

High Point Regional High School

Department Highlights

November 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 mathematics department would like to congratulate **Griffin Panicucci** and **Matthew Blecker** on their nominations to the Governor's School of Engineering. Griffin is currently taking Honors Pre-Calculus with Mr. Emering. Matthew is taking Algebra 2 A with Gail Cerutti.
- ★ Students in **Brian Drelick's** Engineering Design Technology III / IV class will be competing in the Roborocks competition on December 17, 2007, at Middlesex County College. This competition exposes students to science, technology, engineering, mathematics, and communications. Students create a mobile robot over a period of seven weeks. They work in teams to build and program the robot using a microcomputer and compatible software. They experience the thrill and excitement of Robotics competition!
- ★ The following students will attend Centenary College's Business Competition on December 5: **DM, KF, Tom Spring, and SB.**
- ★ Congratulations to **MM**, Wantage's newest Eagle Scout.
- ★ High Point entered its first SIFE (Students Interested in Free Enterprise) competition at Centenary College on December 5. Please Congratulate the following members of the team when you see them for taking 2nd Place in their division and 3rd overall: **DM, Tom Spring, SB, and KF.**
- ★ Mary Hassenplug's senior classes are involved in an engaging online discussion of *The Catcher in the Rye* with students from Johnsbury High School in Johnsbury, Illinois.
- ★ **Will Porter** was chosen as the science department's student of the marking period. Will is the best type of student any teacher could want in his/her class. He is extremely intelligent and enthusiastic about learning. What sets Will Porter apart from his peers is not his top grades, but how he makes the classroom a better learning environment for his peers. He asks insightful questions and often adds key information to the discussions. He is a true scholar, more interested in learning than just getting a good grade. He has a natural curiosity to learn that is unmatched by his peers.

ATHLETICS

- ★ Please congratulate **Ashley Sanborn** and **Jessie Lain** for the following honors they recently received for their excellent work this soccer season: All West Jersey (1st team), All Group 3 (Lain-1st team, Sanborn-2nd team), and Top 20 North I (this award is given by the New Jersey Girls Soccer Coaches Association).
- ★ In other Girls' Soccer news, **Ashley Sanborn, Jessie Lain, Brittney Derin, and Alayna Donadio** have all been recognized by the New Jersey Girls' Soccer Association as All State Selections. If you see these ladies, please congratulate them on these great accomplishments!
- ★ Please congratulate Boys' Soccer team members **DS** (for making All League) and **JC** (for making Honorable Mention). After his junior year, **D** is #10 all time in High Point's Top 50 in goals, assists, and points.

STELLAR STAFF

- ★ **Dan Muller** has received a grant from the National Gardening Association along with our sponsors of the Hooked On Hydroponics grant, the Grow Store and Progressive Gardening Trade Association. His hydroponics activity was chosen for this award based on his application, which demonstrated clear educational goals and a commitment to helping children gain hands-on experience with the many joys and wonders of gardening. The retail value of the hydroponics growing system award package is \$1425.
- ★ **Mark Wallace** has received Technology Education certification from the New Jersey Department of Education.
- ★ **Tricia Woodhead** is representing High Point on the One Book, One Community committee, designed to expand the love of reading to students of all ages throughout the district.
- ★ **Heather Strout** was contacted by Carla Beard, proprietor of webenglishteacher.com, regarding her "From One Teacher to Another" blog - an online resource and "sounding board" for creative writing teachers. Carla will be featuring Heather's blog in early December at the following web address: <http://blogs.enotes.com/english-teacher-blog/>.
- ★ Kudos to **Marie Walsh** who is engaged in the on-going process of developing SmartBoard activities and lessons for Geometry A and Geometry B students. A SmartBoard was recently installed in her classroom. Marie will share some of her lessons at the January department meeting.
- ★ Five math department instructors were recently recognized at the November National Honor Society Induction Ceremony. The instructors were described as being inspirational teachers and instrumental in the inductees' academic

success. **Linda Abrams, Glenn Grieco, Jill Retz, Gene Emering, and Kirstin Sabo** were individually recognized by an NHS inductee.

- ★ **Linda Abrams** and **Brian Feuer** helped chaperone the Peer Counseling Leadership Retreat on November 13.

MEDIA RECOGNITION

The Advertiser News, December 5, 2007: “Honorable Students”

The New Jersey Herald, December 4, 2007: “High Point defeats Dumont”

The New Jersey Herald, November 30, 2007: “New Jersey Herald’s All-SCIL Girls Soccer

The New Jersey Herald, November 7, 2007: “High Point student named ‘commended scholar’”

The New Jersey Herald, November 7, 2007: “High Point finishes with win”

The New Jersey Herald, November 5, 2007: “High Point field names in honor of Arthur Smith”

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- ★ **Linda Abrams** attended the two-day Texas Instruments Nspire T3 Hands-on Institute on November 29 and November 30. For participating in the workshop, Mrs. Abrams acquired a free Ti-Nspire handheld with view screen and software for department use. She will be asked to give a brief demonstration at the January math department meeting.
- ★ **Gene Emering** attended a Curriculum Mapping workshop presented by Dr. Heidi Jacobs. The conference was held on the campus of Passaic County Community College in Wayne, New Jersey.
- ★ **Glenn Grieco** and **Linda Abrams** have registered for the Rutgers University sponsored workshop, Good Ideas in Teaching Precalculus. The conference will be held in March.
- ★ **Brian Drelick** and **Stephen Peltier** attended a General Membership meeting of the New Jersey Technology Educators Association.
- ★ **Stephen Peltier** and **Brian Drelick** attended a workshop at Dimension Communications on November 29. This workshop included an overview and tour of the company's graphics, design, fabrication, and electrical engineering facilities, used in producing displays and interiors for trade shows, car shows, zoos, and other businesses. The workshop also highlighted portions of the new Mercedes car show display that is yet to be unveiled and incorporates a multi screen hi-definition display.
- ★ Six members of the English department attended the National Council of Teachers of English National Convention in New York City. **Patricia Porter, Carolyn Acker, Heather Strout, Caroline Bodnar-Keimel, Rena Mills,** and **Mary Hassenplug** attended dozens of exciting sessions over the three days dealing with literacy in the 21st century and they look forward to sharing new ideas in the teaching of Language Arts.
- ★ **Mike Langan** is presently taking a leadership course at NJCU.
- ★ **Christine Henry**, volunteer leader of the Pass-it-Along group, brought 40 students to the annual Pass-it-Along Youth Conference held at Vo-Tech. The students completed many community service projects as they worked with other high school students from throughout Sussex County.
- ★ One-third of all teachers recognized by National Honor Society inductees were social studies teachers [**Joe Santora, Tom Ryan (2X), Erik Carlson (2X), Kory Loyola, Chris Henry (2X), Scott Ripley, Barbara Fasano**].
- ★ **Jackie Sutton** presented a seminar on teaching about the genocide in Darfur which was recently featured in the Drew University Center for Holocaust/Genocide Center Magazine.
- ★ **Jackie Sutton** attended the evening Conversation with Witnesses lecture at Drew University about the current situation in Darfur.
- ★ **Jackie Sutton** attended Blair Skeptics program to hear Holocaust survivors.
- ★ **Jackie Sutton** was honored by Holocaust Council of Metro West at an Honors and Exaltations Dinner for Educators for continued work in the area of Holocaust Education in New Jersey.
- ★ **Christine Henry** brought 20 students to the state Student Council Meeting held at the College of New Jersey.
- ★ The Pass-It-Along organization, under the direction of **Mrs. Henry**, is collecting, wrapping, and delivering holiday gifts to students at the Cleveland Avenue School in Newark.
- ★ **Kory Loyola** attended the NJSBF Mock Trial Workshop in October.
- ★ **Art Mina** has begun work on his Masters of Arts in Teaching degree.
- ★ **Chris Kappelmeier** attended a baseball clinic for NJSCA.
- ★ **John Gardner** attended a NJSIAA training on Hydration and OPC.
- ★ **Carol Veltri** attended the Peer Counseling Leadership Retreat Day training.
- ★ **Bonnie Puzio** attended the NJPAA Pilot Workshop regarding the new End-of-Year Biology Exam.
- ★ **Carla Mancuso** attended a workshop on HSPA Prep in Language Arts.
- ★ **Mark Veltri** attended a workshop on Mathematics Test Prep for the HSPA.

- ★ **Ed Blevins** toured the Salmon River Fish Hatchery and met with their biologist in order to determine if a project, similar to the Trout Project, could be done in connection with them.
- ★ The **Regional Special Education and Guidance** groups met together this month to discuss common issues and scheduling for next year.

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

- ★ **Mike Langan's** three American Conflict classes went on a successful Trip to West Point in November.
- ★ Civics teachers will be continuing the supervision of the community service requirement in their Civics classes.
- ★ **Seamus Campbell's** AP classes have improved their on-line communications and have begun debating topics in the evenings through blog postings.
- ★ Visitors to the American Conflict classes were as follows: Mr. Sam Barnes (USMC vet of World War Two; fought at Saipan, Iwo Jima, and Okinawa, Joe Havens (US Navy special K9 unit serving in Diego Garcia), and Josh Brands (USMC serving on Camp LeJuene).
- ★ The Peer Counseling group had a record 116 students in attendance at its last meeting in November. We also had over 100 for our annual Holiday Celebration in December. Toys were collected for Project Self Sufficiency. We are focusing on "Making a Difference" in the lives of our community members.
- ★ The Peer Counseling Steering committee and advisors attended a leadership retreat on Friday, November 16. The purpose of this day-long retreat was to provide leadership training, small group dynamics and communication skills necessary to run small group discussions and large group games. We focused our attention on the leadership of Sir Ernest Shackleton who was an Antarctic explorer in the early 1900's.
- ★ On November 15, twenty-five students attended an initial meeting for students interested in studying at the Universidad Complutense in Madrid, Spain, in the summer of 2008.
- ★ On November 22, a guest speaker from Mauritius, a French speaking island off the coast of Africa, came to visit and speak with our French students.
- ★ On November 30, **Karen Kozlowski** and **Josephine Aiello** led 17 French students on a trip to New York to eat in a French restaurant and see a production of Cirque Du Soleil.
- ★ An in-house SAT Prep course has been jointly proposed for the 2008-2009 school year by the math and English departments.
- ★ **Gene Emering** and **Joan Smith** are teaming up to teach Joan's students about tessellations. The unit will include hands-on activities, art projects, and the use of technology to create tessellations.
- ★ Study Island, an interactive HSPA/GEPA program, has been purchased by the district. Teachers and supervisors will receive training on December 17.
- ★ **Joan Smith** with the assistance of **Debbie Hicks**, **Mary Thompson**, and **Janet Witt** hosted a Thanksgiving on the Farm event for the MCI program students at Mrs. Smith's farm in Lafayette.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- ★ Lincoln Tech is scheduled to present to Technology Education students on December 7.
- ★ Dover Business School is scheduled to present to our Business students on December 18.
- ★ **The High Point Music Department** will present their annual Candlelight Concert on December 6 at 8pm in the high school auditorium. Admission is free and all are invited.
- ★ Roxbury High School in Succasunna, New Jersey, will visit our Technological Studies Department in December to see how we provide students with technological literacy.
- ★ Congressman Scott Garrett will be visiting several of High Point's AP classes after the holidays.
- ★ 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 B 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 next meeting of the Peer Counseling group will be held on Thursday, January 10.
- ★ The math department will be planning for a full day of developing SmartBoard and projector driven lessons and activities as part of the January 21 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.
- ★ The **MCI Program students** will be presenting their Annual Christmas Play. This year, they will be doing *Annie*. The play will be held Friday, December 14, at 9:30 am.