



Saint Paul
PUBLIC SCHOOLS



COMO PARK

SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

September 11, 2020 Newsletter

Welcome to the 2020-2021 school year! Although this is not how we intended to start our school year, Como Staff is excited to be able to reconnect with our students and families through distance learning. So let's make the most of this situation and give it our best efforts to succeed. We ARE in this together and Como staff will be with you along the way. Go Cougars!!

Student Attendance During Distance Learning

Please click on the link below to watch the video on taking attendance during distance learning:

[Student Attendance During Distance Learning video and Information](#)

Video Versions:

- [Hmoob](#)
- [Español](#)
- [Karen](#)
- [Soomaali](#)

To take attendance, students should log into their Campus Student iPad app, located on their iPad home screen. Parents who are taking attendance for their student should use "Campus Parent" at spps.org/onestop.

Families and students who need technology support should call 651-603-4348, email familysupport@spps.org or visit spps.org/ipadhelp.

INTERNET RESOURCES

[Comcast Internet Essentials](#) is free for the first two months, then \$10/month.

If students do not have internet they can request a hotspot from Family Support at familysupport@spps.org or 651-603-4348.



GREAT THINGS HAPPENING AT COMO



The SY20-21 MCJROTC Cadet staff were able to accomplish a successful safe leadership camp this past summer with a local church group at Camp Shamineua in Motley, Minnesota. They were able to bond and help plan what will be a successful virtual MCJROTC team. Seniors pictured are Anaf Deressa, Deek Aden, Francisco Dominguez, Elta Paw, William Myo, Eh Say Htoo, Tyler Barnett, Pa K Thao, Stiven Ramos and Bay B. Htoo. Blessed be the way ahead for another motivating year of their leadership. Semper fi - we are alive.



Contact
Gender & Sexualities Alliance. Angela.Butler@spps.org

Profe. Butler if you would like to join GSA, the



A MESSAGE FROM OUR STUDENT SUPPORT STAFF

Welcome Back Cougars! Mr. Williams (Chip), Mr. D. and Ms. Pierce, are excited to finally be back even though not the way we'd hoped to be. That being said, we'll be available to support you just like, well almost, as if we're in the building. Mr. Williams will support the 9th grade team. Mr. D will be supporting seniors and Ms. Pierce will support 10th and 11th grades. For incoming freshmen, know that there's a team of adults who are here to support all of your social/emotional and academic needs. High school can be intimidating until you figure out the ins and outs of this new part of your journey. In addition to your counselor Mr. Williams is on deck and will help you navigate our new normal. Sophomores, juniors and seniors you already know the deal. We all know you are capable of achieving great things and we're here to help make sure your year goes as smoothly as possible. Our advice to you is to not let this one chapter in your story stop you from writing your book. You've overcome many obstacles in your lives and this is just another one that you'll achieve and when you look back you'll be able to say, "I did it!" Office hours will be posted in Schoology, but know you can email us anytime and we'll make sure to connect with you. Have an amazing year and let's show people what Como Cougars are truly made of.

CPSHS DEBATE TEAM

Debate starts this week. Practices are Tuesday and Thursday virtually, and our topic this year is :

Resolved: The United States federal government should enact substantial criminal justice reform in the United States in one or more of the following: forensic science, policing, sentencing.

Also, if you have any old, used laptops that you're not using anymore, the Debate Team would love to use them since the ipads do not work very well for debate and reading evidence. Please consider donating to the Como Debate Team.

Any questions??? Parents and students can contact Deb Hansmeier at deb.hansmeier@spps.org



URBAN BOATBUILDERS APPRENTICESHIP - Fall 2020



Apply for a job where you:

- Get paid to build woodworking skills
- Learn job-readiness skills for the future
- Earn money while learning new skills



Urban Boatbuilders' Apprenticeship pays \$10.00/hour to 16-21 year old to build two to three individual projects and attend workshops to prepare for a future job. Upon completion of one cohort, there is opportunity for continued employment and increased pay.

Work Schedule: September 28, 2020 - January 13, 2021

Mandatory 3-Day unpaid Training: Week of September 21, 2020, or upon hire

Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays or *Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays*

3:00 - 6:00 pm

3:00 - 6:00 pm

All Wednesdays will be delivered online

Apply: [Urban Boatbuilders Website](#)

Questions? Contact: Alphonso Le, Apprenticeship Program Coordinator

651-644-9225 or alphonso@urbanboatbuilders.org

2288 University Avenue West, St. Paul, MN 55114

near the Raymond Greenline station



COUNSELOR'S CORNER

Therapist: [Mitchell Paulson and Associates at Crocus Hill Counseling Center](#) is currently taking new clients.

PowerUp Teen Leadership Council: Opportunity for SPPS teens to become champions for healthier lifestyles among their peers and communities. Details can be found on the [Health Partners website](#). Applications are due September 14, 2020.

JA Career Roadmap: Ramsey County youth ages 16-19 have the opportunity to participate in a “workforce preparedness crash course” for compensation. Students can earn \$350 for completing the 3 week virtual fall program. Students must be financially impacted by COVID-19 to qualify. Find all the details [here](#).

Scholarships:

- **Optimist Club:**
 - Student application due October 5, 2020.
 - 15 - \$2,000 scholarships awarded
 - Must be current seniors attending schools in St. Paul
 - Should have broad records of success at school and in community in the face of adversity (e.g. economic, familial, medical/disability, etc.)
 - 3.0+ GPA recommended
 - Students must begin the process of applying online and follow [these instructions](#). (IMPORTANT: must list county as St. Paul Friends or they will not be matched to the correct award.)

PSAT/NMSQT: Counselors are assessing how to best prepare for the test administration. Unfortunately, we're unsure if test administration will take place. Please complete the google form to help us plan and communicate: <https://forms.gle/eqvhsVPfso6MoHg9>

Poll for PSAT/NMSQT

Due to the unprecedented time, we are awaiting to see if it is possible to administer the PSAT/NMSQT in October or January. Please complete the form to inform the Counseling Department to best plan and communicate information to you.

Learn more about the PSAT/NMSQT here: <https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/psat-nmsqt-psat-10>

*Required

Email address *

Your email

First Name *

Your answer

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forms.gle



You can make an appointment with me at <https://calendly.com/choua2-vang/meeting-with-mrs-vang>. Please provide an email or phone number to get a hold of you. Note that I will be calling from Google Meet, so the phone number will be coming from an out of state number.

Ms. Vang

COMO UPWARD BOUND PROGRAM

Como Upward Bound students enjoyed a six-week virtual summer program with Upward Bound this summer. Students participated in a week-long coding camp with iD Teach and learned to code through Minecraft, Youtube, and animations. For the other five weeks, students took courses in English and Math with Como's very own Mr. Kia and Ms. Mathieu, along with Korean Language and Science! Some students even attended Best Prep Minnesota Business Venture Camp, virtually of course. Upward Bound also offered a virtual summer internship where students were able to develop their professional and college skills, attend guest speaker sessions, and created their very first resume!

Students are looking forward to after-school virtual tutoring and workshops soon! Upward Bound will be recruiting soon for our new freshman cohort, if you would like more information, please contact Como Upward Bound advisor, Mainong Yang at mainong.yang@century.edu.



The Counseling Department and the Como College and Career Center (CCC) are excited to connect with students and their families to provide academic, emotional, and post-secondary planning support. Whether students want to research colleges, apply for scholarships, explore careers, create a resume, or make sure they're on track to graduate, we are here to help.

XELLO - NEW COLLEGE & CAREER PLANNING PLATFORM



This year students in Kindergarten through 12th grade will use Xello, instead of Naviance, to create personal learning plans (PLPs). 9th and 10th graders will use Xello to learn about careers and their academic skills and preferences. 11th graders will use Xello to build their list of colleges. 12th graders will use Xello to send recommendation

letters and transcripts. Click [HERE](#) for more information on how to login to Xello and its College Application Resources.

JUNIORS! APPLY TO COLLEGE POSSIBLE

College Possible is currently recruiting juniors for our program, which provides personalized support and mentorship through every step of the college process. [College Possible](#) is a national college access and





success organization with over 20 years of experience supporting students as they earn their college degrees. If you would like to hear more about our program, please [watch this video](#), or contact Jessie at JOrtiz@CollegePossible.org. Have your student apply today! Go to CollegePossible.org/join or [click here](#).
****Applications close October 30, 2020****

SENIORS! STAY ORGANIZED

It's going to be very important to stay this year. When everything is online, really easy to lose track of things!

SMART TIP: Save your passwords, documents, and deadlines in a place find them.

Stick to this timeline to help with application planning.

 SENIOR YEAR COLLEGE TIMELINE 		
<u>September</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finalize your college list Request recommendation letters in Xello (if needed) 	<u>October</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apply for Financial Aid with the FAFSA (opens 10/1) Apply to college for FREE during College Knowledge Month 	<u>November</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If applying early action or early decision, send in applications Finish your college essay (if needed)
<u>December-February</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apply to college! Request to send transcripts and recommendation letters in Xello 	<u>March</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Receive admissions decisions around now Start receiving financial aid award letters 	<u>April-May</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review financial aid letters Send deposit to your selected college CELEBRATE + finish senior year strong!

organized it can be

important you'll easily

college

