

April 2017

Laker LIVES



Hammondspport Central School District Newsletter

Class of 2017 Valedictorian and Salutatorian Named



Graham O'Donnell, son of Ms. Julie Vargo of Hammondspport, and Mr. Robert O'Donnell of McKinney, Texas has been announced as the Valedictorian of the 2017 Senior Class at Hammondspport Central School.

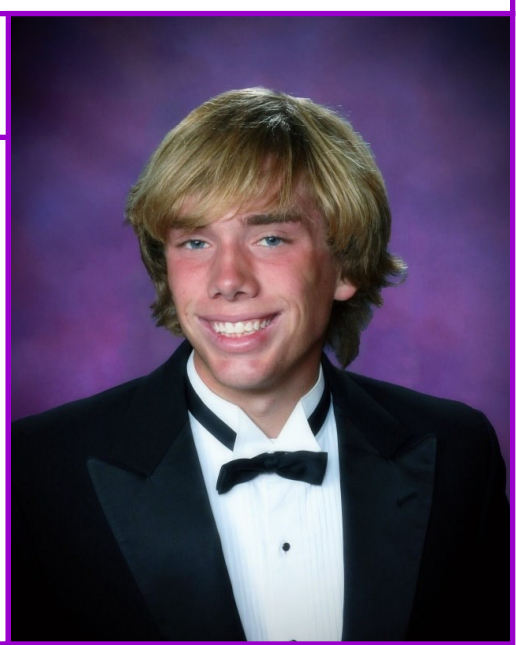
Graham has been active in Academic All-Stars, Track, Drama Club, Ski Club, Student Council, and the National Honor Society. He has also held several class officer positions during high school and has received several honors. Graham has also been very active in Choir, Jazz Band, and Show Choir. Graham has volunteered as well, and been active in several community activities.

Graham's final college choice is Cornell University. He will major in Environmental and Sustainability Sciences.

George Ruddy, son of Mr. and Mrs. George and Jennifer Ruddy of Hammondspport, has been announced as the Salutatorian of the 2017 Senior Class at Hammondspport Central School.

George has been active in Basketball, Baseball, Soccer, Student Council, and the National Honor Society. He has also held several class officer positions during high school and has received several honors. George has also given his time in the local community, volunteering for many different organizations.

George will be attending either Syracuse University or University of Pittsburgh in the fall, majoring in Physical Therapy.



Thoughts from the Superintendent's Desk...

Mr. Kyle Bower

In one of the hallways of the elementary school, one of our 4th graders, Zayda Braun, created a sign that states, "Make today so awesome, yesterday gets jealous!" In the midst of late winter, keeping a daily level of 'enthusiasm' can sometimes be a challenge. Between weather issues, illness, mid-winter blahs, and no sunshine, everybody can start to bother everybody. Schools are no different. But we all get through it together.

One of the things I believe sets Hammondspport apart from many places is our willingness to focus on people. We are a community of learners- all of us doing our best together on a day-to-day basis. No one piece of the puzzle is more important than another. No one gets ignored or gets left behind. We are all here for 'we'. It's much easier to be positive, when you're surrounded by positive people.

When the adults are seen as 'school' and not as people, we lose our identities, our faces, and our feelings. When we see our young people as 'students' and not as Tommy, Dillan, and Nancy, we risk the same. However, as seen in the larger world around us, respect isn't given simply by the positions you hold. Increasingly, respect is earned by how you hold your positions. It's much easier to be positive when you see people and not simply positions.

Sometimes being willing to discuss something challenging with a young adult can get messy. The point of the discussion can get lost, then found, then lost again. But if we don't model the process of difficult, respectful dialogue for our young people, how will they learn? A conversation becomes an argument by choice. Let's all choose to hold our positions with conviction, but respect others that may have different points of view. It's much easier to be positive when you begin with respect and not simply emotion.

The Leading Lakers theme for the month of March was POSITIVE ATTITUDE. Personal attitude is a choice we all make every day in every aspect of our lives. Thank you to our great LAKER students for reminding us of that and leading the way every day! Go Lakers!

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 :)

HCS Mission

The mission of the Hammondspport 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.



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; Dennis Carlson, Vice President;

Richard Drain, Kevin Bennett, and Lynda Lowin.

The Board meets the third Wednesday of each month at 6:00 PM in the High School Library.

News from the Junior/Senior Principal

Mr. Tad Rounds

While the danger of texting and driving has received some, but not enough public attention, the other public health dangers of non-educational screen time have received little to no attention. On April 4th students in grades 5-12 watched the documentary *Screenagers* about the dangers of excessive screen time on their development. A parent viewing at 6:00 p.m. of the same documentary was hosted by the HCS PTO. The Mayo Clinic has cited that too much poor quality screen time correlates to: obesity, irregular sleep schedules and shorter duration of sleep, behavior problems, loss of social skills, violence, and less time for play. Limiting non-education screen time to no more than 2 hours a day, which is the recommendation of the American Academy of Pediatrics, leads to a greater probability of positive health and academic outcomes! They also offer that the same common rules apply to real and virtual environments. "This means spending time with your child, teaching kindness, being involved, and knowing your child's friends and what your child does with them".

In addition to the academic benefits of limiting non-educational screen time, another powerful accelerator for academic success is employing a growth mindset philosophy. Students in both the 7th and 8th Grade received instruction about the benefits of a "Growth Mindset" and completed a self-assessment on their mindset. The research on having a growth mindset is attributed to Carol Dweck and it defines a growth mindset as the belief that intellect and talents develop over time, but only with focused and deliberate effort. Essentially, it is a belief in the value and execution of a work ethic! This is contrasted with individuals who have a fixed mindset which believe intellect and talent are inborn traits. As Dweck concedes, all individuals are born with certain talents, but effort is what produces a skill. When effort is applied to a skill (academics, music, athletics) is when achievement occurs! Essentially, work matters!



Welcome, Mr. Yochem!

Mr. Yochem is our interim Elementary Principal here at Glenn Curtiss Elementary until the end of the school year. He is filling in for Mrs. Sincerbox who left for a new position in Bath. Mr. Yochem has been an Elementary Principal most recently at Avoca Central School where he served for seven years before becoming the Superintendent. He stated that "I have really liked being at Hammondspport because all of the people have been very welcoming and helpful in answering my questions. I enjoy working in small schools where the faculty and staff all work together to help the students achieve." Please stop in the elementary office to meet Mr. Yochem whenever you have the opportunity.

Class of 2017 names remaining top 10:

Jared Raab, son of Mr. and Mrs. Kelly and Amy Raab of Hammondspport;
 Madisen Jones, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Steven and Lisa Jones of Hammondspport;
 Edda Martinez, daughter of Ms. Edda Garcia-Martinez of Hammondspport;
 Corinne Mori, daughter of Ms. Brenda Mori of Hammondspport, and Mr. Robert Mori of Bath;
 David Mitchell, son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas and Diane Mitchell of Bath;
 Haley Finch, daughter of Mrs. Pamela Bergstresser of Prattsburgh;
 Aubrey Hill, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. David and Wendy Hill of Hammondspport;
 Colden Thompson, son of Ms. Rebecca Kirch and Mr. Lauren Welch of Pulteney.



Graduation is scheduled for June 23, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. in the auditorium or outside (weather permitting) at the Hammondspport Central School.

2nd Annual Hammondspport Job Fair—April 22, 2017

Hey Students! If you are looking for a job, the second annual Hammondspport Job Fair is being held on April 22! While the emphasis is on Keuka Lake area seasonal positions, some employers have expressed interest in filling full-time positions as well. Last year, 12 businesses participated in the event, and we hope to have even more this year. There will be many positions to fill in many different fields, including: hospitality, winery, and retail. Hope to see you there! The Job Fair is free to all high school students!



Exceptional Senior Athletes: Congrats to George Ruddy, Hannah Walruth and Cody Kolodziejczak

The CATCH Program

written by Carrie Crane

The Wellness committee is excited to bring a new program to the Hammondspport Central School District for the 2017-2018 school year. The CATCH program, Coordinated Approach to Child Health, is a Center for Disease Control Whole School, Whole Community, Whole Child model with the goal of supporting our youth in lifelong healthy habits. Through creating a healthy school environment and encouraging family and community involvement, we hope to make positive changes in student's health and learning.

According to the CATCH program "Nearly one in three children in the United States are overweight or obese.² Obese children face an increased risk for chronic illness and miss more school days and have poorer academic outcomes than their normal-weight peers^{3,4}" (<http://catchinfo.org/research/>). The wellness committee recognizes this as a concern and is committed to decreasing sedentary lifestyles and improving healthy food choices through new and creative ways. More information can be found at <http://catchinfo.org/> and please check out our monthly healthy snack suggestion!

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 and Softball, Tennis, Golf, and Track teams while you enjoy the spring weather. HCS is proud to field these teams and show everyone that Laker Pride!

"Dracula, Baby"



On March 10-12th, the HCS Drama Club presented the musical comedy "Dracula, Baby". The story centers around Count Dracula (Travis Raab) in the midst of deciding between two love

interests (Lucy-Lexi Russo and Nurse-Natalie Lowin) and is set in an English sanitarium. After enlisting the help of the resident "kook", Renfield (Graham O'Donnell), hilarity and chaos ensue. In the end, the Count decides that the nurse is the one for him, and unwittingly performs a selfless deed, rendering him human at last. Lucy, Dracula's initial love interest returns to Arthur (Jared Raab), her fiancé, who after all is said and done, doesn't seem so boring after all. The cast and crew have been hard at work on the show since the week after the Christmas musical ran in December, and would like to thank all who came out to support them!

Submitted by Ami Corell

Women in Engineering Discovery Day

Written by Kim Voss

While most students spent their winter break catching up on sleep, five Hammondspport JSHS students were smashing pennies frozen in liquid nitrogen, climbing 3-stories up an open-framed tower to catapult eggs, and watching gummy bears explosively combust in a lab. Pia Bacubac, Judi Bramson, Robin Jenkins, Elissa Martinez and Kianna Rush participated in Alfred University's *Women in Engineering Discovery Day* on February 23rd, which was a day filled with hands-on, collaborative challenges, awe-inspiring demos, and knowledge building sessions. The event began 5 years ago with the intent to encourage young women to pursue careers in science and engineering. There is no doubt that the day was insightful and energizing for those in attendance, and our ladies made Hammondspport very proud by contributing their ingenuity to the day's activities.



First Grade Field Trip to the Finger Lakes Boating Museum

submitted by Kammi Sanford

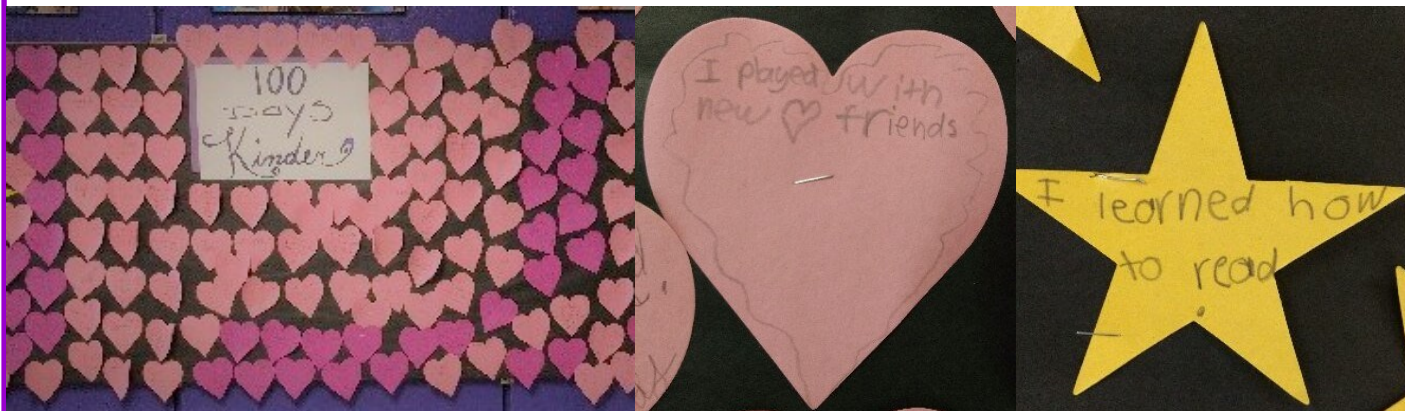
In January, the first grade classes visited the Finger Lakes Boating Museum right here in Hammondsport. The children worked in small groups to learn about boating, some local history, and water safety as well. The kids had been learning about balance and motion in their STEM science classes, and these concepts were directly applied in this new learning. While there, the first graders had the opportunity to go on a scavenger hunt around the museum, design their own paddles, and make canoes to float! It was an awesome field trip filled with fun and learning. In the words of first grader Loretta Oliver, "It was GREAT!"



100 days of School!

Written by Stephanie Conover

Can you believe that the 100th day of school has come and gone already? Monday, February 13th was the official celebration day for the Glenn Curtiss Elementary School. Throughout the month of February students participated in discussions and celebrated the ways that they are 100 days smarter and kinder. If you visit the school check out the bulletin board in the foyer that we filled up with all our learning and kind acts from the past 100 days! We are excited to have celebrated being 100 days smarter, 100 days kinder, and had loads of fun while doing it! For the month of March our focus was having a positive attitude. Keep your eyes out for our positive attitude posters when you visit the school.



D.E.A.R. Time

written by Miss Angela Staszak



As you looked around the halls of Glenn Curtiss Elementary on the morning of Friday, March 3, students could be found sitting snuggled up on the floor in their pajamas with a good book. For twenty minutes, students and staff were invited to drop everything going on in their classrooms and read. This event, sponsored by the Elementary Reading Committee, coincided with the Read Across America program. Read Across America is an annual reading motivation and awareness program that calls for every child in every community to celebrate reading on March 2, the birthday of beloved children's author, Dr. Seuss.

From 8:40 to 9:00a.m., students and teachers alike chose a book and spent some quiet time enjoying what their stories had to offer. During this time, the sixth-grade students had the opportunity to pair up with pre-K students and read a book of their choice. By doing so, every member of our school community could fully participate and enjoy reading. Having the opportunity to wear our pajamas and read in the hallway was a lot of fun, but it was also a wonderful opportunity to show students that you are never too young or too old to take the time to stop and read!

The School Wide Spelling Bee was held February 10th in the School Auditorium. The following students participated:

- 1st Grade: Belladia Boggio, Dallas Brady, & Shane Wheeler
- 2nd Grade: Nicholas Tompkins, Jovana Rosenbloom, Kamorah Walker, & Maggie Lederman-Nichols
- 3rd Grade: Aubrey Hink, Olivia Wheeler, Luke Martello, & Sofia Locey
- 4th Grade: Arielle Szathmary, Lilia Morgan, Sativa Gordon, & LaZell Locey
- 5th Grade: Marcus Tompkins, Chase VonRhedy, Grace Newman, & Sarah Lyle
- 6th Grade: Jaisek Covell, Bryce Eaves-Hopkins, Emliy Sage, & Blake Wright
- 7th Grade: Alyssa Crooks

Congratulations to Emily Sage and Marcus Tompkins for winning the School Wide Spelling Bee. Marcus Tompkins went on to compete at the Regional Spelling Bee at the Corning Painted Post High School on March 4th. Way to go HCS Spellers!

Thank you to everyone who participated in making the Family Literacy Fling Night a huge success. Over 200 people came out to enjoy various activities and take home several Freebies. A special thanks goes out to all our volunteers and community agencies. We couldn't have accomplished so much without your participation. THANK YOU!

- ◇ The Steuben County Task Force
- ◇ Steuben County Youth Bureau
- ◇ ProAction
- ◇ Cornell Cooperative Extension
- ◇ Steuben Council on Addiction/ Bath Hope for Youth
- ◇ Hillside Children's Center
- ◇ Steuben County Sheriff Dept.
- ◇ Healthy Families
- ◇ Steuben County Dept. of Social Services
- ◇ Hornell Concern for Youth
- ◇ Hornell Concern for Youth
- ◇ Hornell Concern for Youth



Congratulations on your acceptance to college!

Colden Thompson—SUNY Fredonia, Receiving the Fredonia College Promise Award

George Ruddy—Syracuse University, the Renee Crown University Honors Programs, receiving the Founder's Scholarship

Nicco Byer—Corning Community College

Aubrey Hill—Rochester Institute of Technology, RIT Presidential Scholarship & Academic Merit Scholarship

Calendar of Events

4/19—BOE Meeting & BOCES vote, 6PM,
HS Library

4/20—Pre-K Information Night, 6PM

5/2—Public Budget Hearing, 6PM,
HS Library

5 /2-5/4—3rd-8th NYS Math Testing

5/2—AP Spanish Lang. & Culture Exam,
8AM

5/3—AP English Lang. & Comp. Exam,
8AM

5/4—Open Registration for Voters, 12-5PM
District Office

5/5—AP US History Exam, 8AM

5/8—AP Biology Exam, 8AM

5/8-5/10—NYS Math Make-ups

5/9—AP Calculus Exam, 8AM

5/9—BOE Meeting, 6PM, HS Library

5/11—AP Statistics Exam, 12PM

5/12—Progress Report 4 ends

5/13—Elementary Band/Choir Concert, 7PM

5/16—Budget/Trustee Vote, 12-8PM
HS Gymnasium

5/23—Kindergarten Screening, 8AM-3PM

5/24—8th Gr Science Performance Testing

5/25—Kindergarten Screening, 8AM-3PM

5/25—8th Gr Science Performance Testing

5/26-29—Memorial Day, No School

Transportation Information

written by Bill Fries

Transporting students to and from school safely is a foremost priority for school transportation directors, school bus drivers, and others involved in getting students to school. School children travel to and from their schools by a variety of modes including school buses, private vehicles, car pools, public/private transportation providers, bicycles, and on foot. School buses are the safest mode of transportation to and from school in the US. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, approx. 450,000 public school buses travel approx. 4.3 Billion miles to transport 23.5 billion children to and from school and school related activities each year. On average less than 20 school age children are hurt or killed in school bus related crashes or incidents each year. This still leaves room to improve the safety of our bus stops and the routes we use between home and school. Please be assured that we here at the bus garage are constantly reviewing stops and routes. If you have any concerns about our stops and routes PLEASE do not hesitate to call the garage and voice your concern.

Hammondsport Central School District

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Hammondsport, NY 14840

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