

September 2019

Laker LIVES



Hammondsport Central School District Newsletter

Curtiss School Kicks Off Leading Laker Expectations



Makenzie Witter of the Curtiss Museum teaches how Glenn Curtiss showed respect.

Mrs. Pflieger unveiling the new Curtiss portrait.

Miss Paas and Ms. McCarthy presenting certificates.

Our design winners receive the first drawstring bags!

We thanked our maintenance staff for all their hard work!

Our entire Curtiss Family gathered in the high school gym for our kick-off assembly for our Leading Laker expectations of respect, responsibility, safety, and growth mindset. For the first quarter of the school year, our focus will be on the expectation of respect! Mrs. Pflieger joined us to officially reveal the new Curtiss portrait she painted for us that has been placed in our Elementary entranceway! Miss Paas and Ms. McCarthy presented certificates to six students whose designs were chosen to help create a school design for "Curtiss Swag" during the 2018-2019 school year. All of our students received a purple drawstring bag with the student-designed Curtiss school logo thanks to our PTO, and our six students who created the design were the first to receive them during the assembly. We recognized and thanked our maintenance staff as a family for all of their hard work preparing our school for the 2019-2020 school year. We love our new Curtiss wall mural and our freshly painted purple lines in our hallways! Makenzie Witter from the Curtiss Museum joined us to teach our students about how Glenn Curtiss showed respect as a part of his achievements. We are one proud family at the Curtiss School as we dream big, work hard, and fly high!



Message from the Board of Education and the Superintendent

The 2019-2020 school year is off to a great start! Students arrived with excited smiles on Thursday, September 5th and the daily routine is in full swing. Students on campus this year range from our youngest Pre K students at age 3 to our oldest seniors at age 19. It is always an interesting challenge to create common spaces throughout our District that can accommodate that age range of students, but everyone has done a great job!

As a new school year begins, one point of information for the community is in relation to communication with school staff and students. Due to the ever increasing cyber threats that schools are dealing with, the District is restricting outside email access to our student Gmail system and not publishing a list of District staff email addresses in any District publications. This is an attempt to make it more challenging for outside hackers to search for and gather contact information for our faculty, staff, and students and send out dangerous phishing email attempts. District teachers, coaches and staff are encouraged to use the secure REMIND app that can send out information, updates, and reminders to students and parents in a secure and monitored platform. Information on REMIND will come to students and parents directly from the school staff that is using it. General information is also available on the home page of the District website at www.hammondsporcscsd.org. The technology climate is getting more and more challenging and we will always assess and change procedures as needed. Thank you for your understanding and anticipated cooperation!

The Board approved construction contracts at our meeting held on Wednesday, September 18th! Work on our STEAM classroom spaces, fitness room, Elementary gym, Auditorium and exterior entrances will begin shortly. Please be prepared for safety and construction signage on campus during your next visit, but the inconvenience will surely be worth it!

I hope to see everyone at our Homecoming celebrations over the weekend of October 3-5th!

GO LAKERS! -Kyle C. Bower, Supt of Schools

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: Dennis Carlson, President; Richard Drain, Vice President; Kevin Bennett, Lynda Lowin, and Carre Doyle.

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: hammondsporcscsd.org

Superintendent of Schools: Kyle Bower

Newsletter Editor: Makenzie Witter

Cafeteria News by Sheri Frail, Food Service Manager

by Sheri Frail, Food Service Manager

There are many reasons why your child should eat at the school cafeteria. Cafeteria meals are healthier than ever before because of the updated nutritional standards. Here are some helpful hints for younger children:

1. Go over the menus together (they are available on the school website), and have the child circle his/her favorite choice. If you seem excited for this, they will share your excitement.
2. Make sure to talk about what they ate that day, their likes and dislikes, and be sure to find out why.
3. Contact the school cafeteria with any questions or concerns: sfrail@gstboces.org or 569-5200 ext 5263

"SIDE KICKS"

Do you have a picky eater? Do your kids still love to use their lunch box? They can still participate in our FREE lunch program! Let the cafeteria compliment your home lunch with Veggie Sticks & Dip, Fruit, and a Milk. All for FREE! (Must take all three items).



Attention Local Farmers:

If you are interested in discussing the possibility of providing produce for our school cafeteria, please contact:
Sheri Frail, Cafeteria Manager at #569-5200 ext 5263.

"NO STRAW PLEASE"

The Glenn Curtiss Elementary Student Council prides itself on good citizenship. Our latest project is a perfect example of how we realize that we are a small part of a big world. Our members watched a video of a sea turtle having a straw removed from his nose by marine biologists, which sparked a conversation about pollution. The kids immediately asked what we could do to make an impact.

After some research, we learned of the Skip the Straw initiative. We also learned some interesting facts:

- The US alone uses 500,000,000 straws everyday.
- One straw can take 200 years to decompose.
- Straws are one of the Top Ten Marine Debris.
- By 2050 there will be more plastic than fish in the ocean.



We want to help reduce the number of straws so we are no longer passing out straws in the cafeteria. This small change could potentially save 180,000 straws a year from being thrown away, just in our school.

Everyone can do a small part to help reduce the number of straws in landfills and waterways. The next time you go out to eat at a restaurant and order a drink, say, "NO STRAW PLEASE".

From the Desk of Mr. Rounds, 7-12 Principal

Hammondsport Junior-Senior High would like to welcome our newest faculty member Mrs. Robin Robarge, who will be serving as our new Library Media Specialist and work extensively with our students on inquiry-based learning and research. We are also pleased to have Officer Joe Stremel join our school as the new resource officer. Officer Stremel will be a great asset to our students in providing prevention and safety programming.

Students commenced the first week of school with an opening day assembly celebrating their Laker Pride. The media display showed students engaged in the full school experience, ranging from classroom learning, athletics, musical performance, Homecoming and the prom to name a few.

Our chemistry students will have the opportunity to engage in authentic research through Hobart and William Smith Colleges this month under the guidance of their teacher, Mrs. Olivia Budmen. Students will have the opportunity to contribute to the database on water chemistry that has been collected over the past 20+ years through the Science on Seneca program that allows students to conduct their lab aboard the HWS William Scandling vessel. "Science on Seneca," an EPA-award-winning environmental education program, is a middle and high school educational outreach program of the Finger Lakes Institute at Hobart and William Smith

Colleges. The goals of Science on Seneca are to "provide students with an interesting experience in the collection, analysis and sharing scientific data on Seneca Lake's major features" (Science on Seneca, Hobart and William Smith Colleges, 2018).

The 7th grade Family and Consumer Science students will be traveling to the Rochester Farmer's Market to procure farm fresh foods for their culinary units of study. Our seniors will be visiting our nation's capital over Columbus Day weekend to be immersed the history and culture of the capital city. Visits to the

Smithsonian Institute, the national monuments, Arlington Cemetery, and a stop at Gettysburg are a few of the events on the itinerary.

Sports parents are reminded that supervision is available until 3:20p.m. and that only students who have scheduled events at 3:30p.m. should be on campus. We do encourage student athletes and any student to stay with their academic teachers during the 2:20p.m.-3:20p.m. time on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Intramural programming through the physical education program will also be available on those days for students who do not have academic

responsibilities. Homecoming is right around the corner with the parade commencing activities at 5:30p.m. on Friday, October 4, 2019. Good luck to all our student athletes. Go Lakers!



Chemistry students conducting research through the "Science on Seneca" program.



Welcome New Staff to Our HCS Family!



Officer Joe Stremel

School Resource Officer

An Interesting Fact About Me: I have 32 years of experience in law enforcement, including 24 years with the NYPD and the last 8 with the Hammondsport PD. Additionally, I have worked with the Steuben County Sheriff's Office Navigation Division for the last four years patrolling Keuka and Waneta Lakes.

What I Love About HCS: I love that all grades are in one building, allowing me to interact with students of all ages.



Mrs. Joni Makowiec

District Curriculum Coordinator/Director of Student Intervention Services

An Interesting Fact About Me: I have run the Wineglass Marathon.

What I Love About HCS: I love the culture – teachers are always doing what is best for the students.



Miss Ashley Leederman

Physical Education Teacher

An Interesting Fact About Me: I love being active, traveling, and cheering for the Yankees and the Bills!

What I Love About HCS: Being a new teacher to a district is always a challenge, but the faculty, staff and students have already made HCS feel like home!



Mrs. Robin Robarge

Library Media Specialist

An Interesting Fact About Me: My husband built a "Little Free Library" for me that lives at the bottom of the hill that I live on. It is stocked with free books for anyone to stop and grab, and they can then pass them on to someone else when they finish.

What I Love About HCS: I love the smiles and the positive support between colleagues.



Welcome New Staff to Our HCS Family!



Mrs. Kim Cruze-Tollerup

Pre-Kindergarten Teacher

An Interesting Fact About Me: I used to teach tap and jazz at Four Winds Dance Studio in Geneva when I was in college.

What I Love About HCS: I love how welcoming and kind everyone has been to me, as well as the obvious dedication to our students.



Miss Kim Miller

Special Education and Intervention Teacher

An Interesting Fact About Me: I am a huge Buffalo sports fan, including the Bills and the Sabres.

What I Love About HCS: I love how the school is one big family. I am so excited to be a member of the family!



Mrs. Cassie Davis

Special Education and Intervention Teacher Substitute

An Interesting Fact About Me: I am married, and my husband and I have a dog named Sadie!

What I Love About HCS: I love the family-oriented culture and that everyone is so willing to lend a hand and look out for one another.



Mrs. Chris Illig

Teaching Assistant

An Interesting Fact About Me: I am married and have 2 daughters and 4 beautiful grandchildren. I retired from World Kitchen in 2017 as a Cost Accountant. This is my third year as a Teaching Assistant, but my first year at Hammondspport.

What I Love About HCS: I love the Hammondspport School District because of its small size and as I'm quickly finding out, it's friendly, caring and dedicated staff. I look forward to working here and can't wait to find out what this year will bring!



From the Desk of Mr. Koehler, Elementary Principal

It has been a wonderful start to the 2019-2020 school year at the Curtiss School! It is a priority for our school that we work hard to set a positive tone and a welcoming environment for all as we begin a new school year, and I would like to thank our staff and our families for working together to make this a reality for our children. From the way we greet our children when they first walk in the door each morning to our Friday dance parties at the end of each week, every moment counts and makes a difference for the overall feel we want for our school! We have been fortunate to have a number of dynamic new staff members join our family this year, and each have embraced this culture for our kids – you'll be able to put names with faces if you have not already done so within this edition of Laker Lines!

At the very foundation of our work at the Curtiss School is a strong belief in educating the whole child. While we certainly prioritize providing a rigorous academic experience that challenges all of our children to reach their fullest potential within a standards-based education, equally as important are developing the social and emotional skills that are essential for all of our children to continually grow. For consistency and common language among all students and staff in growing these skills, we continually gear our instruction toward four common Leading Laker expectations: respect, responsibility, safety, and growth mindset. This year, we are taking a quarterly focus on each expectation, with the first portion of the year focused more intently on respect. We kicked off this focus as an entire school family on

Monday, September 9th in the high school gym with an assembly that brought us together with the Curtiss Museum, PTO, and our maintenance and transportation departments. In addition to promoting our four Leading Laker expectations, we continue to embrace and deepen our identity as the Curtiss School. Enjoy some pictures of our kickoff in this issue of Laker Lines!

Along with a standards-based education, we prioritize getting to know the unique strengths and needs of all our children to build a truly student-centered educational experience for every child we are fortunate to work with. Through the first few weeks of the year, we will be deepening our knowledge of the current needs of our children through a variety of diagnostic assessments such as i-Ready reading and math, beginning of year independent reading levels, and other classroom assessments. We then act on this information to provide all of our children with the precise instruction needed to ensure they are moving toward meeting and exceeding grade level standards.

We look forward to welcoming our families at Open House on Thursday, September 26th from 6:00-7:00 pm. Our PTO will also be having a free dinner in the cafeteria for our families from 5:30-7:00 pm, and our annual Book Fair from 5:30-7:30 pm. We'll have other partners joining us on that evening to provide for an exciting and engaging night for our children to take the lead in showing off all the learning that happens at our school. We'll have more information coming home as the date gets closer.

Laker Kids: A Note from Our Office

We are thrilled to continue to host our Laker Kids program here on our facilities to provide child care for our families. Please remember to provide separate communication to our Elementary Office on days that your child will be staying for Laker Kids. The Laker Kids program is run by Catholic Charities, a separate entity from our school, so communication directly with Laker Kids staff does not come through to our Elementary Office. As with any dismissal change, we ask that you please notify our office in writing or by phone no later than 10:30 am on the same day your child will be attending (if this is a change from the already established daily routine for your child).

If you have any questions on the above, please contact Miss Darcie in the Elementary Office at 569-5200. Thank you!

Attention Taxpayers:

School taxes will **no longer** be collected by the District at the Main Street School. If you wish to pay your school taxes in person, payment should be brought to the Five Star Bank located on Shethar Street in Hammondsport.

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 Search portal through the District website at www.hammondsportcsd.org, found under the Site Shortcuts section.

GST BOCES has been designated as The District Tax Collector. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Kim Dykes at 607-795-1333 or 607-795-5333.

Laker Homecoming Parade!

Friday, October 4th at 5:30pm

Please join us following the parade on campus for FREE hot dogs thanks to the Hammondsport American Legion!

Calendar of Events

- 10/4 Homecoming Parade, 5:30pm
V. Girls Soccer Homecoming Game, 7pm
V. Volleyball Homecoming Game, 7pm
- 10/5 Mod. Girls Soccer Homecoming Game, 9am
Mod. Boys Soccer Homecoming Game, 9am
Mod. Volleyball Homecoming Game, 10am
JV Girls Soccer Homecoming Game, 11:30
JV Volleyball Homecoming Game, 11:30
Homecoming Dance, 8-11pm
- 10/14 Columbus Day
No School
- 10/16 Picture Retake Day
BoE Regular Meeting, 6pm

Hammondsport Central School District
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