



**HAMMONDSPORT  
CENTRAL SCHOOL**

# Laker Lines

**April 2013**

BELOW: Amanda O'Donnell,  
Madison Wright, Aubrie Cole, and  
Aleah Ordway participate in Science Night.

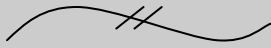


**HCS 'Hands-on'  
Science Night  
Full of Bright Ideas**



## 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.*

# Aiming High

News from Hammondsport Central School  
District Superintendent Kyle Bower

## Curtiss School Update

At the February Board of Education meeting, the Board approved the contract of sale for the Curtiss School building and property to Long Rock LLC out of Lewisburg, Pennsylvania. The owner of Long Rock LLC, Mr. Robert Lack, along with the District are working through the closing process in hopes to finalize the sale in early July. The final purchase price for the building and property was \$302,000.

As a reminder, due to changes in State law regarding the sale of school buildings that was passed in 2011, the proceeds from the sale of the property will not financially benefit the District in any way. Currently the State is still paying Hammondsport revenue labeled Building Aid for work done on that campus during the 2000 and 2004 Capital Projects. As soon as the sale is finalized, the District will need to report the sale and final purchase price to New York State. They will subtract the purchase price from the amount of Building Aid remaining to be paid to Hammondsport for previous work done at the Curtiss School. The District will then need to put the proceeds from the sale in a reserve fund and draw on that reserve over the next few years to replace what we will be losing in Building Aid. This will result in making the sale of the property revenue neutral with the proceeds only going to replace the loss of Building Aid from the State. The District still has debt outstanding for work on the Curtiss School that will not be paid off until 2038.

Despite the financial issues involved, I am very pleased that we have found a buyer for the property and hope that any future use will be in line with what the community would like to see. The Curtiss School is a beautiful facility and an asset to the community of Hammondsport. (include picture of Curtiss School)

## **PARENTS!!!! THINGS ARE CHANGING!!**

For those parents that have not yet noticed that what your students are being asked to do is much different than what was expected only a few years ago, here are some resources for your review. The website below will take you to resources developed by the State Education Department to help inform and prepare parents and families for what will be expected of your students at each grade level. With a continued focus on College and Career Readiness, the curriculum at every grade level is changing dramatically and the assessments students will be taking will be increasing in level of difficulty. Hammondsport is working hard to prepare our teachers and students for this new reality, but it is critical that parents stay informed as well. Please take some time to review the information at the website below and contact your child's teacher or the appropriate office with any questions. Thank you!

<http://engageny.org/parent-and-family-resources>

## **New Management in the Food Service Department**

On March 15th, Lisa Zema left our District to take a new position with the American Dairy Association. We wish her well and will certainly miss her! In looking at options for Lisa's replacement, we have decided to move forward using the GST BOCES Food Service Department. In making this change, we will have a manager on site for two days a week and will also have the expertise of the larger GST BOCES organization as a whole on a daily basis. Currently 18 of the 21 GST BOCES school districts use BOCES for food service management and we will make number 19. I have no doubt there will be 'growing pains' but I feel confident that this partnership is best for everyone involved. Below is a brief introduction from our new Food Service Manager, Kari Crouse. Should you have any questions or concerns, she has included her email so you can contact her directly, or feel free to contact the District Office.

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, Dennis Carlson and Christine Kolo.

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

For more school information, visit our school website at: [hammondsportcsd.org](http://hammondsportcsd.org)

Superintendent of Schools: Kyle Bower

Newsletter Editor: Ami Corell

## Congratulations, **Shelby Sherman**

For being named to the Steuben  
County  
All-County Band for 6th grade.

### March BOE Meeting Highlights

- ◆ Approved Cooperative Bid for Health Supplies GST13-03
- ◆ Approved HSC Spanish Club trip to Costa Rica tentatively set for July 7<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup>, 2014
- ◆ Approved continuation of MOA with Commissioner of Steuben County Social Services



Mr. Merrit looks on as students Gavin Ruddy, Makayla Drum, and Danielle Conley participate in PTO's 'Hands on Science' Night.

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

During the month of April, all schools in New York State will be assessing the CCLS (Common Core Learning Standards) in ELA (English Language Arts) and math in grades 3-8. These exams are more rigorous compared to exams in the past, and require students to apply concepts and justify responses to demonstrate competence with the curriculum. This is a good thing! According to initial guidance from SED (State Education Department): "At first, the new tests may seem more difficult. This is normal. The new tests will be based on the "shifts" in the standards. Over time, students and teachers will adjust to the clear expectations. There also is a possibility that student test scores could drop in the first or second year of the new tests." The exams are three days and the testing dates for ELA (English Language Arts) are April 16<sup>th</sup> through April 18<sup>th</sup>. The math exams will be administered from April 24<sup>th</sup> through April 26<sup>th</sup>. These dates are set by the SED (State Education Department) and it is important that students are well rested and present in school on these days. During April the junior class will host their prom at the Corning Country Club on the 27<sup>th</sup>. Also, a workshop for all students is scheduled on April 30<sup>th</sup> entitled: "Act with Respect Always" by Coach Rich Johns, a nationally acclaimed speaker. This will be followed by the National Honor Society Inductions on May 3<sup>rd</sup>. AP (Advanced Placement) exams and Regents exams are right around the corner. As always, teachers are available from 2:20-3:20 for extra assistance. Please check the *Parent Portal* for current information on your child's progress.

### Attention Parents of potential Pre-kindergarten students in the

#### Hammondsport Central School District

There will be a Pre-Kindergarten Information Night on **April 10<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm** in Room 134. If you have a child who will be **4 years old by December 1<sup>st</sup> 2013**, you are encouraged to attend this meeting. This meeting will provide information to parents about the registration process, scheduling and the curriculum of our program. You will have the opportunity to visit the classroom and meet the staff. If you are not able to attend and have not yet been in contact with the program staff, please feel free to call our office at 607-569-5200 ext. 5233 and ask for Ms. Ringer. We hope to see you there.

For twenty three million students nationwide, the school day begins and ends with a trip on a school bus. The greatest risk is not riding the bus, but approaching or leaving the bus. Before children go back to school or start school for the first time, it is essential that adults and children know traffic safety rules.

#### Drivers

- ✦ When backing out of a driveway or leaving a garage, watch out for children walking or bicycling to school.
- ✦ When driving in neighborhoods with school zones, watch out for young people who may be thinking about getting to school, but may not be thinking of getting there safely.
- ✦ Slow down. Watch for children walking in the street, especially if there are no sidewalks in neighborhood.
- ✦ Slow down. Watch for children playing and congregating near bus stops.
- ✦ Be alert. Children arriving late for the bus may dart into the street without looking for traffic.
- ✦ Learn and obey the school bus laws in your state. Learn the "flashing signal light system" that school bus drivers use to alert motorists of pending actions:
  - **Yellow flashing lights** indicate that the bus is preparing to stop to load or unload children. Motorists should slow down and prepare to stop their vehicles.

**Red flashing lights** and extended stop arms indicate that the bus has stopped, and that children are getting on or off. Motorists must stop their cars and wait until the red lights stop flashing, the extended stop sign is withdrawn, and the bus begins moving before they can start driving again.

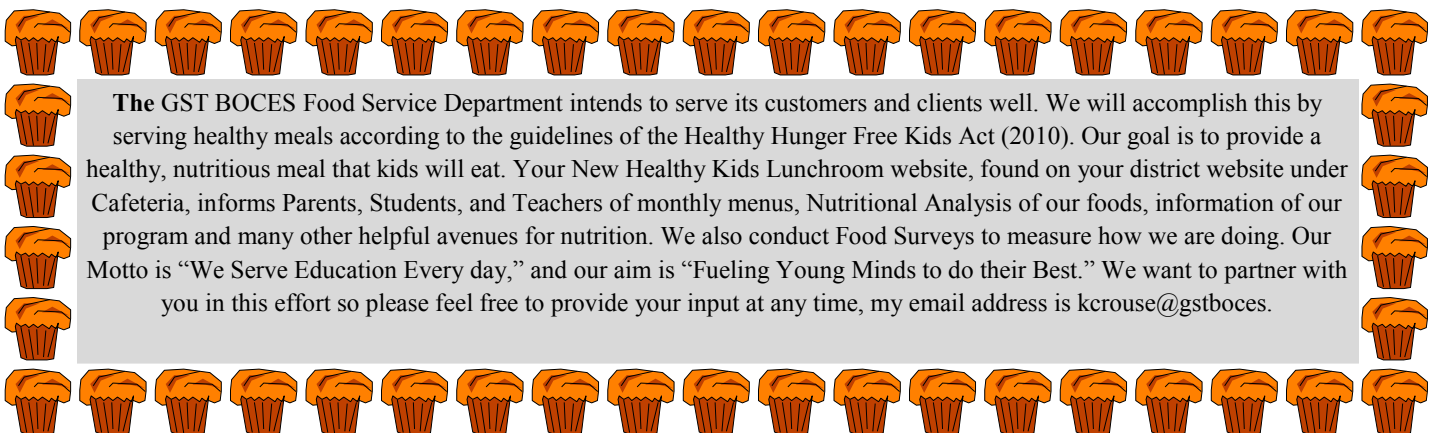
#### Children

- ✦ Get to the bus stop at least five minutes before the bus is scheduled to arrive.
- ✦ When the bus approaches, stand at least three giant steps (6 feet) away from the curb, and line up away from the street.
- ✦ Wait until the bus stops, the door opens, and the driver says that it's okay before stepping onto the bus.
- ✦ If you have to cross the street in front of the bus, walk on the sidewalk or along the side of the road to a point at least five giant steps (10 feet) ahead of the bus before you cross. Be sure that the bus driver can see you, and you can see the bus driver.
- ✦ Use the handrails to avoid falls. When exiting the bus, be careful that clothing with drawstrings, and book bags with straps don't get caught in the handrails or doors.
- ✦ Never walk behind the bus.
- ✦ Walk at least three giant steps away from the side of the bus.

If you drop something near the bus, tell the bus driver. Never try to pick it up because the driver may not be able to see you.

#### Parents

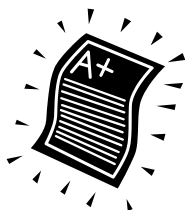
- ◆ Teach children to follow these common sense practices to make school bus transportation safer.



# 2013 Exam Schedule

The following outlines the schedule for the 2013 AP & Regents Exams

May 7 AP Spanish  
 May 8 AP Calculus  
 May 10 AP Statistics  
 May 15 AP US History



## June 11

Comprehensive English (9:15 am)  
 Living Environment (1:15 pm)

## June 12

RE in U.S. History & Government (9:15 am)  
 Integrated Algebra (1:15 pm)

## June 13

Global History & Geography (9:15 am)  
 Physical Setting/Physics (1:15 pm)

## June 14

Physical Setting/Earth Science (9:15 am)  
 Algebra 2/Trigonometry (1:15pm)  
 RCT in Mathematics(1:15 pm)

## June 17

RCT in Global (9:15 am)  
 RCT in Reading (1:15 pm)

## June 18

Physical Setting/Chemistry(9:15 am)  
 RCT in US History & Government (1:15 pm)

## June 19

Geometry (9:15 am)  
 RCT in Science (1:15pm)

## June 20

RCT in Writing (9:15am)

## **6th Annual Run, Walk or Crawl Saturday, June 15, 2012**

### 5K Race

Registration Time: 8 - 8:40 am

### Runners & Walkers

Start Time: 8:45 am walkers; 9:00 am runners

Pre-register by May 25

\$10.00 ; Register after May 25 \$15.00

Race route and registration information is  
 available on our  
 District website under PTO.

# Students of the Quarter

Brooke Clark and Eddie Murphy have been selected as Students of the Quarter for the 2nd marking period of the 2012-2013 school year. These students were nominated by their teachers for their outstanding contributions to HCS. To be eligible, students must be in grades 9-12, hold a Class A pass, and maintain an 85 or above average. Congratulations Brooke and Eddie!

## Student of the Quarter

### **Full Name:**

Brooke Clark

### **Favorite Subject in School:**

Government

### **Hobbies / Activities:**

Volleyball, painting,  
 reading, playing the  
 French Horn

### **Future Plans:**

Attend college & study  
 Wildlife Biology

### **Three words that best describe yourself:**

Bubbly. Confident,  
 Independent



## Student of the Quarter

### **Full Name:**

Edward Murphy IV

### **Favorite Subject in School:**

All of them

### **Hobbies / Activities:**

Tennis, Sailing,  
 Snowboarding

### **Future Plans:**

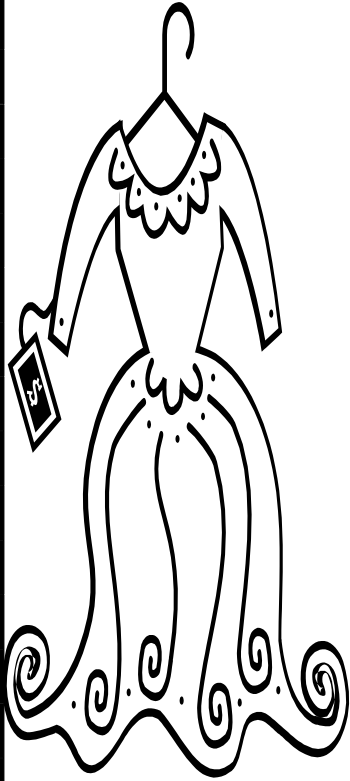
Undecided as of yet

### **Three words that best describe yourself:**

Unique, fun, famous, new



# Colleen's Closet



Are you looking for a dress for the Prom? Why not check out "Colleen's Closet"? Try before you buy!

The Hammondsport PTO sponsors a borrowing closet of formal wear for the Winter Ball and the Prom. If you can save money by borrowing the dress, you'll have more to spend on other things to help celebrate that special Prom Night!

Check out the selection in the Library area after Spring



## You've Been Accepted!

Congratulations to the following students for their recent college acceptance notifications.

<u>Student</u>	<u>College</u>	<u>Scholarship Received</u>
Ryan Eckel	Lock Haven University LeMoyne College College of St. Rose Alfred University Clarkson University	Scholar/Athlete Award Leadership Scholarship Academic Merit Scholarship Jonathon Allen Scholarship
Sarah Newman	Hilbert College	
Brooke Clark	University of Vermont	Presidential Academic Scholarship
Dustin Deal	Rochester Institute of Technology	
Kareena Hoyt	Duquesne University	Academic Excellence Scholarship
Sydney Farmer	Duquesne University	Academic Excellence Scholarship
Megan Erway	Rochester Institute of Technology University of Buffalo	
Kaley Bray	R.I.T.	Merit Scholarship
Kelly Bray	SUNY Fredonia	
Matthew Lowin	Rochester Institute of Technology	

The Hammondsport Central School  
Class of 2014  
proudly announces

## A Tale as Old as Time

Junior-Senior Prom

Saturday, April 27th, 2013

At Corning Country Club

6:30-11:30 pm

Tickets \$55 per person

Ticket price includes dinner

## WAY TO GO, LAKERS SENIORS!

On March 7, seniors Gavin Cornish, Danny Becker and Ryan Eckel all represented HCS in the Steuben County Exceptional Senior Boys Basketball game against the Allegheny County senior team. Danny and Gavin were also named to the 2nd team All-League for Steuben County, and Ryan was named to the All-Tournament team for Section V. Excellent job, boys! Senior cheerleaders Lauren Binnert and Alissa Walruth were also named to the Exceptional Senior Cheerleading team for Steuben.



# Parent's Backpack Guide to Common Core State Standards

## FOR PREKINDERGARTEN–5TH GRADE: ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS AND MATHEMATICS

In 2011 New York adopted the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) to make sure that all children succeed once they graduate from high school. This guide is designed to help you understand how the standards will affect your child, what changes you will see and what you can do at home to help your children the classroom.

### Why Are the Common Core State Standards Important?

The Common Core State Standards are important because they will help all children – no matter who they are – learn the same skills. They create clear expectations for what your child should know and be able to do in key areas: **reading, writing, speaking and listening, language and mathematics**. If you know what these expectations are, then you can work with the teacher and help your child prepare.

## ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS (ELA)

The new Common Core State Standards make several important changes to current standards. These changes are called shifts. The chart below shows what these shifts change, what you might see in your child's backpack and what you can do to help your child. If your child's assignments do not reflect the shifts, then talk to your

What's Shifting?	What to Look for in the Backpack?	What Can You Do?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Your child will now <b>read more non-fiction</b> in each grade level.</li> <li>Reading more non-fiction texts will help your child <b>learn about the world through reading</b>.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Look for your kids to have more reading assignments based on real-life events, such as biographies, articles and historical stories.</li> <li>Look for your kids to bring home more fact-based books about the world. For instance, your 1<sup>st</sup> Grader or Kindergartener might read Clyde Robert Bulla's <i>A Tree is a Plant</i>. This book lets students read and learn about science.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read non-fiction books with your children. Find ways to make reading fun and exciting.</li> <li>Know what non-fiction books are grade-level appropriate and make sure your children have access to such books.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Your child will <b>read challenging texts very closely</b>, so they can make sense of what they read and draw their own conclusions.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Your kids will have reading and writing assignments that might ask them to retell or write about key parts of a story or book. For example, your 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> Grader might be asked to read aloud Faith D'Aluisio's non-fiction book titled <i>What the World Eats</i> and retell facts from the story.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide more challenging texts for your kids to read. Show them how to dig deeper into difficult pieces.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>When it comes to writing or retelling a story, your child will <b>use "evidence" gathered from the text to support what they say</b>.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Look for written assignments that ask your child to draw on concrete examples from the text that serve as evidence. Evidence means examples from the book that your child will use to support a response or conclusion. This is different from the opinion questions that have been used in the past.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ask your child to provide evidence in everyday discussions and disagreements.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Your child will <b>learn how to write from what they read</b>.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Look for writing assignments that ask your child to make arguments in writing using evidence. For 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders, this might mean reading and writing about <i>The Kids Guide to Money</i>, a non-fictional book by Steve Otfinoski.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Encourage writing at home. Write together using evidence and details.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Your child will <b>have an increased academic vocabulary</b>.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Look for assignments that stretch your child's vocabulary and teach them that "language is power."</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read often to babies, toddlers, preschoolers and children.</li> </ul>

# April/May Calendar Items

# Hands-On Science Night

- 4/1-7 SPRING BREAK
- 4/5 Registration Deadline for May SAT Exam
- 4/8 PTO Meeting 6:30pm
- 4/9 Marking Period 3 Ends
- 4/10 Class of 2016 Garden Flag Sale Begins
- 4/16 Grades 3-8 ELA NYS Exam
- 4/17 Grades 3-8 ELA NYS Exam Regular BOE Meeting;
- 4/18 Grades 3-8 ELA NYS Exam
- 4/24 Grades 3-8 MATH NYS Exam
- 4/25 Grades 3-8 MATH NYS Exam
- 4/26 Grades 3-8 MATH NYS Exam Class of 2016 Flag Sale Ends
- 4/27 Junior-Senior Prom 6:30-11:30 @ Corning Country Club
- 4/29 NO SCHOOL for students



Brianna Hill checks in with Mr. Rounds at Science Night.

The Hammondsport PTO sponsored Hands-on Science night on Wednesday, March 13th. Between 250 and 300 students, parents and teachers were offered the opportunity to work their way through 15 different 'experimentation stations' during the event. Students also worked all day long to solve a 'crime' involving Ms. Darcie and the missing bear during the school day and into the evening. Utilizing their scientific skills, students were able to hypothesize, and use evidence to prove who had



committed the 'crime' A highlight of the evening was also the 'Glow-Germ' station where students could see how many germs were on their hands.



- 5/1 Open Registration for all Voters 12-8pm, school lobby
- 5/4 SAT @Bath Haverling
- 5/6 PTO Meeting 6:30pm
- 5/7 AP Spanish Exam
- 5/8 AP Calculus Exam
- 5/9 Progress Report #3 ends
- 5/10 AP Statistics Exam
- 5/14 BOE Public Hearing 6pm; Regular Meeting to follow
- 5/15 AP US History Exam

*(calendar continued)*

- 5/21 Kindergarten Screenings 8am-2pm  
Primary/Elem. Spring Concert and Art Show 6pm  
**Budget/Trustee Vote**
- 5/22 Grades 4-8 Science Performance Test
- 5/23 Grades 4-8 Science Performance Test  
Kindergarten Screening 8am-2pm
- 5/24 Grades 4-8 Science Performance Test
- 5/27 No School, Memorial Day

- 5/28 Grades 4-8 Science Performance Test
- 5/29 Grades 4-8 Science Performance Test
- 5/30 Grades 4-8 Science Performance Test
- 5/31 Grades 4-8 Science Performance Test  
Senior High Awards Assembly



Hammondsport Central School District  
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Hammondsport, NY 14840

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