



HAMMONDSPORT CENTRAL SCHOOL

Laker Lines

December 2013

Oh the Weather Outside is Frightful...



Faculty, Staff and Students at HCS get into the holiday during the Holiday Door and Locker Decorating contest .

spirit

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 the Board of Education

Dear Letter to the Editor:

The Board of Education at Hammondsport Central School recognizes that some members of our school community are very concerned about The Common Core learning standards and assessments. Children are frustrated, especially where changes have been rapid and demanding. Adults are frustrated because it is difficult to help children with schoolwork which is unfamiliar to adults. People are worried about the collection and use of student data. Many recognize that Race To The Top and Common Core initiatives are having local financial impacts. Trust in the State Education Department has been harmed. The intentions are increased rigor and improvement achievement, but problems with implementation do not inspire confidence.

The Board affirms the District's mission to ensure that our students are prepared to compete. We see that our community understands that the District is bound by law to work within the system. We see that those who oppose the Common Core understand that their objectives may require legislation. The Board accepts its responsibility to convey the concerns of our community members to our legislators and to the State Education Department. We thank those who have been working to make the Common Core serve our students well.

The thoughtfulness and civility which have prevailed despite painful frustrations and strong emotions show that we will be able to continue to work together for the good of our students and our district.

Thank you,
HCS BOE

The above letter was sent to The Leader and The Observer for publication by the Hammondsport Board of Education.

NHS Members giving back to the Community



Pictured above are four NHS Members and twelve volunteers ready to go help the community. On Halloween 2013, these four NHS Members and twelve Volunteers trick-or-treated for canned goods throughout the streets of Hammondsport. When the hour of trick-or-treating was over, they had collected a grand total of 369 cans. All of these goods were donated to the Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry. At left, members of NHS help to decorate for Christmas in the Park.

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 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

Superintendent of Schools: Kyle Bower

Newsletter Editor: Ami Corell

News from the Transportation Dept.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF A SCHOOL BUS DRIVER

Any driver's main concern is the safety and well-being of all students.

THEY KNOW ALL RULES POLICIES AND REGULATIONS THAT PERTAIN TO STUDENT TRANSPORTATION.

SOME EXAMPLES ARE:

- o Properly instruct in Safe Crossing every time a student boards or leaves the bus.
- o Pre-Trip bus before morning and afternoon runs.
- o Post Trip bus after each run.
- o Report operational defects on Daily Report Sheets.
- o Do annual emergency Drills.
- o Driver must have CPR and First aid Training.
- o **BE A GOOD ROLE MODEL FOR STUDENTS**
- o Be tactful when dealing with students and parents.
- o Be professional
- o **BE PATIENT**
- o **BE PUNCTUAL: Try and keep pick up and drop off times consistent each and every trip.**

THE DRIVERS WORK VERY HARD TO MAINTAIN THESE RESPONSIBILITIES SO EACH BUS TRIP IS SAFE AND FREE FROM ANY PROBLEMS.

From the Desk of H.S. Principal Tad Rounds

70%--This percentage was provided to the Hammondsport District Leadership Team in a summer presentation by Dr. Bill Daggett from the Center for Educational Leadership. This number represents the percentage of Americans ineligible for the military. Several parameters that can lead to this ineligibility include: lack of a high school diploma, inability to pass a required literacy test, obesity, drug issues and/or incarceration. Dr. Daggett also cites the fact that 37.8% of college freshmen graduate in four years with a four-year degree. He also reports that when high school teachers are surveyed, 89 % report graduates being well prepared for their freshmen year. However, only 26% of college professors report incoming freshmen as prepared.

Expecting a rigorous curriculum for all students in grades K-10 to enable access for college level work in high school is necessary and vital to stop perpetuating a known problem. Opening access to college level courses to all students has proven advantageous to those students in post-secondary placements. Access to these classes also allows students to encounter college-level expectations with the support of teachers and parents, prior to their freshmen year in college. Competition for acceptance at selective universities requires students to prove that they have pursued a challenging high school curriculum. Tracking is not always practiced in some high performing New York schools in order to enable access to college level work in 11th and 12th grade. In 2013, *US News and World Report* awarded Hammondsport Junior/Senior High a Silver Medal designation based upon ELA and math performance, and participation in AP (Advanced Placement) classes. This award is a credit to the students, parents and teachers of Hammondsport, and we need to provide all students the opportunity and support to achieve at their highest levels.

Paying for College

What is financial aid?
 What if I have special circumstances?
 How do I apply?

The student and at least one parent must have a federal PIN to apply for federal financial aid. Seniors, please come prepared with your PIN Numbers – each parent and student go to www.pin.ed.gov and apply for your PINS. The federal PIN is like a bank ATM number and privacy rules apply. Please apply for your own PIN and keep it secret and safe. It will remain with you for life.

College-bound-student families...

Plan now to attend this presentation on college financial aid planning, process, and application. This informative session is meant to address the family unit as a team – both student and parent.

SCHOOL: HAMMONDSPORT HIGH SCHOOL

DATE: TUESDAY, JANUARY 9, 2014

SNOW DATE: JANUARY 13, 2014

TIME: 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

LOCATION: LECTURE HALL - ROOM 134

PRESENTER: HOLLY ZAGLANICZNY,
NYS FINANCIAL AID ADMINISTRATORS ASSOCIATION

Sponsored by the Hammondsport Parent Teacher Organization and the Guidance Office

Winter Weather Information

Check the following stations for school closing updates.

WVIN Bath 98.3 FM

WFLR Dundee 95.9 FM
or 1570 AM

WSKG Corning/Elmira 91.9 FM
Hornell 88.7 FM

Ithaca/Watkins 90.9 FM

WYLF Penn Yan 850 AM

WROC TV Rochester Channel 10

WENY TV Elmira Channel 36

WETM TV Elmira Channel 18

Congratulations!

You've Been Accepted!

HCS would like to recognize the following students for receiving notifications from the following secondary institutions:

<u>Student:</u>	<u>College:</u>	<u>Scholarship Awarded:</u>
Ryan Graves	Corning Community College	
Chris Beers	Alfred State College	
Taylin Bower	Wells College SUNY Geneseo	Presidential Scholarship
Lori Gordon	Ohio State University	
Hannah Ridge	Canisius College	Benefactors Scholarship
Trenton Kolodziejczak	Medaille College	Presidential Scholarship
Claudia Geurin	Medaille College	Presidential Scholarship

January Calendar Items:

1/6	School Resumes
1/15	BOE Regular Meeting, 6pm
1/18	6th Grade All-County Band Auditions @ Canistota-Greenwood
1/20	NO SCHOOL-- MLK, Jr. Day 7-12 Vocal Solo Festival
1/21	7-12 Vocal Solo Festival
1/25	Jr. High Instrumental Solo Festival
1/27	January Regents Week Begins Living Environment (AM) ELA 11 & Physics (PM)
1/28	Global History (AM) Algebra 2/Trig (PM)
1/29	US History/Govt. & Algebra (AM) Earth Science & Chemistry (PM)
1/30	Integrated Algebra (AM)
1/31	Marking Period #2 Ends Marking Period #3 Begins

Cell phone distracted driving survivor advocate urges

Hammondsport students to disconnect behind the wheel

On December 12, 2013, cell phone distracted driving survivor advocate, Jacy Good, spoke at Hammondsport High School to help students understand the consequences of using cell phones behind the wheel. In May 2008, on the day she graduated from college, a driver distracted by his cell phone conversation ran a red light and caused a crash that killed both of Good's parents and left her clinging to life.

"Jacy's story is powerful and moves both students and faculty," said Tad Rounds, principal at Hammondsport. "It is especially important for teens to hear Jacy's message. Car crashes are the leading cause of death for teens, and using cell phones increases crash risk. Jacy's story helps students understand that they will be safer if they disconnect while driving."

"My college graduation day should have been a time to celebrate," Good said. "Instead, my entire world was shattered because of an unnecessary cell phone call. People need to understand the dangers of using a cell phone -- handheld or hands-free -- while driving. Lives are at risk and poor decisions can have life-long consequences."

After the loss of her parents, Good joined FocusDriven – Advocates for Cell-Free Driving. FocusDriven is a survivor advocate network that supports cell phone distracted driving victims and their families. Individuals and families educate the public by sharing their personal stories. The New York State Governor's Traffic Safety Committee works with FocusDriven to provide Good's presentations in schools across the state.

6th graders preparing for the Holiday Concert.



HAPPY NEW YEAR

Hammondsport Central School
District
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Hammondsport, NY 14840

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

Box holder