

# HAMMONDSPORT CENTRAL SCHOOL

# Laker Lines

November 2009

## Elementary Rocks Into Reading

Reading Incentive Program  
Kicks-off with *American Idol* -  
Rock Into Reading Assembly  
(See page 6 for details)



Pictured top: American Idol judges from left Special Ed. Teacher Adam Travis, Elementary Principal Michelle Sincerbox and PE Teacher Tom Noteware.  
Pictured right: American Idol contestant Tom Mitchell (music teacher).

# Aiming High

*News from Hammondspport Central School  
District Superintendent Kyle Bower*

Thank you to the many people that turned out for our recent District Town Hall meetings. It was great to meet some residents for the first time and hear their thoughts and questions regarding the District. Although the focus of these meetings was to listen to thoughts about the Curtiss School, there were discussions about state aid, property values, course offerings, and consolidation. With the state of the economy today, there is no doubt that our community is hurting and people are struggling to maintain their standard of living. Another purpose of these meetings was to keep the lines of communication open between the community and the District. We make every effort to be an efficient organization that provides a high quality education to our students. I hope to continue area "Town Hall" type meetings as we begin the budget development process. Stay tuned to dates and locations in upcoming editions of Laker Lines. Below is a summary of the information shared with those people that attended the Town Hall meetings. A complete outline of what was covered at the meetings can be found on our website [www.hammondspportcsd.org](http://www.hammondspportcsd.org).

### **Budget Impact of Curtiss School Closure**

- a. Reduction of operational costs which are approx \$72,000 in 2009-2010 dollars
- b. Staffing costs would be reduced by \$52,918 in 2009-2010 dollars
- c. Soft cost reductions seen in transportation, maintenance supplies, maintenance projects, and other areas. However they would be minimal.
- d. Realized savings from the closure of the Curtiss building of approx \$135,000 in 2010-2011.
- e. What are the increased costs?
  - i. Storage issues
  - ii. Need to send certain programs off campus, BOCES costs

### **Possible Board decisions**

- a. Lease or rental to outside groups, income to offset expenses
- b. Sale of Property: Establish Reserve for Tax Reduction, may be used up to 10 years after sale

Laker Lines is the official newsletter of the Hammondspport 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.

## From the Desk of H.S. Principal Tad Rounds

The Senior Class had a successful trip Washington D.C. over Columbus Day weekend. As always, our students were complimented on their positive behavior and respectful attitude. Thank you to the Senior Class for setting a positive example. Mr. Arnts and Mr. Mitchell will be accompanying students to Area All State competitions this month.

Parent Teacher Conferences are scheduled for **November 23 from 6:00 pm-8:30pm and November 24 from 8:00 am-11:00 am**. This is an opportunity to address any academic concerns with your child's teacher. Marking Period #1 report cards will be mailed on November 10 to help prepare for conferences. Congratulations to the fall sports teams for a successful season and good luck to the winter teams in their upcoming competitions. The next Parent Liaison Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 17 from 6:00 pm-7:00 pm in the Senior High Library.

## HCS Faculty VS. Hammondsport All Stars



Friday, November 6, 2009  
7 pm in the HS Gym

Admission: Monetary donations will be accepted for Hammondsport Community Services and/or canned goods/pantry supplies will be collected for Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry

Come cheer on Mr. Rounds, Mr. Brayman, Mr. Perry, Mrs. Fries, Mr. Stermole, Mrs. Kellogg, Mr. Bower, Mr. Noteware, Mr. Conley, Mr. Ordway and others as they take on the All Stars from the Hammondsport Fire Dept. and their "new recruits."

Concession stand run by the PTO will be available

Come enjoy a fun evening with family and friends!

## Elementary News

by Elementary Principal Michele Sincerbox

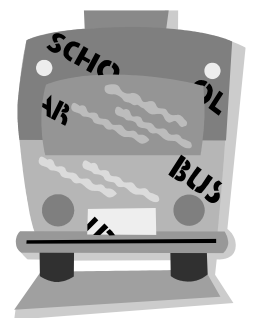
Happy November! This year is certainly going by quickly. I appreciate all the efforts of the teachers and staff with our Kick-off Reading Celebration. It was certainly entertaining and made our students excited about reading. The staff and students have their routines down and are adjusting to all of our changes. As the weather is becoming more challenging, we are trying various ways to get the wiggles out of our elementary students. Pre K went on a walking field trip to the Firehouse, 4th grade went to the Curtiss Museum for an archeological dig, and 5th grade is preparing for a trip to exercise with the Bonnies basketball team at St. Bonaventure. Our Halloween Parade was fun as always and the students enjoyed showing off their costumes. Ask your child about the "words of wisdom" they hear at school each morning. This could be a great dinner-time conversation.

Dates to Remember:

- **November 11-** Veteran's Day- No School
- **November 17-** Parent Advisory Meeting 6 pm-Primary Library. Please come discuss ideas and thoughts about our primary programs or to learn more about them.
- **November 18-** BOE meeting, 7pm
- **November 24-** Parent Teacher Conferences- No School
- **November 25-27-** Happy Thanksgiving- No School

## Possible Changes in Bus Routes

Due to the changing locations of our school population and in an effort to maximize our bus runs, your child may experience some changes in the bus they ride as well as pick up or drop off times in the coming weeks. Although inconvenient, these changes are necessary as we try to maximize our resources. We work very hard to balance a bus ride of acceptable length with keeping the buses as full as possible each time we send them out. Thank you for your understanding and patience as we make these changes.



## HCS Students Receive Bus Safety Training

HCS students were given a lesson on the Safe Bus where they learned to climb through the roof hatch, side window, and out the back door of a bus that was tipped on its side. Fire Chief Bill Fries also provided a smoke machine to teach the older students how to escape from a bus filled with blinding smoke. Thank you to Owego Apalachin for letting HCS use their bus.

Pictured right: Trainers Sandy Heil (left) and Bill Fries Jr. (right) assist Rachael Wood out of the back of the Safe Bus during a bus safety training exercise.



## Students Attend FBLA District Meeting

On October 6, 2009 Hammondsport FBLA President Max Burke and Parliamentarian Nick Hopkins attended the FBLA Fall District Meeting at Corning Community College. FBLA members from Elmira Free Academy, Southside High School, Campbell Savona, Bradford and Hammondsport attended the meeting. During the meeting Key Speaker Mrs. Latour discussed networking. Following this discussion the Program of Work was presented by FBLA State officers Ann Wang and Weishan Wang. The Program of Work is a set of programs that chapters can work on to achieve awards at the State Leadership Conference. They include community service, environmental and publicity and membership initiatives. The Program of Work outlines the requirements that need to be met in order to qualify for these awards. Students who attended the district meeting found it to be informational and a great networking opportunity.

## New Security Procedures in Place

This is a reminder that no students are allowed in either school building prior to 7:30 am or after 3:20 pm unless under the supervision of an adult. Students that arrive prior to 7:30 am will need to wait outside until the school doors are opened by our morning supervisors.

Our new door security systems are in place and all visitors should follow the directions on the signs posted at each entrance in order to gain entrance to the building during the school day. All District buildings will be locked at 4:00 pm and on weekends. Those who wish to use the buildings after that time must complete a Use of Facilities request which can be found on our website.



## PTO Selling Christmas Centerpieces

Support the PTO... order a Christmas Centerpiece.

### Description

Fresh Christmas centerpieces with red plaid wired ribbon, mixed greens including holly, Fraser fir, white pine and boxwood.

Approximately 18" long, 9" wide, with a red taper candle, red berries, pine cones and Caspia.

Cost: \$ 18.00

If watered regularly it will last well through the holidays.

They can be picked up at the Christmas Festival (date TBA)

Centerpieces make great gifts for friends, family or teachers! To order, Call Kim Sprague at 569-3646 or email [kimsprague@roadrunner.com](mailto:kimsprague@roadrunner.com).

**(Please place orders by December 1st)**

## Flu Information from Steuben County Health Department



Parents of all students should have already received a mailing regarding the upcoming flu vaccination clinic to be held at HCS. This clinic will take place during the school day at a date to be determined by the Health Department.

The District will receive one to two days notice prior to the clinic and a letter will go home with all students giving the date and other details as soon as we are notified.

If you have any questions about the vaccines, paperwork, or the clinic procedure, please contact the Health Department directly. No child will be vaccinated unless the written consent form is complete and returned to the county by November 11, 2009.

## Students Selected for Zone 15 Area All State

Congratulations to the following students who were selected to participate in the Zone 15 Area All State organizations: Lauren Binnert (9th grade clarinet) and Elizabeth Albright (8th grade flute) were selected to perform with the Junior High Area All State Band. Their festival will take place at the Elmira Broadway Middle School on November 6-7, with their performance at 2:30 pm on November 7.

Cejae Scotchmer (11th grade piccolo flute), Brynn Day (11th grade clarinet), Susan Sincerbox (10th grade clarinet), Michelle Gardner (12th grade clarinet) and Cora Moyer (11th grade bass clarinet) were selected to perform with the Senior High School Area All State Band. Their Festival will take place at Elmira's Southside High School on November 20-21, with their performance at 3 pm on November 21. Jessica Anthony (violin) was also selected to perform with the Senior High Area All State Orchestra at that same Festival.

Choral students Kelly Perz and Nick Hopkins were also selected to sing in the Senior High Area All State Chorus held at Southside High School.

These fine musicians were selected through their previous auditions and participation at various solo and All County festivals. Their scores are compared with other students' scores from Zone 15 schools (the Southern Tier, basically from Tioga County to Cattaraugus County and up to Livingston/Ontario/Yates Counties). It is truly an honor for these students to be selected!

## Honors English Attends "Hamlet" in NYC



HCS Honors English students in NYC.

On a cold, rainy October 17, Mrs. Corell, Mr. Kloiber, and 17 honors English juniors and seniors boarded a Covered Wagon bus headed for NYC to see acclaimed actor Jude Law in the title role of Shakespeare's tragic *Hamlet*. The current Honors 11 class is about to complete their reading of the play in English class, and the 11R students are soon going to begin reading it. This work has proven itself invaluable to students on the 11th grade English Regents in the past. The production lived up to all of the reviews we read before our trip, and the limited engagement (which ends Dec. 6) is sure to prove far too short. Students had the chance to meander Times Square for shopping, go to FAO Schwartz, eat at the Hard Rock Café, and explore the surrounding areas of New York before sitting through the 3 hour matinee in the luxurious, roomy theater seating (just ask Nick Bagley or Peter Woods). The students were impeccably behaved and represented HCS very well. Many have already asked about other productions we may be able to go to see this coming spring. The trip was a wonderful experience for the students, and something most will remember for a lifetime. It was great for students to admire the architecture surrounding them and the hustle and bustle of the city, and even though we had leg room fit for Munchkins, a great time was had by all!

# Rock Into Reading

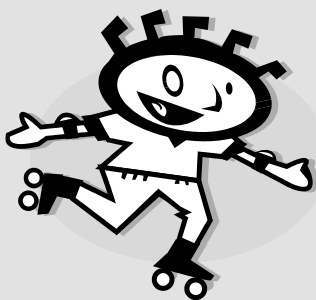
The Hammondsport Elementary School kicked off its annual reading incentive program on Wednesday, October 21 with a rockin' *American Idol* - Rock into Reading assembly! The children are really motivated to participate and become superstars by reading and then turning in their monthly reading logs! This year there will be cool prizes awarded at several different times throughout the year for those students who have reached each goal. Prizes include an opportunity for the classes to perform as rocking reading stars in an assembly in the middle of the year, as well as a rock star themed carnival at the end of the year for all the students who have read! We are looking forward to a year full of rocking and reading!



Mr. Bower interviews contestant Nick Hopkins after his Idol audition.

## HTA Roller Skating for Students

Saturday, November 7  
HS Gymnasium



### Times

*PreK-3*

10 am - 11:30 am

*Grade 4-6*

11:45 am - 1:15 pm

### Cost

\$ 6.00

# Operation Christmas Child

Operation Christmas Child is our annual giving project at Hammondsport Central School. The purpose of this activity is to send shoe boxes filled with gifts to needy children all over the world. For many, these will be the only holiday presents the children will receive. Our students learn many positive things from this project and it gives them an opportunity to participate in a simple hands-on project that uses shoe boxes to share the true meaning of Christmas.

Letters have been sent home to parents concerning what gifts should be given to fill the shoe boxes, but in the meantime we also need to collect donations to fill the boxes we send. Please help to put a smile on a needy child's face and let them know that someone in Hammondsport, NY cares about them.

At Curtiss, the collection box will be in the Nurse's Office. If you would like to participate and have not received a letter or if you have any questions about this program, please contact Mrs. Stocking at the Curtiss School, 569-5200, ext 4115.



# Leading Lakers



Leading Lakers for the month of October. From left to right, back row: 4th Graders Tyler Hill and Paige MacDonald; 3rd Graders Parker Watson and Hailey Ritter. Front row: 2nd Graders Autumn John and Madison Wright; 1st Graders Gavyn Buck and Brianna Hill and 2nd Grader Brent Campbell

# HCS Teachers Present at NYS Middle School Conference

Recently, staff from both Curtiss Elementary and the Junior High attended the New York State Middle School Association's annual conference. Held in Watkins Glen this year, the two-day conference focused on the often-overlooked middle grades, and highlighted best practices from across the state. This year, Hammondsport was fortunate to be represented by seven presenting teachers: Brande Flaitz, Barbara Demmin, Joanne LeClair, Heather Luther, Rhonda Underhill, Rachel McCloud, and John Kloiber.

Barbara Demmin presented two workshops on technology integration at the middle school level. Both sessions were well received and well attended. The first session, Using Glogster in the 6-8 Classroom, was filled to capacity. Participants had the opportunity to actually create an interactive, multi-media poster for use in their classroom. For the second session, a work shop on the use of Voice Thread in the 6-8 Classroom was presented. This was a great opportunity to show the middle school educational community some of the technology projects we use here at Hammondsport Central School.

Brande Flaitz gave an interactive presentation based on the theory of pi. Two groups participated in different class activities that they could do with students in order to celebrate Pi Day (March 14). A group favorite was beading the values of pi to make a bracelet and show how pi is an irrational number (never ending).

John Kloiber's presentation drew a capacity crowd. A humorous approach to classroom management, John's presentation focused on staying positive and encouraging while holding students to a high standard of both work and behavior. Thanks to popular demand, Mr. Kloiber has been asked to present on this subject again at next year's conference in Rochester, NY.

Another capacity crowd could be found with Rachel McCloud. Her presentation focused on five-minute strategies for students to use who are having difficulty with math concepts.

Joanne LeClair's poetry workshop gave teachers the chance to learn about and participate in a poetry unit taught in the eighth grade English classes.

Sixth grade teachers Heather Luther and Rhonda Underhill co-presented on guided reading practices. Their session focused on helping teachers from other school districts implement a reading program that they have found to be successful in their classes at HCS.

## Stay in Touch with District Information 24/7!!

With winter around the corner, we would like to offer everyone an easy way to find out about school closings and/or delays. We offer a **mobile** "E-alert" (which is really just a text message sent to your cell phone) that will let you know what is happening in the District. If you would like to sign up for this service, please follow the directions below. The whole process should take less than 5 minutes.

1. Open your internet browser and go to [www.hammondsportcsd.org](http://www.hammondsportcsd.org)
2. Sign in to the site if you have an account. If you don't, please register for one. Once you have registered for an account, you need to click on "**sign in**" which is in the upper right hand corner of the screen and proceed to sign in.
3. Click on access info in the upper right hand corner of the screen.
4. On the access info page, please scroll to the bottom of the page where it says "My E-Alerts and Subscriptions."
5. Please type in your 10 digit mobile number, no spaces or hyphens please.
6. Please select your carrier. If your carrier is not listed, you will not be able to subscribe to the server. We do not choose who is on the list, these are the providers that are compatible with our system.
7. Please check if you want all "E-Alerts" to go to your phone or only emergency "E-Alerts". Emergency "E-Alerts" are school closings, delays, or other emergency issues. Standard "E-Alerts" are a new game is scheduled or postponed, a schedule change is made for a specific sport that you have subscribed to. If you only want emergency alerts, please click yes. If you want all alerts, please click no.
8. Click submit and the process is finished.

We will use this system to get out District information quickly and efficiently as often as necessary. We hope you take advantage of this new service to stay in tune with news at HCS.

## November/December Calendar Items

### November

- |    |  |    |                           |    |                                  |
|----|--|----|---------------------------|----|----------------------------------|
| 6  | Marking Period 1 ends; Junior High Area All State; Faculty vs. All Stars Basketball game, 7 pm | 23 | High Concert, 7:30 pm     | 6  | Senior High Open House, -8:30 pm |
| 7  | SAT @ Bath; Junior High Area All State Concert, 2:30 pm at Elmira Broadway Middle School       | 24 | No school, Conference Day | 25 | Thanksgiving Recess              |
| 11 | No School, Veteran's Day   | 26 | Thanksgiving Recess       | 27 | Thanksgiving Recess              |
| 16 | Grade 5 NYS Social Studies Assessment  |    |                           |    |                                  |
| 17 | Grade 5 NYS Social Studies Assessment; Parent Advisory Meeting, 6-7pm, Elementary Library      |    |                           |    |                                  |
| 18 | BOE Meeting, 7 pm; Jr./Sr.   |    |                           |    |                                  |

### December

- |    |                                      |
|----|--------------------------------------|
| 1  | PTO Christmas Centerpiece orders due |
| 7  | PTO Meeting, 6:30, Student Lounge    |
| 8  | Early Dismissal                      |
| 11 | Progress Period 2 ends               |
| 14 | College Applications due             |
| 15 | Parent Advisory Meeting, 6-7         |

### Class of 2011

## Spaghetti Dinner

Nov 20, 2009 5-7:30 pm

Adults \$5 Students \$3  
Senior Citizen \$4

At Hammondsport Fire Department



## Hammondsportopoly Games On Sale

Class of 2011 Fundraiser Runs from November 10-20.  
Each game costs \$25



Games will be in December 13<sup>th</sup>  
(so they make a great Christmas gift)

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

Hammondsport Central School  
District  
8272 Main Street  
Hammondsport, NY 14840

Box holder

# Student Council Wreath Sale



The 7-12 Student Council is having a wreath sale to benefit the local food pantry in Hammondsport. They will be selling wreaths from November 9 through the 23. The 24" wreaths are made locally with pine cones, berries and a red bow. The wreaths will be available for pick up at the school on Wednesday, December 9 between 2:30 and 4 pm. The cost is \$17.28 for decorated wreaths and \$15.12 for plain wreaths. All proceeds will be donated to the food pantry.

## Deadline for Wall of Fame

The deadline for submitting  
Wall of Fame applications  
is December 31, 2009  
to be considered for  
2010 induction.

