



HAMMONDSPORT CENTRAL SCHOOL

Laker Lines

March 2010



Hangin' Around HCS

Kindergarten student Preston McConnell enjoys a turn on the ropes course as part of a rope climbing segment of the physical education curriculum.



HCS Mission

The mission of the Hammondsport Central School District, a high-performing unique learning community, is to provide a dynamic, quality education to a close-knit and diverse population, and to ensure that all students are prepared to compete in an ever changing global society by challenging each student through superior, innovative educational opportunities while promoting responsible citizenship through strong character and moral development.

District Objectives

100% of our students will meet their graduation requirements.

100% of school community members will contribute to a safe, secure, student centered environment.

100% of students will meet proficiency with the continued goal of achieving mastery.

100% of the school community will rate the internal/external communications of the district as satisfactory.

A Message from the BOE

Is What It Is What It Is...

by BOE President Jim Zimar

New York State is competing with other states for federal "Race to the Top" funding. President Obama intends to initiate additional federal programs to support education. Our state government collects most of its revenue from personal income tax and sales tax. Personal incomes are down. Sales are down. State revenues are down.

At HCS we must anticipate that, at best, new federal funding will replace lost state funding. Federal programs, by the nature of legislation, typically include complex restrictions which limit how the funding can be used. For instance, if federal funds were dedicated to STARTING something which we already do, we might not qualify for the federal money to do what state money previously supported. It also costs us time and money to thread the hoops. If government support (at best) remains flat and costs continue to rise, the balance of the burden will fall directly on our tax payers.

We are also at a disadvantage because our tax rate (dollars of tax per \$1000.00 of property value) is actually about half of the rate in many neighboring districts. To governments, we look like we could easily collect much more property tax than we do. WRONG. Much of our property value is in private homes and a house that might be worth \$50,000.00 in many parts of our county might be worth \$100,000.00 in many parts of our district. Furthermore, people don't pay their taxes out of the equity in their homes. People pay their taxes out of their incomes, which do not increase just because property values do.

What it all means to our school is this: we will not be able to do all that we would like to do; we will not be able to do all that we have been doing; we will have to make decisions.

Our mission must drive our decisions and shape our identity.

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THIS is what it is.

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

From the Desk of H.S. Principal Tad Rounds

March is upon us and multiple school events are scheduled. The Student Council is hosting the Winter Ball on March 6 at the Curtiss School. Also, the PTO (Parent Teacher Organization) has formal attire available at no charge to any student interested. The Music Department will be busy with All County and the Music In Our Schools Concert scheduled for March 17. Parents are also reminded of ACT and SAT registration deadlines, which are posted on the district calendar.

A series of parent and student orientation sessions are being provided to review curriculum and scheduling for the 2010/2011 school year.

<u>Event</u>	<u>Date/Time</u>	<u>Audience</u>
Grade 9 Orientation	March 3, 6 pm, Room 134	Current 8th grade students & parents
Grade 6 Orientation	April 7, 6 pm, Room 134	Current 5th grade students & parents
Grade 7 Orientation	April 14, 6 pm, Room 134	Current 6th grade students & parents

Individual reminder letters will be mailed home prior to each event. Please contact me with any questions or concerns at 607-569-5200, ext. 5287.

Elementary News by Elementary Principal Michelle Sincerbox

March brings a busy time for Glenn Curtiss Elementary as teachers and students prepare for the New York State assessments which begin in April. While the weather begins to improve please continue to keep your children well rested and ready to learn. With March begins many events that make it difficult for families to keep the routine that is so important to our little ones. Children should continue to wear appropriate clothing for the weather.

It is Kindergarten registration time again. *If you have a child that will be 5 years old prior to December 1, 2011 and have not already registered please call the Elementary Office at 569-5200 ext 5233 to provide your child's name and contact information.*

Highlights from the February 2010 Board of Education Meeting

- Approved minutes of regular meeting of January 20, 2010
- Presentation by Laurie Turner, Community Dentistry Program, Rushville Health Center, proposal of an annual clinic and prevention education program.
- Adoption of nine previously read policies.
- Approval of 2010-2011 district calendar
- Approved spring coaching assignments
- Approved appointment of Laura Binkowski as long term substitute teacher.
- Continued discussion on budget development for 2010-2011 school year.



Formal Closet

Do you need formalwear for the Winter Ball or the Prom? Once again, the PTO is offering the "Formal Closet" in the high school for anyone who would like to borrow something to wear. You can look over the formals in Mrs. Jensen's room any day between 2:30-3:30 pm. Also, if anyone has any dresses or men's wear to

donate, please send it to the high school in care of Colleen Spinks. This opportunity is becoming more important to have each year, and donations are needed to keep it going. If you don't think you'll be wearing it again, why not pass it along to someone who could really use it? We are in particular need of boy's/men's wear for more formal events. Thanks for any help you can provide.



Alumni Dinner Scheduled

The Hammondspport Alumni is busy making plans and preparations for the Annual Alumni Dinner which will be held Saturday, July 17, 2010 at the Hammondspport Fire Hall. **SAVE THE DATE!**

At the banquet the Alumni Awards will be presented to the 2010 graduates. The awards total over six-thousand dollars. If a graduate would like their name added to the Alumni e-mail list they can do so by e-mailing:

Hportalu@linkny.com
or contact Kelly Bussman at
607-569-2337.



CAFETERIA WELCOMES 21st CENTURY

by Lisa Zema



The recently installed touch screen “point of sale” system (cash register) in the cafeteria includes finger scan recognition technology, making it possible to identify students using a touchpad scanner. Before implementing this technology, our intent is to first inform parents and the community about its existence.

Finger scan recognition, one of the oldest methods of biometric identification, is a relatively new technology for school foodservice. It has been successfully used in other security applications such as ATMs and computer networks; for membership management and access control to Disney World and SeaWorld; and for keyless entry to homes and cars.

Biometric technology is the use of automated touchpad scanning to recognize a person based on their finger image. The finger’s ridges (lines across fingers) and valleys (spaces between ridges) are unique for each individual, making it one of the most popular tools for identification purposes. The scanner generates an image of the ridges and valleys, which is converted to a template consisting of minutiae points. This template is not a fingerprint and **cannot** be used to generate a fingerprint since there would be an infinite number of finger images that could possibly be generated from the same point.

Younger students have underdeveloped finger ridges and valleys making the use of this technology less effective for them. Students in grades 7-12 would be the first to use the scanner. One of the many challenges faced by this population is uninterrupted possession of their student identification card. This technology would eliminate the need for cards, a genuine source of frustration at lunch time.

Finger scanning will not be mandatory; parents will make the final decision about its use and will have an opportunity to opt out.

For additional information go to our school website and click on the link “News 10 Interview with Mrs. Zema.”

Pre-Kindergarten Program: Jumpstart to Learning

Glenn Curtiss Elementary is enjoying its second year of hosting a pre-kindergarten program. The students enrolled continue to follow the New York State curriculum and we are seeing positive results with our current kindergarten student data.

Pre-kindergarten focuses on cognitive skills in language/literacy, mathematics, science and creative arts. The goal is to create opportunities for children to develop curiosity, persistence and reasoning skills through a variety of play activities. The social/emotional development and fine and gross motor development is also an important part of the program goals.

The first weeks of pre-k focus around getting to know each other and rules and procedures of the classroom. Other learning activities for math and science include left and right, food classification, measurement, patterning and hibernation/migration/adaptation. As the school year moves on, students learn the four seasons, simple machines and pulleys, health and safety, and the difference between day and night as well as nocturnal animals. As part of the English Language Arts curriculum, the students concentrate on parts of a story such as setting and character, order of a story, illustrator, author and how to care for a book. Much of the learning takes place through play activities, singing and rhyming. For more information please note there will be a pre-kindergarten information night on April 6, at 6pm in the high school auditorium.

Corning Hospital will be offering
THE WELLNESS PROGRAM

“A Health Evaluation Through
Comprehensive Blood Profiles”

Wednesday, March 24, 2010
High School Gym
6:00 AM – 8:00 AM.

These tests can be helpful in
detecting health related problems
in early stages and are a solid
step towards better health and
well being.

FOR ALL
EMPLOYEES,
FORMER EMPLOYEES
& SPOUSES

To schedule an appointment call
Cindy Stocking, Curtiss School
Nurse at 569-5200

Attention Walkers



The school is now open to residents interested in walking indoors. Hours are 5-7 pm, Monday, Wednesday and Friday on days that school is in session. Individuals are asked to sign a waiver, as well as the sign-in sheet, both of which are located next to the District Office. Participants can enter the school through the back doors. Please contact the District Office with any questions.

Students Named to All County Band and Chorus

On two separate weekends this past January, a number of Hammondspport students auditioned for an all county performing group. Auditioning requires that the student prepare a solo to perform in front of a judge (along with performing scales and sometimes sight-reading). The judge critiques the performance, assigns a score or grade, and then that grade is compared to the other students' grades that auditioned from all the other Steuben County schools.



We were fortunate to have the following students selected for the following musical groups:

All County Senior High Band: Cejae Scotchmer, Michelle Gardner, Brynn Day, Susan Sincerbox, Lauren Binnert, and Cora Moyer.

All County Senior High Chorus: Jessica Anthony, Bethany Leggett, Nick Hopkins, Kelly Perz, Hanna Jacquier, Brigitte Zyla.

All County Junior High Band: Elizabeth Albright, Alyson Binnert, Kelsey Sack.

All County Junior High Chorus: Zayna Hartman, Alyson Binnert, Elizabeth Albright, Kelsey Sack, Adam Mitchell, Eladio Martinez, Trenton Kolo.

All County Sixth Grade Band: Ethan Bower, Nathan Shippee, Cameron Drain, Jillian Farmer, Victoria Yahn, Timberly Wilkinson, Gregory DiTomasso, Lily Hopkins.

All County Sixth Grade Chorus: Emily Eckel, Tanessa Whitney, Timberly Wilkinson, Victoria Yahn.

These students will perform at the Steuben County Music Teachers Association festivals. The first festival, at Corning East High School, will be held on March 5 and 6 and will feature the All County High School Band, Junior High Chorus and 6th Grade Band. The second festival (held at Hornell High School) on March 19 and 20 will feature the All County Senior Chorus, Junior High Band and 6th Grade Chorus.

Congratulations to all those who were selected.



PTO Science Night

Please plan to attend the
Hands On Science Night

on

Tuesday, March 16, 2010

6-7:30 pm

Curtiss School

No charge for entry

Refreshments available for
purchase.

Sponsored by the HCS PTO



You've Been Accepted!

The past few months have been very busy for our seniors as they prepare for life after HCS. After countless hours researching, visiting and applying to colleges, their hard work is starting to pay off. Listed below are the names of some of our seniors along with the college to where they have been accepted.

Michelle Gardner	Cazenovia College
Justyn Schuck	SUNY Fredonia
Taylor Wade	Keuka College (Scholarship)
Ryan House	LeMoyne College (Scholarship)
Brandon Allen	Niagara University
Bethany Leggett	Niagara University (Academic Award)
Trevor Parke	University of Rochester
Mattie Catherman	Virginia Tech California Polytechnic State University Clemson University (Calhoun Honors College)

2nd Quarter Honor Roll Announced

High Honor Roll

Seventh Grade

Princes Baliguin
Alyson Binnert
Quentin Carvajal
Kourtney Hoyt
Aaron Lowin
Olivia Makarick
Eladio Martinez Jr.
Sydney McGinn
Kelsey Sack
Morgan Sincerbox
Amanda Sprague
Ann Stone
Arianna Turner
Joseph Woods

Eighth Grade

Elizabeth Albright
Taylin Bower
Lauren Farmer
Lori Gordon
Korynne House
Dalton Mori
Sydney Sprague

Ninth Grade

Connor Amsden
Lauren Binnert
Brooke Clark
Ryan Eckel
Sydney Farmer
Kareena Hoyt
Matthew Lowin

Tenth Grade

Jacob Albright
Kevin Benedict
Matthew Bussmann
Cody Clemens
Lindsey Draper
Michaela Kinney
Andrea Miller
Bennett Preston
Michael Quade
David Ridge
Susan Sincerbox

Eleventh Grade

Rachel Armstrong
Kateland Ball
Brynn Day

Brooke Gordon
Christopher Haluszczak
Joshua Malone
Cora Moyer
Kelly Perz
Keegan Rawlins
Cassidy Riekofski
Cejae Scotchmer
Cameron Wade

Twelfth Grade

Jordan Bernd
Mattie Catherman
Kristen Cornish
Diana Derr
Jodi Kulyeshie
Bethany Leggett
Annalee Mishrell
Trevor Parke
Joshua Snyder



Honor Roll

Seventh Grade

Sarah Bates
Collin Graves
Brian Kilbury
Eric Lannon
Shaun Miller
Dalton Ordway
Janice Oyoo

Eighth Grade

Caitlin Burns
Gauge Dickerson
Carrington Ellis
Troy Fitzwater
Trenton Kolodziejczak
Nick Peacock
Lucas Peacock
Hannah Ridge
Dakota Stone

Ninth Grade

Megan Erway

Tenth Grade

Jessica Anthony

Audrey Derr
Lukas Dickerson
Elizabeth Kolodziejczak
Cortney Longwell
Tristen Peck
Matthew Peterson
Katie Pizura
Gregory Pond
Wade Potter
Austin Wise
Brigitte Zyla

Eleventh Grade

Nicholas Bagley
Kate Brown
Kyle Dencenburg
Emily Drake
Brandi Egresi
Hannah Jacquier
Peter Woods

Twelfth Grade

Corrie Guerin
Alysia Hilligus
Amie Pizura

Attention Parents of Pre-School Children

The Hammondsport Central School District plans to continue the pre-kindergarten program for 2010-2011. As we prepare for registration it is important that we gather the number of eligible children currently living in the district.

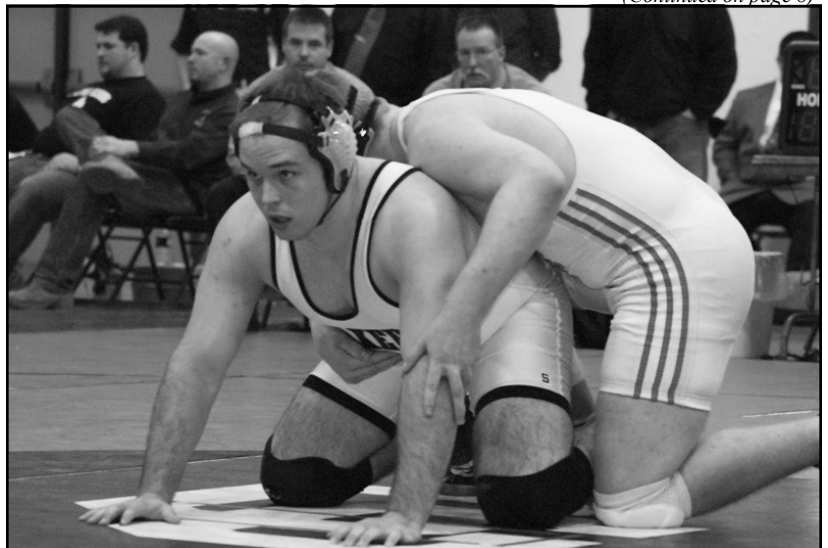
If you have a child that will turn 4 years old prior to December 1, 2010, your child will be eligible for pre-kindergarten.

To assist us with planning, please contact Mrs. Groves in the Primary Office #569-5200 ext. 5233 and give us your child's name and contact information.

Snyder Wins Sectional Championship

On February 6, Senior Josh Snyder competed in the Section V Wrestling Tournament. Josh entered the tournament seeded #3 behind two wrestlers he lost to earlier in the season. In the quarterfinal round he pinned Tyler Hagga from Bolivar Richburg in 5:53. In the semifinals he defeated

(Continued on page 8)



Senior Josh Snyder wins sectional championship.

Hammondsport Central School 2010-2011 Calendar

SEPTEMBER 2010					OCTOBER 2010					NOVEMBER 2010				
M	T	W	Th	F	M	T	W	Th	F	M	T	W	Th	F
		1	2 Conf. Day	3					1	1	2	3	4	5
6 Labor Day	7 School opens	8	9	10	4	5	6	7	8	8	9	10	11 Vet Day	12 No School
13	14	15	16	17	11 Col. Day	12	13	14	15	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	18	19	20	21	22	22	23 Conf. Day	24	25 Thanks giving	26
27	28	29	30		25	26	27	28	29	29	30			

DECEMBER 2010					JANUARY 2011					FEBRUARY 2011				
M	T	W	Th	F	M	T	W	Th	F	M	T	W	Th	F
		1	2	3	3	4	5	6	7		1	2	3	4
6	7	8	9	10	10	11	12	13	14	7	8	9	10	11
13	14	15	16	17	17 MLK Day	18	19	20	21	14	15	16	17	18 Winter Recess
20	21	22	23	24	24	25	26	27	28	21 Pres. Day	22 Winter Recess	23	24	25
27	28	29	30	31	31 Conf. Day					28				

MARCH 2011					APRIL 2011					MAY 2011				
M	T	W	Th	F	M	T	W	Th	F	M	T	W	Th	F
	1	2	3	4					1	2 Conf. Day	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	4 Spring Break	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21 j	22	23	24	25	18	19	20	21	22 Good Friday	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31		25	26	27	28	29	30 Mem. Day	31			

JUNE 2011				
M	T	W	Th	F
		1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17
		R	R	R
20	21	22	23	24
R	R	R	R	

	Staff	Students
September	19	18
October	20	20
November	17	16
December	15	15
January	20	19
February	17	17
March	23	23
April	14	14
May	21	20
June	18	18
TOTAL	184	180

Shaded area indicates NO SCHOOL for students

First day of school for students will be Tuesday, September 7, 2010

- Nov. 24-26 Thanksgiving
- Dec. 22-31 Christmas Recess
- Feb. 18-22 Winter Recess
- Apr. 1-8 Spring Recess.

Should the number of days allotted for Emergency Closings be exceeded, school will be in session (if necessary) on the following dates:

** The May 2nd conference day will be moved to a date later in May due to NYS testing.
 **4 Snow days built in

March/April Calendar Items

March

- | | | | |
|----|-------------------|----|----------------------|
| 5 | ACT Registration | 10 | ACT Exam |
| 16 | PTO Science Night | 13 | Sophomore Career Day |
| 17 | BOE Meeting, 7 pm | 14 | BOE Meeting, 7 pm |
| 18 | Early Dismissal | 19 | Spring Recess |
| 25 | SAT Registration | 20 | Spring Recess |
| | | 21 | Spring Recess |

April

- | | | | |
|---|-------------------------------|----|------------------------------|
| 1 | Scholarship deadline | 22 | Spring Recess |
| 6 | Pre-K Information Night, 6 pm | 23 | Spring Recess |
| | | 28 | BOE Special Meeting, 7:30 am |

Bus Safety Reminders

Your bus driver has been entrusted with the serious responsibility of protecting the safety of your child. The driver cannot control the hazards outside the bus. We ask your cooperation in making sure that a responsible person meets the bus every day to receive your child. This will ensure your child's safety as well as other children in the area. We also wish to alert you of the dangers of long drawstrings or straps on children's clothing, or long mitten strings. A number of incidents have occurred in which children's clothing or mitten strings have become entangled in the bus door or handrail as the child stepped off the bus. Please make sure that your children's clothing does not have any long, dangling strings or straps that could jeopardize their safety while getting off the bus, as well as in other daily activities such as the playground.

~ from your friends in the Transportation Department.

Snyder, continued from page 6

the #2 seed, Brandon Brock from South Seneca, 7-2 sending him into the finals against the #1 seed Jordan Schute from Keshequa. Josh went on to defeat Schute by a score of 7-2 and was crowned the 2010 Sectional Champion. In addition, the coaches selected Josh to receive the sportsmanship award for the tournament, and he was nominated for the most outstanding wrestler in the upper weights.

Josh's success at the sectional tournament falls on the heels of another milestone he achieved the weekend before when he recorded his 100th career win.

On February 13, Josh competed at RIT in the state qualifying tournament as the #4 seed. He beat his first two opponents (Bath and Keshequa) earning him a spot in the semifinals where he lost a tough match to a wrestler from Holley, the eventual tournament champion. From there he handled his opponent from Palmyra-Macedon moving him into the consolation finals where he defeated the number 2 seed from Byron Bergen giving Josh 3rd place in all of Section V Division 2 at 215 pounds. Josh missed qualifying as the alternate for the state tournament by 1 point.

Congratulations Josh on a great season and outstanding wrestling career at HCS!

ATTN: HCS SENIORS
SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS
ARE DUE APRIL 1
TO THE GUIDANCE OFFICE

Hammondsport Central School
 District
 8272 Main Street
 Hammondsport, NY 14840

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

Box holder