
HIGH POINT HIGHLIGHTS - AN INSIDE LOOK

October 21, 2002

STUDENT RECOGNITION:

- The media classes orchestrated the 9-11 school program. They filmed the morning tribute and also presented the chamber singers live in the afternoon program.
- The College Board recognized students who earned AP Scholar Awards on the basis of their outstanding academic performance. **Michael Chiusano, Kelly Hunter, Hetal Kapadia, and Thomas Terraccino** received the Scholar Award. **Gerri Ottaviano, Joshua Ruszkiewicz, and John Ryan** received the Scholar with Distinction Award.
- **Bonnie Smith** and **Cathy Madaio**, along with two students, **AA** and **Katie Struble**, members of the Interact Advisory Board, were presented with a proclamation by Freeholder Hal Wirths from the Sussex County Freeholders honoring High Point's Interact Club. The club was recognized on October 3, 2002, at the Walkkill Rotary meeting.

ATHLETICS:

- Great news for the Lady Wildcats Cross Country team. They were undefeated as of October 9. They have set a High Point Cross Country record for **Most Wins** in a season.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:

- **Faye Paskas** and **Jan Mezier** conducted a Baldrige in the Classroom Update meeting for teachers and supervisors involved in the pilot program. Success stories and challenges were discussed. Information was shared during the October 14th inservice workshops.
- **Brian McDonald** and **Allan VanderGoot** will be attending training sessions on Pro Desktop, a 3-D modeling software program, at The College of New Jersey in October.
- **Joe Santora** attended a one week seminar on Thomas Jefferson and Democracy at Monticello and the University of Virginia. He was a guest of the Gilder-Lehrman Institute.
- **Jackie Sutton** once again attended the Holocaust Workshop at Drew University as part of Holocaust Awareness in the Curriculum on October 8, 2002.
- **Scott Ripley** attended the Advanced Placement Workshop in European History at Pope John High School on October 14.
- The State of New Jersey Department of Education Teacher Recruitment Initiative has published information on initiatives used to support teachers. High Point Regional High School is listed in their directory of schools that provide programs to increase teacher retention in New Jersey.

STAFF RECOGNITION:

- **Heather Strout** participated in the "Voices Beyond Violence" Summit at McNiece Auditorium. **Heather** and two other women performed *Don't Laugh at Me*, a song focused on ideals of tolerance, compassion, and shared humanity. **Heather** sang and played guitar.
- **Mary Hassenplug, Therese Mattil,** and **Heather Strout** took 24 Creative Writing II students and *Calliope* staff members to the bi-annual Geraldine R. Dodge Poetry Festival at Waterloo Village. Students participated in workshops and readings facilitated by renowned poets such as Billy Collins, Naomi Shihab Nye, Amiri Baraka, and Rita Dove.
- **Dick Dolce, Therese Mattil,** and **Heather Strout** attended "Teacher Day" at the Geraldine R. Dodge Poetry Festival.

- **Jan Mezier**, Curriculum Director, was selected by Quality New Jersey as an Examiner for the 2002 site visit team that evaluates organizations applying for the Governor's Award for Performance Excellence.
- **Joe Portello** appeared in a Jacoby and Myers commercial. He has also been in two movies, *Made in Manhattan*, due to be released in December, and *Second Best*, to be released in the spring.
- **Kevin Fenlon** has been named as Sussex County's Teacher of the Year. He was also the first runner-up out of the six finalists for the NJ State Teacher of the Year Award.
- **Diane Sorchik** is now the Treasurer of the Art Administrators Association of New Jersey.
- **Lance Sorchik** was invited to speak to the Creative Media department this past summer at the United Parcel Service world headquarters offices in Louisville, KY.
- **Greer McGrath Zeitts** earned her Associates Degree in Business Administration.
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MEDIA RECOGNITION:

- The New Jersey Sunday Herald, September 15, 2002, **Lauren Boyle** ties SCIL soccer opener
- The New Jersey Herald, September 16, 2002, **Race** hands off football to **Phillips** _____
- The New Jersey Herald, September 18, 2002, High Point tops Newton 2-1
- The New Jersey Herald, September 18, 2002, Kittatinny edges High Point in Tennis
- The New Jersey Herald, September 19, 2002, High Point, Newton Tie
- The New Jersey Herald, September 19, 2002, **Kleinkopf**, Wildcats roar
- The New Jersey Herald, September 19, 2002, **Monica Vatalaro** fights for loose ball _____
- The New Jersey Herald, September 19, 2002, High Octane - High Point vs. Newton field hockey
- Advertiser-New North, September 19, 2002, Give me an H-I-G-H P-O-I-N-T
- Advertiser-New North, September 19, 2002, Cloud of Dust
- Advertiser-New North, September 19, 2002, Cats Kept Searchin'
- Advertiser-New North, September 19, 2002, High Point field hockey blanks Crimson in opener
- The New Jersey Herald, September 20, 2002, Wildcats Rally to Win
- The New Jersey Herald, September 22, 2002, High Point takes charge of Newton
- The New Jersey Herald, September 23, 2002, High Point cross country girls preview capsules
- The New Jersey Herald, September 23, 2002, High Point cross country boys preview capsules
- Advertiser-News North, September 26, 2002, **P** leads Wildcats past Newton
- The Star Leger, September 26, 2002, Special ed teacher brings out the best in students
- The New Jersey Herald, September 27, 2002, High Point girls race past PJ for key win
- The New Jersey Sunday Herald, September 29, 2002, **C** lifts 'Cats
- The New Jersey Herald, October 1, 2002, **Hull** tangles for ball
- The New Jersey Herald, October 1, 2002, **Lewis** races after loose ball
- The New Jersey Herald, October 3, 2002, Wildcats soar, **Kuzmiak** heads to finish line
- Advertiser-News North, October 3, 2002, No tan for this teacher last summer
- Advertiser-News North, October 3, 2002, **C** led Wildcats
- The New Jersey Sunday Herald, October 6, High Point earns shutout
- The New Jersey Sunday Herald, October 6, High Point "D" does it
- The New Jersey Sunday Herald, October 6, Look of a Winner
- The New Jersey Herald, October 7, 2002, Cats, Cougars remain unbeaten
- The New Jersey Herald, October 7, 2002, **Lewis, H, U, H, Carollo, Raye** interviewed
- Advertiser-News North, October 10, 2002, HP **C's** hat trick cages Lions
- The New Jersey Herald, October 13, 2002, Kittatinny tops High Point in wild overtime contest
- Advertiser-News North, October 17, 2002, **Wilpert's** goals propel Wildcats over Blair Academy

CURRICULUM AND PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT (WHAT'S NEWS AND NOTEWORTHY):

- Creative Writing I and II students wrote poems for Sussex County's annual "Voices Beyond Violence" summit which took place on Tuesday, October 8th, at McNiece Auditorium. Their poems are now on display (and will be until October 27th) in the Women's Center at Sussex County Community College.

- **Mike Hingston, Jim Platukis, and Jan Mezier** attended the 10th National Quality Education Conference in Columbus, Ohio, which included presentations by Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Education Winners Pearl River, New York; Chugach School District, Alaska; and The University of Wisconsin.
- The Basic Skills program held a Parents Information session at Back to School Night on October 3rd with 50 parents in attendance. Parents received information about the program at High Point and completed surveys. These surveys will be shared with faculty and departments involved in basic skills.
- The supervisors and administrators have received a Baldrige Self-Assessment Guide to Performance Excellence. It details the seven categories of the criteria and highlights key measurement areas. Assessment will begin after an organizational profile is developed.
- Plans are underway to construct the 2003-2004 High Point Course Selection Catalog. Input will be received from various departments and a draft ready for the Board of Education meeting in November.
- New Programs instituted in the technology area are: "Women in Engineering," a Baldrige in the Classroom pilot, teacher **Mark Wallace**; "Mechanical Movement," teacher **Brian McDonald**; and "Power, Energy and Transportation Technology I," teacher **Brian Drelick**.
- The High Point media class received air time on channel 44 and the first monthly news/information show was taped at the end of September.
- A Back to School video for the Spanish I class was produced and shown on Back-to-School night.
- The High Point media class received a request from a pre-school to tape their students. They were also contacted by the State Police to produce a video.
- **Jan Mezier** has been in contact with Dr. Sandy Miller from William Paterson regarding the utilization of the Interactive Television Lab for the Science, Social Studies and Business/Tech Ed Departments.
- **Mark Wallace**, in partnership with the Technology Educators Association of NJ, New Jersey Institute of Technology and their Pre-Engineering Instructional and Outreach Program, is hosting a series of teleconferences on the theme of "Building an Engineer." The first teleconference is scheduled for November 20, 2002.
- High Point, in partnership with the New Jersey Technology Council's Education Foundation, has embarked on a project to help fulfill the need for engineers in New Jersey by taking a leadership role in designing programs that will encourage women to go into the engineering profession.
- On September 30th, the Physical Education Department, in conjunction with the US Army, brought in a 25 foot climbing wall. All physical education students were invited to climb.
- A weather station has been installed in the school. It will be integrated into the science, math, and special needs classes and will be an important tool for the coaches of all team sports.
- On October 9, Jean Wardell, a teacher from Sussex-Wantage, brought 11 students to our media lab for video taping. They developed a video for Mrs. Wardell to present at the NJEA conference on the topic of reading.
- Thirteen students participated in the Sussex County Summit on School Violence for middle schools on October 8 at Sussex Tech. It was sponsored by the Sussex County Coalition for Safe and Healthy Families with Keith Hawkins as presenter. After one night of training, the participants acted as facilitators for the middle school students.
- Director of Guidance, **Rosemary Gehl**, will be visiting **Nancy White's, Dick Dolce's, and Mary Hassenplug's** Senior English classes in order to help ease and guide the college essay process. Examples of college essays will be shared, and the seniors will be on their way to writing their own.
- **Paul Derin** (former North Bergen County Police Office and High Point's safety officer) was a guest speaker in **Mary Hassenplug's** tenth grade classes on October 16, 2002. He discussed abuses of power that can occur within law enforcement. The presentation was a pre-reading activity for the novel *Montana 1948*.
- **Paul Derin** was a guest lecturer in **Beth Hatler's** ninth grade practical English class. **Paul** addressed issues relating to missing children because the students were reading *The Face on the Milk Carton*.
- Eighteen students will take part in the DECA Leadership training workshops in Parsippany on Tuesday, October 22, 2002.

- The “After High School, What’s Next?” program held on October 15 was well planned and well attended. Many parents stated that they were very pleased with this presentation made by the Guidance Department.
- Eleven students participated in an all day rock climbing trip as part of the Quest group on October 9, 2002.
- Faculty attendance for the month of September was 98.5%.
- Student attendance for the month of September was 96.9%.
- The fall administration of the HSPA was given in October.
- Back-to-School night was well attended as all comments from parents were positive, upbeat and encouraging.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Booster Club Meeting - October 28
- Fall Drama - November 1, 2 & 3
- Parent Advisory Committee - November 6
- NJEA Convention - November 7 & 8 (school closed)