

High Point Regional High School

Department Highlights

December 2007

STUDENT STARS

- ★ Congratulations to the following students for being selected to perform with this year's Area Band: **Brianna Doran, KD, Hannah Lozaw, Sean Marks, KK, and Tom Aroune.**
- ★ The following students will attend the Science Olympiad competition on January 8: **Sam Brummell, Rachel Brummell, Will Porter, Alec Randazzo, KP, Dave Smith, Rebecca Heismeyer, KC, NW, KM, and TM.**
- ★ **Dilek Baykara** and **Lizz Ciccarella** were selected as our outstanding art students of 2007 and will be exhibiting in the Art Administrators of NJ *Emerging Artists* Exhibit and Scholarship Competition at Kean University in January.
- ★ At the Vernon Invitational Exhibit and Competition, Maryland Institute College of Art juried ninety entries from local young art students. **LP** won First Place and **Lizz Ciccarella** won Third Place in the Drawing/Illustration category. Junior **Dilek Baykara** and Sophomore **Lacey Liptak** were recognized as Maryland Institute's College of Art upcoming scholarship interests. The eight art students chosen to exhibit were **Dilek Baykara, Lizz Ciccarella, JH, Lyndsay Hoffmann, Justin Kalaskey, Lacey Liptak, LP, and AZ.**
- ★ **Mr. Sorchik's** Art Portfolio 3 and 4 students attended a presentation by Maryland Institute College of Art on portfolio preparation and programs available at MICA.
- ★ The Concert Band and Choir performed a beautiful Candlelight Concert on December 6 to a full house.
- ★ The **Chamber Singers** performed at the Branchville Rotary Christmas luncheon, the Wantage tree lighting, the First Presbyterian Church Christmas Service, and strolled through the halls of High Point on Dec. 21 caroling and bringing the Christmas spirit to all.
- ★ For the third consecutive year, students in **Mr. Drelick's** Engineering Design Technology III/IV Honors class earned recognition at New Jersey's Annual Roborocks Challenge at Middlesex County College on December 19. The winning team included **Michelle Vroegindewey, Ryan Slate, Jared Schuster, JR, AR, DR, Andrew Malone, DM, Andrew Larson, Richie Flynn, Lauren Fasano, Stephanie DeFeo, Sam Brummell, Tyler Bartz, and Greg Aromando.** This year's 3rd Place team earned a complimentary NXT Robotics Kit, valued at almost \$300.
- ★ **Nick Villano, Brian Brady, Vincent Cocchiarella, Paul Cardinal, Sean Koeller, RW, and CW** from **Brian Drelick's** Power, Energy, and Transportation Technology III/IV Honors class earned First Place in Documentation and Second Place for Innovation at New Jersey's Second Annual Hydrogen Fuel Cell Challenge, held on December 12 at Randolph High School.
- ★ Two members of this year's Model Congress team won political party leadership positions at the meeting of New Jersey Model Congress held at The State House Annex in Trenton. Seniors **Lizz Ciccarella** and **Tahir Adiguzelli** were elected by their peers to represent the Republican and Democratic parties, respectively. The team's advisor is **Patricia Porter.** **Rena Mills** assisted on the Model Congress trip. New Jersey Model Congress is run by Rasmussen Educational Services.
- ★ **Heather Strout's** Period Five Creative Writing Workshop class offered "A Gift of Poetry" to the High Point community. The students selected a variety of favorite poems - classic and contemporary - and posted them throughout the school building. They are hoping that students, teachers, or others may discover a poem they enjoy!
- ★ On Thursday, December 20, High Point REBEL, led by **Lisa Hodgins** and **Heather Strout,** went caroling after school through the halls of High Point. REBEL students distributed candy canes, with tobacco facts attached, to encourage others to enjoy a smoke-free holiday season. Be sure to check out the REBEL bulletin board, located next to the English office.
- ★ The Mathematics Department would like to congratulate **DM** and **Brian Noon.** Brian recently scored 730 on the math SAT. Drew scored 750 on the Math SAT I and 700 on the Math SAT II. High Point High School currently has seven students recognized on the SAT Wall of Fame in the Math Wing. Student recognition is reserved for those students who have scored 700 or above on the Math SAT.

ATHLETICS

- ★ Please congratulate **Danielle Czohla** for the following accomplishments in Cross Country: All Area, All State, Group 3, 3rd team.
- ★ Please congratulate **HK** for being selected as High Point's 2007 United Way Scholar Athlete.
- ★ Please congratulate **Lauren Fasano** for being selected to represent High Point at the New Jersey Celebrates National Girls and Women in Sports Day.

ATHLETICS (CONTINUED)

- ★ The **Bowling** team is currently in second place in the SCIL. The team captured first place in the SCIL New Year's Eve Holiday Tournament.
- ★ **Jon Tallamy** ran his first holiday Boys' Basketball tournament. Teams participating were as follows: Madison, Sayreville, Woodbridge, and High Point. Sayreville was the tournament winner. **Alex Decker** was named to the All Tournament Team.
- ★ The Girls' Basketball team finished second in the Ridge Holiday tournament. **Coach Dexter** won his 100th game with a 65-25 win over Vernon. **Jessie Lain** is fast approaching her 1000 career point.
- ★ In swimming news, **Steve Vealey** broke the school record for the 100 Free Style. Presently the boys are 3-0 and the girls are 1-1-1. **Ashley Westra** was appointed Assistant Swim coach.
- ★ The **Ski** team traveled to Vermont on their annual ski trip. They had a great time and enjoyed a lot of fresh snow fall.
- ★ The **Wrestling** team took first place at the Colt Classic. They also defeated perennial power house Camden Catholic in a tri-meet at Lenape Valley. At the time of this writing, they are listed Number One in the *Star Ledger* state rankings.
- ★ High Point's **Ice Hockey** team took third place in the Sussex Cup.

STELLAR STAFF

- ★ The Wildcat Report (**Mr. Portello's** Media 3 class) has added a new segment that involves **Mr. Youngman** interviewing the department heads about happenings in their departments. Also, Media 3 has completed its first HDTV music video.
- ★ **Brian Drelick** was recognized as Sussex County Teacher of the Year by New Jersey Commissioner of Education Lucille Davy and members of the State Board of Education at the REAL Event held December 14 at the Doubletree Executive Hotel in Somerset.
- ★ **Amy Librizzi** and **Faye Paskas** were recognized in the 2007-2008 edition of the Cambridge Who's Who in Women in Education.
- ★ **Karen Kozlowski** finished her coursework at Montclair State University for ESL certification.
- ★ Welcome back to Mrs. **Jill Schafer**, who had been on maternity leave after the birth of her first child, Ross. Thank you to Mr. **John Shoemaker** for admirably stepping in as a maternity leave replacement for the first three months of the year.
- ★ **Mary Hassenplug** has been selected for inclusion in the 2007-2008 Cambridge Who's Who Among Executive and Professional Women in Teaching and Education Honors Edition.
- ★ **Sheila Ross, Marilyn Pucillo, and Carolyn Acker** hosted a speaker from Berkeley College on December 14. Karen Muessig presented an informative program to seniors on "The Interview" to aide them as they pursue higher education and employment opportunities.
- ★ **Christina Puzio** chaperoned at the DECA Regional Competition at Morris County College on January 3.

MEDIA RECOGNITION

The New Jersey Herald, December 28, 2007: "High Point advances in memorial tournament"

The New Jersey Herald, December 21, 2007: "Wildcats take 8 straight matches"

The New Jersey Herald, December 18, 2007: "High Point students are taking charge"

The New Jersey Herald, December 16, 2007: "High Point has high goals"

The New Jersey Herald, December 13, 2007: "Thinking eco-friendly"

The Advertiser-News North, December 6, 2007: "Teachers create Video Game Design programs"

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- ★ **Lisa Hodgins** sponsored a trip for twenty-seven art history and art portfolio students to Saint Patrick's Cathedral and the Museum of Modern Art on December 17.
- ★ **Mike Langan** is presently taking a leadership course at NJCU.
- ★ Science staff will be attending the 2nd day of training for the NJPAA (New Jersey Performance Assessment Alliance). This training will help prepare staff and students for the Performance Assessment in May.
- ★ **Mary Hassenplug, Janice Mezier, Gene Emering, and Jennifer Desaye** attended a workshop on Curriculum Mapping presented by world-renowned author and educator Heidi Hayes Jacobs.
- ★ **Noah Klimas** attended a Coaching Clinic in Cherry Hill, NJ, to prepare for the upcoming baseball season.
- ★ **Noah Klimas** gave a presentation to the High Point staff on the use of technology in the classroom, particularly highlighting the interactive benefits of blogging.
- ★ Nine Math department members will be trained in the use of Study Island software on January 21.

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

- ★ **Trish Woerner**, a culinary specialist representing the Art Institute of NYC, visited Mrs. Olsen's Foods classes recently. She spoke about career opportunities in the foods industry, education required and salary expectations for various careers, and scholarship opportunities at the Art Institute. She also demonstrated knife skills and preparation techniques as she prepared apple trifle for the class to sample.
- ★ **Victoria Calenda**, 2007 graduate of High Point, returned recently to Mrs. Olsen's Exploratory Home Economics class to demonstrate how to prepare Vegetarian Chili. The lesson reinforced how to incorporate legumes as a protein source in the vegetarian diet. Chef Tory is so enthusiastic about her culinary studies at Johnson and Wales in North Carolina that she volunteered her limited time while she was home on Thanksgiving break. It was great to have her back for the day, and her chili was delicious!
- ★ The Social Studies department, along with the English department, will explore the possibility of teaching across the curriculum in grades nine and ten. Also, they will be assessing the possibility of teaching across the curriculum in several elective areas with the remaining departments.
- ★ The **Brain Bee** is working towards their competition in January at the Liberty Science Center.
- ★ The **Science Olympiad** team is preparing for its competition in January.
- ★ The **Science League** team is preparing for its competitions starting in January.
- ★ The **College Prep Biology A** classes hosted Jen Gately as a guest speaker from the Wallkill River Watershed. Jen is an Americorps Watershed Ambassador. She gave the students valuable information and demonstrations of a watershed and how pollutants affect the whole ecosystem.
- ★ The **Peer Counseling** group collected over 100 new toys that were donated to Project Self Sufficiency in Newton.
- ★ The English department will implement the use of Study Island, a web-based HSPA-prep program with select 9th, 10th, and 11th grade classes.
- ★ SmartView graphing calculator software is being installed on all Math Department computers.
- ★ A SmartBoard and projector will soon be installed in Room 335.
- ★ The Math department is beginning the new textbook selection process for Precalculus and Honors Precalculus.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- ★ The process will begin for admission to the Foreign Language National Honor Society in January.
- ★ The Science department will have **Ali Mueller** as a guest speaker in January. Ali is an alumnus of High Point and is currently majoring in conservation biology at Unity College in Maine.
- ★ The next meeting of the **Peer Counseling** group will be held on Thursday, January 10.
- ★ The **Peer Counseling** group is preparing for its annual retreat which is to be held on Wednesday and Thursday, February 27 and 28 at Fairview Lakes.
- ★ During the January 21 In-service program, 9th and 10th grade English teachers will meet with the Lafayette and Frankford Middle School Language Arts teachers to articulate expectations and standards as students transition to High Point.
- ★ During the January 21 In-service program, 11th and 12th grade English teachers will meet with Dr. Emily Isaacs, the Director of the Writing Program at Montclair State University, to review and enhance the senior writing curriculum to better prepare students for college-level writing.
- ★ The Math department will spend a full day developing SmartBoard and projector driven lessons and activities as part of the January 21st In-service Day.
- ★ The Math department will discuss a January date for a department "bowling night out." The bowling night is part of the department's morale improvement initiative.