



Saint Paul
PUBLIC SCHOOLS



COMO PARK

SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

May 25, 2020 Newsletter

From the Principal

Since arriving in the role of principal at Como Park Senior High, I have spent the first 1 year and 9 months gaining a deeper understanding of the school and getting to know the community. I have visited classrooms, attended multiple school and community events and have met with many community, business and political leaders.

What I have found is that the Como community has a rich tradition of student success in academics, athletics, music, arts, and many other areas, so much so that there is a basic expectation for greatness when our students perform day to day or in special events.

The school has outstanding community support, which is evidenced by the top-notch generosity of fiscal donations and hours of volunteering. Our teaching staff is beyond compare and consists of a balanced mix of experienced professionals alongside teachers who are early in their careers and bring fresh techniques and innovative ideas with them into the classroom. Our teachers meet regularly in professional learning communities to review student work and to create common assessments, review student results through data analysis with an equity lens and to prescribe tiered interventions based on individual student needs. Our teachers, administration and staff genuinely care about our students and will do whatever is necessary to ensure their success.

All of the conditions described above make for a solid foundation of success and continued excellence at Como Senior High School. The existing foundation is important for us to continue to improve our educational program so that we may better meet the needs of our students, families and the community.

Part of our challenges is continuing to build toward even greater excellence in our current budget challenge. District cuts, inadequate funding at the state level, federal reduction and greater spending restrictions in categorical aide all resulted in some significant changes next year. The following reductions to our team are necessary as a result of decreased funding.

Social Studies 1.0

Family and Consumer Science 1.0

Counseling Support 1.0

Math 1.0

Special Education 2.0

Office Clerk Support Staff 1.0

ELA 2.0

English Language Learning 1.0

Support Staff 1.0



These cuts are significant. I want each of you to know that they are not easy but, what this budget has allowed, even with these significant cuts, is maintenance of continuous academic programming, the AP regional pathway, and Academy of Finance Career Pathway. The losses we are facing will impact student programming. We will continue AVID for our seniors only, and although there will be a reduction of electives and reading intervention, we will prioritize offerings in the schedule based on student choice.

With all this, the Como team is looking forward to welcoming students to a new school year and although, we are unsure of how our year will start, our beautiful new facility will be one to support learning in an environment our students deserve.

In partnership,

Stacy Theien-Collins

S-Term

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, SPPS is sorry to announce significant changes to Summer Learning Programs 2020.

- Regular PreK-8 Summer Learning Programs, including all camps, will not be offered.
- Credit Recovery and EL Language Development programs for students currently in grades 9-12 will take place using distance learning.
- Extended School Year (ESY) for students with an IEP will be held from June 15 to July 9 using distance learning. Additional information will be shared with families of students who qualify for ESY

Student Locker Curbside Pick -Up and Material Return GRADES 9-11

With the Governor's executive order to close all school sites for the rest of the school year to limit the spread of COVID-19, there are many personal items left in our buildings.

Saint Paul Public Schools has developed a plan to return student's personal belongings that were left at school before the closure in a streamlined manner while following social distancing guidelines.

Student belongings that were left in lockers as well as medications and supplies left in the Health Office, will be cleaned out by staff, bagged, labeled and assembled for pickup. **No students or families will be allowed in school buildings to retrieve personal items.**

The scheduled time frame for pickup at **Como Park Senior High School** is at the following times (please note our evening and Saturday hours are due to Como hosting the food delivery process.

- May 26th 5:30 PM -8:30 PM
- May 28th 4:00 PM -8:00 PM
- May 30th 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

I ask that families stay in their vehicle, follow signs for how to enter **Como's** parking lot and line up to receive your student's personal items. Note: please enter our school lot on Rose Avenue off of Como Avenue.



If you walk up to **Como** please look for signs and a check-in table. Please follow social distancing guidelines, by allowing at least six feet of space between others when waiting in line.

If you have library books, text books, or other school materials and supplies for return, please plan to return them to school during these scheduled times. If parents are not able to make their scheduled date, please call **651-293-8800** and leave a message. Our staff will return your call as soon as possible.

I appreciate your patience and understanding over the last couple of months. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to **email me at stacy.theien-collins@spps.org**.

The Counselors' Corner

1. **Como Credit Recovery:** students should continue to log in and complete work in APEX in order to earn your credits. **The last day for Credit Recovery is Thursday May 28th.** If you need help with APEX, please contact Mrs. Hoffman at jamie.hoffman@spps.org.

2. **Need additional help to do better in your classes?** Check out this list of resources:
https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1qH2nnVxr79BbMXaMz4pVxYr0oUnuA_YsMjiPuP1xLjA/edit?usp=sharing

3. **Senior Scholarships:** Please go to this link to access all the current scholarships available to seniors. Please note that many scholarships have extended their scholarship deadlines, so please take advantage of them!
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1t5prqr62kXe1yLycU7fRh49KVha863DbirzJ-GICUg8/edit?usp=sharing>

4. **Seniors, you MUST complete the Senior Survey 2020 in Naviance in order to pick up your diploma on June 8th or June 9th.** This survey is your chance to provide feedback to your school about how you feel about your Como Park high school experience and what your plans are after high school (college, work, military, etc). This slideshow will provide you with step by step instructions on how to access your survey:
<https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1k6NyDXWhjJ9Db-80dwpn-Py9RLfm6MG4jI9DQgxzQrk/edit?usp=sharing>

5. **Summer School Update:** Summer school will be in a distance learning format, with some courses offered via Schoology and some via Apex. More specific details will be sent to students who have been enrolled in Summer School in late May or early June. Summer school session 1 starts June 15th and goes through July 9th. Summer school session 2 starts July 13 and goes through August 6th. Students will be expected to sign in and complete work each day.

6. **11th grade Counseling Lesson: College and Career Planning**



Not sure what you are going to do after senior year? Need help searching for colleges or exploring careers? Next fall, you will begin the college application process. This lesson will help you to narrow down your career choices, and search colleges or training programs that will lead you to your career goals. To do this lesson, go to Schoology, click on your course: PLP Grade 11, go to Materials, click on pink folder called: College and Career Planning for Juniors.

7. 9th grade Counseling Lesson: Career Cluster Interest Survey

Please take a quick Career Cluster survey and submit the assignment in Schoology. This survey lets you rate activities you enjoy, your personal qualities, and school subjects you like to determine **career clusters** that are a match for your interests. Also, this will help your counselors know what you might be interested in so we can share information and opportunities with you! To do this lesson, go to Schoology, click on your course: PLP Grade 9, go to Materials, click on Career Cluster Interest Survey.

Student Produced Videos: Check out work from our student leadership groups.

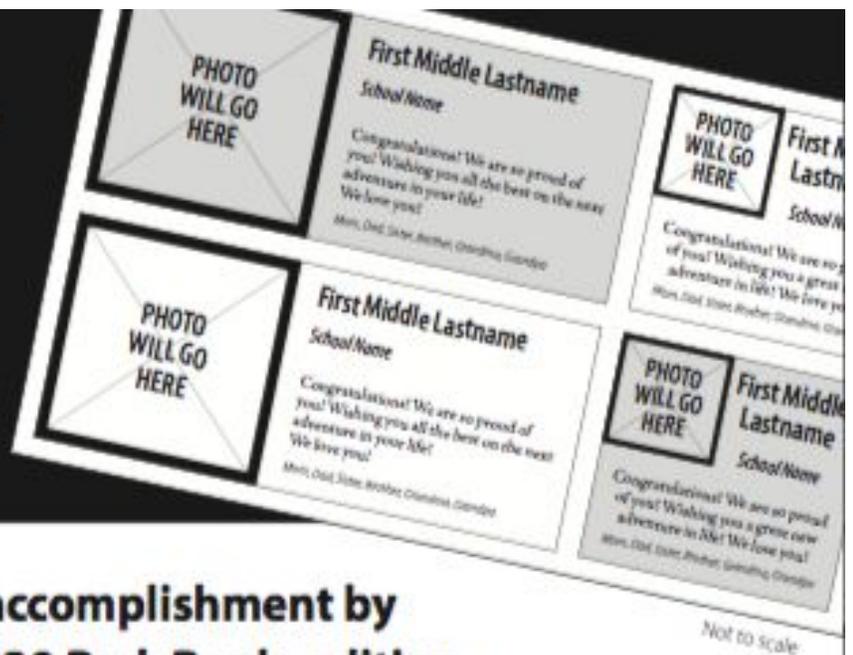
Dare 2 Be Real Racial Equity Group produced a video honoring Como Everyday Essential Heroes: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1-AOy6X4FQTs7nAxtsQV42zXLLqdP_uP5/view

LINK Crew: Our student welcome and transition leadership group produced a video welcoming our incoming freshman, the class of 2024:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1zWojELGhU4CZuBfTGk2MMwm-NpkEPbrp/view?fbclid=IwAR08_Me9cb_pKVDOXhhsmaXkl9wDo-H1q3tVJz2vI7bYNe7PYU6QDdJw2TA



Honor Your Graduate in the Park Bugle!



Celebrate your graduate's accomplishment by placing an ad in our July 2020 Park Bugle edition.

Go to: <http://www.parkbugle.org/advertising/>

The online form is at the top of the page

- Fill in the fields
- Upload a photo (*file name should be student name, 300ppi, jpg or tif format*)
- Select size of ad
- Complete payment option

Two size/price options:

\$25 = 1 column x 1.625"

\$45 = 2 columns x 1.625"

All ads will be printed in black & white.

Deadline: Wednesday, June 10, 2020



2020 GRADS

This is a free service to help the class of 2020 get special recognition online. However, there is a fee to help you get the world how happy you are about your graduation and your graduation. We will host it online with you for one year.

The following items are for your information. We will not publish this information.

* What's your name?

First

* What's your email address?

xxxx@xxxxxx.com

* Best phone number for us?

(555) 555-5555

Please do not include your address.

2020 GRADS

CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL
Sally Bender

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HONORS: National Honor Society,
OTHER ACTIVITIES: Debate Club, Mock Trial,
SPORTS: Tennis and golf teams.

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Zach Richards
Dean's List, High Distinction,
Debate Club, Mock Trial,
Tennis and golf teams...



Lily Hunter
Senior Class President,
National Honor Society,
Debate and Drama...



Sean Heyman
Basketball and track teams,
Model United Nations, Mock
Debate and Drama...

2020 GRADS

UNIVERSITY OF IOWA
Zach Richards

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RECOGNITIONS: Dean's List
OTHER HONORS: High Distinction
OTHER ACTIVITIES: Debate Club, Mock Trial
SPORTS: Tennis and golf teams
FAVORITES: (overcoming is always a hard, vibrant achievement,
strongly people)

QUOTABLE

"Quit everything
about stupid
things."

TOP TEN FAVORITE FOODS

1. Pizza
2. Pasta
3. Pasta
4. Chocolate
candy
5. Pizza chips
6. Soda
7. Any dessert
8. Burgers
9. Mac'n'chee
10. Pasta

HIGHLIGHTS: In sophomore year, my roommate and I really hit it off -
we ate, studied and traveled (CITYONA BEACH YEARLY) together, and
I found all career opportunities to share with them. Now we're planning
to find a place in the city and look for jobs. Also, my semester in Buenos
Aires gave me so many great memories.

JOBS: College 911 (dispatcher), development office assistant, admissions
office assistant,
ETC. We took most of the best road trips, whenever we could, we set up
our class schedule so we had (one-day) weekends, and could hit the road.
We went everywhere: Chicago to listen to the blues, Kansas City to eat
steak, the Midwest because that's growing, lives there, the Mall of
America because we wanted to go to Disneyland and The Mall of
America to the lakes and my (sister's)

LOOKING FORWARD: A little time off, then it's time to find a job. Grad
school way to go in my future, too.



Good look, buddy!
Caption Zach, working you at the...



Remember this?



Remember this?

BECAUSE THIS YEAR
IS DIFFERENT

We want to honor your grad!

The class of 2020 has it tough and we want to help you do something special for them. We've launched an online feature to help parents tell the world how proud you are of your 2020 grad — whether it's high school, college or even elementary school.

- We're offering a **FREE photo and listing** of your grad's sports, honors and activities, displayed in a grid with all the other grads. Each grad will also have their own page and we'll host it all online for a year.
- **Want to really make a splash about your grad?** You can expand their page with fun family photos, highlights, memories, a favorite quote, a top 10 list. You can even invite family and friends to contribute to their page.

The best part is that it's all **easy**. Just fill out a simple form at Monitor.HonorMyGrad.com and you're set.

Monitor

Midway • Como • Frogdown

