

Laker Lives

February/March
2016

Hammondsport Central School District Newsletter



The students in our 4th-12th grade choruses combined for a rousing number together at the "Music in Our Schools" vocal music concert on March 17th in the auditorium.

March is Music in Our Schools Month

Multiple Hammondspport musicians were selected for this year's All-County music festivals. Students from both the vocal and instrumental music departments performed prepared solos in front of adjudicators and were scored against other musicians from Steuben County. Students are scored on technique, musicality, and preparation in order to be selected. The following students represented HCS at their respective All-County Festivals:

**Junior High
All-County Band:**

Andrew Hill
Aubrey Cole
Dylan McGinn
Gavin Ruddy
Eli Hill



**Senior High
All-County Band:**

Tyler Hill
Matthew Cole
Gregory DiTomasso
Elissa Martinez



**Junior High
All-County Choir:**

Brain Mitchell
Madison Pifer
Thomas Kressly
Amanda O' Donnell
(not pictured)



(below) Sixth Grade All-County Choir:

Rorie Whitcomb
Liam Kressly
Hannah Hoerter
Asher Hartman
Amelia Johnson



Senior High All-County Mixed Choir:

Jared Raab
Emily Davis
Graham O' Donnell
Travis Raab
Pia Bacubac
Zachary Pifer
Tyler Hill
(not pictured)



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, Lynda Lowin, 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: hammondspportcsd.org

Superintendent of Schools: Kyle Bower

Newsletter Editor: Ami Corell

Congratulations to 3rd grader Arielle Szathmary and 6th grader Katrina Derby for winning the School Wide Spelling Bee on February 5th. Both students worked very hard before and during the spelling bee and participated in the Regional Spelling Bee at Campbell-Savona HS on March 10th.

Glenn Curtiss Elementary had a wonderful time on March 2nd celebrating the birthday of Dr. Seuss. The events included a decorated entrance with costumes and stories. Many guest readers visited our building including several of our own high school students and staff from throughout the building. Thanks go to Mrs. Conover for organizing this fun event! High school guest readers included Annika Szathmary, Edda Martínez, Cameron Roote, Nick Erway, Caleb Hunn, Ethan Bower, Matt Johnson, George Ruddy and Paige MacDonald; staff readers included Mr. Bower, Mrs. Rowley, Mrs. Haynes and Mrs. Sincerbox. Our event decorators were Mr. Pierson, Miss Gleason, and Mrs. Stevens. Thanks to all who participated!

March 28th will be our second annual "Roberto's Dinosaur Adventure" Assembly. The assembly is performed by a team of paleontologists who actually work in the field. The program engages, educates and inspires students through a 45 minute assembly and two dig workshops for students in Kindergarten and first grade. This assembly fits in nicely with our curriculum units at these grade levels and is very exciting for the students! On February 11th, third through sixth grade students put science in action! Students were able to share with their parents, as well as parents of our primary students, investigations that are part of their STEM curriculum. Students and parents learned a great deal about this inquiry based approach to learning! We are excited about the 2016 implementation of STEM for students in grades K-2!

Kindergarten and Pre-Kindergarten registration took place February 24th. The enrollment for Pre K is currently 18 students. There will be an informational night for Pre K parents on April 14th.

It's time to Think Spring!

Sincerely,
Mrs. Sincerbox

From the desk of Tad Rounds, 7-12 Principal

It is my pleasure to congratulate our Valedictorian for the Class of 2016, Helena Carvajal and our Salutatorian, Gregory DiTomasso. Both Gregory and Helena have consistently strived to challenge themselves by availing themselves of both AP (Advanced Placement) and ACE classes, while excelling in their extracurricular pursuits. Additional congratulations go out to Jordon Thompson who was recognized as Student of the Month at GST BOCES in Coopers Plains, and won the Vanguard Award for his academic achievement in his career program.

Spring sports have commenced with programs being run in conjunction with Prattsburgh for all sports and levels, with the exception of varsity baseball. Over 132 Hammondsport student athletes in grades 7-12 signed up for teams along with 42 Prattsburgh student athletes. The addition of the Prattsburgh athletes allowed us to field three levels of softball, and increased practice locations to utilize during inclement weather. Shuttle buses run from both schools for the two practice slots; Hammondsport's sports runs depart at 3:15 and 5:15, respectively, for any athlete in need.

Grades 3-8 English Language Arts and Math testing will commence the first two weeks in April. The SED (State Education Department) has amended the rules and regulations related to both the format and use of these exams. Specifically, all tests have been shortened, including both the number of reading passages and questions for ELA, and the number of multiple choice and constructed responses for math. Time limits have also been removed for all exams based upon parental and educator feedback, and a moratorium has been placed on the use of 3-8 ELA and Math tests in teacher evaluations. As always, the best preparation for your child directly preceding the exams is adequate rest and nutrition as well as encouraging your child to do their best. They have been well prepared to be successful. Happy Spring!



PTO News.

Thanks to all the parents and teachers who came out to our Coffee & Conversation Social on January 30th. We had over 40 in attendance. We received great feedback from everyone. We have already started to implement some of your ideas.

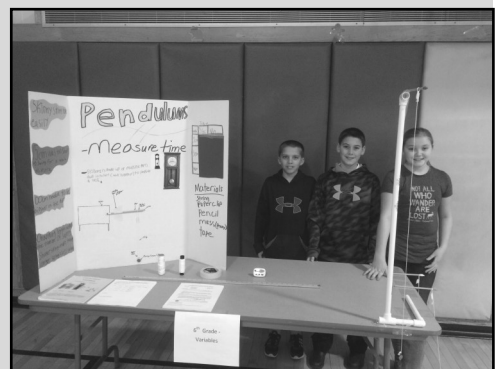
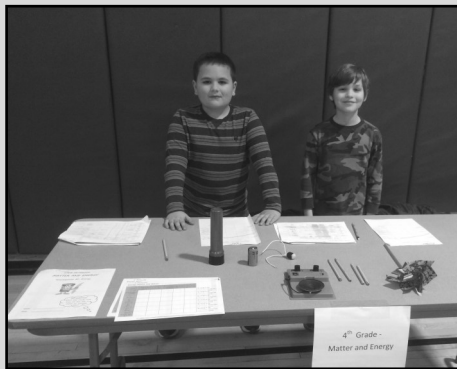
- ♦ The PTO is proud to be supporting and encouraging participation in Teacher Appreciation Week May 2 – 6th. Stay tuned for ways you can honor our great teachers.
- ♦ Save the date for our PTO End of the Year Appreciation Social on Saturday May 21st.

Thank you for all you do to assist our students and our school community.

GET INVOLVED

HCS Sings at First Arena

On Jan. 30th, Mr. Mitchell brought students in the Curtiss Chorus, Junior Choir and Senior Choir to sing “God Bless America” on the hockey rink at First Arena in Elmira. Ironically, another Laker, Ms. Kayla Walruth, who teaches music at Big Flats Elementary also had a chorus there, which sang the National Anthem. This is the third time that Hammond-sport has performed at a Jackals game, and Hammond-sport had a very big showing this year; there were 89 singers, 12 chaper-ones, 105 parents and 21 sblings for a total of 227 people from Hammond-sport attending the event! The students gave a fine performance and then watched the Jackals win a match against the Wheeling Nailers. Everyone seemed to have a great time and our singers enjoyed being able to perform in front of a nearly packed arena.



Science Information Night!

Students in 4th-6th grades held a science information night and displayed what they have learned through STEM lessons about Matter and Energy (Tyler Erway and Xander White-Top Left), Measurement (Corinne Ruddy and Lillah Morgan-Top Middle), Variables (Preston McConnell, Cooper Watson, & Danielle Bennett-Top Right). Below, (left) students Ethan Buckley and Blake Wright examine a booth, Mrs. Stevens, Tevera VanGorder, Cody Cook & Rachel Wood pose behind the table where visitors could learn about

Students in 4th-6th grades held a science information night and displayed what they have learned through STEM lessons about Matter and Energy (Tyler Erway and Xander White-Top Left), Measurement (Corinne Ruddy and Lillah Morgan-Top Middle), Variables (Preston McConnell, Cooper Watson, & Danielle Bennett-Top Right). Below, (left) students Ethan Buckley and Blake Wright examine a booth, Mrs. Stevens, Tevera VanGorder, Cody Cook & Rachel Wood pose behind the table where visitors could learn about



designing a Water Filtration System, while Danielle Bennett demonstrates how a pendulum works and what it measures to a group of younger students.



MATH CON 2016:

Fifth and sixth grade students, from Mrs. Stevens' and Mrs. Jaynes' math class, had an opportunity to compete in a national math competition called MathCON. MathCON is a popular math competition for students grades 5-12. It has two rounds: the first round was held at Hammondsport CSD, on February 3rd, and is administered online. Based on test results, students may qualify for the second round of competition which is held in Chicago, Illinois on April 23, 2016.



Front Row: Ethan Buckley, Jason Rush, Theo Dellacqua and Alexa Scott **Second Row:** Makenzie Wright, Hailie Johnson, Rachel Wood, Tevera VanGorder, Stefania Tears, Liberty Hann, Cadence Butler and Johnathan Sprague **Third Row:** Gabe Stiles, Emily Sage, Violette Guerin, Cody Cook, Aiden Hann, Stephen Veley III and Luke Szathmary **Back Row:** Evan Brown, Seneca Boscoe, Chris Hill and Blake Wright **Absent:** Jakson Jones and Ellie Tones

MathCON began in 2008 with only 125 students, and it has grown every year since with over 330 schools in 42 states

Front Row: Asher Hartman, William Beers, Alyssa Crooks, Jacob Doyle, Hannah Hoerter, Logan Zimmerman and Ethan Tones **Back Row:** Lexi Swarhout, Rorie Whitcomb, Emilee Hurd, Amelia Johnson, Cooper Watson, Delaney Cole, Mariah Wakeman and Katrina Derby

participating in 2015. This year, the MathCON organization is hoping to have about 10,000 online participants with approximately 700 students qualifying to compete in the second round in Chicago. MathCON results will be released later this spring.



On March 2nd, high school students and multiple staff members helped celebrate the birthday of Dr. Seuss by reading to elementary students in their classrooms. Clockwise from

HCS Celebrates Dr. Seuss' Birthday!

upper left: Seniors Matt Johnson and Ethan Bower read to students, junior Edda Martinez reads to a group, junior Nick Erway reads *Wacky Wednesday* to third grade, sophomore Caleigh Hunn reads a group of students the perennial favorite, *Oh the Places You'll Go*, and sophomore Paige MacDonald read to a class about *Sneetches*.



Class of 2016 Top Honors

Announced



Helena Carvajal, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John and Renee Carvajal of Hammondspport, has been announced as the Valedictorian of the 2016 Senior Class at Hammondspport Central School.

Helena has been active in Varsity Soccer, Indoor Soccer, Ski Club, Track and Field, Spanish Club, Academic All-Stars, and the National Honor Society. She has also held several class officer positions during high school and has received several honors. Helena has volunteered as well, and been active in several community activities.

Helena's final college selection is undecided at this time. She will major in Biomedical Engineering.

Gregory DiTomasso, son of Mrs. Jennifer White of Hammondspport, and Mr. Gregory DiTomasso Jr. of Keuka Park, has been announced as the Salutatorian of the 2016 Senior Class at Hammondspport Central School.



Gregory has been active in Drama Club, Track and Field, Band and Jazz Band, Academic All-Stars, and the National Honor Society. Gregory has also given his time in the local community, volunteering for many different organizations.

Gregory will be attending SUNY Geneseo in the fall, majoring in Business Administration with a focus in Pre-Law.

Graduation is scheduled for June 24, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. in the auditorium or outside (weather permitting) at the Hammondspport Central School.

The remaining top ten in the Senior Class are:



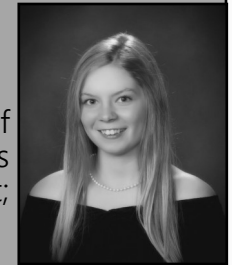
Emily Eckel, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles and Patricia Eckel of Hammondspport;



Lily Hopkins, daughter of Mrs. Carolyn Hopkins of Hammondspport;



Gabriel Barone, son of Mr. and Mrs. Mark and Helen Barone of Hammondspport;



Emily Davis, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Kevin and Kim Davis of Hammondspport;



Heaven Hess, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Tad and Angel Hess of Hammondspport;



Katelynn Hoyt, daughter of Ms. Dawn Hawley of Bath;



Brittany Morgan, daughter of Ms. Jennifer Morgan of Wayne, and Mr. Joshua Morgan of Canisteo;



Jami Long, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. David and Kasi Long of Hammondspport.

Barone Achieves Rank of Eagle Scout

Gabriel Barone of Hammondsport's Troop 18 achieved the rank of Eagle Scout on March 9, 2016. For his Eagle Scout project, Gabriel worked with the Finger Lakes Boating Museum and the members of Troop 18 to repair and refinish the iconic arched white oak doors that hang on the front of the museum. The doors have long been an attractive back drop used by local high school seniors for school pictures and prom-goers, but had fallen into a state of disrepair and were in need of refinishing. Gabriel's project involved removing the doors, taking them apart, replacing or repairing parts that needed it, sanding, staining, sealing and re-hanging the doors. Gabriel and his troop spent a total of 275 man-hours working on the doors and have restored them to pristine condition.

At left: Mark Barone, (father), Gabriel Barone (Eagle Scout), Helen Barone (mother) & Scout Master Tom Mitchell. At right, the restored doors at the boating museum.



Bower and Wilkinson Represent HCS and SCHSAA in McDonald's All-Star Game



On March 19th, seniors Ethan Bower and Timberly Wilkinson Represented HCS and the Steuben County Athletic Assoc. at the annual Section V Ronald McDonald All-Star Games in Rochester, NY. Ethan was selected to the boys basketball team based on votes from SCHSAA coaches, which also placed him on the 1st team all-stars for Steuben County boys basketball. Timberly performed her individual routine for cheer-leading before a panel of certified cheerleading judges at the county championships, and scored high enough to place her among the top sixteen cheerleaders in all of Section V. Congratulations to you both! You make HCS proud!

Congratulations to the following seniors on their acceptance notifications and awards for next fall:

| <u>Senior:</u> | <u>College/University:</u> | <u>Awards Offered:</u> |
|-------------------|--|-----------------------------------|
| Jordon Thompson | University of Albany | Vanguard Award |
| Robertjohn Ritter | Mansfield University | |
| Dylan Storrs | US Army- InfoTech Specialist/Airborne Ranger | |
| Brittany Morgan | Corning Community College | Presidential Award |
| Alexis Salisbury | Keuka College | Presidential Award |
| Trehana Hoad | Keuka College | Scholar's Award |
| Cameron Jensen | Mercyhurst University | Mother M. Borgia Egan Scholarship |
| Shanea Campbell | Corning Community College | |



Transportation News

Messages to the kids:

1. Never cross close to the front of the bus – make sure the driver can see you.
2. Never pick up anything you drop close to or under the bus – ask the driver what to do.
3. Never run after a bus or bang on the side.
4. If you must cross the street in front of the bus, follow the driver’s directions, and stop and look before you cross.
5. Never run across a street, it’s better to miss the bus than rush and risk being hit by a car.
6. Stay away from the rear and sides of the bus – always be in a safe place where the driver can see you.

Messages to the motoring public

1. Never pass a school bus when its stop lights are flashing.
2. Be extra vigilant around school hours – assume a child might run out at any moment.
3. Be courteous to school buses, give them room and let them change lanes when they need to.

Safety = Freedom from risk. Risk can come from unsafe conditions, but it’s usually caused by unsafe behaviors. Almost every accident is caused by a driver’s unsafe behavior. Drivers should know and avoid the risky behaviors.

The most important are:

1. Count the kids away, know where they are before you move the wheels.
2. Always rock and roll for left hand turns.
3. Stay back four seconds – maintain a safe following distance and leave yourself an out.
4. Look ahead and be prepared.
5. Look around, always know what is going on around you.
6. Always check for sleeping children.
7. Never drop off a child at an unauthorized stop.
8. If late, stay late.

Arts in Education Month

March is officially National Youth Art Month which means a month of celebration, awareness, and advocacy for art in our schools! Each March, the bright colors and eclectic designs of student artwork transform businesses and organizations throughout Chemung, Schuyler, Steuben and the edge of Tioga counties into exhibit spaces. These exhibits ignite curiosity and creativity and spur the celebration of student artists. Sponsored in part and organized from start to finish by the Arts Council of the Southern Finger Lakes, this incredible show includes artwork from 1,767 young artists by 35 schools in 12 districts. Hammondspport students in both the elementary and high school contributed over 20 works of art to this exhibit. Their artwork will be on display for the month of March at the Fred & Harriett Taylor Memorial Library on Williams Street in Hammondspport. Congratulations to all of the young artists!

April Calendar Items

- 4/5 MP#3 Ends
- 4/5-4/7 NYS ELA Testing
- 4/7 Spring School Pictures
- 4/9 ACTs @ H’port
- 4/11 Class of 2017 Pie Sale Begins
- 4/12-4/15 NYS Math Testing
- 4/14 Pre-K Info Night, 6pm
- 4/20 BoE Regular Mtg. & BOCES vote, 6pm HS Library
- 4/21 Class of 2017 Pie Sale Ends
- 4/22-5/2 NO SCHOOL Spring Break

May Calendar Items

- 5/3 AP Spanish Exam, 8am Public Budget Hearing, 6pm
- 5/5 AP Calculus Exam, 8am Open Voter Registration, 12-5pm, school lobby
- 5/6 AP US History Exam, 8am AP Studio Art Portfolio Deadline
- 5/7 SATs @ H’port
- 5/10 BoE Regular Mtg., 6pm HS Library
- 5/11 AP Lang & Comp Exam, 8am
- 5/12 AP Statistics Exam, 12pm
- 5/17 Budget Vote 4th-6th Spring Concert Class of 2019 Chicken BBQ
- 5/19 Progress Report #4 Ends
- 5/24 & 5/26 Kindergarten Screening 8am-3pm
- 5/27 & 5/30 NO SCHOOL Memorial Day Holiday

Hammondspport Central School District
8272 Main Street
Hammondspport, NY 14840

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

Box holder