



PARENTS' PRESS

of NEW TRIER HIGH SCHOOL

STRATEGIC
PLAN 2030



Our Commitment to Educational Equity

LAST YEAR NEW TRIER EMBARKED UPON DEVELOPING OUR STRATEGIC PLAN FOR THE NEXT DECADE AND BEYOND, **NEW TRIER 2030**. WITHIN THE STRATEGIC PLAN WE HAVE IDENTIFIED SIX FRAMEWORKS THAT ENCOMPASS THE WORK OF THE DISTRICT AS A WHOLE: **INTELLECTUAL ENGAGEMENT, GROWTH, AND READINESS; STUDENT PERSONAL GROWTH, ENGAGEMENT, AND WELL-BEING; CULTURE, CLIMATE, AND EQUITY; LEADERSHIP THROUGHOUT THE SCHOOL; COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT, PARTNERSHIPS, AND GOVERNANCE; AND FINANCE, FACILITIES, AND HUMAN RESOURCES.**

In this newsletter we will be addressing the framework of **Culture, Climate, and Equity** and more specifically the Equity strand. Culture, Climate, and Equity are an important focus at New Trier to ensure that all people feel welcomed, respected, supported, and valued so students can learn effectively, develop deeper understanding of the complex issues they face, and become empowered to contribute to the school community. This is possible when staff and students learn from and reflect on their own and others' diverse lived experiences. By equity, we mean that every student

should have access to the resources and educational rigor they need at the right moment in their education regardless of race, gender, ethnicity, language, disability, family background, or family income. Striving for equity means examining biases and interrupting inequitable practices to create inclusive, multicultural environments that reveal and cultivate the interests and talents of students and adults from diverse backgrounds.

In our first edition of Parents' Press you will read about the ways in which our students and staff members promote equity at New Trier. We also pay tribute to outstanding alumnus Dr. Peter Henry, Class of 1987, an economist and author who runs the Ph.D. Excellence Initiative, a mentor program for students of color designed to address underrepresentation in economics careers. Also featured in this edition is Kiran Subhani, an English teacher whose approach in the classroom provides students with insight into their own unique identities as well as the different identities and experiences of others. The committee guiding the equity work within the strategic plan is comprised of staff members representing each department. The committee is

PRINCIPALS' PERSPECTIVE

using the following definition to guide the District's work:

Educational equity strives for fairness in both expectations and opportunities for success for all students and staff. A school engaged in equity:

- acknowledges that students begin with different resources;
- seeks to meet students' individual needs;
- counters the stereotypes students experience that:
 - limit their access to opportunities,
 - diminish their sense of acceptance and belonging, or
 - lower their academic expectations; and
- confronts systems of advantage and disadvantage based on race, cultural background, gender identity, sexual orientation, ability, socioeconomic status, religious belief, and other forms of identity.

Educational equity is paramount to New Trier's success. We want every student to grow socially, emotionally, and intellectually in a supportive environment. To achieve that goal, we need to eliminate obstacles that might impede that growth. Our students' success is the institution's success. New Trier cannot achieve its overarching goal of producing graduates who "lead meaningful, compassionate, and impactful lives" without equity being an important guiding principal.

The main goal of the Equity framework for the 2019-2020 school year is to "create a culture that appreciates and celebrates difference across the school by helping all students develop an understanding of their identity and the identity of others." This benefits all of our students as they gain a greater understanding of themselves, which is an important part of adolescent development. Our students also benefit from seeking to understand experiences that are different from their own. This creates opportunities for productive dialogue, which will allow students to consider the world through different lenses. These types of experiences build empathy and compassion.

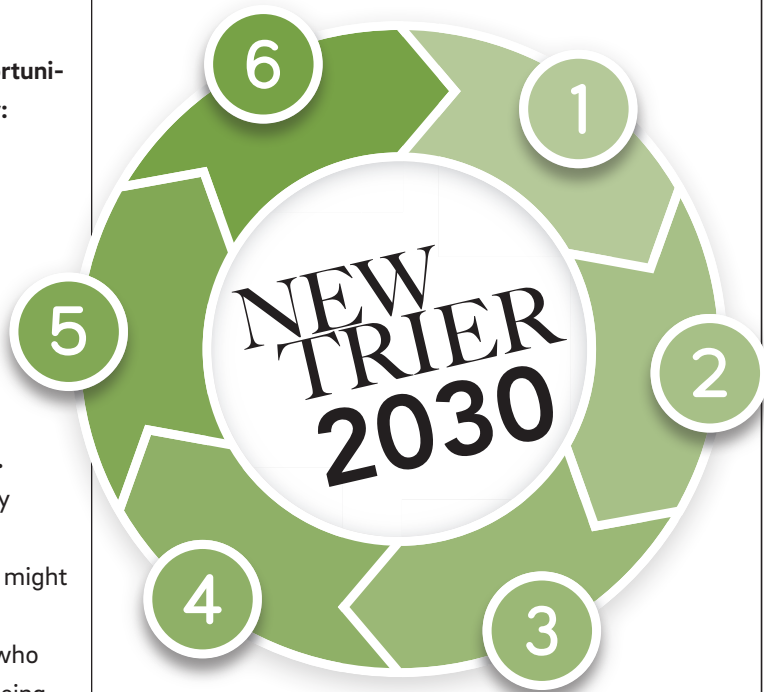
New Trier also recognizes the importance of providing professional development for our staff to help them put our equity goals into action that is measurable. This requires reflection and examining one's own experiences, privileges, and challenges. Ultimately our staff's growth in this area will allow us to better meet the needs of individual students, as well as to critically examine the curriculum to meet the needs of all students. In turn, we hope parents will benefit by knowing that the school is promoting the growth of all students while also preparing students to be productive citizens in a diverse world.

PRINCIPALS **DENISE DUBRAVEC**, WINNETKA CAMPUS
AND **PAUL WAECHTLER**, NORTHFIELD CAMPUS



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By equity, we mean that every student should have access to the resources and educational rigor they need at the right moment in their education regardless of race, gender, ethnicity, language, disability, family background, or family income.

FROM THE NEW TRIER PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

In our roles with the New Trier Parents' Association (NTPA) the past three years, we have witnessed up close the thought process, care, and intention that New Trier's principals, adviser chairs, leadership teams, and faculty bring to every community and individual student decision. We have consistently seen an earnest effort for the school to improve, and we anticipate seeing the same earnestness in its aim to achieve educational equity. While New Trier does not reflect the full spectrum of diversity of our country in terms of race, economic class, religious belief, and likely other demographics, it is part of a community at large, including parents, that seeks to learn how to fully embrace differences in constructive

Striving for excellence

AS A NEW TRIER STUDENT, I LEARNED THAT CREATING EFFECTIVE SOLUTIONS TO COMPLEX PROBLEMS REQUIRES INPUT FROM MULTIPLE PERSPECTIVES. AS AN ECONOMIST I APPRECIATE THAT LEARNING, BECAUSE FORMULATING EFFICIENT AND EQUITABLE ECONOMIC POLICIES IS CERTAINLY COMPLEX, PARTICULARLY IF THE GOAL IS TO INCREASE PROSPERITY FOR ALL.



Of the 422 economics Ph.D.s awarded to American citizens and permanent residents by U.S. universities in 2013–2014, only 13 went to African Americans (AA). This is problematic, because Ph.D. economists shape our country's policies, and policymaking bereft of insights from AA economists provides an incomplete understanding of the impact of those policies—not only on the AA community but on the entire U.S. economy, due to the significant and increasing number of minorities in the population. To help address these challenges and increase the number of underrepresented minorities (URM) who obtain doctoral degrees from top economics departments, I founded the Ph.D. Excellence Initiative (PhDEI) in 2013, with a grant from the

Alfred P. Sloan Foundation. Each year, the PhDEI invites applications from academically outstanding, motivated undergraduates who seek admittance to top-tier Ph.D. programs in economics and selects a post-baccalaureate research fellow to work and study for two years with me at NYU Stern. Striving to emulate the dedication of my New Trier teachers, I closely mentor fellows through weekly meetings to discuss research and coursework as well as providing GRE test prep and important development opportunities through the PhDEI's partnerships with

other institutions. Through their own commitment to excellence, my prior research assistants have gone on to complete Ph.D.s at UC Berkeley, Harvard, and MIT, and are employed at Berkeley, Stanford, and the IMF. The most recent Initiative fellows to apply to doctoral programs have matriculated at Duke (2017), the University of Minnesota (2018), and Columbia (2019). There's a long way to go before the economics profession has enough URM talent to provide a fully informed perspective to the public it serves, but the Ph.D. Excellence Initiative is making a difference, one scholar at a time.

**BY DR. PETER HENRY,
NEW TRIER CLASS OF 1987**

ways. New Trier's strategic focus on educational equity for every student is a natural continuation of the leadership intentions we have witnessed at New Trier. We encourage parents to stay aware of the school's work in this area by visiting the Strategic Plan section of the website, and to engage in conversation with your kids about their perspectives on equity at the school.

As a parent organization, we value Inclusivity, which is why every parent is a member of the NTPA. Our class boards reflect all villages and feeder schools. In our mission to inform parents, we include in our monthly eNews not just NTPA but all parent groups (Booster Club, Fine Arts Association). The A-to-Z directory is provided to the entire parent/guardian population to promote connection, and we hold events during both day and evening hours to accommodate varied schedules. Room Reps also send emails listing programs and volunteer opportunities.



NTPA CO-PRESIDENTS | **AMI CAMPBELL AND SALLY POFCHER**
NTPAPRESIDENTS@GMAIL.COM

Please make sure the NTPA is in your address book (ntpa203@gmail.com), and check with your Room Rep if you have not received updates. You are always welcome to contact us at NTPApresidents@gmail.com. We look forward to serving you this year.

2020

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IT'S GOING TO BE AN EXCITING SENIOR YEAR! EDUCATIONAL EQUITY IS AN IMPORTANT THEME AT NEW TRIER AND SHOULD BE AT HOME AS WE PREPARE OUR 2020 GRADUATES TO GO OUT INTO A WORLD THAT IS GOING TO BE VERY DIFFERENT FROM WHERE THEY LIVE NOW.

Educational equity is the state of fairness in opportunity, expectations, and achievement for all students. Our discussions with our students should remind them to keep the ideals of equity alive so they can go forth better prepared to live in and contribute to the world beyond New Trier.

To stay up to speed on all that is happening during this busy year, please bookmark the NTPA senior class page — <http://tinyurl.com/newtrier2020> — as we have a number of important events you will not want to miss, including a parent coffee from 9:30-11 a.m. on Wednesday, October 2 (location to be announced). Jill Cervantes, head of New Trier's Post-High School Counseling Department, will offer highlights of this year's happenings. See you soon!



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Weisenberger

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Kathy Handelman

Transfer Families
Cathy Brereton
Liz Watson

Winter Carnival
Katherine Byrnes
Buggie O'Grady

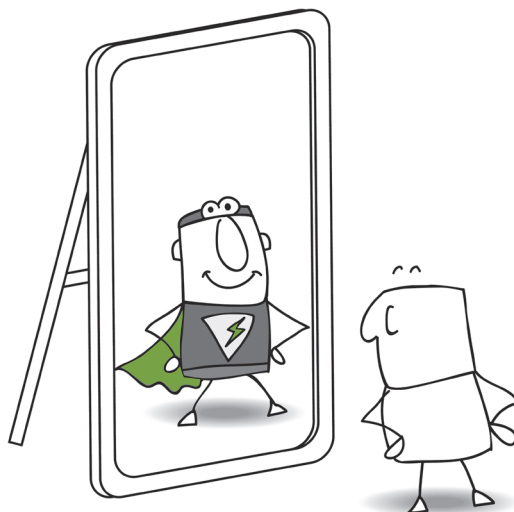
2021

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JUNIORS ARE STARTING TO THINK ABOUT LIFE AFTER HIGH SCHOOL, WHETHER COLLEGE, A GAP YEAR, OR WORK. FINDING THE BEST FIT IS A PROCESS THAT INVOLVES THE STUDENT, PARENTS AND THE POST-HIGH SCHOOL COUNSELOR.

In the fall, juniors begin work on a self-reflection document they share with PHSC. This piece allows them to consider their uniqueness, including elements of their background (racial, economic, gender identity, among others) and the resulting impact on their educational experience. It also gives students a moment to pause and remember that every other student has a different background and has experienced New Trier differently — and that every other high schooler around the country is equally unique. As parents, we also fill out a document that introduces our student to the counselor. In addition, we can help reinforce the PHSC motto that their next phase is a *"match to be made not a prize to be won."*



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2022

Robin Cook
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MANY NEW OPPORTUNITIES ARE NOW AVAILABLE FOR OUR STUDENTS AS THEY MOVE TO THE WINNETKA CAMPUS FROM NORTHFIELD. IT IS A TIME FOR OUR STUDENTS TO EXPLORE WHO THEY ARE THROUGH THESE EXPERIENCES AND THEY SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED TO TRY SOMETHING NEW. One option is the Embarc Program, which pairs 50 of our students with inner-city students to learn with and about each other.

While it is exciting to be able to explore the clubs, intramurals, leadership options and elective classes, it also provides a longer term benefit. Our students develop broader knowledge and skills through these experiences. This, in turn, allows them to be engaged and more successful members of society. This is the definition of educational equity.

Please attend our first parent coffee in the fall with Sophomore Adviser Chairs Ted Koulentes and Julie Smith. They will discuss opportunities for involvement at the Winnetka campus. Date to be announced.

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2023

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WELCOME TO NEW TRIER, CLASS OF 2023 PARENTS!

THIS YEAR WILL BE EXCITING FOR FRESHMEN AND PARENTS ALIKE.

NTPA is here to bring you into the fold of your student's experience, and each of our incoming families brings different and important perspectives. We hope you share yours. Our purpose is to provide educational and volunteer opportunities that offer a window into your student's experience, to be another communication channel, and to keep you informed on NTHS goings-on, such as the Identity Project that freshmen will participate in to gain an understanding of the unique experiences of each student. We welcome your involvement in whatever capacity works for you: attend a coffee, volunteer at a dance or assist with freshmen EKG screenings. These opportunities are open to everyone and help create important connections that keep our community thriving. Your participation is encouraged! Please contact us any time at NTPA2023@gmail.com.



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Increasing Consciousness, Creating Informed Citizens

The Culture, Climate, and Equity Framework of the New Trier 2030 Strategic Plan asks each academic department to collaborate on an equity goal. Working toward this goal requires asking the question, **how do students see themselves and others in our curriculum and through our instruction?** More specifically, we must prioritize how our curriculum and instruction impacts our most marginalized students by addressing their concerns and needs.

As co-chair of the English department equity team, I am helping lead our work around equity, which will begin with an audit of the dominant, marginalized, and missing narratives in our literature curriculum. In her oft-cited TED talk, "The Danger of a Single Story," the Nigerian writer Chimamanda Adichie explains how stories reinforce power systems: "like our economic and political systems, stories too are defined by the principle of nkali: how they are told, who tells them, when they're told, how many stories are told, are all dependent on power. Power is the ability not just to tell the story of a person, but to make it the definitive story of that person." In our department, we will evaluate how marginalized students experience our literature curriculum over a four-year sequence and engage in professional development and curricular work to achieve what Adichie calls "a balance of stories."

In my English classroom, creating an equitable environment begins with establishing a safe and respectful classroom environment where all students are heard and affirmed. In my junior American literature sections, my students introduce themselves during the first week of school by writing and presenting a "Where I'm From" poem, which I use to facilitate a conversation about the diverse perspectives and

values we bring to our classroom community and the course essential question, "Who or What is an American?"

For the rest of the year, the course is organized around thematic units examining dominant narratives and counter-narratives at different intersections in American history. We do this by engaging in a critical reading of each text taking into account its historical context, intended audience, author's purpose, bias, style, and language. As each text enters the existing "conversation at the table," students synthesize texts to examine how the larger conversation evolves, what patterns and conflicts emerge, and how to reconcile between different perspectives. Students' reflections at the end of the year draw insightful connections across texts and speak to their increased consciousness about our nation's history and their role as informed citizens. As one student wrote, "By recognizing how our country's past impacts our present, my understanding of America's development and my responsibility as a citizen has grown drastically."

BY KIRAN SUBHANI,
ENGLISH
DEPARTMENT



Students' reflections at the end of the year draw insightful connections across texts and speak to their increased consciousness about our nation's history and their role as informed citizens.

CALENDAR & EVENTS

ALL STUDENTS

NO SCHOOL – Labor Day

Strategic Plan Overview

Early Dismissal

Late Start

Activities Fair 2019

Lagniappe-Potpourri

NO SCHOOL – Rosh Hashanah

Spirit Week

Spirit Rally

Homecoming Game

Homecoming Dance

SAT Test Date

NO SCHOOL – Yom Kippur

NO SCHOOL – Fall Break

NTPA Parent U, Mental Health Program

Early Dismissal

Late Start

ACT National Test

NTPA Parent U, Harlan Cohen

Spooky Scrounge

First Quarter Ends

SAT Test Date

NTPA Parent U, Straight Talk

NTPA Parent U, Straight Talk Coffee

Parent/Teacher Conferences

NO SCHOOL – Conferences

NO SCHOOL – Institute Day

Thanksgiving Holiday

ACT National Test

Winter Break Begins

Mon., September 2

Tues., September 10, 7 p.m., Cornog (N)

Fri., September 13, 12:00 p.m. (N), 12:20 p.m. (W)

Mon., September 16, 10:15 a.m. (N), 10:35 a.m. (W)

Wed., September 18, 11:00 a.m. – 1:10 p.m., Trevian Commons (W)

Wed., September 18 – Thurs., September 19, 7-9 p.m.,

Fri., September 20, 4:30-6:30 p.m., Gaffney (W)

Mon., September 30

Tues., October 1 – Fri., October 4

Fri., October 4, 11:15 a.m. – 12:55 p.m.

Fri., October 4, 7:00 p.m. vs. Niles West,
Northfield Campus Stadium (N)

Sat., October 5, 7:30-10:30 p.m., Gates Gym (W)

Sat., October 5, 7:45 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. (W)

Wed., October 9

Thurs., October 10 – Fri., October 11

Wed., October 16, 7 p.m., Cornog (N)

Fri., October 25, 12:00 p.m. (N), 12:20 p.m. (W)

Mon., October 28, 10:15 a.m. (N), 10:35 a.m. (W)

Sat., October 26, 7:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. (W)

Tues., October 29, 7:00 p.m. Cornog (N)

Thurs., October 31

Fri., November 1

Sat., November 2, 7:45 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. (W)

Tues., November 12, 7 p.m., McGee Theatre (W)

Wed., November 13, 9 a.m., C234 (N)

Wed., November 20 (evening),

Thurs., November 21 (afternoon & evening)

Thurs., November 21

Fri., November 22

Wed., November 27 – Fri., November 29

Sat., December 7, 7:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. (W)

Sat., December 21

FRESHMEN

Freshman Parent Adviser Night – Girls

Freshman Parent Adviser Night – Boys

Freshman Mixer

NO SCHOOL – Freshman Go To School Night

Parent Coffee

Choices Fair

Wed., September 4, 7-8:30 p.m., Cornog (N)

Thurs., September 5, 7-8:30 p.m., Cornog (N)

Wed., October 2, 7:30-9:30 p.m., Main Gym (N)

Thurs., October 3

Thurs., October 17, 9:30-11:00 a.m., 125 Evergreen Lane, Winnetka

Tues., October 22, 3:00-8:00 p.m. (N)

SOPHOMORES

Parent Coffee

Homecoming Dance

To be announced

Sat., October 5, 7:30-10:30 p.m., Gates Gym (W)

JUNIORS

NTPA Parent U. Junior Year Timeline

Homecoming Dance

PSAT Testing

Junior Parent Night

Tues., September 24, 7 p.m., Cornog (N)

Sat., October 5, 7:30-10:30 p.m., Gates Gym (W)

Wed., October 16, 8:15 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. (W)

Wed., November 6 and Thurs., November 7,
7-8:30 p.m., location announced via adviser

SENIORS

Parent Coffee

Financial Aid Night

Homecoming Dance

Wed., October 2, 9:30-11:00 a.m., location to be announced

Thurs., September 26, 7-8:30 p.m., Cornog (N)

Sat., October 5, 7:30-10:30 p.m., Gates Gym (W)



With Homecoming just around the corner, it's time to show some TREVIAN SPIRIT and support the home teams!

Be sure to stop by the bookstore to buy some **NEW TRIER SPIRIT GEAR**. They have **T-SHIRTS, SWEATSHIRTS AND MORE**. Or, join the New Trier Booster Club, which is a parent-run organization supporting New Trier spirit. With your membership, you get your choice of New Trier spirit gear (as long as supplies last!). Visit **NTBoosterClub.com** for more information. Either way, it's **TIME TO GET IN THE GAME!**

**2020 TREVIA
YEARBOOKS
ORDERS DUE FRIDAY,
DECEMBER 13!**

Yearbooks are on sale now! To order a yearbook, go to yearbookordercenter.com and enter "New Trier" as the school or "8859" as the code. Books are \$50 each and will be distributed in school on Trevia Day in May. You'll be sorry if you miss your chance to order so do it today! Please contact Kevin Bond at bondk@newtrier.k12.il.us with questions.



PARENTS' PRESS

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PRINTER: GRAPHIC ARTS STUDIO

NEW TRIER PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

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WINNETKA, IL 60093

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VOL. 47 | NO. 1 | NEW TRIER PARENTS' ASSOCIATION | A TRIANNUAL PUBLICATION

THE NEW TRIER PARENTS' ASSOCIATION MISSION IS TO
PROMOTE CONNECTIONS, PROVIDE COMMUNICATION, AND
PRESENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR PARENTS, WHICH SUPPORT
AND ENHANCE THE NEW TRIER EXPERIENCE.

PARENT EDUCATION PROGRAMS



Welcome to Parent University, the programming arm of the New Trier Parents' Association. "Parent U" provides parents with programs and resources to help better understand the New Trier student experience and to support the parenting of teens both in and out of the classroom. Parent U also co-sponsors relevant FAN events throughout the year. Visit the Parent University page on the New Trier website (www.newtrier.k12.il.us/ParentUniversity) to get the most up-to-date information on upcoming programs.

New Trier 2030: Our Strategic Plan for the Next Decade and Beyond

Tuesday, September 10 | 7:00 p.m.

Cornog Auditorium (N)

All parents are welcome and invited to attend this program hosted by Paul Sally and Denise Dubrave. An overview of the strategic plan and the identified six frameworks will be presented along with how it will take shape in the school community in the coming year.

(N) Northfield | (W) Winnetka

Junior Year Timeline

Tuesday, September 24 | 7:00 p.m.

Cornog Auditorium (N)

Parents of juniors are invited to learn from the post-high school counseling office, testing center and adviser chairs about key events to anticipate and navigate in the upcoming year.

Senior Parent Coffee

Wednesday, October 2 | 9:30-11:00 a.m.

Location to be announced

Jill Cervantes, the new head of New Trier's Post-High School Counseling Department, will be the featured speaker at our fall coffee. Jill will provide a brief overview of first semester senior year and how we can best support our students as they work their way through essay edits, applications, college visits, gap year plans and more. Don't miss it!

Healthy Teens

Wednesday, October 16 | 7:00 p.m.

Cornog Auditorium (N)

Please join Assistant Superintendent for Student Services Tim Hayes and a panel of mental health professionals to discuss some of the issues our teens are facing (stress, anxiety, depression) and how we can best support them inside and outside of school.

Freshman Parent Coffee

Thursday, October 17 | 9:30-11:00 a.m.

125 Evergreen Lane, Winnetka

Come meet other Freshman parents and learn how to "keep up with our teens!"

Happy, Healthy, Almost Stress-Free College Planning & Success: For Parents and Students

Tuesday, October 29 | 7:00 p.m.

Cornog Auditorium (N)

College is a BIG change with new challenges most students and parents never see coming. As a result,

millions of students are struggling. New York Times bestselling author of the #1 book on college life, Harlan Cohen (*The Naked Roommate: And 107 Other Issues You Might Run Into in College and The Naked Roommate: For Parents Only!*) helps students and parents know what's coming and how to create the best college experience.

Straight Talk: The Truth and Consequences of Teen Risk Behaviors

Tuesday, November 12 | 7:00 p.m.

McGee Theatre (W)

We'll help parents sort fact from fiction when it comes to teen drinking, vaping and other risky behaviors. Learn how New Trier supports students in making good choices and what parents can do to help.

Straight Talk Coffee

Wednesday, November 13 | 9:00 a.m.

Room C234 (N)

A parent-to-parent discussion, following the Straight Talk program, to continue the conversation.

All-School Forums

Winnetka Campus, EPI Center (room 301)

Join interested students, principals, faculty, staff and board members to discuss current issues. All parents are invited to attend. For more information, contact Steve Belford at belfords@newtrier.k12.il.us.

Wednesday, September 11, 2019 | 3:45-5:00 p.m.

Wednesday, October 16, 2019 | 3:45-5:00 p.m.

Wednesday, November 13, 2019 | 3:45-5:00 p.m.

Wednesday, December 18, 2019 | 3:45-5:00 p.m.

Freshman Parent Party

Friday, January 10, 2020

Details to come. Mark your calendars now!

This is a party you won't want to miss!