

Laker Lives

April 2015

Hammondsport Central School District Newsletter



Mr. Rounds explains the 'Amazing Egg' experiment to Liam McCloud, Katrina Derby, Keegan Walruth, and Katrina's father, Eric Derby at his table during PTO Science Night 2015. (see full story, p. 1 & 7)

Pre K Information Night!

For all incoming Pre-K students of Hammondsport Central School
Please plan to attend an information night on
Thursday, April 16th at 6pm in Room 134.

This meeting will be an opportunity for you to meet the teachers,
learn about the routines, procedures and curriculum of Pre K and ask
any questions you may have.

If you have a child who will be 4 years old by
December 1st, 2015 and have not already registered, please call our
office at 607-569-5200 ext. 5233 to register your child for Pre K!
We look forward to seeing you on April 16th.



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 environ-
ment.

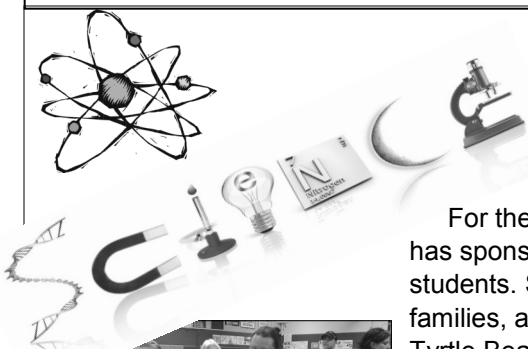
100% of students will meet
proficiency with the continued
goal of achieving mastery.

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

Rocks!

**PTO 'Hands-On Science Night'
a huge hit with students,
parents, and staff**

For the last 8 years, the Hammondsport PTO
has sponsored a hands-on science night for the
students. Science Night is a free event for our
families, and funding is provided in part by the
Tyrte Beach fund. Each year PTO strives to
offer new stations that are rotated among some
that have been done in the past. This year's ex-
citing evening included 18 investigative stations
that over 75 families were able to engage in. At
one new station, the students were (cont. on p.7)



Board of Education Vacancy

Petitions nominating candidates for the
office of Member of the Board of Education,
are available at the Hammondsport Central School District
Office beginning **March 20, 2015.**

Petitions must be filed with the District Clerk not later than
Monday, April 20, 2015 at 5:00 P.M.

The following vacancy is to be filled on the Board of Education:
5 year term (Francis Curran)

Each petition must be directed to the Clerk of the District, must be signed by at
least twenty-five qualified voters of the District, must state name and residence
of the office and the name of the last incumbent.

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; Dennis Carlson, Vice President;
Richard Drain, Frank Curran and Kevin Bennett.

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

Welcome Spring!

Regardless of the cold temperatures and mounds of snow, Glenn Curtiss Elementary students and staff have been making the best out of the winter weather. I enjoyed immensely the time spent outside with every student painting snow during the first week in March! Thank you to all of those who helped make this a success.

Congratulations to our third grader, Tara Sahni, for her win at our school wide spelling bee in February and for her participation in the Regional Spelling Bee in Campbell-Savona on Thursday, March 5, 2015. We are very proud of her for finishing in the third round. We look forward to her future success.

March 2nd we celebrated Dr. Seuss' birthday. Many Dr. Seuss activities occurred that day such as eating green eggs and ham in the cafeteria for breakfast. Mr. Bower joined classrooms to read stories by Dr. Seuss and teachers decorated their doors and bulletin boards as covers of Dr. Seuss books. Elementary students also took the opportunity to read to primary students.

During the month of March we celebrate our Reading Challenge. Each classroom was given a reading goal for the month and are working very diligently to reach this goal. The classrooms that reach their goal will be given a pizza party and the top reading class will receive a book basket for their classroom. Mr. Stermole, Miss Johnston, and Mrs. Fopper will be dressed as Dr. Seuss and help with dismissal on the final day of the challenge. Minutes read outside of the school day are counted to reach these goals. With or without a reading challenge, I ask that we all keep reading!

Pre-kindergarten and kindergarten registration has taken place. If you have or know someone who has a child who will be four years old by December 1st please call the elementary office at 607-569-5200 ext. 5233 to register.

Reminder: NYS Assessments are coming soon! The ELA assessments will begin shortly after Spring Break on April 14th. We simply ask that you keep bedtime routines consistent for our students. We have prepared them, and know they are ready.



Sincerely,
Mrs. Sincerbox

From the desk of Tad Rounds, 7-12 Principal

Congratulations to Alyson Binnert, our Valedictorian, and Arianna Turner, the Salutatorian of the Class of 2015. Both of these young ladies have worked very hard for this honor.

The faculty and staff are working hard at designing summer enrichment for students in grades K-12. Prior to the close of the school year, parents and students will have a menu of summer learning opportunities open to all students in the Hammondsport Central School District. Possible options include: STEM (Science Technology Engineering Math) programing, tours of local museums and discovery centers, and visits to state parks.

The Spanish Club will be presenting to students and parents their planned trip to Puerto Rico during the summer or 2016. This is an amazing opportunity for students to use their Spanish skills through an immersive and authentic experience. I have traveled with the Spanish Club in the past to Puerto Rico and can speak first hand to the educational value that students gain from utilizing international travel experiences.

The student leadership group attended training in the Fall of 2014 hosted by Steuben County prevention established the goal of increasing school spirit. This group has met monthly to execute their plan of action and decided on creating a school mascot named "Captain Laker" to represent Laker Pride at school events. The mascot maintains the Laker identity and allows that identity to be represented at school events. The students met with Mrs. Pflieger this month to solidify their vision of "Captain Laker".

With the 3-8 testing for ELA (English Language Arts) and math starting the week of April 14th we want parents to know their students and teachers have worked very hard preparing students to excel. Quality instruction occurs daily and testing is just one component of this instruction. We encourage all students to take the state assessments and to do their best.

A good night's sleep the night before and a healthy breakfast are the best preparation the night before the exam. Parents and students should not stress about the exam. **Your child is not just a test score and the exams do not define them, but the information does provide the ability to tailor instruction, interventions, and enrichment.** Please feel free to schedule a meeting with me if you have any concerns regarding required testing.

Environmental Engineering in Mrs. Stevens' Room

Most people spend over 95% of their time interacting with technology. Pencils, chairs, water filters, toothbrushes, cell phones and buildings are all technologies- solutions designed by engineers to fulfill human needs or wants. To understand the world we live in, it is vital that we foster engineering and technological literacy among all people, even young children! Fortunately, children are born engineers-they are fascinated with building, with taking things apart, and with how things work. This Environmental Engineering unit harnesses natural curiosity to promote the learning of engineering and technology concepts. During this unit students learned about the Ganges River in India and the severe pollution that is affecting the river. Students then had to go through the cycle of

Hannah, Alister and Rorie timing their filter as the contaminated water runs through..



the Engineering Design Process: Ask, Imagine, Plan, Create and Improve. The process aided in them developing a quality water filter against contaminated water. The students had to design a filter that would be cost and time effective. The students then rated their filtered water samples based on if they could improve

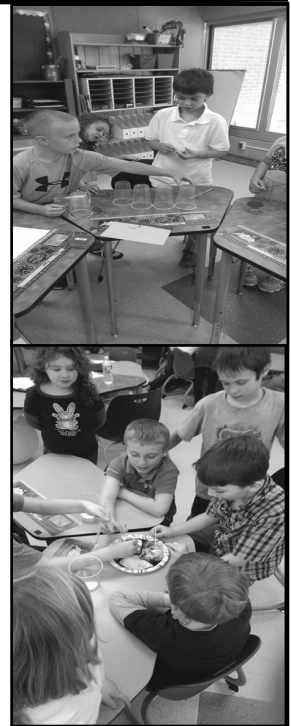


George, Anthony and Maggie timing their water filters.

3rd Grade STEM Learning

Third Graders have been having fun implementing the STEM program this year. This program is a student driven, hands-on, real world, inquiry based learning program in science. The students are using what they have learned and are applying it to other content areas. Most importantly, they have learned to take their observations and data to make a "claim" (what they have learned from the investigation) and then back that claim up with evidence. We are currently learning about the properties of water and many have made real world connections about water freezing and expanding. The students had fun before vacation doing an engineering investigation in which they had to design a package for an egg that would withstand a lot of movement; the test was to pass the simulation of shipping from a turbulent train, plane, and automobile. It was a fun way to see the students apply learning and collaboration with their peers. They were very successful!

~Mrs. Webster and Mrs. Dickson



PLEASE NOTE STATE ASSESSMENT DATES:

Grades 3-6	ELA	April 14, 15 & 16	Make Up Dates: April 17, 20 & 21
Grades 3-6	Math	April 22,23, & 24	Make Up Dates: April 27,28 & 29

MathCon 2015

In February, 39 fifth and sixth graders participated in a national math competition called MathCON. It was exciting to see so many students excited for the

competition called competition.

Congratulations, and thank you, to the participants for all of their hard work!

The sixth grade participants at MathCon were:

Harley Underwood, Gabe Nothem-Orcutt, Gabby Wagner, Makaylah Drum, Garrett Adsit, Madison Pifer, Brock Underwood, Hunter Ball, Skylar Freville, Andy Henning, Chris Becker, Andrew Hill, Ben Cole, Lydia Dluzak, Eli Hill, McKenzie Boscoe, Erika Hilligus, Brianna Hill, Danielle Conley, Justice Jones



Fifth Grade (right): (back) Logan Zimmerman, Danielle Bennett, Will Beers, (front) Alyssa Crooks & Ethan Tones



Fifth Grade: (back row) Amelia Johnson, Lexi Swarthout, Cooper Watson (middle) Hannah Hoerter and George Drake (front) Steven Perkins

STEM Learning

by Mrs. Sarah Jaynes

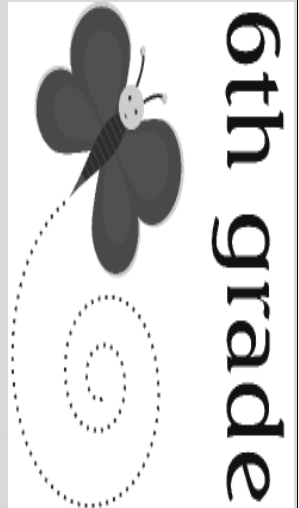


Harley, Madison, Makaylah, and Eli investigating whether or not air has mass.

This year, there has been a significant increase in engagement and excitement toward science. Students have worked hard to collaborate with their peers, problem-solve through challenging tasks in science, and apply the concepts we're learning to the real world. I have seen an improvement in the ability of students to provide evidence from our class experiences when answering science questions, as well.

In sixth grade, we have spent a great deal of time studying the

weather. Weather is more than just reading a thermometer or recording the air pressure! Students have been engaged in learning about what the air is composed of, what causes pressure, and why the seasons occur. We will continue our study of the weather over the coming months by investigating heat transfer, conduction, and convection.



Hunter and Zak investigating air pressure.

March is National Youth Art Month!

Each March, The ARTS Council of the Southern Finger Lakes installs over 1,000 pieces of student artwork in businesses and organizations throughout our service area, igniting curiosity and engagement around students' creative work. The national observance of Youth Art Month began in 1961; The ARTS Council has been organizing a local NYAM celebration since 2007.

In March 2015, there are 54 locations participating in the project. Local NYAM exhibits are in Chemung, Schuyler, Steuben, and the cusp of Tioga counties. Thirty-eight schools and more than 40 educators are participating in this year's exhibits. Close to 1600 students have artwork in this year's exhibits. For more information, go to: <http://www.earts.org/nyam>

HCS is proud to have the following students' works exhibited by the council this month:

- RJ Ritter Annie Stone Tanessa Whitney**
Lourenze Baliguin Jackson Cummings
Robin Jenkins Luke Atkinson Rachael Derby
Anna Newman Aaliyah Jensen
Shelby Sherman Paige Stopka
Nigel Snyder Nica Baliguin

CONGRATULATIONS!

*Take Me Out to the Ballgame,
or the Track Meet, or the Tennis Match, or the Golf Course...*

That's right, spring is in the air and that means time for **spring sports!** Come out and support our modified and Varsity baseball, softball, boys tennis, golf and track & field teams while you enjoy the spring weather! HCS is proud to field these teams and show everyone that Laker Pride!

- Opening Contests for teams are scheduled for:
Modified Softball vs. @ Addison 4/14/15
Modified Baseball vs. Bradford 4/13/15
Track vs. CG & Bradford 4/14/15
Softball vs. JT 4/7/15
Baseball vs. @ Lima Christian 3/27/15
Tennis vs. Bath 4/7/15
Golf vs. @JT 4/8/15

****contests subject to change due to weather****

Congratulations, Mrs. Voss

Recently, Hammondsport High School Science teacher, Kimberly Voss completed the program and earned the distinction as Senior Fellow with the KSTF. The Knowles Science Teaching Foundation (KSTF) was established in 1999 with the ultimate goal of improving STEM education in the United States. She credits her grandfather, a dedicated chemist and engaging storyteller, for developing her passion for science. Learning science provided a sense of accomplishment for Kimberly and her dedicated teachers nurtured a path from high school at Nardin Academy to St. Bonaventure University where she earned a Bachelor of Science and the State University of New York at Buffalo. There, she was the first graduate to obtain a master's degree in structural biology. The Hammondsport faculty and community are proud to have such a distinguished professional as a member of their staff.

2014-2015 Academic All-Stars

Front: Sydney McGinn, Ann Stone, Alyson Binnert, & Morgan Sincerbox
 Middle: Eladio Martinez, Dalton Ordway, Graham O'Donnell, Greg DiTomasso, Aaron Lowin, Zack Pifer, Mr. Kloiber
 Back: Nick Erway, Lahra Weber, Jami Long, Ann Szathmary, Anna Vogel, Lanie Carvajal, Tyler Hill Not Pictured: Eddie Murphy



Hammondsport has a long-standing tradition of academic excellence. As a community, we take great pride in the successes of our students. Academic All-Stars is just one of the ways in which our students excel academically. A member of the medium-small league, we compete in matches against Alfred-Almond, Jasper-Troupsburg, and Arkport. This is one of the most difficult divisions in Steuben County, and always provides a great deal of competition. On behalf of the Academic All-Stars, I would like to express our gratitude to our faculty, staff, administration, fellow students, and the greater Hammondsport community for their continued support. ~Mr. Kloiber

Tips for Successful, Stress-free Testing:

- ⇒ Get a good night's rest
- ⇒ 'unplug' on nights prior to tests—don't sleep with your computer or cell phone in the same room
- ⇒ Eat a nutritious breakfast on testing days
 - ⇒ Drink plenty of water
 - ⇒ Don't worry!
- ⇒ Do your best; your teachers have prepared you well :)

TESTING DATES:

Grades 7-8 ELA April 14,15,16
Make-ups April 17,20 &21

Grades 7-8 Math April 22,23, 24
Make-ups April 27,28 & 29

given a white t-shirt that said "Science Rocks" and, by using permanent markers and rubbing alcohol, made tie dye effects on the shirt. Another new station was made available through generous support from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute, the National Science Foundation, the Cornell Biotechnology Program, and the Cornell Institute of Biology Teachers (which our Living Environment and Chemistry teacher is an alumnus of). Over the course of the evening, students were trans-



Henry Morrison and Andrew Morrison experiment at Science Night.



Senior Morgan Sincerbox and Emily Starkweather try out an experiment on trajectory.

formed into forensic scientists who used evidence to solve "The Case of the Missing Diamond Maker", chemists making "Goo Yuck", biologists investigating "Glowing Germs", and physicists launching darts and experimenting

with optical illusions. Administrators, teachers, parents and 18 high school students, including National Honor Society Members, were on hand to facilitate the experiments and make the night a huge success.

Edda Martinez, Matt Johnson, Heaven Hess, Aubrey Hill, and Nick Erway work at "The Case of the Missing Diamond Maker" table.



Class of 2015 Valedictorian and Salutatorian Named



Alyson Binnert, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas and Lynn Binnert of Hammondspport, has been announced as the Valedictorian of the 2015 Senior Class at Hammondspport Central School.

Alyson has been active in National Honor Society, Academic All-Stars, student council, Girl Scouts, chorus, band, basketball, softball, and volleyball where she was named to the Volleyball All-Tournament Team for three consecutive years. She has also held several class officer positions during high school and received several honors. Alyson has volunteered at Camp Good Days and has participated in many other community activities/events.

Alyson will be attending Binghamton University in the fall, majoring in Biochemistry.

Arianna Turner, daughter of Mrs. Angel Turner-Snyder of Hammondspport, has been announced as the Salutatorian of the 2015 Senior Class at Hammondspport Central School.



Arianna has been active in student council, National Honor Society, drama club, band, choir, dance, track, and tennis, as well as being an active member of the Girl Scouts. Arianna has also held leadership positions and received honors during high school, and has been involved in numerous volunteer activities, both in school and in the community.

Arianna will be attending SUNY Geneseo in the fall, majoring in Biochemistry.

The remainder of the top ten in the Senior Class are:

- * Edward Murphy IV, son of Mr. Edward Murphy of Hammondspport
- * Sydney McGinn, daughter of Mr. James McGinn of Hammondspport, and Ms. Terri McGinn of Hammondspport
- * Aaron Lowin, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jon and Lynda Lowin of Hammondspport
- * Kelsey Sack, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Terry and Stacia Dalaba of Hammondspport; and Mr. and Mrs. Salvatore and Gabriella Sack of Fairport
- * Ann Stone, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Carl and Lisa Stone of Pulteney
- * Quentin Carvajal, son of Mr. and Mrs. John and Renee Carvajal of Hammondspport
- * Amanda Sprague, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Pete and Shelayne Wise of Cohocton; and Mr. and Mrs. James and Amanda Sprague of Prattsburgh
- * Eladio E. Martinez Jr., son of Mr. Eladio Martinez of Cohocton and Ms. Edda Garcia-Martinez of Hammondspport.

Graduation is scheduled for June 27, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. in the auditorium or outside (weather permitting).

You've been accepted!

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

Student:	College & Award Received:
Jefferey Thompson	appointment to US Army
Morgan Sincerbox	Nazareth College—Nazareth College Class of 1928 Scholarship
Jessica Lawrence	Onondaga Community College
McKenna Harris	Corning Community College



Transportation News

School Bus Safety begins before students even board; students and drivers should be mindful during boarding of, or leaving the bus.

Drivers:

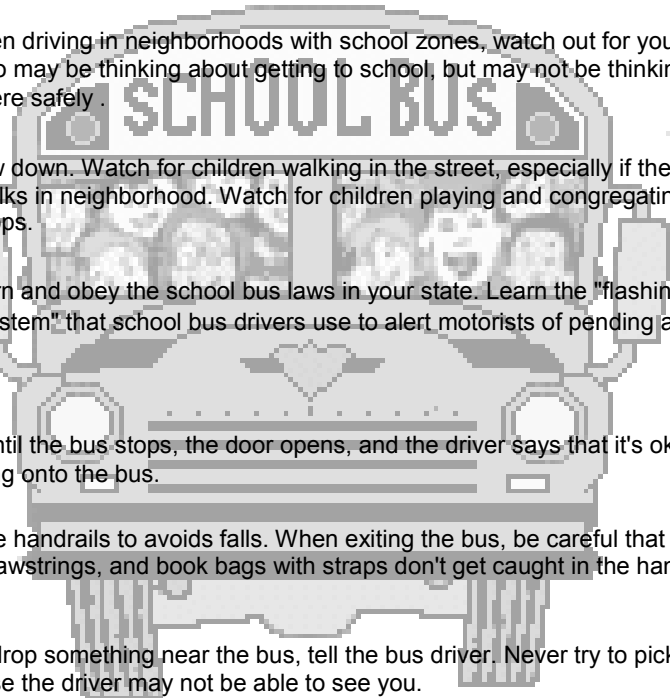
- When driving in neighborhoods with school zones, watch out for young people who may be thinking about getting to school, but may not be thinking of getting there safely.
- Slow down. Watch for children walking in the street, especially if there are no sidewalks in neighborhood. Watch for children playing and congregating near bus stops.
- 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.

Students:

- Wait until the bus stops, the door opens, and the driver says that it's okay before stepping onto the bus.
- 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.
- 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.



April

- 4/9 Spring Picture Day
- 4/10 Marking Period #3 Ends
- 4/13 Marking Period #2 Begins
- 4/14-16 NYS ELA Testing Grades 3-8
- 4/18 ACT Exam @ HCS
7:15am-1:30pm
- 4/22 BoE Regular Mtg., 6pm
- 4/22-24 NYS Math Testing Grades 3-8
- 4/24 Arbor Day
- 4/25 Jr./Sr. Prom 7-12pm

May

- 5/5 Calculus AB AP exam
- Public Budget Hearing, 5pm
- 5/7 Spanish AP Exam
- Open Voter Registration 12-5pm
- 5/12 US History AP Exam
- BoE Regular Mtg., 6pm
- Statistics AP Exam
- 5/15 Progress Report #4 ends
- Drama Club Spring Production
- 5/16 Drama Club Spring Production
- 5/19 Budget/Trustee Vote 12-8pm
- Spring Concert P-3 @ 6:30,
4-6 & Show Choir @ 7:30
- 5/20 NYS Science Grades 4 & 8
Testing Window Opens
- 5/22-25 NO SCHOOL- Memorial Day
- 5/28 Kindergarten Screening 8-3:30pm
- 5/29 NYS Science Grades 4 & 8
Testing Window Closes

Spring Calendar Items

REMINDER!
Any applications for local scholarships are due in the High School office by: April 1, 2015

Hammondsport Central School District
 8272 Main Street
 Hammondsport, NY 14840

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