

**HAMMONDSPORT
CENTRAL SCHOOL**

Laker Lines

November 2008

Victorious



2008 Section V Class D Champions (see page 7 for details)

Timing High

News from Hammondspport Central School District Superintendent

There certainly have been plenty of moments over this last month when I needed to get away from the desk and go and get a "kid fix." Sometimes you just need to step back and listen to what's really on the mind of a six year old. It helps to put the crazy economic situation in perspective, highlights what's really important, and supports the reason that we're here every day doing what's best for the students of Hammondspport.

Congratulations to all of our fall sports athletes and coaches! Our athletes, parents, and fans continue to be praised for their sportsmanship at every venue we play. Let's keep that momentum going as we enter the long winter sports season.

As we continue "Adjusting to Scale" there have been many concerns voiced over the current and future opportunities that we provide our Senior High students. In this Laker Lines, Mr. Rounds has provided a brief outline of the ACE and AP coursework that is currently available to our students. In the coming years, course offerings will certainly be a topic of discussion and an area that will be looked at closely to ensure that every effort will be made to preserve the level of rigor and excellence that sets Hammondspport apart.

I hope everyone takes time in their busy schedules to come in and talk with teachers during the upcoming parent conference days. It is this partnership between home and school that sets the tone for success. No matter whether the news is good, or there is work to be done, during this Thanksgiving, we all certainly have many blessings to be thankful for.

Halloween at HCS

With Halloween dances, costume contests and parades, HCS knows how to do Halloween right. On Saturday, October 25, the PTO sponsored a Halloween Dance for students in grades 4 - 6. Over seventy costume-clad children attended the dance where prizes were awarded for the funniest costume (Ashlyn Amsden, nerd), scariest costume (Kourtney Hoyt, scary woman), most creative costume (Aly Binnert, Hillary Clinton), and best overall costume (Lauren Sprague, jack-in-the-box).

The High School Student Council sponsored a costume contest for the junior and senior high students. Prizes of two movie tickets were awarded for the funniest costume (Trevor Parke & Mattie Catherman, *Biggest Loser* losers), scariest costume (Brett Rotondo, devil) and best overall costume (Char Drake, blue Leggo). In addition, the prize for the best costume by a staff member went to Rachael McLoud as Sarah Palin.



Curtiss Halloween Dance costume winners from left: Lauren Sprague, Kourtney Hoyt, Aly Binnert, & Ashlyn Amsden

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.

Superintendent of Schools: Kyle Bower

Newsletter Editor: Julie Amsden

From the Desk of HS Principal Tad Rounds

In the area of student success, Hammondspport Central School posted an 87% graduation rate. This rate is calculated based upon the number of students who started ninth grade in 2003 and received a Regents or local diploma. This graduation rate was one of the highest in the GST BOCES district. Thank you to parents and staff for your combined efforts to ensure student success. In the area of teaching and learning, one of the greatest indicators of student success in college is the rigor of their high school program. Listed are college level classes offered at Hammondspport:

ACE English
 ACE Statistics
 ACE Spanish
 ACE/AP Calculus
 AP United States History & Government
 AP Spanish-2009/2010

November is a busy month. Senior High Open House/Parent-Teacher Conferences are scheduled for Monday, November 24 from 6-8:30 p.m., with parent-teacher conferences following again on Tuesday, November 25 from 8-11:00 a.m. Report cards for marking period #1 will be mailed by Friday, November 7. Please come out to support our choirs and bands on their first concert scheduled for November 20th at 7:30 p.m.

Updates from the K-6 Principal's Office

by Jim McCormick

The Leading Lakers Student of the Week Award honors selected students (1 boy, 1 girl) from the Primary School and Curtiss School. A different grade level is featured each week. Compliments of the PTO, students receive a book of their choice for this honor.

Lunch with the Principal began this month with six students from 4th grade (see picture below) and six students from Kindergarten being recognized for their good behavior in the cafeteria. Students are treated with a special lunch in a special place while dining with Mr. McCormick. This was great fun and kids do say the darndest things.

Our SRO, Trooper Dave Brown has begun Project DARE with 5th grade students. The DARE program is designed to engage students in drug prevention practices and discussion, and positive decision making strategies.

The Reading Campaign Kickoff Assembly at both schools motivated students to participate in this year's reading challenge. The goal is 100% participation.

Fourth grade students selected to have lunch with the principal were clockwise from left: Josh Sprague, Taylor Erway-Liberatore, Jalen Presley, Mr. McCormick, Corinne Mori, Nathan Guerin and Lauren Sprague



Integrated Science Class Enables Hands-On Learning



Jesse Hamilton and Justin Lawrence conduct an experiment to test the strength of a pencil during their Integrated Science class. The strongest pencil held over 11 kilograms of mass!

Integrated Science was created to allow students an opportunity to meet the third science credit outside the standard Regents courses. It is a course where lab is integrated into the daily coursework and where the emphasis is on assessments based on student products rather than on written tests.

Throughout the year, students investigate different topics by applying the scientific method. During the first quarter, students learn how to use the scientific method to evaluate different products. For the end of quarter evaluation, the class is divided into teams and each team picks a product for which they will evaluate its overall performance. Each team member is required to design an experiment to test a particular trait of the product, carry out the experiment and then evaluate how the product performed on the test. One team, comprised of Justin Lawrence, Jesse Hamilton, Jacob Withey and Matt Bailey, chose to compare the performance of 4 brands of pencils. Traits they chose to evaluate included how well the leads held up under use, which brand contained the most amount of lead, eraser performance and pencil strength. Interestingly, the strongest pencil held over 11 kilograms of mass before it broke.

Other consumer analysis projects evaluated the taste and grams of filling and frosting in breakfast tarts and the taste, nutritional value and time it takes to get to the center of filled lollipops. That sounds like my kind of science class!

Interesting Statistics from the Transportation Department

by Cindy Tollerup, Transportation Supervisor

Thank you to all parents who have their children ready and at their stops on time. We have had a very good start to the year and appreciate your cooperation. It's getting darker in the mornings now so please speak to your child about staying back away from the road when waiting for the bus to arrive and watching the driver for crossing instructions. I'd like to share some interesting statistics from Washington relating to school buses: There are 480,000 school buses currently in operation. When students ride the bus rather than

private vehicles more than 2.3 billion gallons of fuel are spared each year, resulting in a net savings of more than \$8 billion dollars in fuel costs. Plus, your child is on the safest (13 times safer), most economical and environmentally-friendly way to get to school. Other interesting school bus facts are listed below:



*17.3 million: Total number of private vehicles needed to transport students currently riding on all school buses.

*822 million gallons per year: Total fuel used by school bus fleet.

*\$3.4 billion per year: Total cost of fuel used by the U.S. school bus fleets.

*\$131 per year: Cost of fuel per child transported by school bus.

*3.1 billion gallons per year: Total fuel for cars replaced by buses.

*\$11.4 billion per year: Cost of fuel for cars replaced by school buses.

*62.4 billion: Total annual car mileage saved by students riding school buses.

*346.6 million: Total daily car mileage saved by students riding school buses.

*36: Average number of cars needed to transport students currently riding one school bus.

In Addition....

There are a few roads in our district that our Board of Education has declared not suitable for our school buses to travel. Most of the roads are one lane dirt roads or up/down very steep inclines that would put a school bus loaded with children in a very dangerous situation in inclement weather. The roads so named are: Vogt, Cider Hill, Snell, Beers Hill, Crows Nest (from the Southern end by Vogt), Brewer, Stephanie Taylor Drive, Wixon Hill, Stone Schoolhouse, Urbana Gully, Lower Silvernail Hill, Gibson Hill (off Gallagher), any lower East Lake roads, upper Silsbee (the end near Day Rd.). If you have any questions or concerns about this list, please feel free to call me at 569-5200, ext. 5283. Thank you.

POWERING STUDENT LIFE... ONE CLICK AT A TIME!

Your school has joined the **myLunchMoney.com** Family!

Available to HCS Community on Monday, November 10th!

NEW PARENT FEATURES

Expired Credit Card Notification
Parents will receive an email notification when their credit card is about to expire.

Student Sales History Report
Parents can view student meal purchases.

Ability to Set Spending Limits
Parents can set daily or weekly spending limits for their students.

Meal Control Settings
Parents can set meal controls for "meals only" or "a la carte" items.

Low Balance Notification
Parents will receive an email notification when their balance drops below a point.



As seen on:
WNBC New York News

4 EASY STEPS TO ENROLL:

1 EASY!

Go to www.myLunchMoney.com & click on "Enroll Now!".

3 SECURE!

Provide credit or debit card information.

2 CONVENIENT!

Create an account for yourself & your children (you'll need the student's school, grade, birth date & Student ID#).

4 ONE TIME!

Select the automatic pre-payment option, if desired.



Music Notes

Congratulations to the following students for being selected to attend the Area All State Festivals in our region. Festival 1 is at Elmira Broadway Middle School on November 7 and 8 with Susan Sincerbox (Clarinet) and Lauren Binnert (Clarinet) being selected to perform in the Area All State Junior High (7-9) Band and Jessica Anthony (Violin) being selected to perform with the Area All State Junior High (7-9) Orchestra. That concert will be at the Broadway Middle School Auditorium on the 8 at 2:30 pm.

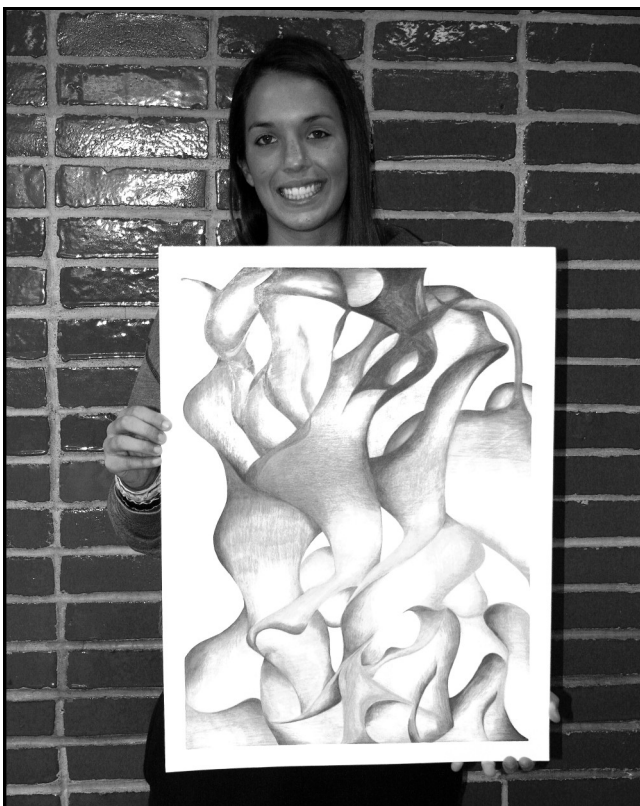
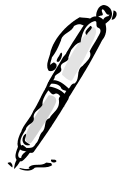
Festival 2 will be held at the Haverling High School on November 21 and 22, with Kelly Perz being selected to perform with the Area All State Women's Chorus and Brynn Day (Clarinet), Josh Haluszczak (Tenor Saxophone), and Kyle Young (Bari Saxophone) to perform with the Area All State High School Band. The concert will be on the 22 at 3:00 pm in the Haverling Central School Auditorium in Bath.

The Main Street School's first concert of the season will occur on Thursday, November 20 at 7:30 p.m., featuring the Junior and Senior High bands and choruses. The bands will be playing selections including Korean Folk Songs, one of Wagner's Operas, and a very famous movie featuring disco music. The choruses will feature a variety of music as well. All choir members (Junior and Senior High) will combine forces for an *a capella* (unaccompanied) arrangement of the Star Spangled Banner. Then the Junior Choir will perform lighter selections including a piece based on a traditional tongue twister and a medley of famous songs from the Seventies. The High School Choir will be performing mostly *a capella* music including a more serious selection written for the orphans left from the war in Serbia, an arrangement of the ballad "Fields of Gold" and finally an *a capella* arrangement of a popular Beatles tune. Please come and hear us!

HCS Journalists Attend Communications Day

On Friday, October 17, members of the Grape Press, the high school newspaper, attended the annual Communications Day held at St. Bonaventure University. High school students from the Buffalo region to the Southern Tier were in attendance. Communications Day was started in 1936 to introduce high school students interested in careers in journalism or related media to professionals in the job market, as well as students who major in communications at the university. The trip, organized by Grape Press Advisor Diana Satterfield, provided students with the opportunity to not only attend a variety of workshops regarding the communications field, but also tour the campus. The keynote speaker was Patricia Kennealy Morrison, a graduate of St. Bonaventure, former editor of Jazz and Pop Magazine, author and widow of musician Jim Morrison.

Speakers stressed the importance of writing skills at the college level and as a necessary component for the job market. It was noted that one third of high school students who attend college are not prepared and are being sent to either community colleges or remediation on campuses, extending their years in college, thus costing parents and taxpayers millions of dollars. This was a common theme in the workshops and amongst the speakers. Students in attendance included Cora Moyer, Rachel Armstrong, Tyler Dalaba, Josh Haluszczak, Max Burke, Cejae Scotchmer, Brooke Gordon, and Christine Tipton.



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 will be chosen from one of her art classes each month and will be featured with his/her artwork in the Laker Lines. This month, we are recognizing Senior Megan Farmer for her Independent Study piece (pictured left). Below, we learn a little more about Megan's artwork through an interview conducted by Mrs. Pfleegor.

What is your favorite kind of artwork to create? "Abstract"

What kind of art are you most drawn to? "Anything that comes right from the imagination – anything but still life!"

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 was not a specific assignment but was done during Independent Study. My plan was to create a non-objective design using Prisma Colors (a kind of colored pencils)."

How long have you been creating art? "Forever!"

How do you see art being a part of your future? "I plan to go to art school next fall and someday make a career out of art and design."

Congratulations Megan and good luck in art school next fall!

Glenn Curtiss Elementary Announces Leading Lakers

The Elementary School's LAKERS motto is in full swing with teachers focusing and reinforcing our desire to promote **L**earning, **A**ttitude, **K**indness and respect, **E**njoyment of school, **R**esponsibility, and **S**afety. With this motto in mind, we decided to develop criteria for a "Student of the Week."

Leading Lakers Criteria

Learn: Puts forth good effort to Learn each day

Attitude: Demonstrates a positive attitude toward adults and peers

Kindness and respect: Performs a kind act and demonstrates respect for others

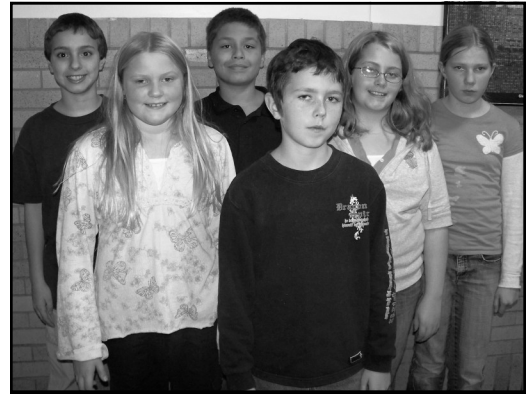
Enjoy Yourself: Enjoys school demonstrated by desire to please, smiling, and general happiness

Responsibility: Demonstrates responsibility by being prepared for classes and accepting consequences

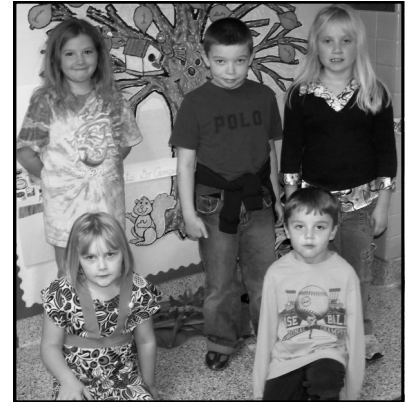
Safety: Always assists in keeping the environment safe

The Student of the Week will be chosen by staff. The staff is looking for students who are real leaders throughout the school environment. Leaders have a great deal of responsibility. They must be students that others should follow because of their ability to be a model student.

Each week the staff will choose two students, one boy and one girl, at each building. If their permission to publish forms are in the office, these students will have their names and pictures on the bulletin board outside of our Elementary Offices and in the Laker Lines. The students' names will be announced on the morning announcements on Fridays and posted on the sign out front for all of the community to see. The PTO has donated books for each student as well. The students are very excited about this opportunity and we hope that this will encourage our students to strive to be the "Leading Laker of the Week."



Leading Lakers pictured top - Row 1: Paige Faucett, Damein Personious; Row 2: Damon Musso, Eladio Martinez, Annie Stone, Maisie Tones. Pictured bottom - Row 1: McKenzie Boscoe, Dylan McGinn; Row 2: Hayley Copp, Dylan Cornish, Hailey Ritter. *Missing from photo:* Christopher Phillipson



Kristin VanValkenburg and Stella Pulver read the story *That's Good, That's Bad* by Margery Cuyler while puppets pop in and out of the story (see top of back drop)

Elementary Kicks-Off 2008 Reading Campaign

The 2008 Reading Campaign kicked-off on October 22 with events held at the Curtiss and Primary Schools. The Curtiss School Kick-Off Assembly featured a skit that really got the students in the gym rocking. The Primary School assembly featured a puppet show of the story *That's Good, That's Bad* by Margery Cuyler. The Primary students were thrilled to point out the puppets as they appeared and disappeared throughout the story.

The goal of this year's reading campaign is to achieve 100% student participation. Students will receive tickets for reading a certain number of pages or books. These tickets can then be redeemed to participate in events held at a year-end carnival.



Primary students enjoy a puppet show during the 2008 Reading Campaign Kick-Off event

Champions

After knocking on the door of a Section V Title for the last three years, the Girls' Volleyball Team finally brought home the championship by defeating Harley Allendale Columbia in three straight games by scores of 25-20, 25-23, 25-21.

Led by Junior Middle Hitter Ashley Hulse's 14 blocks and 9 kills, the Lakers put HAC on the defensive from the first point of the match. The Lakers defense was on fire with Taylor Wade, Aubrey Smith, and Kelly Clemens digging a combined 43 down balls from their opponent. Junior Setter Amie Pizura ran a well balanced offense with 21 assists to set up a formidable attack by Hulse, Smith, Diana Derr and Maggie Benedict. In addition to Hulse's 14 blocks, Benedict and Steph Malone added three blocks each to help shut down the HAC attack.

"Our blockers took HAC out of their offense right from the start," said Coach Margo Denman, "and our defense played the best match of their season digging anything and everything that HAC threw at them."

Aubrey Smith, Diana Derr and Ashley Hulse were selected for the Section V Tournament All-Star Team and Amie Pizura was named MVP of the tournament.

The team and their coaches would like to thank the school and the student body for an awesome pep rally. Special thanks to Arley Cornell for emceeing the event and rocking the house - you're the best! Lastly, we'd like to give a huge shout out to all the fans that cheered us on to victory. You were phenomenal! Hoorah!



Junior Middle Hitter Ashley Hulse blocks an HAC tip during the sectional championship match.

Laker Leaders Announced

Laker Leaders have been announced for September. "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.

Students will be selected each month by their teachers. The students will have their names posted as a "Laker Leader" and will receive points redeemable for items from the school. Those maintaining a Laker Leader status at the end of 8th grade will be rewarded a Class A Pass at the start of 9th grade.

Laker Leaders

Grade 8

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

Grade 7

Elizabeth Albright
Marissa Andersen
Brandi Bailey
Caitlin Burns
Gaige Dickerson
Carrington Ellis
Claudia Eygabroat-Guerin
Lori Gordon
Ryan Graves
Korynne House
Dalton Mori
Joanna Northrop
Nicolas Peacock
Hannah Ridge
Sydney Sprague
Dakota Stone
David VonRhedey



District Calendar Update

The Conference Day scheduled for Friday, March 27 has been moved to

Monday, March 23

Please update your

The HCS Drama Club Presents
The Tale of Two Elves
Saturday, December 6, 2008

Matinee: 2:00 pm
Evening Show: 7:30 pm

High School Auditorium



November Calendar Items

November

- 1 SAT @ Bath Haverling
- 3 PTO Meeting, 6:30 pm, HS Caf 
- 6 Juniors travel to Alfred State
- 7 Sophomore PLAN Test; Jr. High Area All State
- 8 Jr. High Area All State; Sophomore's Chili & Soup Cook-off; Baseball can/bottle drive
- 11 No School, Veteran's Day
- 12 5th Grade NYS Social Studies Exam
- 13 5th Grade NYS Social Studies Exam
- 14 Freshman travel to Bath
- 19 BOE Meeting, 7 pm
- 20 Jr/Sr High Band & Chorus Concert
- 21 Sr. High Area All State
- 22 Sr. High Area All State
- 24 Jr/Sr. High Open House, 6-8:30 pm
- 25 No School for students, Parent/Teacher Conf. Day
- 26 No School, Thanksgiving break
- 27 No School, Thanksgiving break
- 28 No School, Thanksgiving break
- 29 No School, Thanksgiving break

Ski Club's Circus Big Success

The advisors of the Ski Club, Diana Satterfield and Jim Derr, would like to thank all who attended the Billy Martin Circus held in the gym on October 23rd. The event was an enormous success. The entertainers performed for a full house that included some area war veterans. A special thank you goes to the Hammondspport American Legion who organized the transportation and opportunity for the veterans. It was a treat to have them attend.

Also, thank you to Patty Eckel, Josh Malone, Cameron Wade, Tyler Dalaba, Michael Quade and Josh Halucszak who helped out beyond the call of duty.

The Ski Club hopes to organize an additional trip this year to Holiday Valley with the proceeds from the circus.

Hammondspport Central School
District
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Banana Splits



Banana Splits is a peer support group for children whose families are in transition as a result of separation, divorce, remarriage or death. The major goal is to help children regain a feeling of stability by confronting the crisis of divorce or remarriage and learning to live with it. Through peer support of other students who also share feelings of loss and change, the children try to help each other solve the problems present in many "splits."

Through drawings, specialized projects, discussions, humor and books, children are helped to face hurts and change what they can in order to return to the full time job of being a child.

This year, first through sixth grade students will meet in grade level groups every week at lunchtime, beginning in December. Specific meeting dates will be sent home once children are signed up. The sessions are approximately thirty to forty-five minutes long with students eating lunch and then moving into projects. Groups can range in size from four students up to a maximum of ten. Attendance is on a voluntary basis.

If your child would like to participate in Banana Splits, please sign the permission slip below or send in a written permission note and return it to your child's homeroom teacher. If you have any questions please call Mary White at 569-5200, extension 5310.

BANANA SPLITS PERMISSION SLIP

_____ has permission to participate
Student's Name in Banana Splits.

_____ Grade

_____ Homeroom

_____ Date

_____ Parent/Guardian's signature

Deadline for Wall of Fame

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

