

High Point Regional High School

An Inside Look

December 2008

STUDENT STARS

- Congratulations to the following band members for being selected to perform with this year's Area Band: **Dylan Bassett, KD, Brianna Doran, Hannah Lozaw, Sean Marks, and Tom Aroune.**
- **GN** entered the Photo Imaging Education Association International Student Photography Competition and the Drexel University High School Photography Contest.
- **GN's** logo was chosen to be used for the High Point Regional High School Educational Foundation.
- **Lance Sorchik, Diane Sorchik, and Erin Meyers** entered their students' work in the Vernon Invitational Exhibit and Competition. Exhibiting students were as follows: **Dilek Baykara, Erica Brennan, EB, Jovelle Ellefsen, JH, EK, Jeremy Meyers, GN, Kariela Sybesma, and AZ. Jovelle Ellefsen** won a second place ribbon in the sculpture category.
- Forty-five **Graphic Design** and **Photography** students participated in the Operation "Kids Care" Holiday Card Program for northwest New Jersey disabled veterans.
- Over one hundred **Graphic Design 1** students submitted logos to be used for the Teen Arts Festival program, letterhead, and advertising.
- Graphic Design 3 student **EK** designed the Candlelight Concert program. She also painted the logos on the lids of all the recycling containers around the building. Graphic Design 3 student **BR** created the new signs for the Internal Suspension room.
- Fine Art Sculpture students **Brittney Bose, JH, and JC** received 1st place in the first annual Newton Window Decoration Project, a contest open to area art students as part of the Newton Main Street Revitalization and Arts Initiative Project.
- The Concert Band and Choir performed a beautiful Candlelight Concert on December 12.
- The Chamber Singers performed at the Senior Citizens Prom, 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. 22 caroling.
- Please extend your congratulations to **KM. K** won the position of Executive Member in charge of Public Relations for the New Jersey State Student Council! This is a tremendous honor for Kayeleigh and HP Student Council.
- The Math Department is proud to recognize **William Feuss** for scoring 760 on the November administration of the Math SAT. **William** joins nineteen other students from the classes of 2008 and 2009 who have scored 700 or above on the Mathematics Section of the SAT. High Point Regional High School is proud to recognize all twenty of these students on the Math Department's "SAT Wall of Fame."
- **Heather Strout's Creative Writing Workshop** students completed their annual Gift of Poetry project, in which they shared poems that have been meaningful to them with the High Point community through a hallway display. The poems will be up through the beginning of January. Please be sure to check them out!
- **Heather Strout's Creative Writing** students created a Music and Poetry bulletin board on display near the English offices. Several teachers, upon viewing their work, were inspired to post their own contributions of poetic song lyrics. Thank you to those who participated! Please be sure to check out the finished product when you get a chance.
- Students in English classes produced 584 letters to Santa in support of freshman Jared Alosio's project for the Make-a-Wish Foundation. Through the letters, Jared was able to raise \$584 for this worthwhile cause.

STELLAR STAFF

- **Ed Blevins** was awarded a Target field trip grant for \$800. The grant was written for the Long Beach Island State Park Field Trip. Congratulations, Ed! you are two for two so far this year!
- One of **Heather Strout's** lessons, Violence Awareness Poetry, was selected as a Quadrant D Gold Seal Lesson by the Successful Practices Network.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- **Erin Meyers** spent a professional development day at the Dia Beacon Sculpture Museum.
- **Harold Woods, Theresa Riccardi, Dori Martin, and Mike Cardillo** hosted a Holiday Music Department Visit for the 6, 7, and 8 grade music students from all sending districts. The High Point students performed and spoke about the various courses available in the high school program.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT (CONTINUED)

- 💡 **Chris Henry, Tom Ryan, and Jackie Sutton** attended the “Pass-it-Along” project with Tilly’s Kids in Newark, New Jersey.
- 💡 **Mickey Thomas** attended the National Wrestling Tournament in Minnesota where High Point finished in 10th place.
- 💡 **Chris Henry** attended the state Student Council Convention on December 12, 2008.
- 💡 **Erik Carlson** and the **Model Congress team** visited the State House Annex in Trenton on December 5.
- 💡 **Carolyn Acker** attended a viewing of *Back Home*, a documentary made by Jean Bernard Rutagarama (a survivor of the Rwandan Genocide) on December 4, 2008, during the Holocaust Educators Conference at Brookdale Community College. The film tells the story of how Rutagarama managed to survive the genocide and documents his return to Rwanda and reunion with his mother. A question and answer session was led by Jean Bernard Rutagarama following the viewing.
- 💡 **Tom Costello** attended the NJSELA Fall Forum to learn about the new Core Curriculum Content Standards.
- 💡 The Science Department helped to solidify their bonds by spending some time together after school at a colleague’s house.
- 💡 **Becky Patterson** and **Lisabeth Sunda** attended a two day track and field and cross country clinic.

MEDIA RECOGNITION

- The Star-Ledger**, December 11, 2008: “Hydrogen racers take charge at high school competition”
- The New Jersey Herald**, December 3, 2008: “Keur proven winner”
- The New Jersey Herald**, December 2, 2008: “Sunda has a banner freshman campaign”

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

- 👩‍🎓 **Jeanne Heinke** and her aides got to work closely with a behaviorist who was commissioned to work with a particular student and to assist everyone in dealing with her behavioral issues. It was a wonderful experience! The student is doing much better, marked improvement in behavior has been noted, and the parents were part of the behavior plan and worked with the behaviorist. New skills and strategies were learned by all involved.
- 👩‍🎓 **Bonnie Puzio’s Biology class** (along with the **Forensic and LLD classes**) went to the Lakota Wolf Preserve to further their studies. The students were able to observe and study the different species of wolves: Tundra, Timber, and Arctic. Also available for study were several types of bobcats and foxes. The students then created presentations regarding anatomy, ecology, biomes, species preservation, and forensic tracking of animals
- 👩‍🎓 The **MCI and LLD program** students attended the Christmas Spectacular at Radio City Music Hall. Many of the students had never been to NYC, to Radio City Music Hall, or had ever seen the Christmas show before. It was an exciting trip for all.
- 👩‍🎓 The **MD program** students went on a trip to the Rockaway Mall to experience holiday shopping and meet Santa Claus.
- 👩‍🎓 The Math Department is in the process of completely redesigning its basic skills course offerings. Beginning next year, all at-risk students will complete a College Prep Pre-Algebra course followed by a College Prep Algebra I course.
- 👩‍🎓 The International Club visited New York City to skate at Rockefeller Center, take a walking tour, and eat in an Indian restaurant.
- 👩‍🎓 Spanish II students sampled a variety of authentic foods as a culminating activity in a unit on traditional Spanish cuisine.
- 👩‍🎓 French III/IV students translated travel information to help **Jackie Sutton** prepare for a trip to Quebec.
- 👩‍🎓 The Brain Bee, Science Olympiad, and Science League teams are preparing for their January competitions.
- 👩‍🎓 The Peer Counseling group collected over 100 new toys that were donated to Project Self-Sufficiency in Newton.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 📅 Kory Loyola will begin the Mock Trial competition in February.
- 📅 Joe Santora will attend the Model Schools Winter Symposium in Washington DC on January 23, 2009
- 📅 Scott Ripley and Seamus Campbell will attend I&RS training on January 9, 2009.
- 📅 The next meeting of the Peer Counseling group will be held on Wednesday, January 21.
- 📅 The Peer Counseling group is preparing for its annual retreat which is to be held on Wednesday and Thursday, February 25 and 26 at Fairview Lakes.