Upcoming Events

Open House
Sept. 12, 2019
5:00 PM-7:00
Follow your child’s schedule
Meet the teachers
Receive academic information
NOTE: Optional session at 4:00 PM to get iUpdate support, meet the nurse, counselors, etc.

Screenagers
Sept. 26, 2019
6:00 PM
Family viewing of Screenager:
More information available at:
www.screenagersmovie.com/trailer

Como Park 5K and Fun Run
October 5, 2019
9:30 AM-11:30 PM
You can sign up or volunteer at
signup.com/go/wkBbOoS

Sports

Football
9/6 Home v Central @7p

Girls Soccer
9/9 Home v St. Croix Prep @7p
9/11 Home v Washington @7p

Boys Soccer
9/11 Home v Washington @5p

Girls Tennis
9/9 Home v Park @4p
9/10 Home v Harding @4p

Swimming
9/12 Away v Johnson @Humboldt 7p

Dear Como Community,

Welcome! I am Stacy Theien-Collins and I am Como Park Senior High’s Principal. I am very excited to be a part of this amazing school community. Our students, parents and community partners are joining us in building a culture that is respectful, responsible and safe so students learn at the highest levels. I want to extend a special thanks to our parent partners, community partners, students and educators who make this simply the best school to be a part of every single day! It is with great pride that I am part of a community that is tied to our work with students at the center and never settle but, work to get better and better; our continuous improvement efforts matter. Thank you for your commitment to the Como Park community; we are grateful that you are a part of the family.

There are many changes in our community. The most obvious transformation is the building with our new and remodeled sections. Wait until you see them. The spaces are everything our students deserve. Additionally, we have a new start time, a new bell schedule, a new 9th grade team model to support transition during this important year, and a new advisory program. These changes were all implemented to focus on our students and setting up a system to meet their unique academic, social, emotional, and behavioral needs.

Important Upcoming School Event: Please join us on Sept. 12, 2019 at 5:00 PM for our Open House and Curriculum review, a Title I event. You will follow your child’s schedule where you will have an opportunity to meet the teachers, receive a syllabus and hear a brief introduction to the class. We will follow the following schedule:

4:00-5:00 Optional: Meet the principal. Stations to support iUpdate, apply for F/RPL, meet the nurse, counselors, support team, etc.
4:45-5:00 Distribute Schedules to families
5:00-5:10 Period 1
5:14-5:24 Period 2
5:28-5:38 Period 3
5:42-5:52 PM-Period 3
5:56-6:06 PM-Period 4
6:10-6:20 PM-Period 5
6:24-6:34 PM-Period 6
6:38-6:48 PM-Period 7
6:52-7:02 PM-Period 8

This is an important event in understanding your child’s high school experience and a great opportunity to connect with other community members. We look forward to seeing you at our annual Open House event.

In partnership,

Stacy Theien-Collins
Staff Spotlight

My name is Alexis Gray-Lawson and I am the Parent Liaison here at Como Park High School. I am also the Head Coach of our Girls Basketball coach. My ultimate goal is to create a space for our students to succeed while also helping parents to navigate their student's high school experience.

I enjoy traveling, going to the movies, watching and playing basketball, spending quality time with close friends, extended family members, and my 3 year old son Job.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns. I am looking forward to working with all of you and I hope that your start back to school has gone well.

My name is Selena Kopas. I am the 9th grade Behavior Specialist. This is my 6th year in SPPS and 1st year at Como Park Senior High School. I came from Murray where I spent most of my years building relationships with students, coworkers and parents. I look forward to continuing these relationships and creating more while helping freshmen transition into high school.

A single parent of two adult children, and one grandchild, Kristy Pierce was born and raised in St. Paul, MN. She recently completed her 25th year working in St. Paul Public Schools as a Cultural Specialist. She has more than 30 years of experience as an educator in urban schools where she has been instrumental in supporting students and families. She’s also a trained Restorative Justice Circle keeper where those principles are the core of how she works with youth, families and community.

In recent years she began supporting the athletic programs at a local high school by becoming the academic and life skills advisor where she designed a program that uses data to promote academic excellence in high school student athletes.
Great Things Happening at COMO

Como staff members Mr. Donnell Gibson and Ms. Kristy Pierce have successfully expanded a thriving summer program to serve St. Paul students and alumni. The Gibson Foundation is going strong in its fourth summer, running the Hope Heals basketball camps and hosting an inaugural tournament at the St. Bernard's gym. Over 60 boys and girls, ages 6-13, attend camp sessions at Arlington Hills Rec Center. They meet twice a week for the course of six weeks. One hundred-forty high school students and St. Paul college-age alumni meet at Washington Technology Magnet for free play, socializing, and check-ins with Gibson Foundation leaders and community supporters. The multi-age grouping lends itself to mentoring as high school students learn what it takes to study and play at the next level. Other program leaders include Ronnie Smith (new Como girls assistant coach), Shawn Phillips (Como boys j.v. coach), and Olanda England (Como staff and girls j.v. coach). Como alum Louis Carter is the lead coach for the young age group, and current Como student Ronnie Porter also mentors the youngsters.

Culinary arts institute
Como teacher Ms. Courtney Gbolo traveled to Paris, France to take classes at Le Cordon Bleu Culinary Arts Institute from July 20-Aug. 5. Gbolo earned a grant through the St. Paul Fund for Teachers that sponsored her travel and study. Gbolo’s classes at Le Cordon Bleu included The Art of Cooking Like A Chef, The Secrets of Choux Pastry, Tart Making, Bread Making, Sauces, and Pastry Art. Gbolo says she’s been energized by the hands-on curriculum and is extremely grateful for the opportunity that was made possible by the St. Paul Foundation. Looking ahead to the school year, Gbolo is eager to incorporate ideas and recipes from her summer learning and share her passion with Como students in her Culinary Arts classes and Culinary Club.
Students from Como Park’s Future Farmers of America (FFA) helped with the “Farmer for the Day” exhibit at the Ramsey County Fair in July. The students taught young children about agricultural products made in Minnesota.

Swimmers on MPR
Minnesota Public Radio (MPR) produced a well-received feature story about competitive swimming, wrapped into historical patterns of participation. The subjects of the feature were Como teacher Justin Mann, and Como student Aaron Ramsey.
Mann teaches social studies and is the assistant boys’ swim coach. Ramsey will be a junior and is a varsity swimmer. They are two examples of leaders who are “broadening the circle” and raising awareness that swimming is a skill and activity available for all.
Both were interviewed for radio and digital print features, and filmed for the social media links and videos that MPR produced. Ramsey said that swimming used to cause him some fear and anxiety, but he’s gained confidence through competitive swimming. “I feel at home in the water. I’m always itching to get back in the water. And I’ve decided to become a lifeguard and help people,” Ramsey said.
Como Park Senior High Booster Club Presents

Homecoming
5K and Fun Run

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2019

9:30 AM—11:30 AM
Como Park Senior High School & Como Lake

- Register to run, donate, sponsor a student, or volunteer online at https://signup.com/go/wkBbOoS
- Registration deadline is September 26, 2019
- Cost is $30 per runner (each runner who registers by the deadline will receive a t-shirt)
- Stay after the run for some fun activities (climbing wall, football toss, face painting) and food trucks! All runners will be eligible for admission to the Homecoming Football Game that begins at 1 PM

Help us BOOST Como! All proceeds will benefit Como Park Senior High School Athletics
Questions? Contact the Como Park Senior High Booster Club at comoparkboosterclub@gmail.com