

## **Weekly Bulletin for the City High School Community ~ November 1 '07**

### **Principal's Notes**

Office Coordinator Lynn Schneuker will have reduced hours during second quarter in order to care for her mom who is not well. Mary Helen Valdez will be your primary front office contact for attendance calls, lunch payments, and other related issues. Thank you for your patience during this time.

~ Carrie Brennan, Principal

### **AIMS Update**

Some juniors and seniors have been busy taking AIMS this week (writing test on Tuesday, reading test on Wednesday, math test on Thursday). Each fall, upper class students have an opportunity to retake AIMS. Students who did not pass AIMS in 10<sup>th</sup> grade are required to retake AIMS until they meet the standards in all three areas. Some 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> graders who have passed choose to retake one or more of the AIMS tests in order to strive for the "exceeds" level to qualify them for the Arizona Regents Scholarship. All current tenth graders will take AIMS tests for their first time during the spring semester (February and April).

### **City Works Class Displays Art at Dinnerware Gallery**

One of the new City Works classes for 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> graders focuses on creating and studying public art, and advocating for more public art in the Tucson community. Amy Rude is teaching the class with support from local artist Christina Cardenas and partner organizations, such as TPAC. Students recently produced life-size human silhouette art pieces honoring a loved one; the artwork was created to coincide with the Day of the Dead holidays. Dinnerware Gallery invited the class to display the silhouettes this weekend. If you are coming downtown for the All Souls Procession on Sunday, be sure to check out the storefront windows at Dinnerware (new location on Congress St. across from Ronstadt Bus Station) and admire the student artwork.

### **Costume Contest on November 2**

The Student Voice Committee is sponsoring the annual City High School costume contest this Friday. All students are invited to participate. Rules are below:

- costume cannot get in the way of the day's learning (for example, student has be able to sit in a chair, etc.)
- all school rules still apply (no weapons as props, no alcohol or drug references, etc.)
- school norms apply
- whole face masks are off during class
- student must be willing to change if costume is inappropriate

### **Big Field Trips Happening Next Week – November 7**

On Wednesday next week all students in Charles Schnarr's Culinary City Works class will spend the day at Agua Linda Farm in Arivaca. Information has been mailed home to parents. That same day 9<sup>th</sup> grade math/science teacher Jeff Hartman is organizing an optional after-hours field trip to Kitt Peak that departs from school at 2:00 p.m. Parent drivers are needed for both excursions. Contact the individual teachers in charge for more information or to volunteer.

## Flyer Distributed by Arizona Department of Education

Recently there have been a number of staph infection cases reported in schools locally and around the country. We ask that parents, students, and staff familiarize themselves with basic information about MRSA in order to avoid any cases at City High School. Common-sense hygiene guidelines are a major first step in prevention.



## MRSA Information for Parents and Students

**What is MRSA (methicillin resistant *Staphylococcus aureus*)?**

- A type of "staph" infection
- Often causes skin infections
- Resistant to some common antibiotics

**What does it look like?**

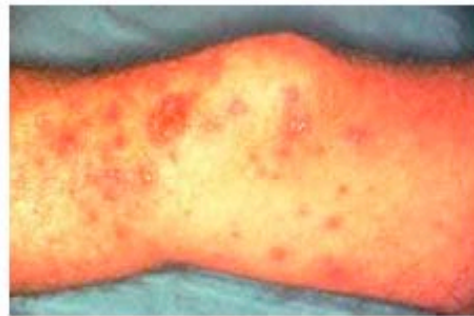
- A spider or bug bite
- Abscess
- Boil
- Infected skin wound

**How do you get MRSA?**

- Touching someone's MRSA-infected skin
- Handling a soiled bandage from an MRSA-infected wound
- Sharing personal hygiene items (bar soap, towels, razors)

**How is MRSA Treated?**

- A healthcare provider will often give an antibiotic and/or drain the infection.



## Stop the spread of MRSA!

- Wash your hands often with warm soapy water
- Use 60% alcohol-based hand sanitizer when soap & water are not available
- Cover all wounds with a clean, dry bandage taped on all four sides
- Avoid contact with another person's skin infections
- Report skin infections to coach/trainer/nurse
- Shower immediately after practice and matches

- Do not share personal hygiene items (bar soap, towels, razors)
- Wash practice clothes/uniforms with soap and water, use a hot dryer
- Clean and disinfect athletic/wrestling gear and practice surfaces (mats, benches, weight equipment) after each use
- Do not let athletes practice with potentially contagious wounds, even if covered, and consider use of this rule for all contact sports

Additional MRSA information can be found at [www.azdhs.gov/phs/oids/epi/disease/mrsa/mrsa\\_q.htm](http://www.azdhs.gov/phs/oids/epi/disease/mrsa/mrsa_q.htm).

Adapted the Tacoma/Pierce County Health Department