



## My Fellow Cougars:

*Courtland is quickly approaching the beginning of another great year! As of this moment, teachers are studying ways to improve classroom skills, many athletic programs are running summer camps, cheerleaders are working new routines, SCA is preparing activities, and the Royal Brigade is poised to take on an exciting new program. Our maintenance crew is hard at work putting a fresh shine on this beautiful building. A timely and useful computer lab for online work in the library and an upgraded, refurbished commons await students. Best of all, the strong tradition of the Cougar is ubiquitously present and, once again, set to make its mark.*

*Preliminary test results show Courtland continues to improve student success rates in all subject areas. We note several impressive gains in the core disciplines. However, as the bar is raised by accrediting agencies, the only way to meet increasing standards is increasing expectations for improved academic performance. To meet our goals, we are introducing an innovative program entitled Cougar AM to allow every student access to teachers on a daily basis outside of regularly scheduled classes. At the beginning of each school day, students are able to meet with a teacher for a variety of purposes ~ participate in enrichment activities, receive additional instruction, make up class work, tests, quizzes, readdress areas of need ~ in short, anything to improve their performance! It's a great plan to reach higher standards.*

*A few new faces and some faces in new positions eagerly anticipate students, parents and patrons including newly appointed assistant principal, Mr. Brian Bartoszek, and new instructional coordinator, Ms. Kristine Lentz-Johnston. We also wish Ms Starin, Ms. Morgan, Mr. Peters and Ms. Hudson best wishes as they move on to new positions while we welcome Ms. Fitzsimmons (Algebra), Ms. Adams (Algebra), Ms. Boyles (World History), and Ms. Brechin (Spanish) to the Courtland family. There may be one or two other staff changes before school starts, but Courtland staff is prepared to meet student needs by affording quality educational experiences and challenging students to be their best.*

*Whether you are an entering freshman or an experienced senior, this is your year. It's your time to be something extraordinary. Take advantage of the many opportunities and programs offered, strike up rewarding and lasting relationships with teachers, coaches, sponsors, counselors and administrators, collaborate on meaningful projects with friends, and make the best of your time at Courtland. Last year we found out about the Cougar in you. In a few weeks we'll be back in the groove and we'll find out if you Got Heart. So, bring us your 'A' game and we'll give you ours. We are looking forward to the best year yet! Go Cougars!*

Steve Fitch  
Principal

## Schedules

Students receive class schedules during homeroom **Aug. 24**, first day of school. Upon arrival, students report to homerooms; locations are posted in prominent positions.

## Important Paperwork

Students receive important forms and information during the first week of school: info. on pupil rights, school counseling programs, medication policy, textbook use, & applications for free/reduced lunch.

**Three forms must be completed and returned to school.** After reviewing SCS Code of Conduct booklet, students/parents must sign **both sides** of back cover and

return, acknowledging codes of conduct, bus conduct, parental responsibilities, computer use, and permission to publish student work, pictures/names. Update and return the yellow emergency procedures card, and the green clinic card.



Mr. Fitch & CHS students prepare a "Breakfast for Cougar Champions." Photo by Tanya Julian

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## Orientation

Freshman/New Student Orientation is **Aug. 19, 6:30-8:30 p.m.**, in CHS Gym. Reps from various clubs/organizations are available to accept membership & answer questions, the Cougar Zone (school store) is open, course schedules/locker assignments are available, and SCA seniors are giving guided tours.

## Bus Routes

Tentative bus stop times/locations will be mailed to last recorded student address the week before school starts. **Info is also available at [www.spotsylvania.k12.va.us](http://www.spotsylvania.k12.va.us).** Direct specific questions to (540) 582-5125 or [transport@spotsylvania.k12.va.us](mailto:transport@spotsylvania.k12.va.us).



## Attendance

Virginia requires children between the ages of 6-18 to be enrolled, on time, and attend school every day. Good attendance ensures student success.

Classes should not be missed unless absolutely unavoidable. CHS instructional day begins at 7:35 a.m. and ends at

2:20 p.m. Early releases from school are granted only by a parent note giving a valid reason; **notes must be turned in to the attendance office by 7:30 a.m. or when the parent personally comes to school.**

Whenever a student is absent from school, he/she needs to communicate with all of his/her teachers regarding missed work and develop a plan. After an absence, a parent note citing a valid reason is required within three (3) days to excuse the absence. CHS prides itself on student attendance.

## Visitors

All visitors MUST use the entrance leading in to the school's main office. After showing a picture ID and signing in, visitors receive an ID tag which must be prominently displayed during visits. Alumni visiting teachers need to make advance appointments. Alumni visiting current students is prohibited.

## Report Card & Interim Dates

Grading Period	Interim Reports	Report Cards
1st 9 Weeks	Sept. 23-24	Nov. 4
2nd 9 Weeks	Dec. 2-3	Jan. 20
3rd 9 Weeks	Feb. 24-25	Mar. 31
4th 9 Weeks	May 5-6	Mailed home June 13

## Debts

SCS continues to enforce payment of debts for lost textbooks/library books, class dues, art/business fees, lost/damaged equipment, and checks returned for non-sufficient funds.

In Aug., letters were mailed to parents of students on the debt list. Students who have not taken care of their financial obligations by the beginning of school will be **denied the privilege of purchasing parking permits and participating in extra-curricular activities, including athletics, dances, field trips, and club activities.**

Debts may be paid to Ms. Mary Ferrell in the Main Office or Mrs. Barbara Markland in the Counseling Office. If you believe records are in error, contact Mrs. Ruth White.



## Parent Meetings



**Thurs. Aug. 19—Orientation:**  
Gymnasium-6:30-8:30 p.m.

**Wed. Sept. 15—Back-to-School-Night:** 6 -8 p.m.

**Wed. Nov. 10—Parent/Teacher Conferences:** 6 -8 p.m

**Wed. Jan. 26—Parent/Teacher Conferences:** 6 -8 p.m

**Wed. Apr. 6—Parent/Teacher Conferences:** 6 -8 p.m

## Holiday Craft Fair

Sat., Dec. 11

from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.  
at CHS



Includes Breakfast with Santa, vendors from across the area, door prizes, music & more

**Craft Fair Admission ~ \$1**

**Breakfast with Santa ~ \$4**

Sponsored by DECA

Contact Jenee Pins at (540) 898-2069 or email Terri Palmer at [tpalmer@hs.spotsylvania.k12.va.us](mailto:tpalmer@hs.spotsylvania.k12.va.us) for vendor info.

# Welcome Seniors

Class dues are \$15 which will be collected during the first 2 weeks of school.

**Be on the lookout for cap, gown and announcement ordering information, available in Oct.**

Please remember to check the school website, senior section, for updates on senior events and activities throughout the year.

**Senior portraits:** Aug. 10, 11 & 12 at CHS.

**Make ups:** Sep. 21 & 22

Appointment cards arrive in the mail two weeks before the date! If you just want your picture in the yearbook, there is no sitting fee.

**Senior portraits taken by a different photographer** submitted by Sep. 15. Guidelines must be followed:

- Provide a digital image with 400 dpi or greater
- No backlights or props (no hands, flowers, etc.)
- Blue/Grey background
- Girls must be in a black drape
- Boys must be in a formal black tux

**Senior Panoramic:** Thurs., Sep 16, at 7:30 a.m.; payment is due at that time. Order forms will be passed out prior to the date.

**Senior Ads:** due by Oct. 1. Order forms available online soon! Students will be available to help with ads in Sep. Email [mliebau@hs.spotsylvania.k12.va.us](mailto:mliebau@hs.spotsylvania.k12.va.us) for order forms or answers to questions.

**Cap and Gown** pictures: Feb. 3 & 4

**2011 Yearbooks:** Order during Orientation or beginning in August.

**Underclassmen Pictures:** Sep. 13 & 14. 9<sup>th</sup>/10<sup>th</sup>-grade portraits taken during PE. 11<sup>th</sup>-grade portraits taken during English. All students not enrolled in these classes go to the auditorium during lunch or a break to have pictures taken.

**Make ups:** Oct. 26.



# Hello! -from the Class of 2012

Here's to a fantastic school year! In order to prepare for Prom (5-21-11), fundraising starts right away. **Please send in old/used print cartridges and old/retired cell phones.** Junior class is also

collecting eyeglasses (box in the main office) for the work of the Lions Club.

Stay tuned for the always-popular annual **talent show.**

Junior class hosts the **Santa Breakfast** at DECA's annual craft fair, Dec. 11.

Class dues are \$10; please take care of this quickly to avoid being placed on the debt list.

**Class shirts**—design suggestions are welcome—will be on sale later in the year!

Contact Mrs. Lyn Mills at [lmills@hs.spotsylvania.k12.va.us](mailto:lmills@hs.spotsylvania.k12.va.us) with questions or suggestions.



## Cougar Zone ~ CHS School Store

### Visit & Purchase

- Variety of Cougar Spirit Wear
- Spirit Items
- School Supplies

Open during Orientation, Aug. 19  
 ~ ~ Spend \$35 & receive a free Cougar seat cushion while supplies last ~ ~

Check us out Online through CHS Webpage  
 \*\*Hours of operation vary~check the website for current schedule or call X5191 and leave a message\*\*





**Meal Prices for Secondary**

Breakfast	\$1.50
Lunch	\$2.35
Reduced Breakfast	\$0.30
Reduced Lunch	\$0.40

**Lunch accounts can be set up at [www.cafeprepay.com](http://www.cafeprepay.com)**

## Class Dues

All students are responsible for paying class dues in order to participate and avoid being placed on the debt list. Dues are collected by class sponsors during the first two weeks of school.

- Freshman ~ \$4
- Sophomore ~ \$6
- Junior ~ \$10
- Senior ~ \$15



## School Supplies

Wait until school begins and each teacher has explained the needs for each class, so correct supplies are purchased. Generally, teachers at CHS ask students to keep notes, handouts and assignments in a 3-ring loose-leaf binder. Preferred pen colors are blue and black.

**Office Depot has a "Five Percent Back to Schools Program."**

When school supplies are purchased from them, **tell them the CHS school ID number: 70104928;** CHS receives credit for each purchase. This program runs the entire school year.

Visit online at [www.officedepot.com](http://www.officedepot.com).

## Dressing for Success

When shopping for new clothes, remember that school is a special place with a particular purpose—education.

**Studies have shown that the way a student dresses affects the way he/she behaves and learns.**

Bare midriffs, shoulders or visible undergarments are not appropriate nor are articles of clothing with suggestive drug, alcohol, or tobacco slogans/artwork. Length of skirts and shorts should be at least mid thigh—generally no shorter than the fingertips when the arms are held at the sides.



## PASS

(Parent Access for Student Success)



PASS allows parents access to academic and demographic information about their child/children. PASS includes schedules, grades, homework assignments, SOL test scores, attendance, and much more. Through PASS parents can communicate by email with principals, teachers, and counselors. Go to <https://pass.spotsylvania.k12.va.us> for access. If you have not already set up your account, look for PIN information from CHS or email Brenda Stout at [bstout@hs.spotsylvania.k12.va.us](mailto:bstout@hs.spotsylvania.k12.va.us).



## Future Business Leaders of America

Welcome back returning students and welcome new students. The Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) is the professional organization of the Business and Information Technology Department. Courtland has a very active chapter. **Any student enrolled in a business class is invited and eligible to join FBLA.** In order to join and be eligible to participate in regional, state and national events, dues (\$15) must be paid.

FBLA's 2010-11 officers are: Arianne Locsin, President; Jake Dixon, Vice President; Minna Mitra, Secretary; Benn Payne, Treasurer; Janay Saunders, Reporter-Historian; Xavier Brown, Webmaster; Jesse Belcastro, Parliamentarian; and Kyndra Barnes, Social Coordinator. Officers will be meeting in August to get the

year started are all very excited about another great year. Some of our many activities this year include: homecoming, shopping for Santa, and leadership conferences.

We look forward to seeing you and having you as part of the FBLA. Contact Mrs. Summerford at [msummerf@hs.spotsylvania.k12.va.us](mailto:msummerf@hs.spotsylvania.k12.va.us) with questions.

## Be Involved Join SCA

SCA is always looking to add enthusiastic Cougars to its membership. If you would like to be an SCA representative, see Mrs. Thorne or pick up an application in the main office.



## Future Farmers of America

New & Returning FFA members: A group order of **FFA jackets (\$46)** will be placed in **Sept.** Please make checks payable to "Courtland HS FFA." See FFA Agriculture/Horticulture teacher, Dr. Mummau.

# Counseling Office



## SCHEDULE CHANGES criteria:

- failure of a prerequisite course or graduation requirement
- clerical error
- change in the student's educational plan
- requested course not offered
- balancing of class sizes

Course Change Request Forms are in the Counseling Office and must be signed by a parent/guardian.

**Dropping a Course:** Students withdrawing from a class after the first nine weeks' grading period receive "WF" (withdraw failing) or "WP" (withdraw passing), which is treated as an "F" when calculating the G.P.A.

**College Night is Oct. 20** at Spotsylvania Towne Center. Over 100 college/army reps answer questions and hand out informational materials.

**Financial Aid Workshop:** *MAKING COLLEGE FINANCIAL PLANNING COUNT*--Parents/guardians of Spotsylvania students are welcome. Date: **TBA**

**FAFSA Workshop:** Free Application for Federal Student Aid is the focus. A panel of experts advise/answer *FAFSA* questions. Date: **TBA**

**PSAT Test: Juniors & Sophomores:** **Wed., Oct. 13.** Registration is \$13 (checks/money orders made out to "CHS"); register with Ms. Nelson in early Sept.: [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com) for info.

**Scholarships for College:** CHS Counseling Dept. produces the *Senior Scholarship Newsletter*, available in Eng. 12 classrooms, Counseling Office, and the Website.

**SAT Tests:** Seniors--Go to [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com) for upcoming test dates/deadlines and/or to register or use the mail-in registration form (CHS Counseling Office). Visit SAT Prep Center on the web site.

**Armed Forces Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) Test** is at CHS in Nov.

## Two Must-Visit Web Sites for College Bound Students:

- **www.students.gov--** Official U.S. Govt. website for the college-bound. Access U.S. Govt. resources.
- **www/studentaid.ed.gov:** Eligible individuals pursuing post-graduate education can benefit from federal financial assistance, includes grants/loans & work-study programs.



**CHS Counseling Website:** Great source of information, includes financial aid, college, career, military, graduation requirements, & college entrance examinations. Visit [www.spotsylvania.k12.va.us/chs](http://www.spotsylvania.k12.va.us/chs).

**Report Cards:** If needed, counselors provide copies of report cards; teachers provide copies of interims.

**Seniors on the Bubble:** Counselors & administration meet with seniors at risk of not graduating on time to develop academic plans to improve student performance.

**Get-to-School Club (GTS):** GTS is for rising freshmen with poor attendance. GTS is designed to motivate students to get involved with school, make connections, and improve attendance.

**Instructional Support Teams:** Teams meet regularly to track student progress in order to assist struggling students with strategies/practices to improve academic and/or behavioral performance.



Student Last Name	Assigned Counselor
A – C	Mrs. E. Hall
D - I	Mrs. J. Franklin
J – Q	Mr. D. DeSando
R – Z	Ms. M. Nelson

## **Counseling Staff**

**Mrs. Emily Hall**, Director, X5126  
([ehhall@hs.spotsylvania.k12.va.us](mailto:ehhall@hs.spotsylvania.k12.va.us))

**Mrs. Jackie Franklin**, Counselor, X5124 ([jfranklin@hs.spotsylvania.k12.va.us](mailto:jfranklin@hs.spotsylvania.k12.va.us))

**Mr. David DeSando**, Counselor, X5125  
([ddeSando@hs.spotsylvania.k12.va.us](mailto:ddeSando@hs.spotsylvania.k12.va.us))

**Ms. Mary Nelson**, Counselor, X5123  
([mnelson@hs.spotsylvania.k12.va.us](mailto:mnelson@hs.spotsylvania.k12.va.us))

**Mrs. Barbara Markland**, Secretary, X5121  
([bmarklan@hs.spotsylvania.k12.va.us](mailto:bmarklan@hs.spotsylvania.k12.va.us))

**Mrs. Brenda Stout**, Registrar, X5122  
([bstout@hs.spotsylvania.k12.va.us](mailto:bstout@hs.spotsylvania.k12.va.us))

## ***Dual Enrollment Tuition Payment***



1st payment of \$322.50  
**Due Sept. 11**

2nd payment due in Jan.

See Mrs. Markland for info

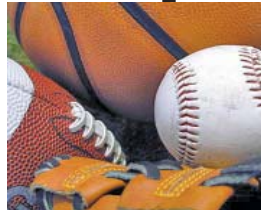
Photo courtesy of  
<http://www.flickr.com/photos/twcollins/751221191/>

# CHS PTSA News

## 2010-11 PTSA Elected Board

President, Jane Ray; Vice President, Kathy Meyers; Treasurer, Danielle Stapleton; and Secretary, Brenda Stout.

### Mark your calendars now for



## New Athletic Fee Plan:

SCS Board approved a \$100 athletic fee per student per sport beginning with the 2010-11 school year. Meetings are held in the beginning of every season to review the plan and collect the seasonal athletic fee for all athletes.

These meetings are scheduled:

- Fall sports athletes: Aug. 12, 6 p.m. ~ Auditorium
- Winter athletes: Dec. 1, 6 p.m. ~ Auditorium
- Spring athletes: Mar. 3, 6 p.m. ~ Auditorium

Find more info about the athletic fee plan: SCS website, call Mr. Ronnie Lowman, activities director or call Mr. Steve Fitch, principal.



**C H S**  
PTSA's first meeting for the upcoming school year is Sep. 16. Contact Jane Ray: [janeray01@verizon.net](mailto:janeray01@verizon.net) for information or to lend a hand.

### Third Floor Boutique is

supplying prom attire to CHS students for free. The program has been a huge success loaning girls and guys outfits at no cost to wear on prom night. Consider donating to this worthy cause. Contact Jane Ray: [janeray01@verizon.net](mailto:janeray01@verizon.net) for more information.

### Students' Choice Teacher-of-the-Year Award

Susan Barnes is selected as the CHS Teacher-of-the-Year by students.

### Margaret Morfit Volunteer of the Year Award

CHS parent, Daphne Ahalt, is the recipient of this year's PTSA volunteer award. Daphne's unstoppable enthusiasm and hard work are evident in everything she does.



Photo courtesy of [http://www.flickr.com/photos/jonjon\\_2k8/340305918/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/jonjon_2k8/340305918/)

## As part of SCS' Internet Literacy & Safety Initiative

### Tips to prevent "sexting":

**Think about the consequences before** taking, sending, or forwarding a sexual picture, even your picture. That picture may cause you to lose educational opportunities, position on a sports team and trouble with the law.

**Never take** images of yourself that you wouldn't want everyone—classmates, teachers, family, or employers—to see.

**Before hitting send**, remember, you can't control where the image travels. What you send to a boyfriend/girlfriend could easily end up with their friends, and their friends, and their friends...

**If You Forward** a sexual picture of someone underage, you are as responsible for this image as the original sender. You could face child pornography charges, go to jail, and have to register as a sex offender.

**Report** any nude pictures you receive on your cell phone to an adult you trust. Do not delete the message. Instead, get your parents or guardians, teachers, and school counselors involved immediately.

**Work Cited:** "Tips to Prevent Sexting." NetSmartz Workshop. 2009. National Center for Missing & Exploited Children. 21 Apr 2009 <[http://ncmec.vo.llnwd.net/o15/downloads/special/Sexting\\_Prevention.pdf](http://ncmec.vo.llnwd.net/o15/downloads/special/Sexting_Prevention.pdf)>.

### Students wishing to purchase parking permits must attend one Safe Driving Seminar:

- Aug. 11 ~ RHS @ 6 p.m.
- Aug. 25 ~ ChHS @ 6:30 p.m.
- Sep. 1 ~ SHS @ 6 p.m.
- Sep. 8 ~ MHS @ 6:30 p.m.

### Purchase CHS Parking Permits:



**Cost: \$80**

Seniors : Aug. 9  
Juniors: Aug. 10  
10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

\*\*Students MUST be debt free to purchase parking permits.\*\*



Photo courtesy of [www.spotsylvania.k12.va.us/chs](http://www.spotsylvania.k12.va.us/chs)

**Sports Schedules can be accessed through the CHS Webpage:**

[www.spotsylvania.k12.va.us/chs/athletics.asp](http://www.spotsylvania.k12.va.us/chs/athletics.asp)

# “Leave Your Mark” on CHS

**Order a Brick Plaque for the CHS Stadium Walkway  
Profits benefit CHS Yearbook.**

**Fill out the order form (below).**

**Payment is due when order is placed.**

**Make checks payable to CHS.**

**Cost: \$40 without logo; \$50 with logo.**

## You may mail your order:

c/o Mindy Liebau  
Courtland High School  
6701 Smith Station Rd,  
Spotsylvania, VA, 22553

- **For more info. call Mrs. Liebau at (540) 898-4445, ext. 2313.**
- **If you're interested in selecting a logo, contact Mindy Liebau.**
- **Allow 3-4 months for orders to be placed, returned & installed.**

“Leave Your Mark” Purchase Information																	
First Name						M.I.			Last Name								
Street Address												City			Zip		
Home Phone (    )									Work Phone (    )								
Bronze Plaque Inscription: May use 1, 2, or 3 lines for message. Please print clearly. Allow one square for each letter, a space between words, or for punctuation marks. Each line will be centered on plaque.																	
Line 1																	
Line 2																	
Line 3																	
Bronze Plaque Inscription With a Logo: Please print clearly. Allow one square for each letter, a space between words, or for punctuation marks. Each line will be centered on plaque.																	
Line 1	Place Logo # Here																
Line 2																	
Line 3	_____																

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