

February/March 2017

# Laker Lines



## Hammondsport Central School District Newsletter



**Fall 2016 VEX Robotics Competition @ Wings of Eagles Discovery Center, Big Flats, NY.**

Hammondsport Central School District is proud to have had six teams—consisting of five teams of two students and one team of one student—compete in four mandatory problems within three different categories during the Fall 2016 VEX Robotics Competition. Our students did great, and were awarded many ribbons and trophies for their efforts.

Group Photo (left to right): Ryan Chicoine, Mr. Jon Lowin, George Ruddy, Ricardo Bonzano, Marshall Bennett, Jared Raab, Luke Atkinson, Connor Wilson, Ben Fingar, Robert Stoeckel, Steve Watters, Robin Jenkins, Dylan Warboys, & Jackson Cummings



**Science Fair:** 1st Place Tie: Jared R. & Luke A., George R. & Ricardo B.; 2nd: Dylan W. & Ryan C.; 3rd: Robin J. & Ben F.

**Individual:** 2nd Place: George R. & Ricardo B.

**Collaborative:** 1st Place Tie: Jared R. & Luke A.; Steve W. & Jackson C.; Ricardo B. & George R.; & Robert S.

**Overall:** 1st Place: George R. & Ricardo B.; 2nd: Jared R. & Luke A.



### Thoughts from the Superintendent's Desk...

The other day in the hallway I found myself about ten feet behind two of our Kindergarten boys. For about the first few feet they were talking quietly and giggling back and forth. Both of the boys are great kids who have been doing well all year, and they were having no problem 'navigating' the building and completing whatever errand they had been sent on.

One boy was sporting some 'hat head' from his winter cap and still wearing his snow pants and snow boots. The other boy had on his 'school clothes' which consisted of relatively new shoes, jeans, and a sweater. Neither could have cared less about what they looked like. Neither knew much about the other except name and the fact they had the same teacher. Nothing much mattered except the topic of the moment and the fact that they were really enjoying each other's company.

As they walked I found myself thinking that I would love to see these two boys interacting the same way, in the same hallway, in twelve years when they are high school seniors. Where, after age five, does it change? Why does it change? What can I do as an adult in my position to show students that citizenship includes civility, and that sorting into social groups is a *choice*, not fate. Growing up is tougher than it has ever been before, and children have more responsibility at an earlier age than many of us could have handled. The world is more and more transparent, and it is becoming harder and harder to find the substance in which to base decisions. At some point bed head and boots determine that they don't belong with new shoes and sweaters and vice versa. The giggling becomes judgement, and Snapchat replaces most attempts at conversation.

We are lucky here at HCS to have great kids who care about each other. In today's world it's getting harder and harder to point students to models of courtesy, respect, and compassion. Thank you to the school community that supports our students through these challenging times, and gives our District the resources we need to help them. As the new year begins, I thought this message is the best place to start.

Mr. Kyle Bower

### 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.

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, 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

*Written by Tad Rounds*

Congratulations to Mr. Lowin's robotics students on their success at the STEM Competition held at the *Wings of Eagles Discovery Center* in January. Over 36 teams from eight area districts competed in various competitions with robots which they designed and programmed. Hammondsport students placed in over six categories, including First Place in the Science Fair and Collaborative categories.

In an ongoing effort to better serve students and parents at Hammondsport Junior/Senior High School, all parents will be contacted by the office during the second semester with an opportunity to offer their input on the educational experience of their child (ren) to date. We hope everyone can take a few minutes to answer these brief questions when contacted:

- What is working for your child at Hammondsport Junior/Senior High?
- What are any difficulties that your child has encountered this year?
- What would you like to see accomplished to help fix a problem or to prevent a problem in the future?

Remember, these questions are meant to gain information from individuals who know their child(ren) best in efforts to improve the educational experience at HCS.

As we strive for greater student successes, please take a few minutes to reinforce at home a few basic expectations:

—> *Tardies:* Students are expected to be in homeroom by 7:55AM or they will be marked tardy. Student success is correlated with students being present and on time to school.

—> *Cell Phones and Electronic Devices:* All students are provided electronic devices for educational purposes for school and home. The use of electronic devices and excessive screen time for purposes other than education results in a decrease of academic performance. Please limit the use of electronic devices and screen time that is not educationally related to a reasonable amount—typically defined as less than two hours a day. **Parents should remind their child(ren) to store their cellphones in their lockers between the hours of 7:45AM-2:20PM.**

## Glenn Curtiss Elementary News

*Written by Mrs. Michelle Sincerbox*

Our annual Career Day was held February 3, 2017. Students in 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 6<sup>th</sup> grade were given the opportunity to observe multiple career options. Career Day volunteers consisted of individuals who are involved in the restaurant business, technological, engineering, and medical fields, and the Hammondsport Fire Department. Thank you to all of the community residents and parents for volunteering your time and talents! Thank you to Alissa and The Career Development Council for initiating this event once again! The students always learn so much from this event.

Classroom spelling bees took place January 30th- February 6th. The annual School Wide Spelling Bee was held on February 10 at 1:00pm. It is always exciting to see the students participate in this event. Two students from Hammondsport CSD will have the opportunity to participate in the Regional Spelling Bee in March at the Corning-Painted Post High School. The student who wins the Regional Spelling Bee is eligible to go to the Scripps National Spelling Bee in Washington, D.C. in May. We look forward to watching our students perform, and will announce the winners soon!

Kindergarten and Pre-Kindergarten registration will be held March 1<sup>st</sup> from 5:00PM-7:00PM. There will be an information night for Pre-K parents on April 20th.

On March 2nd we will hold our annual Literacy Night alongside the Family Fling. This event will be held from 6:00PM-7:30PM in the high school gymnasium and in the cafeteria. Please plan to come and see what our reading program is all about!

### Reminders:

March 9th there will be an early dismissal at 12:30PM for all students

March 10th is a conference day. There will be ***no school*** for students

March 16th is our "Music in Our Schools" concert at 7:00PM

March 28th begins our NYS ELA Assessments

## Pre-K and Kindergarten Registration

Pre-K and Kindergarten Registration for the 2017-2018 school year will be held at the Glenn Curtiss Elementary School on Wednesday, March 1, 2017 from 5:00PM – 7:00PM in the Elementary Office.

To register, parents will need to **show documentation** that their child will be **5 years old by December 1, 2017 for Kindergarten and/or 4 years old by December 1, 2017 for Pre-K**. You will need to provide a **birth certificate** and your child's **immunization records**. The immunizations required for public school attendance must be completed before entering school.

For more information contact Miss Darcie in the Elementary Office at (607)569-5200 ext. 5233.

## UPK Proposals Requested

The Hammondsport Central School District is requesting proposals for the Universal Pre-Kindergarten program during the period commencing September 1, 2017 and ending August 30, 2018 pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 436 of the Laws of 1997. The intent of this request is to solicit proposals by eligible community agencies to offer Pre-Kindergarten programs for four year old children. Community agencies wishing to request a proposal may contact the following address: **Universal Pre-Kindergarten Program. Attn. Kyle Bower, Superintendent, Hammondsport Central School, 8272 Main Street, Hammondsport, NY 14840**

Completed proposals must be received by the District at the address above no later than 4:00PM on Friday March 24, 2017.

## District Wellness Team Members needed

The Hammondsport Central School District is committed to providing a school environment which promotes and protects children's health, well-being, and their ability to learn by fostering healthy eating habits and physical activity. The District Wellness Team is looking for community partners and parents that may be interested in helping us to meet our commitment! The Wellness Team attempts to meet once every ten weeks throughout the school year to discuss issues relative to health, nutrition, and physical fitness.

If you have an interest in healthy living, and if you are willing to share your thoughts and ideas as a member of our District Wellness Team, please contact Nancy Clark, District Clerk, at (607)569-5200.

## Public Notice Reminder

Section 3635 of Education Law requires notification by parents or guardians of requests for private/parochial school transportation services prior to April 1st of each school year for the following school year. Request forms are available at the bus garage, 7960 State Route 52, Hammondsport, NY 14840. If you need additional information, please contact Bill Fries, Transportation Supervisor at (607) 569-5200.

## School Tax Information

Copies of the 2016-2017 school tax receipts can be obtained by going to our website, [www.hammondsportcsd.org](http://www.hammondsportcsd.org), and clicking on "School Tax Search" under *Site Shortcuts*. Choose "Hammondsport" from the dropdown box and type in the last name listed on the tax bill.

## Mr. Lowin's Manufacturing Class

*Submitted by Mr. Jon Lowin*



A Finished Container

Pictured clockwise: Devin Ollis, Dylan Warboys Connor Wilson, and John Wright

The manufacturing class recently completed two Invasive Species Disposal Stations for the Keuka Lake Association. These two stations will be placed at the village boat launch and at Champlain Beach, respectively. They will be placed with signs which inform boaters on how to adequately check boats and trailers for invasive species like zebra mussels and harmful weeds. Boaters will be able to place invasive species debris into these containers so debris doesn't end up being transported from lake to lake spreading the problem. Mr. Lowin worked with Mr. Dennis Carlson, an HCS school board member and member of the Keuka Lake Association, to get the students involved in this valuable community service. Students completed these containers during the last week of the semester, and these containers will be stored until the town and/or village crews can place them this spring.

## March is National Youth Month

*Submitted by Gina Pfleegor*

Each March, the bright colors and eclectic designs of student artwork transform businesses and organizations throughout Chemung, Schuyler, Steuben, and Tioga counties into exhibit spaces! These exhibits ignite curiosity and creativity, and spur the celebration of student artists. Hammondspport Central School's young artists are participating in this celebration once again this year. From March 1-31, you can see artwork by some of our most talented students at the Fred & Harriett Taylor Memorial Library. Be sure to support our local arts programs, and check out some amazing art while it is being displayed!



## Glenn Curtiss Elementary 1st Annual "MOCK" Caldecott Medal Award Contest

Glenn Curtiss Elementary students participated in their first annual "Mock" Caldecott Medal Award contest during the month of January. The Randolph Caldecott Medal every year recognizes the prior year's *most distinguished American picture book for children*. Pre-K through 6th grade students learned about the Caldecott Medal during Library classes, and were read three picture books which included a variety of text and illustrations. The following week students were given the opportunity to vote on which book they thought deserved the Caldecott Medal. They chose from The Lonely Giant written and illustrated by Sophie Ambrose; The Day I Became a Bird written by Ingrid Chabbert and illustrated by Guridi; and The Uncorker of Ocean Bottles by Michelle Cuevas and illustrated by Erin E. Stead. The Lonely Giant won the 2017 "Mock" Caldecott Award with 155 out of 310 votes. The Day I Became a Bird came in 2nd place with 104 votes, while The Uncorker of Ocean Bottles received 51 votes. This was an excellent opportunity to teach students about the roles of authors and illustrators, and how to be critical while examining the text and illustrations of a book as a whole.



*Written and Submitted by Ruth Stiles*

## Girls on the Run Spring 2017 Season

*Submitted by Katie Boyer*

Girls on the Run is an empowerment program for girls in 3rd-5th grade that strives to give girls the skills and experiences to navigate their world confidently and to unleash their limitless potential! We teach girls life skills through a curriculum of engaging lessons and fun running activities. At the conclusion of the season, the girls compete a celebratory 5K run that gives them a lifelong memory of accomplishment. The Result? Healthy and confident girls who CAN!

Girls on the Run of the Southern Tier will have sites throughout Steuben, Chemung, Schuyler, Yates, and Allegheny Counties this spring— including a team right here at Glenn Curtiss Elementary! This year we will be implementing a NEW curriculum. Registration is available online at [gotrst.org](http://gotrst.org), and the season kicks off the week of March 20th. Practices will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:30PM-5:00PM. To learn more about site locations/ times, the registration process, or to get involved, please visit [gotrst.org](http://gotrst.org) or email Katie Boyer at [kboyer@hammondsportcsd.org](mailto:kboyer@hammondsportcsd.org).

## Pre-K Superhero Day!

*Submitted by Salina Buckley*

Pre-kindergarten is full of fun at HCS! The kids and teachers spend each day singing, dancing, reading, drawing, painting, creating, sleeping, listening, sharing, and laughing! Officer Forsythe enjoyed some of this when he visited Mrs. Burdin's Pre-K classroom the other day! He listened to a story with the kiddos, and played at a variety of other centers during Center Time. Both Pre-K classes experienced more fun with Super Hero Day! The kids donned their super hero costumes, enjoyed super hero activities throughout the day, and even marched in a super hero parade!

Feel free to stop in any-time and delight in the fun with Pre-K!



### Attendance Facts:

- ◆ Students should miss no more than *nine days* of school each year to stay engaged, to be successful, and to stay on track to graduate.
- ◆ By 9<sup>th</sup> grade, regular and high attendance is a better predictor of graduation rates than 8<sup>th</sup> grade test scores.

Parents, please check on your child's attendance on a regular basis to be sure absences are not piling up.

- ☞ Family games & activities
- ☞ Fitness & crafts
- ☞ Health & nutrition info



- ☞ Fun photos (bring your camera)
- ☞ Info on youth and family services
- ☞ Prizes & more

... a **FREE Family Fun Night!**

**Thursday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2017**

**@ Glenn Curtiss Elementary School ☞ 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.**

**\*\*Provided by the Steuben County Task Force for the Prevention of Child Abuse\*\***

**MANY agencies will be participating – all FREE for Hammondsport Elem. families!**

## Glenn Curtiss Elementary Leading Lakers

*Submitted by Stephanie Conover*

January came and flew by very quickly! During the month of January, our Leading Laker qualities focused on COMMON COURTESY with a specific focus on greeting others, acknowledging greetings from others, and manners. Captain Laker posters have been placed throughout the building near locations where greetings take place such as the main entrance, the playground doors, the cafeteria, special area classes, etc. On each poster, Captain Laker has a speech bubble with a greeting for students. The goal was that teachers and staff would use these as checkpoints for

teaching and reinforcing appropriate responses to these greetings. For example: Captain Laker says "Good morning" and we say "Good morning Captain Laker"; Captain Laker says "Have a good night" and we say "You too, Captain Laker"; Captain Laker says "What would you like for lunch today?" and we say "A hamburger please" and "Thank you" when we get it. Captain Laker also made a few appearances before the end of the month to remind our students to use COMMON COURTESY every day! The need for these skills is so important for our Leading Lakers, and we know the consistency and reminders help them shine!



## Congratulations on your acceptance to college!

**Corinne Mori**—Rochester Institute of Technology,  
RIT Achievement Scholarship

**Hannah Walruth**—SUNY Cobleskill, Culinary Arts

**Dana Northup**—SUNY Canton, Auto Technology

**Jared Raab**—Binghamton University

## HCS Anticipated Openings

Hammondsport Central School District is currently accepting applications for **Substitutes** in the following areas: **Instructional:** Teacher and Teaching Assistant. **Non-Instructional:** Teacher Aide, Cleaner, Bus Driver, and Food Service.

Interested persons may obtain an application from the District Website, [www.hammondsportcsd.org](http://www.hammondsportcsd.org). Completed applications, letter of interest, resume, credentials, and proof of NYSED fingerprint clearance may be mailed to: *Nancy Clark, District Clerk, Hammondsport Central School, 8272 Main Street, Hammondsport, NY 14840* or submitted directly to the District Office.

## Child Care Providers:

Several times a year, the District receives questions about the availability of quality before and after school child care for our elementary age students. If you are a current child care provider, or you are aware of a quality child care provider in the area, please contact Darcie Haynes, Elementary Secretary at (607)569-5200, ext. 5233, and provide the appropriate name and contact information. Thank you.

## Calendar of Events

2/20-2/24—No School—Winter Break

3/1—Pre-K and Kindergarten Registration  
5:00PM-7:00PM

3/7—Progress Report 3 ends

3/9—Early Dismissal @ 12:30PM

3/10—No School –Conference Day

3/10—Drama Club Musical, 7:00PM

3/11—Drama Club Musical, 7:00PM

3/12—Drama Club Musical Matinee, 2:00PM

3/15—Board of Education Meeting, 6:00PM,  
High School Library

3/16—Elementary “Music in Our Schools”  
Concert, 7:00PM

3/23—7th-12th Grade Band & Chorus “Music  
in Our Schools” Concert, 7:00PM

3/28-3/30—3rd-8th ELA Testing

4/3-4/5—3rd-8th ELA Make-ups

4/4—BOE Special Budget Meeting, 6:00PM,  
High School Library

4/6—Spring Picture Day

4/10-4/17—Spring Break, No School

**Hammondsport Central School District**  
**8272 Main Street**  
**Hammondsport, NY 14840**

**Non-profit organization**  
**U.S. Postage PAID**  
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