



It's A Great Day to Be a Zee-Bee!

OPPORTUNITIES ABOUND IN 2019-20!

We are indeed excited to begin a new school year that holds much promise for our students! Once again, during our first days of school our dedicated staff warmly welcomed our Zee-Bee students to what we hope they embrace as their home away from home. Teachers, counselors, support staff, coaches, and sponsors stand ready to provide numerous opportunities for students to be supported in school and life, and to experience success in the classroom, in their athletic development, and through worthwhile experiences and acts of service via our numerous extracurricular clubs.

Parents—do not wait! Now is the time to strongly encourage your students to get involved, forge positive relationships, and build a strong resume that will open doors to excellent opportunities in and beyond high school. In this Beeline newsletter is important information about how parents can be positively involved in their high school student's school experience. Please take advantage of our Parent Bee Network sponsored offerings that will occur throughout the year, make connections with our staff, and attend our extracurricular and athletic events. We strongly encourage you to participate in our upcoming PBN Tailgate Party on September 13, which provides an excellent opportunity for parents to come together in support of our students. Bookmark and frequently visit our websites, www.zbths.org and www.ntzb.org, to remain informed and utilize our online parent access portals to monitor your student's progress.

Together, let's partner in making this the best school year to date for your student. We look forward to seeing our parents at the September 13 Tailgate Party and our students in the stands cheering on our Zee-Bees with our amazing student Swarm section. Go Bees!

Sincerely,

Dr. Chris Clark
Superintendent

25th Annual Old Fashioned



Friday, September 13, 2019

5:00-7:00 P.M.

Join in the fun at our famous "Tailgate Party" before and during the ZeeBees vs. Lake Zurich football game!

- WHO:** Everyone – Adults, Students, and Families
- WHERE:** Picnic Tables Adjacent to the Concession Stand or Bring a Blanket or Lawn Chair
- MENU:** Catering by Stone Creek Grill
- Cost:** \$8 per person

Superintendent Search Process Begins
See page 2 for opportunities to provide input.



Daily On-Time Attendance

One of the greatest success indicators in school and work is excellent attendance. The state of Illinois has affirmed attending class, listening to the teacher, and interacting with classmates are essential steps in your student meeting the requirements for successful completion of each course. We ask our parents/guardians to make student attendance their number one goal. Spend time talking to your teen about each class, homework assignments, projects, and tests. Contact teachers via e-mail or voicemail when you have a question or concern. Email addresses and phone numbers are available on your school's website.

We ask that all non-emergency appointments be made when school is not in session. If an illness or emergency occurs, a parent or legal guardian must report the absence as soon as possible to the respective school office.

**To report a NT@ZB student absence call
847-731-9813.**

**To report a ZBTHS student absence call
847-731-9300, after voicemail welcome press #2.**

Illinois Redefines Chronic Absenteeism and Consequences

Recently, the Illinois General Assembly revised Illinois School Code regarding the definition of chronic absenteeism (105 ILCS 5/26-18). Effective January, 1, 2018, chronic absenteeism is defined as "absences that total 10% or more of school days of the most recent academic school year, including absences **with and without valid cause.**"

Illinois will now identify any student as a chronic absentee regardless the reason he/she was absent. The General Assembly's rationale is: "Being absent too many days from school can make it difficult for students to stay on-track academically and maintain the momentum to graduate from high school in order to be college- or career-ready... Every day of school attendance matters for all students and their families."

Illinois has elevated the importance of school attendance also in that chronic absenteeism is now part of every school's accountability measures. Please see page 8 for additional information.



IHSA Eligibility Rule

District 126 is a member of the Illinois High School Association (IHSA), which has rules athletes must follow in order to be eligible for interscholastic participation. These rules are the minimum standards for all interscholastic athletic competition in any member high school. IHSA's scholastic standing eligibility requires all athletes to have passed 2.5 credits the prior semester and to continue to pass 2.5 credits to be eligible in the current semester. District 126 also requires athletes maintain a 2.0 grade point average. Athletes will lose eligibility if they are not in compliance with IHSA and District 126 athletic eligibility requirements. For more information, please contact the Athletic Office at 847-731-9361.

SUPERINTENDENT SEARCH

Dr. Chris Clark announced her retirement as superintendent of District 126 effective June 2020. Dr. Clark will have served District 126 for 26 years, with the last 12 years as superintendent. The Board of Education has secured the services of School Exec Connect to conduct a national search for Dr. Clark's replacement. Parents/guardians and community members are invited to participate in one of the following focus group meetings during which the search consultants will seek information regarding desired qualities in District 126's next superintendent. Options include:

**Monday, September 16 – 6:00 p.m.
ZBTHS South Cafeteria**

**Wednesday, September 18 – 3:00 p.m.
ZBTHS South Cafeteria**

**Wednesday, September 18 – 5:00 p.m.*
ZBTHS South Cafeteria***

*Parents/guardians are encouraged to stay for the Senior College Application Night that begins at 6:30 p.m. in the ZBTHS South Cafeteria.

Please watch for an online survey at www.zbths.org where you may also provide input. Questions may be directed to Rachel White at 847-731-9792 or whiter@zbths.org.



District 126 Cafeteria Pre-Pay Plan for Students

NT@ZB and ZAP/Transitions students can make a payment to their lunch account with their cashiers. **ZBTHS students can make a payment to their lunch account** at the Food Service Office located in the South Cafeteria. Prepay before 10 a.m., **Monday – Thursday**. Please allow three days for processing. **All District 126**

students may also mail their pre-payments to: ZBTHS – Aramark, 3901 W. 21st Street, Zion, Illinois 60099 or pay **online** through Family Access at www.zbths.org. Unused balances will carry over to the next school year; however, **no refunds** will be given to graduating seniors or students who leave the district. Questions may be directed to Natalie Lee, Aramark Food Service Director, at 847-731-9745.

National School Free & Reduced Lunch Form Available

The Application for Free and Reduced-Price Meal Services was mailed to all registered students. Additional forms are available in the NT@ZB Principals Office or ZBTHS Business Office or Bookstore. Completed applications should be delivered/mailed to Amanda Spoenburg in the District's Business Office. Please allow 7-10 days for processing. Students approved for this program are recorded in the cafeteria's database by ID number and will obtain their free/reduced lunch by swiping their ID card, similar to other paying students. Every effort towards privacy is made. **Important:** Students who qualify for the federal meal program must take all components of the meal or they will be charged for individual items. Should you have any questions regarding this program, please contact Chief School Business Official Wilkinson, at 847-731-9755.

Spirit Week

September 23 – 27



Mark your calendars as Homecoming is just around the corner. Many activities are planned for the week, including:

Friday, September 27

Districtwide Pep Rally
ZBTHS Campus – 2:00-3:00 p.m.
(Early Release NT@ZB 1:21 p.m.,
ZBTHS 1:51 p.m.)

Sophomore Football vs. Mundelein – 5:00 p.m.
Varsity Football vs. Mundelein – 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, September 28 – 7-10:30 p.m.

Homecoming Dance – ZBTHS Fieldhouse
(Advance purchased ticket and student ID required.
District 126 students and
pre-approved **high school** guests only.)

Note: All outstanding fees must be paid in order to purchase a dance ticket.



IMPORTANT

Upcoming Events/Activities Senior Class Panoramic Picture

- ✓ The panoramic picture date for ZBTHS & NT@ZB seniors is Friday, September 20 – ZBTHS Seniors at 7:50 a.m. and NT@ZB seniors at 9:00 a.m. Payment must be given to the photographer on the morning of the 20th. Order information will be shared through senior advisories. Questions? NT@ZB seniors please call the Main Office at 847-731-9800. ZBTHS seniors please call the Principal's Office at 847-731-9305.

Sophomore Class Ring Orders

- ✓ Information provided during Advisory – ZBTHS Thursday, September 12.
- ✓ Class Ring Parent Night – ZBTHS Wednesday, September 18 –in the ZBTHS South Cafeteria from 5:00 until 7:00 p.m.
- ✓ Thursday, September 19 in the ZBTHS Bookstore Alley – student orders taken during lunch periods.
- ✓ NT@ZB will be scheduling class ring orders in late fall/early winter. Please watch for future editions of the Beeline for more information.
- ✓ Questions? Please call the Principals' Office at ZBTHS 847-731-9305 or NT@ZB 847-731-9800.

Volume XIX, No. 1

Newsletter

PARENT UNIVERSITY PRESENTS: COLLEGE NIGHT WORKSHOP

SENIOR COLLEGE APPLICATION NIGHT

Wednesday, September 18, 2019

Senior college application night will be Wednesday, September 18, 2019, at 6:30 p.m. in the ZBTHS South Café. Presentations will cover UPDATED information about college admissions and the scholarship process using Naviance and Parchment. Financial Aid (FAFSA) and its timeframe will also be discussed.

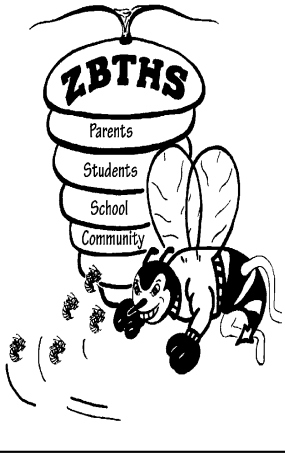
It is important for all seniors and parents to attend senior college application night to get the most up-to-date information about what, when, and how to apply for college admissions and financial aid. Due to the FAFSA timeframe, this will be the only financial aid presentation this year.

ASSESSMENT CALENDAR for the 2019-20 School Year

Below are the dates for district, state, and national assessments for the 2019-20 school year. Please emphasize to your student the importance of taking the examinations seriously, encourage your student to get a good night's sleep, and have him or her eat a healthy breakfast prior to taking their tests. Each test's results will inform your student's opportunities in and beyond high school.

Test	Date
PSAT 8/9 – Grade 9	October 16, 2019
PSAT/NMSQT – Grade 10, 11	October 16, 2019
PSAT 8/9 – Grade 9	April 14, 2020
PSAT 10 – Grade 10	April 14, 2020
SAT – Grade 11	April 14, 2020
Illinois Science Assessment - Grade 9	Spring 2020 – (TBA)
Advanced Placement Courses' Testing	May 4 - May 15, 2020

District 126



PARENT BEE NETWORK 2019-2020

Our Mission

To unite all parents and other adults to enhance communication among parents, youth, school personnel and within our communities in order to promote healthy activities and high standards for our young people.

PBN WELCOME



The more we, as parents, are involved in our children's learning, the greater student achievement is positively affected. This is true of all types of parent involvement, including attending and actively supporting school activities. This is just one of the many reasons to support District 126 Parent Bee Network sponsored activities.

The Parent Bee Network's activities make every effort to improve parent-to-parent and parent-to-school communication. We want to serve as role models for our children and provide safe, alcohol, and drug-free chaperoned activities for them. This year we will again sponsor or cosponsor several student and adult activities, such as the upcoming Fall Tailgate Party on September 13th. Most exciting is that we will continue to offer educational activities this year where parents will have the opportunity to select meaningful workshops to attend related to parents of high school students.

Though we are not primarily a fundraising organization, efforts this past year resulted in awarding three \$500 scholarships to graduating seniors.

All parents are strongly encouraged to join us and participate in our school improvement activities. If you are interested in being part of the Planning Committee, please contact Assistant Principal Jack Niemi at 847-731-9305 or email niemij@zbths.org.

STUDENT YEARBOOK PHOTOS



In early October, students will be provided picture packet order envelopes to share with their parents, which provide details on dates and costs. This information will also be posted on the District's website. Please communicate with your student your wishes regarding receiving this information if you desire to order photographs of your student.

Picture dates for seniors occurred in late August. Underclassmen picture dates will be confirmed at a later date. Please watch for future editions of the Beeline for more information.

TITLE I PARENT MEETINGS

District 126 has a school wide Title I program at both of its campuses. Title I is a federal program that provides funds that cover a variety of district needs that support student academic, social, and emotional development. Annually, parents are invited to participate in Title I planning meetings to learn more about how the District's Title I funds are utilized to support the District's adopted Strategic Plan for Improvement and to provide input on the District's Title I Parent Compact.

We are looking for parent volunteers who would like to be involved in this educational process. Parents will learn more about the inner workings of the District and its Strategic Plan for Improvement and have an opportunity to provide suggestions. Please contact Rachel White at whiter@zbths.org or 847/731-9792 with your availability. An effort will be made to find mutually agreeable dates and meeting times during the day and/or evening. Childcare during the meeting can be arranged as well.

FOSTER CARE TRANSPORTATION PLAN

According to the U.S. Department of Education (USDE), approximately 270,000 children in foster care attended elementary and secondary schools in 2014. The USDE stated that "studies find that children in foster care are much more likely than their peers to struggle academically and fall behind in school. . . . and are less likely to graduate from high school." Often this is a result of unscheduled school changes. All District 126 stakeholders are advised to contact the Director of Student Services, Mr. Steven Richter, at 847-731-9340 if they are aware of any child in foster care whose school experience is being disrupted due to a change in placement. The student's circumstances will be reviewed to determine his/her eligibility for a foster care transportation plan to school.



Support Your Student Athletes

Join the ZBTHS District 126 Athletic Boosters Club! Your \$30 per adult or \$20 per student membership includes entrance to all home football and basketball games (excluding IHSA tournaments), and a membership card. Booster Meetings are held on the first Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m., in the Athletic Conference Room. All members are encouraged to attend. Parents/Guardians – you are needed to staff our concession stands for fall and winter seasons! Please complete your application and mail or return it to the District Athletic Department with your check made payable to the ZBTHS 126 Athletic Boosters.

ZBTHS District 126 Athletic Boosters Membership Application

Name _____

Address _____

Student's Name _____

Year in School _____ Sport _____

Donation - \$30 per adult / \$20 per student

U.S. Department of Education Regulations Regarding Family Education Rights and Privacy Act

On December 2, 2011, the U.S. Department of Education issued regulations implementing the *Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act* (FERPA) to help ensure that student information continues to be protected as more education records are digitized and shared electronically. These new regulations became effective on January 3, 2012.

The regulations amend the definition of “directory information” and provide school districts with the option of adopting a limited directory information policy. “Directory information” is defined to include things that are not usually considered to be an invasion of privacy if disclosed (e.g., name, address, date of birth, period of attendance, honors received, activities and field of study, and diplomas awarded). School districts are required to:

1. Provide annual notification to parents and students of the types of information designated as directory information,
2. Inform parents and students of their right to opt out of having the child’s information designated as directory information and disclosed as such.

Under FERPA, directory information includes, among other items, a student ID number or other unique personal identifier used by a student for accessing or communicating via electronic systems, excluding the student’s PIN or password information.

In response to confusion regarding whether parents have the right to opt out of having their child wear an ID card or name badge, the new regulations permit school districts to require students to wear or display ID cards and badges that have a student ID number or unique personal identifier so long as that identifier or number cannot be used, except in conjunction with a PIN password or other factor known only by an authorized user, to access education records. Please see the *Student Handbook* for more details regarding student records.

Parent Request for Teacher Qualifications

At the beginning of each school year, districts must notify parents that they have the right to request specific information about the professional qualifications of their child’s classroom teacher(s). This information includes:

1. Whether the teacher has met state qualifications and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas in which the teacher provides instruction.
2. Whether the teacher is teaching under emergency or conditional certification.
3. The baccalaureate degree major of the teacher and other graduate certification or degree, and the field of discipline of the certification and/or degree.
4. The information must also disclose whether the child is provided services by paraprofessionals, and if so, the paraprofessionals’ qualifications. [20 U.S.C. Sec. 1111(h)(6)(A)]; U.S. Department of Education’s non-regulatory guidance on Parent Involvement in Title I, Part A, question C-6.

Facility Survey

As required by the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA), all school district buildings must be inspected for the presence and condition of asbestos containing materials. The initial inspection report from Asbestos Control Methods, Inc., of Mt. Prospect, Illinois, was received by the District in October of 1988. Camplin Environmental Services, Inc., of Rosemont, Illinois, completed the latest re-inspection, which is also required by AHERA, in August of 2017. The asbestos report showed the presence of some asbestos containing material in the form of floor tile, ceiling tile, and pipe wrap located in the boiler rooms at the ZBTHS campus. No other asbestos containing materials were found at the ZBTHS campus. The report now serves as a management document to re-inspect and monitor the condition of the materials to insure the safety of all employees, students, and visitors to the building. A second report showed that there is no trace of asbestos at NT@ZB. Both reports are on file at the Maintenance Office, One Z-B Way, 3901 W. 21st Street, Zion, Illinois.

PESTICIDE NOTIFICATION REQUEST . . .

All public schools are required to conduct an Integrated Pest Management Program in accordance with the Illinois State Law P.A. 91-0525 (SB 529) and P.A. 91-0099 (SB527). Zion-Benton Township High School District 126 practices Integrated Pest Management contracted through Anderson Pest Control. We use a program that combines preventative use of pesticides with a preference for products that are least harmful to human health and the environment. The term "pesticide" includes insecticides, herbicides, rodenticides, and fungicides. We never use pesticides unless baits and traps do not work or if an extreme infestation would occur.

District 126 has established a registry of individuals who wish to be notified prior to pesticide applications. To be included in this registry, please complete the following form and mail or return it to the attention of: Director of Buildings and Grounds, Zion-Benton Twp. High School Dist. 126, 3901 W. 21st Street, Zion, IL 60099. Questions may be directed to Josh Gehrig at 847-731-9780.

PESTICIDE NOTIFICATION REQUEST

I would like to be notified two days prior to the use of pesticides at Zion-Benton Township High School District 126. I understand that if there is an immediate threat to health or property that requires treatment before notification can be sent out, I will receive notification as soon as possible.

Please Print

Parent/Guardian/Staff Name: _____

Student Name: _____ School: _____ Grade: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Parent/Guardian/Staff Signature: _____ Date: _____

Return to Director of Buildings and Grounds, Zion-Benton Twp. High School District 126, 3901 W. 21st Street, Zion, IL 60099.

**MILITARY RECRUITERS AND POSTSECONDARY INSTITUTIONS
RECEIVING STUDENT DIRECTORY INFORMATION**

From time-to-time, military recruiters and postsecondary educational institutions request the names, telephone numbers, dates of birth, awards, activities, diplomas, and addresses of our students. The school must provide this information unless the parent(s)/guardian(s) request that it not be disclosed without their prior written consent.

Important: If you do not want military recruiters, institutions of higher learning, the Student National Clearinghouse, or approved research workers to be given your student's directory information as detailed on Page 6, please complete the form below and return it to ZBTHS or NT@ZB by November 1, 2019.

Dear Ms. McKenzie, New Tech High @ Zion-Benton East or Ms. Phillips, Zion-Benton Township High School:

Please do not release my child's directory information to:

- Military Recruiters
 Institutions of higher education and National Student Clearinghouse
 Approved researchers

 Student Name (*please print*)

 Student ID Number

 Parent/Guardian Name (*please print*)

 Parent/Guardian Signature

 Date

Please mail or return your request to:

Ms. Yolanda McKenzie
 New Tech High @ Zion-Benton East
 1634 - 23rd Street
 Zion, IL 60099

Ms. Sue Phillips
 Zion-Benton Township High School
 3901 W. 21st Street
 Zion, IL 60099

Note: ZAP/Transitions students may return their forms to their main office.

ZION-BENTON TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 126

One Z-B Way
21st and Kenosha Road
Zion, Illinois 60099

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
Paid
Zion, Illinois
Permit No. 8

Para una traducción al español de este documento, por favor vaya a www.zbths.org y desplácese hacia abajo hasta los anuncios.

ILLINOIS' EVERY STUDENT SUCCEEDS ACT DEFINES SCHOOLS' SUCCESS INDICATORS

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) is federal legislation adopted in December 2015, which required every state to develop and submit to the Department of Education for approval a new state level school accountability plan. Illinois' ESSA plan was approved August 30, 2017, is very complex, and the implementation rules have been slowly evolving since its adoption. To date, both ZBTHS and NT@ZB have received designations of "commendable" under ESSA. The plan emphasizes "educating and caring for the whole child via interconnected systems [and] reaching these goals via a whole community effort." Listed below are Illinois' ESSA goals to be reached by 2032, as well as the high school metrics that will be utilized to measure schools' success every year. Additional details are available at www.isbe.net/ESSA.

ESSA FINE ARTS INDICATOR



The Illinois State Board of Education is working to define its "Art Indicator" through the Illinois Arts Indicator Work Group, which submitted its recommendation to ISBE on

December 19, 2018. The recommendations were made available for public comment. Currently it is recommended that 5% of schools' accountability metrics be related to enrollment in arts curriculum beginning with the 2020-21 school year.

District 126's investment in the arts will position the District well for this accountability indicator.

ILLINOIS ESSA HIGH SCHOOL ACCOUNTABILITY INDICATORS

Academic Indicators = 75%	2019-20
English Language Arts Proficiency (SAT):	7.5%
Math Proficiency (SAT):	7.5%
Graduation Rate:	50%
(30% 4-year; 15% 5-year; 5% 6-year)	
English Language Learner Proficiency:	5%
Science Proficiency:	5%
Student Success & School Quality = 25%	2019-20
Chronic Absenteeism:	10%
Student Climate Survey (5Essentials):	6.67%
9 th Grade on Track:	8.33%
College and Career Readiness Framework:	0%*
Fine Arts Indicator (TBD):	0%*

*Future weights effective 2020-21.