



ACADEMY HIGH  
CHAMPAIGN URBANA

## WEEKLY NEWS

December 15, 2023



Thank you to everyone who came out for our End of Semester Showcase!

### Upcoming Events

Tuesday, January 2nd

No School - Faculty Inservice

Wednesday, January 3rd

First Day of Second Semester

Thursday, January 4th

Girls Basketball Game at Savoy Rec Center, 6pm

Tuesday, January 9th

Parents Association Meeting (via Zoom), 7pm

Monday, January 15th

No School - Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Wednesday, January 17th

11th Grade Meeting w/ Lisa Micele, 6:30pm

Friday, February 2nd

Student Social: Bowling at the Union, 6:30-8:30pm

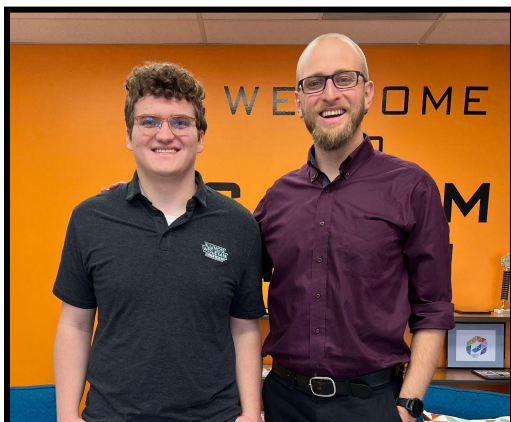
## Fourth Annual Care Fair was a Huge Success!

The Academy High Caring Crew wants to thank you for all of your time and support! We are excited to announce that this year's Care Fair has been the most successful one yet! We raised approximately \$8,000 for Eastern Illinois Foodbank, equivalent to over 24,000 meals for our food insecure neighbors. Thank you for helping us make a meaningful difference in our community.

Additionally, a heartfelt thank you to our incredible event sponsors including Busey Bank, Commerce Bank, Hickory Point Bank, and St. Teresa Cross Country Coach Todd Vohland. These thoughtful contributions directly benefited Eastern Illinois Foodbank. We appreciate our supportive community!



The Culturally Inclusive Food Drive has also been a tremendous success! Thank you to all the Academy High families that thoughtfully brought in non-perishable food donations that align with the cultural preferences of the EIF's clients.



## Welcome Back, Nik Gritten '21

In November, not only did we host Illinois Wesleyan University for a conversation with students about the The Petrick Idea Center, but reps from IWU were joined by **Nik Gritten, Academy High Class of 2021!**

Nik Gritten is a junior student at IWU majoring in environmental studies. It was such a thrill to show Nik our newly renovated building, to catch up with him about all of the wonderful things he is doing at IWU, and to see the ways that Academy High prepared him for success in college. Thank you for joining us, Nik!

## Business Club Hosts President of Parkland College



Last Thursday, the President of Parkland College Pam Lau joined the Business Club for the club's guest speaker series. Dr. Lau shared about her educational and career journey as an immigrant from Singapore. She also shared leadership advice and provided insights about her responsibilities as President of one of the top community colleges in the nation.

Previous Business Club guest speakers this semester include Mr. Colin Ramage, a Commercial Portfolio Manager at Busey, and

Mr. Marc Changnon, a business professional, educator, and motivational speaker. Our next speaker after break is Jeremy Leman, a former Illini/NFL player, who currently works in real estate and serves as an analyst on the Big Ten Network.

## X-Time Club: Grant Award

Academy High's X-Time Club has been busy this semester engaging in the community, leading STEAM events at the Douglas Branch of the Champaign Public Library and the Y on the Fly for elementary-aged students, with more plans on the horizon. The club is excited that the overarching nonprofit, X-Time ([x-time.org](http://x-time.org)), has been awarded a grant from the Community Foundation of East Central Illinois to further its impact. This funding will help enable Academy High's X-Time Club to continue its community engagement efforts to expand its reach.



## Girls Basketball Season is in Full Swing!



Our girls played Uni High on Thursday, December 7th which resulted in another Academy High win! The final score was 46-25.

**Please mark your calendars for our next home game!** The game will take place on Thursday, January 4th at 6pm. Academy High will be playing Decatur at the Savoy Recreation Center.

We encourage everyone attending to wear the owl red hoodie or any red clothing! The admission fee for all home games is \$2 for students and \$4 for adults. We hope to see you there!

## Do You Know About Academy High's New Family Referral Program?

Academy High has a New Family Referral Program to reward our current families who spread the word about our school. After all, our current families know our community better than anyone!

### The referral process is simple:

1. Refer a new family to Academy High.
2. When a new family completes an online application, they will have the opportunity to list your name as a reference.
3. Once the referred student is enrolled and attends Academy High for a semester, you will receive a \$500 credit towards your tuition.

Not only will you help us grow our school community, but you will also enjoy savings on your tuition. It's a win-win! Families can refer up to four new families each year, meaning you have the opportunity to earn up to \$2,000 per year.

Please keep in mind that we are accepting applications for the upcoming school year when you're checking in with friends, co-workers, and neighbors. The priority deadline for students wishing to apply for the 2024-2025 and the 2025-2026 school years is **December 15th, 2023**.

A graphic with an orange and white background. At the top, a banner reads "NEW FAMILY REFERRAL PROGRAM". Below this are two circular images: the left one shows a woman painting, and the right one shows three female athletes in track uniforms. At the bottom, a banner reads "\$500 TUITION CREDIT". Below that, text says "REFER A NEW FAMILY AND RECEIVE A \$500 CREDIT WHEN THEY ATTEND ACADEMY HIGH."

## Be Sure to Check Out the Digital Outcomes from the End of Semester Showcase!

During finals week, Academy High opened its doors to students and parents for our End of Semester Showcase, which allowed students in Digital Humanities, Chemistry, Experimental Design, Environmental Studies, and Independent Studies the opportunity to share outcomes from their classes.

A screenshot of a Spotify playlist titled "Academy High Chemistry - Fall 2023" from "1 day ago". The playlist features 10 tracks with colorful album art. The tracks are:

Track Number	Track Title	Duration
1	An Everyday Paint Problem, The Chemistry and Hist...	16
2	The Chemistry Behind Pizza (MiaBella Breaux)	6
3	Chemistry Of Ammonia (Oren Akresh and Kevin Zhu)	9
4	Chemistry Of Skincare (Maegan Frye and Hannah W...)	6
5	Chemistry of Chemical Warfare (David King and Jac...)	4
6	The Sun And You - Part 1 (Tey Eagles and Tyler Inger...)	8
7	The Sun And You - Part 2 (Tey Eagles and Tyler Inger...)	4
8	Chemistry Of Exoplanets (Camille Kloster)	2
9	How Light Affects Organisms (Jacob Lahmon)	3
10	Poison in Plants (Evie Price and Hayden Jenks)	4

At the bottom, there is a "View fewer tracks" link and social sharing icons.

A screenshot of the "DIGITAL HUMANITIES AT ACADEMY HIGH" website. The page has a navigation menu with links for Home, About, Collaboration, Map and Timeline, Speech Analysis, and Citations. The main content area features a large image of the U.S. Capitol building with an American flag. Text on the page reads "John Kerry- United States Special Envoy to Climate" and includes a "Learn More" button.

Two particular outcomes are accessible online, the [Digital Humanities website](#) about the Office of the U.S. Special Presidential Envoy for Climate and a [playlist of podcasts](#) created for Chemistry. Be sure to check out the hard work of our students!

Congratulations to our Jazz and Rock Bands on an Excellent Concert!

