



HAMMONDSPORT CENTRAL SCHOOL

Laker Lines

December 2008

HCS Gives Back



Members of the Curtiss Student Government prepare to transport food items they collected during the Faculty vs. Fireman Basketball game to the local food pantry. See page 3 for more ways HCS is giving back to the community and people in need.

Aiming High

News from Hammondsport Central School District Superintendent

The month of November brought us a Section V Class D Volleyball Championship, a new President, and more news on the economic situation that New York State is dealing with. Talk about your highs and lows. In my office I have a plaque that simply reads, "It is what it is." That is certainly true of the budget situation that we are facing at Hammondsport and every other public school in New York State. Whether we like it or not, we are going to have to deal with it.

We have been notified by the Governor that he has proposed a mid-year reduction in our State Aid of \$201,000. This is money we have built into our current budget that will not be available. There is no final word on if this mid-year reduction will actually take place, but it sets the stage for what we can look for in State funding for the next few years. As a District, the School Board and I will be working very hard to look at the District's expenses and see where spending can be reduced. We are in sound financial condition as a District, but a reduction in revenue along with an increase in expenditures going into 2009-2010 will force us to review all non-essential items.

I would like to commend all District faculty and staff as they work at reducing expenses and streamlining their departments. We will work to make smart reductions rather than just easy reductions as we all deal with these difficult times.

I hope the Holidays find you and your family well! Please join us for a basketball game, wrestling match, or concert and celebrate the many talents our students have to offer.

Below is a letter written to the school by a Gananda Central School volleyball fan after our volleyball team's play-off match vs. Gananda. As you will read, this is a wonderful compliment for our students and school community!

I think I can speak on behalf of the entire Gananda Community when I say that your fans may be the best fans in New York State. I was at the playoff game last night in Lyons and the place was rocking, not because of us (though our fans are pretty great), but because of you guys. I was the basketball and softball coach from Gananda so I've been to MANY games, so I really have a lot of experience with games and fans and you guys are awesome.

I don't know who the kid was that was leading all the cheers but I went up to him as he left and told him, "You rock" and high fived him.

It's not too often that you see that kind of community spirit, plus to have the kids be so respectful as they cheered on their team. That was a sight I will always remember.

I just felt like I needed to commend you and your school on a job well done and congratulate you on your sectional win and a great season.

*Sincerely,
A Gananda volleyball fan*

Laker Lines is the official newsletter of the Hammondsport Central School District. It is distributed to all district residents. HCS Board of Education members include: James Zimar, President; Frank Curran, Vice President; Richard Drain, Nancy Torp and Christine Kolo.

The Board meets the third Wednesday of each month in the Library of the Main Street School.

Superintendent of Schools: Kyle Bower

Newsletter Editor: Julie Amsden

HCS Embraces the Spirit of Helping Others

Helping others in need is always present in the minds of HCS students. In the past, students have volunteered countless hours to the local Food Pantry, SPCA, Ronald McDonald House, victims of Hurricane Katrina and other people in need from all over the world. This year, the students at HCS are already working very hard to help those less fortunate. Below are just a few examples of the projects they have already worked on this year.

NHS Halloween Canned Food Drive

Once again, student members of the HCS National Honor Society conducted a successful canned food drive on Halloween evening. The students were able to collect close to 300 donated food items, which they contributed to the Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry in Hammondspport. The students would like to thank those individuals who donated the items for the food drive. This yearly event is a great opportunity for our students to do something for their community and to help others in need, especially during these difficult economic times. Again, many thanks to the Hammondspport community for your generosity, and to the students of the NHS for your dedication.

Curtiss Elementary School's Operation Shoe Box

Curtiss Elementary School's annual Operation Shoe Box project began Monday, October 6th and ended Friday, October 31st. The purpose of this project was to send shoe boxes filled with gifts to needy children (ages 2-14) all over the world. For many, these will be the only holiday presents the children will receive. This was a good opportunity for our school community to celebrate the spirit and joy of giving.



Kyle Orr and Samantha Lyle help load gifts for the needy.

We also collected \$46.00 for the postage to send the shoe boxes. Every Friday during October we had "hat day" at Curtiss and students donated 25 cents in order to wear a hat all day in school. Our students learned many positive things from this project and it gave them an opportunity to participate in a simple hands-on project that uses shoe boxes to share the true meaning of Christmas.

Updates from the K-6 Principal's Office

by Jim McCormick

We have a lot to be thankful for at HCS – wonderful facilities, a dedicated staff, respectful students, supportive parents, and a community who partners with the school in many events. As we begin the next 10 week marking period, our timelines become tighter, students become busier, and the rigor of school increases. All of this means we need to prioritize so that students can be successful in the classroom while still participating in after-school and family activities.

When we return from the Thanksgiving break, there will be just 4 weeks of instructional time remaining until the New York State ELA examinations for grades 3-6 begin. As a reminder, we ask parents to please note the January calendar so that appointments can be avoided on the following dates: on January 13, 14, 15 Grades 3, 4, and 5 students will be administered the ELA exam; on January 21, 22, 23 Grade 6 students will be administered the ELA exam.

Recently, the 5th Grade NYS Social Studies exam was administered. A preliminary scan of the results reveals the 5th Graders performed well. The individual results will be shared with parents in the near future.

Please mark your calendars with these dates:

December 10	Curtiss Music Concert 7:00pm
December 18	Curtiss Celebration of Giving Assembly 1:15 pm
December 19	Five week Progress Reports
December 22 – January 2	Holiday Break
January 5	School resumes

ENJOY THE UPCOMING HOLIDAYS!!!

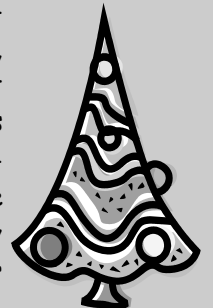
From the Desk of HS Principal Tad Rounds

December is a busy month with Ski Club trips, basketball games, Drama Club productions and the Holiday Concert. Thank you to parents, community members, faculty and staff for supporting our students in all their activities.

Congratulations to a number of our Senior Class members who have been accepted to their college of first choice. Please take note of the message board in front of the school to stay abreast on our students' college acceptances. Our first Drama Club production is scheduled for December 6th, followed by our Holiday Concert on December 18th. December's Parent Liaison Meeting is scheduled for December 10th at 7:00PM in the Senior High Library. Please enjoy the holiday break with your family and friends.

Tree Honors Men & Women In Armed Services

The Christmas tree honoring our servicemen and women, past and present, will be decorated again this year in front of the District Office. Perhaps this holiday season you'll come across a picture you'd like to put on the tree. Please bring it to the office and we'll be happy to "frame" it and hang it on our tree. Include any information you'd like!



1st Quarter Honor Roll Announced

High Honor Roll

Seventh Grade

Elizabeth Albright
Taylin Bower
Caitlin Burns
Carrington Ellis
Claudia Eygabroat-Guerin
Lori Gordon
Korynne House
Trenton Kolodziejczak
Dalton Mori
Nicholas Peacock
David VonRhedy

Eighth Grade

Connor Amsden
Michael Bestys
Lauren Binnert
Brooke Clark
Dustin Deal
Ryan Eckel
Megan Erway
Sydney Farmer
Kareena Hoyt
Matthew Lowin
Alissa Walruth
Mary Webber

Ninth Grade

Jacob Albright
Kevin Benedict
Matthew Bussmann
Michaela Kinney
Andrea Miller
Matthew Peterson
Bennett Preston
Michael Quade
Susan Sincerbox

Tenth Grade

Rachel Armstrong
Nicholas Bagley
Reagan Ball
Kate Brown
Kyle Dencenburg
Emily Drake
Brandi Egresi
Brooke Gordon
Christopher Haluszczak
Hannah Jacquier
Joshua Malone
Cora Moyer
Kelly Perz
Keegan Rawlins
Cassidy Riekofski
Cejae Scotchmer
Anthony Secondo

Brandon Walruth

Eleventh Grade

Mattie Catherman
Kristen Cornish
Diana Derr
Bethany Leggett
Annalee Mishrell
Trevor Parke
Joshua Snyder

Twelfth Grade

Katherine Adams
Arlen Cornell
Jeffrey Dencenburg
Charlene Drake
Jennifer Gordon
Joshua Haluszczak
Kelsey Lanphere
Chloe Makarick
Stephanie Malone
Amanda Peterson
Audrey Shippee
Aubrey Smith
Kelsey Spinks
Brian Stachnik
Christine Tipton
Kelly Walling
Katherine Woods

Honor Roll

Seventh Grade

Marissa Andersen
Brandi Bailey
John Baliguin
Christian Coons
Gaige Dickerson
Lauren Farmer
Troy Fitzwater
Chelsea Hansen
Zayna Hartman
Douglas Hewitt
Claire Kolodziejczak
Katrina McGregor
Lucas Peacock
Hannah Ridge
Jordan Schuck
Alexander Seager
Sydney Sprague
Dakota Stone

Eighth Grade

Daniel Becker
Brianna Bergstresser
Kirklin Koseba
Laurie Smith
Christopher Thompson

Ninth Grade

Jessica Anthony
Cody Clemens
Katherine Coons
Audrey Derr
Lindsey Draper

Taryn Ellis
Jesse Gardiner
Dylan Griffin
Elizabeth Kolodziejczak
Katie Pizura
David Ridge
Brigitte Zyla

Tenth Grade

Reagan Ball
Ashley House
Jenna Ohradzanski
Kathleen Tyler
Cameron Wade
Peter Woods

Eleventh Grade

Kevin Arnold
Jordon Bernd
Stephen Copp III
Bradley Jones
Amie Pizura
Taylor Wade

Twelfth Grade

Andrea Akers
Micah Armstrong
Crystal Bogart
Cory Bray
Kelly Clemens
Megan Farmer
Elizabeth Reardon
Steffany Vahue

Capture the Flag Tournament

Saturday, December 13, 2008

Hammondsport High School Gymnasium

Sponsored by: The HCS Baseball Team



Cost

\$5 per person



Times

Second through Fourth Grade

3:00 - 4:30 pm

Fifth through Seventh Grade

5:00 - 6:30 pm

Seven through Twelfth Grades

7:00 - 10:00 pm

Pre-registration is preferred by sending one list of members and a group name (see right) to:

Dan Conley
Hammondsport Central School
Main Street
Hammondsport, NY 14840

You can also bring the list to the school office attention to Dan Conley in the High School. As always, sign-ups at the door are also welcomed.

Team Name: _____

Player 1: _____

Player 2: _____

Player 3: _____

Player 4: _____

Player 5: _____

Player 6: _____

Player 7: _____

Player 8: _____

Player 9: _____

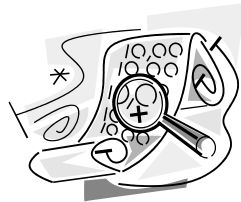
Player 10: _____

Just the Facts

Community Use of Facilities

Facts of Interest About the HCS District

- ◆ Since beginning the Adjusting to Scale process two years ago, the District has eliminated twenty-four staff in multiple areas. This has resulted in over a \$1.5 million dollar cost savings year to year. During this same two year period, the District has decreased in size by twenty-three students and stands at an enrollment of 561 students Pre K-12.
- ◆ The Hammondsport Central School District has to create/revise 131 plans/reports and submit them to the New York State Education Department every year.
- ◆ As of the 2008-2009 school year, the Hammondsport Central School District has 17.91% of its' children living in poverty. Poverty is defined as a family of four earning less than \$21,200 per year.



Individuals and outside organizations are welcome to use the school facilities. However, it is important that the policies and procedures that are in place to regulate the use of facilities are followed. Doing so will protect the District from liability and keep the costs of an open building to a minimum.

Hammondsport is one of the few districts that does not charge a flat fee for the use of facilities after regular business hours in order to cover items like heat and electricity. These additional costs are taken from the general budget. There are some costs that outside groups need to pay should they wish to use the facilities when the buildings are technically "closed" on weekends.

In the next few months, the District will be contacting all groups that use the facilities on a regular basis and providing them with the current Board policy and regulation dealing with using school facilities. Should you have any questions about the use of school facilities, please contact the District Office at #569-5200.

HCS Artist of the Month

The "Artist of the Month" column recognizes our resident artistic talents. Initiated by High School Art Teacher Gina Pfleegor, an outstanding artist is chosen from one of her art classes each month and is featured with

his/her artwork in the Laker Lines. This month, we are recognizing Senior Jordan Ohradzanski for her self portrait piece (pictured left). Below, we learn a little more about Jordan's artwork through an interview conducted by Mrs. Pfleegor.



What is your favorite kind of artwork to create? *Sketches and drawings in pencil*

What kind of art are you most drawn to? *Realism*

Tell us about this artwork – was this done for a class or on your own? What was the assignment or what were you trying to create? *This self portrait was done for my Portfolio Development class. I tried to create something that I know I'm good at doing – a realistic drawing*

What did you use to create this piece? *Pencil*

How long have you been creating art? *Basically my whole life.*

How do you see art being a part of your future? *I'm going into massage therapy so I will continue to do my own art projects such as drawings and sketches on the side in my future.*

Congratulations Jordan and good luck in your future artistic endeavors!

Laker Leaders Announced

Laker Leaders have been announced for October. "Laker Leaders" is a recognition program formed by the staff and students involved with the 7th and 8th grades. It seeks to honor students who are consistently displaying the values of excellent school attendance; cooperation, courtesy, and helpfulness toward other students and staff members; high levels of self-discipline; and a willingness to do more than is expected in both the classroom and other areas of school involvement. It is important to the staff of Hammondsport Central School to develop within each student the many positive values that lead to healthy family relationships, responsible community citizenship and productive memberships in our society. This program's intent is to reward success and to set models for young people to see and emulate.

Grade 7

Elizabeth Albright
Marissa Andersen
J.C. Baliguin
Taylin Bower
Caitlin Burns
Carrington Ellis
Lauren Farmer
Lori Gordon
Claudia Guerin
Korynne House
Joanna Northrop
Lucas Peacock
Nicolas Peacock
Benjamin Puschert
Hannah Ridge
Sydney Sprague
Dakota Stone
David VonRhedey

Grade 8

Connor Amsden
Daniel Becker
Brianna Bergstresser
Michael Bestys
Lauren Binnert
Brooke Clark
Ryan Eckel
Megan Erway
Sydney Farmer
Kareena Hoyt
Kirklin Koseba
Matthew Lowin
Brianna Martinez
Brett Rotondo
Lydia Shippee
Christopher Thompson
Alissa Walruth
Mary Webber

From the Transportation Department

We are now at that time of the year when the roads are snow covered and icy. The drivers are getting into their winter driving mode, slowing down and taking it easy.

When we have slick conditions, the buses may be a few minutes late but please bear with us, we will be at your home as soon and as safely as possible.

If there is a school delay or cancellation, it will be announced on the local radio stations and on local television stations. If a storm happens after the students are in school, please give our buses ample time to arrive at your home. Please do not call the Transportation Department and ask where the bus is or how much longer until it reaches your home. The drivers will be concentrating on the roads and need to keep their hands on the wheel, not on the radio. All the local town highway departments try to stay ahead of our buses to keep the roads safe for our children. They do an excellent job and we appreciate them all.

Please remind your children to wait back away from the roadway, not to climb on snow piles near the road and pay attention to the approaching bus. When a child gets on or off the bus they should be holding the handrail to prevent a fall. If you have any questions on our winter procedures, please call the Bus Garage at 569-5200 ext. 5283. Thank you.

A Tale of Two Elves

December 6th

2:00 PM & 7:30 PM

Based on the Characters in "The Ballad of Cactus Jack" by Michael, Dave and Jean Perry

**Music & Lyrics by Dave and Jean Perry
Script by JoAnn Mitchell**

Presented by

The

**Hammondsport Central School
Drama Club**

\$2.00 - Students & Seniors/\$4.00 Adults - 2:00PM Show

\$3.00 - Students & Seniors/\$5.00 Adults - 7:30PM Show

December

- 8 BMB @ Bradford, GMB (H); BJVB & BVB @ Naples
- 9 Early Dismissal, 1:20 pm; GMB @ Prattsburgh
- 10 BJVB & BVB @ Prattsburgh, MWrest @ AA Tourn; Curtiss Concert, 7 pm
- 11 Wrest (H)
- 12 BJVB & BVB (H)
- 13 MWrest @ Arkport, GMB (H); Baseball Can Drive; Capture the Flag Tourn
- 16 BJVB & BVB @JT
- 17 BMB (H), Wrest @ Arkport; BOE Mtg., 7 pm
- 18 Jr/Sr High Band & Chorus Concert, 7:30 pm
- 19 Wrest. @ Dundee
- 20 Wrest @ Campbell Tourn, BMB (H), GMB @ CG
- 22 No School, Christmas Break
- 23 No School, Christmas Break
- 24 No School, Christmas Break
- 25 No School, Christmas Break
- 26 No School, Christmas Break
- 27 Wrest @ Arkport Duals Tourn
- 29 No School, Christmas Break; BJVB & BVB @ Red Jacket Tourn
- 30 No School, Christmas Break; BJVB & BVB @ Red Jacket Tourn
- 31 No School, Christmas Break

January

- 1 No School, Christmas Break
- 2 No School, Christmas Break
- 3 Wrest Canoe Landing Tourn (H)
- 5 MWrest @ JT; PTO Meeting, 6:30 pm
- 6 BMB @ AA, GMB (H)
- 7 MWrest @ Avoca
- 8 BMB (H), GMB @ Arkport, Wrest @ Addison
- 9 BJVB & BVB @ CS
- 10 GMB (H), BMB @ JT
- 12 BMB @ Avoca
- 13 NYS ELA Exam Grades 3 & 4; Wrest @ Marcus Whitman, BJVB & BVB (H)
- 14 NYS ELA Exam Grades 3,4 & 5; Wrest @ Canisteo
- 15 NYS ELA Exam Grades 4 & 5; Wrest (H)
- 16 Winter Sports and Club Pictures; BJVB & BVB (H)
- 17 Wrest @ Hornell Tourn, BMB (H), GMB @ Addison
- 19 No School, MLK Day

Deadline for Wall of Fame

The deadline for submitting Wall of Fame applications is December 31, 2008 to be considered for 2009 induction.



Clip 'em



You can make a difference for our school every time you shop for groceries! Just clip the Box Tops coupons from hundreds of your favorite products and send them to school!

Hammondsport Central School
District
Main Street
Hammondsport, NY 14840

Non-profit organization
U.S. Postage PAID
Hammondsport, NY 14840
Permit #8

Box holder