/23 - 25	<a href="#">Thanksgiving Break</a>

