



**HAMMONDSPORT  
CENTRAL SCHOOL**

# Laker Lines

September 2013

**Oh, the Things that We Will Learn!**



Students get back into the swing of things during opening week at HCS.

## *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.*

# Aiming High

News from Hammondspport Central School District Superintendent Kyle Bower

The school was ready for students as scheduled on Thursday, September 5<sup>th</sup> and the first week went very smoothly. There is still much work taking place but it is happening in non-student areas during the day and after school hours throughout the building. It is certainly exciting to see the new developments every morning.

There is a great deal that is new and changing in the world of education these days, but the one constant remains the goals and aspirations of our students. We are very excited to have our wonderful students back in the building and working hard! From our Pre K students to our incoming seniors, our students are our top priority and making each student as successful as possible remains our number one goal each year.

I encourage parents of all of our students to stay informed and stay engaged. We cannot be successful in our work with students if parents don't ask questions, look at student work, and stay informed. Ask your child's teacher the best way to stay involved and informed and they will work with you. A phone call or an email shows your student you care about how they are doing. Sign up for and check Parent Portal regularly. Don't just wait for progress reports and report cards.

I look forward to another great school year at HCS! As always, if you have any questions or need anything, my door is always open.



### **From the Desk of Tad Rounds, Jr./Sr. High School Principal**

It was great to see the smiles on teachers' faces when students walked through the doors on opening day! Change and increased academic expectations will be a common theme for the foreseeable future.

Last year's 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students were the first to be exposed to the new exams aligned with the Common Core Standards in ELA (English Language Arts) and math. This year's algebra students and 11<sup>th</sup> grade ELA (English Language Arts) students will be the first cohort of students that will take Regents exams aligned with the Common Core Standards. For this school year only students will be required to take both the Common Core Regents and the traditional Regents exam and keep the higher of the scores. These Common Core exams are much more difficult and require distinct skill sets to demonstrate proficiency.

The English department and math department are utilizing the grade level curriculum modules as they become available. The ELA (English Language Arts) curriculum has reading passages and selections that are and will be controversial. However, these are the central readings upon which the individual lessons and assessments are derived. Parents are reminded that real time student performance information can be accessed by creating a Parent Portal account. The link can be accessed through the district's web address.

The senior class will be departing for their senior trip to Boston on October 11<sup>th</sup> and Homecoming is scheduled for the weekend of October 18<sup>th</sup>. The pep assembly will commence the weekend, followed by the varsity girls' soccer and volleyball game. Please come out to support the Hammondspport Lakers!

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; 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: [hammondspportcsd.org](http://hammondspportcsd.org)

Welcome  
to



Patricia Katona, HS Special Ed.

Mrs. Katona holds a Bachelors Degree in Psychology from University of Phoenix and a Masters Degree in Special Education from Walden University. She currently resides with her family in Prattsburgh.

Mrs. Walruth has previously been employed with the Steuben and Yates Counties Universal Pre-K & Headstart classrooms. She and her family reside in Hammondspport.



Brandi Walruth, Pre-K Aide

Mrs. Livingston holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Elementary Education and a Masters Degree in Education & Literacy, both from Alfred University. She and her family live in Hornell.



Kim Shaut, Cafeteria

Kim Shaut holds an AAS degree from Corning Community College and lives in Dundee.



Jill Livingston, Pre-K teacher

### Meet the New Board of Education Member

Kevin has been a resident of the Hammondspport district since 1998 and was elected to the Board of Education in August 2013. He holds a B.S. in Applied Science in Engineering from Rutgers University and is currently employed as a development manager at Corning Incorporated. Kevin and his wife Christine have two daughters, who currently attend school at HCS.



Kevin W. Bennett, Board of Education

# Attention Parents

Register now for the upcoming sessions of Active Parenting, a program designed to meet the needs of parents looking for information for those struggles and unsure times.

Great discussion, idea sharing, skill enhancing and more!

Topics to be addressed are:

- ♥ Mutual respect
- ♥ Logical consequences
- ♥ Working together
- ♥ Addressing hard to discuss issues
- ♥ Communication blocks
- ♥ Active listening
- ♥ Discipline vs. punishment
- ♥ Problem Solving and MORE!



**Dates:**

October 15, October 21  
& October 28

**Time:** 5-7pm

**Pre-Register by calling:**

Darcie Ringer, Elem. Office (607) 569-5200, x 5233

**Cost:** \$5 to include workbook and supplies  
(financial assistance may be available)

**Light dinner provided**

*Classes may help to fulfill requirements/ class obligations for some families but is open to ALL families!*

Classes facilitated by Bath Hope for Youth/ Steuben Council on Addictions  
Prevention Educator, Stacey O'Dell.

Co-sponsored by Hammondspport CSD

## Dignity for All Students Act

A Reminder to students and parents: Mr. Derr and Mrs. White are Hammondspport's coordinators for DASA.

If ANY student feels that they are being threatened, bullied, or harassed, or feels that this is happening to a peer, **it should be reported to Mr. Derr or Mrs. White IMMEDIATELY.**

**K-6 Open House  
Night  
October 3, 2013  
6pm  
Please plan to attend!**

## News from Mrs. Sincerbox, Elementary Principal

Please be aware, the elementary school has many events over the next two months to keep our students and parents busy.

During the months of September and October we will be hosting parenting classes. These classes will be focused on parents of children ages 1-4 and 5-12 and are provided by our prevention educators at Bath Hope for Youth and Steuben Council on Addictions. Topics to be addressed include: child development, bonding, development of discipline skills, choices and consequences, encouragement, respect, working together, logical consequences, stimulating independence, character courage and self-esteem, sidestepping power struggles and much more. Refreshments will be served. Please be on the look-out for flyers coming home and in the community and feel

free to call the elementary office at 569-5200 ext. 5233 if you are interested.

Open house will be held on October 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6pm. The students are excited to show off their classrooms and the work they do to their parents. We look forward to you attending and will begin our meeting in the auditorium. More information will follow with your children.

Early dismissal is October 9<sup>th</sup>. Your children will be dismissed at 12:30 that day. Please expect them early and make arrangements with the office for any changes to your child's destination. October 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> there will be no school.

# Homecoming 2013 Schedule of Events

## Homecoming Weekend

October 17th–19th, 2013

### Thursday Events:

**Boys Varsity Soccer vs. Prattsburgh**  
6:30pm

### Friday Events:

**Pep Rally (7-12th grades): 1:40-2:20pm**  
**Coronation of Homecoming Court: approx.**  
2:10pm

**Parade Set-up: 5pm**

**Parade Steps Off @ HCS: 5:30pm**  
**Class of 2016 Chicken BBQ pick-ups**  
(back parking lot)  
immediately following parade conclusion

**Girls Varsity Soccer vs. Dundee**  
7pm under the lights

**Girls Varsity Tennis Team Sectionals**  
Time and place TBA

**Modified Volleyball vs. Campbell-Savona**  
6:45pm

**Varsity Volleyball vs. Campbell-Savona**  
8pm

### Saturday:

**Modified Girls & Boys Soccer vs. Addison**  
10am

Board of Education  
August 2013 Meeting Highlights

- ◆ Approved Tax Levy 2013-2014 and approved legal notice
- ◆ Approved 2013-2014 Fundraising Events
- ◆ Approved the agreement with Steuben County and Hammondspport Central School for the assignment of a School Resource Officer.
- ◆ Declared surplus the 2004 Chevrolet Suburban, Vehicle #29, VIN#GNGK26UX4G24334 and a 2004 Chevrolet Suburban, Vehicle #30, VIN#3GNGK26U94G242325 for disposal

## Curtiss School Still on the Market

The sale of the Curtiss School building to developer Robert Lack has been terminated by the buyer. Citing that proposed financing for the project was withdrawn, Mr. Lack notified the District by letter on Wednesday, September 11<sup>th</sup> that the transaction was terminated immediately.

Since the school first went on the market in 2010, the School Board has accepted three purchase offers for the building. The first deal with the Town of Urbana was terminated following a public vote against the transaction. The second deal with Mr. Simon Sananas was terminated in 2012.

Since first listing the building for sale, the District has spent approximately \$100,000 in legal fees and carrying costs while seeking a buyer. The District's current real estate broker, Realty USA, continues to market the property and hopes to have purchase offers to present to the Board of Education at its regular meeting on October 16<sup>th</sup>.

### October/November Calendar of Events

10/3	PreK-6th Open House 6 pm
10/4	5 week period ends
10/9	PreK- 12th Early Dismissal 12:30pm
10/10	Conference Day- No students
10/11	<b>No School</b> ; Senior Trip to Boston Departs
10/14	<b>No School- Columbus Day</b> Senior Trip Returns
10/16	Regular BoE Mtg. 6pm
10/17-19	Homecoming Weekend
10/18	Picture Retake Day
10/25	PreK-12 Emergency Dismissal Drill 2pm
10/31	PreK-6th Halloween Parade 1:15pm
11/1-2	Jr. High Area All State @ Penn Yan
11/8	End of Marking Period #1
11/11	<b>No School—Veterans Day</b>
11/12	Marking Period #2 Begins
11/ 14	Jr./Sr. High 10 wks. Concert 7pm
11/15-16	Sr. High Area All State
11/20	BoE Regular Mtg. 6pm
11/25	High School Open House
11/26-29	<b>No School—Thanksgiving Break</b>

### Welcome Officer Banik

HCS is pleased to welcome officer Charles Banik into the building as our new district school resource officer (SRO).



Officer Banik is a retired Corrections Officer and Drill Sergeant from the Camp Monterey Shock Incarceration Facility, where he retired from in January 2007. He also has 27 years of Military Service in Law Enforcement and a combined 20 years with the Painted Post and Hammondspport Police Departments.

# Welcome to HCS!

Sarah Dickson, Elementary Teacher



Courtney Johnston holds a Bachelor of Science degree from SUNY Cortland in Childhood Education and a Masters Degree in Literacy from SUNY Potsdam. She currently lives in Troupsburg.



Courtney Johnston, Elementary Teacher

Sarah Dickson currently lives in Bath with her husband. She has a Bachelor of Science Degree from Keuka College in Unified Childhood/Special Education and is in the midst of completing her Masters Degree in Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment through Walden University.



Tina Watson, Pre-K Aide



Jackie Swarhout, Cafeteria

Jackie Swarhout has a background in Hotel Services and lives in Wayne.

Tina Watson has a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Management from SUNY Brockport. She was previously employed by the district as a substitute teacher from 2009-2011.

### **Parents PLEASE NOTE:**

- **Computer Access:** Students in need of computers may access the Senior/High computer lab until 4:00p.m. Monday through Friday. Also, students may bring laptops and tablets to the senior high office for approval to use for instructional purposes. Parents and students are reminded that the (AUP) Acceptable Use Policy applies for all devices utilized in the school building.
- **Dropping off and picking up students at school-** Please be aware students should not be dropped off at school or arrive on school property until 7:30am. There is no supervision until that time.
- **Students in grades Pre K-12th grade must be signed out.**
- **Parents of Pre K-3rd grade students, please report to the elementary gym at 2:30 to pick your children up.** Bring identification with you as you may be asked for it. Parking should be along the baseball field and away from the circle until the buses have left.

**From the Transportation Dept.:****BUS RULES:**

- ◆ STAY SEATED AT ALL TIMES
- ◆ KEEP AISLE CLEAR
- ◆ NO EATING OR DRINKING ON BUS
- ◆ KEEP YOUR HANDS TO YOURSELF
- ◆ NO PROFANITY OR FIGHTING
- ◆ PLEASE KEEP YOUR VOICE DOWN
- ◆ DRIVER CAN ASSIGN SEATS
- ◆ COOPERATE WITH THE DRIVER

**A New Face in Transportation**

**Chuck French is now a full-time bus driver for the district, operating bus #114**

**Attention Parents**

Register now for 1,2,3,4 Parents! A class for parents designed for discussions, idea sharing, skill enhancement and more!  
Open to ALL parents and caregivers

Topics to be addressed are:

- ♥ Parenting styles
- ♥ Developmental milestones
- ♥ Parental self-care
- ♥ Bonding
- ♥ Effective discipline
- ♥ Encouragement
- ♥ Problem Prevention
- ♥ So Much MORE!!



**Dates:**

September 23, September 30  
& October 7  
**Time: 5-7pm**

**Pre-Register by calling:**

Darcie Ringer, Elem. Office (607) 569-5200, x 5233  
**Cost: \$5 to include workbook and supplies**  
*(financial assistance may be available)*

**Light dinner provided**

*Classes may help to fulfill requirements/ class obligations for some families but is open to ALL families!*

Classes facilitated by Bath Hope for Youth/ Steuben Council on Addictions  
Prevention Educator, Stacey O'Dell  
Co-sponsored by Hammondsport CSD

**ATTENTION TAXPAYERS**

This is a reminder that for both service and safety reasons, school taxes will **no longer** be collected at the Main Street School. If you wish to pay your school taxes in person, payment should be brought to the Five Star Bank on Shethar Street in the Village of Hammondsport. Five Star Bank is open Monday-Wednesday from 9 am - 4 pm, Thursday and Friday from 9 am - 5 pm, and Saturday from 9 am to 12 pm.

For taxpayers paying by mail, payments should be sent to: Five Star Bank, PO Box 14, Warsaw, NY 14569. School tax payment information and receipts can be printed by accessing the School Tax portal through the District website at [www.hammondsportcsd.org](http://www.hammondsportcsd.org).

**Reminder:** The District no longer has a post office box. No information or tax bills should be sent to PO Box 368. The mailing address for the District is 8272 Main Street Ext, Hammondsport, NY 14840.

The District Tax Collector, Mrs. Jerry Scott, will be in the District on Tuesdays and Thursdays between the hours of 9 am - 3 pm if you have any questions or concerns. Her phone number is 569-5200 ext. 5243. All of the above information is also noted on all tax bills.

**REGISTER FOR NYS STAR SCHOOL PROPERTY TAX RELIEF**

All NYS homeowners receiving a Basic STAR property tax exemption must register with the NYS Tax Department in order to receive the STAR exemption in 2014 and subsequent years.

All Basic STAR recipients will receive registration instructions by mail.

Visit [www.tax.ny.gov](http://www.tax.ny.gov) to register now.

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE is December 31, 2013**

In order to continue to receive Enhanced STAR, senior citizens must continue to:

Apply annually with their local assessor

OR

Participate in the Income Verification Program

Questions? Call (518) 457-2036

Hammondsport Central School District  
8272 Main Street  
Hammondsport, NY 14840

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

**Box holder**