

October 2009

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The Unionville High School community has much to celebrate regarding our academic accomplishments. We ranked third in the state out of 608 high schools for our reading/math PSSA scores , based on how well our 11th grade students performed on this assessment last spring. The September issue of *Philadelphia Magazine* listed us as tenth in their report on the Top 50 Schools in the seven counties surrounding Philadelphia. Also, our list of students selected as National Merit Scholars Semi-Finalists is impressive. The thirteen UHS students receiving this prestigious recognition this year are:

- Shiv Bery
- Brian Chang
- Karuna Doraiswamy
- Holly Fitzgibbon
- Craig Johnsen
- Audrey Kang
- Markbradley Kitay
- Jesse Kober
- Raul Larsen
- Mary Popeo
- Jonathan Wang
- Shubo Yin
- Stephanie Zhang

We recently hosted a breakfast for this group of academically talented students and offered our congratulations on this wonderful accomplishment.

On October 14, all of our 10th and 11th grade students will take the PSAT (the preliminary SAT) during school hours; this is the test that will serve to qualify the next group of current 11th UHS students as National Merit Semi-Finalists. We will be sharing additional information about the schedule that students will follow on October 14. However, I am happy to report that we are scheduling a number of informational sessions that would ordinarily interrupt instructional time for 9th graders on that day such as presentations about LINK, information from guidance counselors specifically for 9th graders, an overview of services provided by our social workers, etc.

One last item relates to concerns about H1N1 flu. I have asked teachers to encourage students to stay home if they are sick. Every teacher is also going to review with each class the procedures to follow when seeking to obtain information about missed homework assignments due to an illness. In general, though, many teachers post homework assignments on their teacher website, and students are encouraged to phone a friend to obtain information regarding missed work. If neither of these two options yields the desired results, the student may opt to email the teacher with a request for homework assignments. We will continue to update you with information regarding H1N1 as flu season progresses.

I hope to see you at the Homecoming Parade and/or game!

Paula Massanari, UHS Principal