SPARTA HIGH SCHOOL

Home of the Spartans

October 2, 2015

* **Community Survey:** Sparta Area Schools has done several facility studies and would like your input as it pertains to the buildings where your child spends much of his/her day. Please take 5 minutes to complete this survey and let us know your thoughts. Your input is valued and appreciated. Survey closes on October 11. Thank you!
	+ Please click on the follow link : [Sparta Area Schools Facilities Community Survey](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Sparta_Community)
* **Presentations from Colleges and Universities:** Each year Sparta High School is visited by numerous colleges and universities. Admissions representatives meet with Sparta High School juniors and seniors to discuss application, enrollment, and degree opportunities. Thus far, our students have visited with Calvin College, Central Michigan University, Davenport University, Northern Michigan University, Michigan State University, Grace Bible College, and Aquinas College. Upcoming visits include:
	+ Oct 6 Alma College
	+ Oct 7 Grand Rapids Community College
	+ Oct 8 Cornerstone University
	+ Oct 14 University of Michigan
	+ Oct 19 Ferris State University
	+ Oct 20 Savannah College
	+ Oct 21 Eastern Michigan University
	+ Oct 27 U of M Flint
	+ Oct 27 Michigan Tech
	+ Nov 9 Olivet College

* **College Planning Workshop October 5th at 7pm:** Our guidance department will be hosting an extremely informative workshop for families preparing to apply for college admissions. The workshop, although hosted by Aquinas College, applies to all colleges and universities. This free event will be held in our auditorium. [CLICK HERE FOR EVENT BROCHURE!](https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B3i6iMXM3neueDhCOE9keWNjLVE/view?usp=sharing)
* **PSAT on Wednesday, October 14:** Juniors will be taking the PSAT during 1st – 4th periods on Wednesday, October 14. The test is actually called the PSAT/NMQST which stands for: **P**reliminary **S**cholastic **A**ptitude **T**est/**N**ational **M**erit **S**cholarship **Q**ualifying **T**est. Taking this test will greatly benefit our students as they prepare to take the SAT in April. Moreover, students get information about college readiness, can qualify for the National Merit Scholarship, and get “matched” for Advanced Placement courses. For more information: [CLICK HERE!](https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/psat-nmsqt-psat-10)

You can support your student by ensuring that he/she gets a good dinner, night’s rest, and healthy breakfast.

* **Supporting Your High School Aged Learner:** Parental involvement matters! According to Evanthia Patrikakou’s 2004 study from the Harvard Graduate School of Education, within the American educational system a paradoxical decline occurs as students get older. In short, as the complexity of the school structure and academic demand increases, the collaboration between school and home decreases. The research findings about how parents can positively influence academic achievement in high school and post-secondary degrees and certification follows:
	+ **Parent Expectations****Achievement**
		- The further in school parents believed their adolescents would go, the higher the adolescents' academic achievement.
	+ **Parent Expectations****Perception of Parent Expectations****Student Expectations****Achievement**
		- The further in school parents believed their adolescents would go, the clearer the adolescents' perception of such expectations, the higher their own academic expectations, the higher their academic achievement.
	+ **Parent Expectations****Perception of Parent Expectations****Time Spent on Homework****Achievement**
		- The further in school parents believed their adolescents would go, the clearer the adolescents' perception of such expectations, the more time they spent on homework, the higher their academic achievement.

For the complete research abstract, [CLICK HERE!](http://www.hfrp.org/publications-resources/browse-our-publications/adolescence-are-parents-relevant-to-students-high-school-achievement-and-post-secondary-attainment)

* There is an early release day on Monday, October 19th, 2015. Students will be dismissed at 1:30 pm.  **First session KCTC and KIH students will have** district provided transportation to and from their programs. There **will be no** district provided transportation for KTC, 2nd session KCTC, or 3rd session KCTC. Students and families can plan to provide their own transportation.  **Absences from KTC and KCTC will not count against these students.**

**ENSURING SUCCESS FOR ALL SPARTANS!**