



HIGH POINT REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

An Inside Look - February 2009

STUDENT STARS

- JR won the DECA NJ STAR competitive event. This was a state-wide civic consciousness project that supported autism research.
- Congratulations to Fehmi Yasin, Class of 2009. Fehmi is the twenty-first student from the classes of 2008 and 2009 to score over 700 on the Math SAT. Fehmi scored 760 on the January 2009 SAT Math Subject I Test.
- Brianna Schaad was selected as the Social Studies Department Student of the Second Marking Period.
- The Science Department has selected Cody Weber - a junior honors physics student - as the winner of the student of the 2nd marking period. He is intuitive and works very hard to understand the concepts in physics. Congratulations to Cody.
- At the Mt. Olive High School Exhibit/Scholarship Competition, Jovelle Ellefsen won a second place ribbon for her plaster sculpture.
- Selected by their teachers to participate in the judging for inclusion in the Morris Museum's Fresh Perspectives Exhibit were EB (2), SB, Karielle Sybesma (2), KC, Jovelle Ellefsen, GN (2), Kaitlyn Texel, and AZ (2). SB's photograph will be exhibited in the 2009 Fresh Perspectives Exhibit this spring.
- Fine Art students CC, Jackie Kraemer, and AZ (Art 3) and JH (Art 4) have volunteered to paint the backdrop for the spring musical, *Annie*.
- The Outstanding Visual Art Student of the Second Marking Period was EK.
- Six Graphic Design 2 students had their work selected to be published in the March issue of the *Monument*. Using their recently acquired knowledge of Adobe InDesign software, their assignment was to write an article about some aspect of "Life at HP." Selected for publication were topics by Sam Armitage, MP, Lindsay Bassani, MD, Jake Lewis, and Hannah Lindeblad.
- One-hundred-thirty Graphic Design 1 students created designs for this year's TSA 5-K Easter Run. The winning design was created by Hope Vandenakker.
- Ms. Riccardi and Mrs. Martin hosted the second annual District Choir Day at High Point on Tuesday, February 24. Sixty students from the sending districts joined with our eighty-one choir students to participate in the event. Present were students from Northwest Christian, Lafayette, Frankford, and Sussex-Wantage Schools.
- The District Band Concert was held February 12 with fifty-two young musicians accompanying the High Point Band. Members included students from Sussex Middle School, Sussex Christian School, and the Lafayette and Frankford Township Schools.
- Choir students KL, Justine Doherty, JO, and Austin Haggerty have been selected to perform with the Region Choir.
- German 2 student Brian McGuinness was recognized as the World Languages Department Student of the Marking Period.
- At its February meeting, the International Club learned about various Mardi Gras celebrations throughout the world.
- Twenty-five members of Carolyn Acker's Literature of the Holocaust and Genocide class participated in The Red Hand Campaign to stop the use of child soldiers in armed conflicts around the world. The goal of the worldwide campaign was to collect one million red hands, each containing a message and a signature, and to present them to the U.N. on Red Hand Day. Students collected 403 red hands to present to representatives of the United Nations.
- Erin Meyers' Art 2 students and Heather Strout's Creative Writing classes enjoyed a cross-curricular experience. Ms. Strout's students wrote poetry inspired by "coffee" to accompany Mrs. Meyers' students' work that is currently exhibited on the panels in the main hallway.
- RW was selected as the Student of the Marking Period by the English department. R "is an engaged learner and an intellectually curious young man. He writes thoughtfully, is open to constructive criticism, and provides meaningful class participation on a regular basis." In addition, he is "a conscientious student who is committed to academic excellence." Congratulations, R.

- ☉ Donniel Woloszyn was been accepted to Berkeley College in the Criminal Justice-Forensic Science program and has received a Merit Scholarship of \$3,250 each year for four years while she attends Berkeley.

STELLAR STAFF

- ☀ Dan Hennings has enrolled in a JAVA course at SCCC. The knowledge gained will improve the Intro to Programming course.
- ☀ Linda Abrams and Brian Feuer took part in the Peer Counseling Retreat on February 25 and 26.
- ☀ Anna Cuneo has been named Interim Golf Coach until Jack Regan's return.
- ☀ Laura Elmo is volunteering as advisor to the Girls' Lacrosse Club this spring.
- ☀ Scott Ripley and Seamus Campbell attended I&RS training on Feb 12, 2009.
- ☀ Chris Henry and Jackie Sutton brought the Sociology students to Bristol Glenn Retirement Community as a part of their Sociology project.
- ☀ Vince Mohan spoke to all American Studies I and American Conflict classes as a Civil War presenter.
- ☀ Becky Patterson is working as a liaison to Nicole Ostertag as she completes her twenty hours of observation in biology.
- ☀ Lisabeth Sunda is a cooperating teacher for Allison Ruggiero who is doing her student teaching in biology. Lisabeth will be mentoring her for 15 weeks.
- ☀ Pam Capaci, the Executive Director of Prevention Links (a non-profit organization in Union County), invited Heather Strout and Lisa Hodgins to facilitate creativity workshops and an open mic for over 500 high school students from around the state. The workshops were part of the annual Elks Youth Leadership Conference, which took place from February 5-9, at the Ocean Place Hotel.
- ☀ Heather Strout submitted a proposal for a possible presentation slot at the 2009 National Council of Teachers of English Conference, held in Philadelphia this November. Her proposal centers on successful ways to approach poetry with high school students.
- ☀ Jennifer DeSaye piloted an out-reach program for the parents of Special Education students who will be freshmen next year. She met with the parents to review the scheduling process and other pertinent information they should know in preparation for their high school children to enter.
- ☀ Scott Clausen (High Point Class of 2003) just completed his Field Work Term on Thursday, February 19. Clausen, a student at Bennington College in Vermont, worked primarily with Heather Strout's 9G students over the course of a two-month period.

ATHLETICS

- ☉ Congratulations to the Girls' Basketball team for defeating Wayne Valley in the first round of the states.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- 💡 Mr. Brian Drelick is piloting systems and global engineering curriculum in partnership with Stevens Institute of Technology and NJTEA.
- 💡 Marie Walsh attended a Differentiated Instruction Workshop on February 26. The workshop was sponsored by the Association of Mathematics Teachers of New Jersey (AMTNJ).
- 💡 Laura Elmo attended a workshop on the campus of Rutgers University entitled How to Teach Calculus to Non-AP Students on February 10.
- 💡 Kory Loyola and the Mock Trial team are the SCIL Mock Trial champions for 2009. Team members include the following students: Devin Henry, Lauren Bayse, Colin Fricke, David Smith, EP, Cody Weber, Monroe Graham, SP, and SB. Despite a great effort, the team lost in the first round of the Northern Regional State competition.
- 💡 Rena Mills attended a Teaching Mythology workshop at Montclair State University on February 5. The workshop focused on interesting and creative ways to engage today's students in Greek mythology.
- 💡 Heather Strout helped to facilitate an acoustic open mic night for teens on Friday, February 13, at the Wantage Library. The event was attended by over fifty young people.

- 💡 Sandy Sullivan attended a free workshop that presented a hands-on tool kit for creating transition programs at several different developmental levels.

MEDIA RECOGNITION

- The Advertiser-News**, February 26, 2009 - *“Math Whizzes”*
- The Advertiser-News**, February 25, 2009 - *“Prom Fashion Show 2009”*
- The New Jersey Herald**, February 22, 2009 - *“Wildcats three-peat”*
- The New Jersey Herald**, February 19, 2009 - *“Wildcats riding high”*
- The New Jersey Herald**, February 19, 2009 - *“High Point survives, tops Vernon”*
- The New Jersey Herald**, February 13, 2009 - *“Pope John, High Point share SCIL championship”*
- The New Jersey Herald**, February 11, 2009 - *“The Verdict: High Point Wins”*
- The New Jersey Herald**, February 10, 2009 - *“Wildcats riding high”*
- The New Jersey Herald**, February 4, 2009 - *“Defense carries High Point”*

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

- 👤 High Point hosted the Joint Regional Board of Education meeting in the library on February 2. Over thirty-five members of the community - including Regional Board Members, Superintendents, Principals, Curriculum Directors, and school staff - attended. Presentations were given by curriculum staff from the sending districts as well as High Point's Language Arts Supervisor (Mary Hassenplug) and Library/Media Specialist (Mimi Fenlon). Curriculum Director Janice Mezier informed the audience about the new graduation requirements and High Point's other initiatives. Many compliments and positive comments were received from the attendees about the various presentations.
- 👤 The Math Department will be revising and developing a number of curriculum guides during the March 23 In-Service. Algebra II CP B, Math Lab, Pre-Calculus B, and Pre-Algebra CP C will be among those courses under renovation.
- 👤 Honors testing for all students wishing to enroll in the ninth grade Honors World Studies course was completed.
- 👤 In-house testing for High Point students wishing to enroll in Honors or AP courses was also completed, except for make-ups.
- 👤 The March 23 In-Service will focus on curriculum revision and the World Peace Day Festival.
- 👤 The Peer Counseling group of over fifty students went on their annual retreat to Fairview Lakes Camp and Conference Center in Stillwater. The group focused their attention on how they can each make a difference in the lives of others, one at a time. The retreat is organized and facilitated by the Steering Committee.
- 👤 The Science Research team will present a poster of their work and results at a Symposium in June (held at G.E. Healthcare).
- 👤 The Science League team in Physics II placed 1st in February, while the Physics I team placed 3rd in their monthly competition.
- 👤 The Science Department will be focusing on their curriculum revision during the March In-Service.
- 👤 During the March 23 In-service program, the English Department will explore the new Core Curriculum Content Standards for Language Arts and the 21st century skills initiative to establish a plan for implementing them throughout the core courses.
- 👤 Bonnie Puzio and the Special Education Resource Biology classes are starting their second dissection of the school year. The Resource Biology classes have never done dissections until this year. Earlier in the year, they dissected a frog; they are going to dissect a fetal pig in March.
- 👤 Students enrolled in both the Media Tech and Resource Biology classes worked together to create a video of a frog dissection that could be used by other classes or students. This was a wonderful project that is nearing completion.

- 👨‍👩‍👧 The Child Study Team has been visiting the sending districts to assist with the scheduling of next year's freshmen. They will complete the process in the beginning of March.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 📅 The MCI Program students will be returning in March to the Arthur & Friends Greenhouse for more instruction in hydroponics farming.
- 📅 The Resource Biology class and the LLD Program students will be going to the American Museum of Natural History in March.
- 📅 The Forensic classes, along with AP Biology, are planning a trip to see the Bodies exhibit in New York City.
- 📅 Chris Henry will attend the NJASC/ State Student Council Meeting on March 3.
- 📅 Fifteen FBLA members will be competing in the State Competition March 12 and 13 in Edison, NJ, to vie for a trip to the Nationals competition in Anaheim, CA, in June. We wish them luck!
- 📅 Barbara Fasano will attend Softball Spring training Camp from March 12 - 15.
- 📅 On March 13, an opera expert will visit our Italian 3 and 4 classes and introduce them to the works of Rossini with a particular emphasis on *La Cenerentola*.
- 📅 The next meeting of the Peer Counseling group will be held on Tuesday, March 17.
- 📅 Erik Carlson will attend the Model Congress Conference on March 19 and 20.
- 📅 The Student Council powder puff football game will take place on Friday, March 20.
- 📅 Scott Ripley and the Academic Team will take part in the Livingston Quiz Bowl Competition on March 28, the Bloomfield Team Competition on March 7, and the SCIL Quiz bowl Competition on March 2 through March 6.
- 📅 Italian 3 and 4 students will attend a performance of *La Cenerentola* (Rossini) at the Dicapo Opera Theatre in New York on March 20.
- 📅 In April, the FBLA Shadow Program will take place. Students will shadow local businesspeople to explore potential careers of their choice. The Wallkill Valley Rotary club has graciously donated their time to this endeavor to connect our students with members of the local community.
- 📅 The annual in-house math screening test will be administered on April 9 and 10.
- 📅 Scott Ripley and the Debate Team will take part in the Princeton Debate Competition on April 17 and 18.
- 📅 The annual International Foods Day celebration will take place on Friday, April 23.