



# THE GUIDO GAB

Welcome to the first edition of another Guido Gab. It's good once again to touch base with you, our parents, as we try to keep you informed and engaged about the news and activities of our school. While we still have some unusual parts of our school day - masks, and some quadmester-type days - overall, there's definitely a feel of moving forward, getting back to some type of high school reality. We certainly hope and pray this continues.

## Welcomes

Let's first of all extend a warm welcome to our new teachers and educational assistants. We're thrilled to have Mr. Scott, Ms. Hordyk and Mrs. Bosch join our team, and trust that their first month has been busy, productive and good. We also welcomed 115 new Gr. 9 students as well as some new families to our community. We hope that each of you will feel comfortable - even, at home, and can fully participate in making our school community a great place to learn. Some of the formal welcomes were given during the opening assembly on the first day of school, and I've been hearing that the new students have started to feel comfortable here, and have discovered friends among peers.

## Student Leadership Team

We have a team of 22 senior students who have chosen to be student leaders amongst the large student body here. They've already been involved in a few activities, most notably ably running the annual Gr. 9 orientation day at Famee Furlane in Binbrook. At this event, we bring together the SLT and the Gr. 9 students and allow the older students to develop leadership skills, and the Gr. 9's to feel comfortable among their peers. It was a great day, even well captured by five able beginning photographers under the leadership of Mrs. VanVelzen. You can see a few

of their pics on the Guido Facebook page. Finally, our new SLT reporter, Ellie Kampen provides this helpful report on their opening activities:

This year is jam packed for the Student Leadership Team! We already have so many fun activities planned for the fall and are excited to see them happen. On September 15, we had our grade nine outing. We had a great day at Famee Furlane playing games, eating pizza, and getting to know each other. At the outing, we were divided into peer mentorship groups. Peer Mentorship is where two student leaders are paired with a group of grade nine students and have monthly meetings discussing all things school from a Christian perspective. Peer mentorship is a valuable opportunity for new students to gain friends, ask difficult questions, and learn how to navigate high school from students who have previous experience (limited though, due to Covid. But we do our best). We are looking forward to having our first official peer mentorship meeting very soon!

The SLT has already had its big planning meeting where we decide everything happening at school for the first half of the school year. While this year's meeting looked a little different due to covid protocols and various other issues, we thank the Lord that we were all able to meet and have a productive, yet fun time together. Fueled by watermelon and chocolate-covered tuxedo cake balls from Costco, we divided the team into committees, who plan this year's events. Students can look forward to Fallfest happening very soon- a time filled with plaid, pie, pumpkin spice and all things nice! You can expect a fall-themed cafe and some outdoor games. Banquet is also coming up very soon. Lord willing it will happen in November! Again, due to covid, banquet will look a little different this year. However, we are planning for a fun night with food, entertainment, and many photo ops. The SLT is so excited for all these fun events, and we

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hope that you are too. We praise the Lord that he brought everyone back to school safely, and we pray that we will be able to have a fun rest of the year together!

## Sports Report

The year has been off to a great start! Athletics council already has our wheels moving with planning intramurals, events, and other exciting things! Our Athletics council 2021 consists of our president Lydia Jajou, our vice Djese Kasweka, Secretary Jenna Dekker (myself), Leanne DeBoer, Tara Schuller, Chelsea Vanderwaal, Anthony Schouten, Nicole DeJager, and Ryan DaSilva. We are ready to serve our student body with planning fun athletics and events for all to enjoy in a friendly and God centered atmosphere.

We are very thankful that we have been able to proceed with indoor and outdoor sports this year! This September we have started up our girls basketball season, boys volleyball, and cross country season. Basketball and Volleyball tryouts happened early this month, and cross country practice is starting off on a great foot. I am sure all of the athletes are looking forward to a good season!

All in all, we are looking forward to a great year full of activity D.V. We can't wait to see the student body bustling with activities and sports again. I am excited to see our actions put into motion for all to enjoy!

## Clubs and Activities

We continue to encourage all of our students to get involved in at least one activity while continuing with their main focus - studies and work. Particularly our Gr. 9 students wonder about the clubs and sports available to them. We have taken the time to review all the options all

students have, and we have reminded students that all information is shared regularly over the PA during lunch announcements. But do encourage your son or daughter to listen carefully, and then to find something that interests them. All club/sports announcements are also posted daily on a bulletin board outside the main office. We hope that these many activities can bring greater enjoyment and interest to school life.

## Student Services

Mrs. Van Velzen has talked to each grade 12 class about planning for next steps. Some are excited, others very nervous, but, all are starting the process of making plans. After her general presentation to parents on the Parent Night and to students in their classes, she will be meeting with each student individually to see what support she can give them in this process. She would love to continue the dialogue with you as parents, so, please reach out if you would like a google meeting or phone call to know how you can support your child through this process.

## Dates to Remember

<b>Wed. Oct. 6</b>	First early dismissal day <i>(Teacher R and D)</i>
<b>Mon. Oct. 11</b>	Thanksgiving Day
<b>Fri. Oct. 15</b>	ARPA Youth Conference <i>(Guido gym)</i>
<b>Sat. Oct. 16</b>	Youth conference continues <i>(am only)</i>
<b>Fri. Oct. 22</b>	Gr. 9 Progress Reports
<b>Wed. Oct. 27</b>	Flex Day + Parent-Teacher Conferences
<b>Thurs. Oct. 28</b>	High School Convention - <i>Students home</i>
<b>Fri. Oct. 29</b>	Teachers' Convention - <i>Students home</i>