

High Point Regional High School

An Inside Look

September 2008

STUDENT STARS

- The math department is proud to recognize the following students for their SAT accomplishments: **JA - 750; Jennie Clinton - 700; Ian Distefano - 710; Brandon Maggio - 710; TM - 800 (SAT II); SM - 700.** These students join eleven 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 seventeen of these students on the mathematics department bulletin board.
- The art department has created two new initiatives for the 2008-2009 school year: 1) Identifying our Experts; 2) Enriching the Senior Year.
- Senior **Dilek Baykara** is working on these initiatives in an exciting way. Dilek attended the Governor's School for Fine Arts this summer. She also received a Naomi Winston Scholarship to attend a four-week summer workshop on gesture and life drawing at the University of the Arts in Philadelphia. Her experiences were so inspiring that she accepted Mr. Sorchik's invitation to lead his life drawing lessons. Baykara and Sorchik are, in essence, team teaching this unit for Fine Arts 3 and 4 Portfolio classes.
- Junior **GN**, a Graphic Design 3 student, re-created a t-shirt design for Mr. Costello and his Peer Counseling group. Using a previous design selection, G completed this "rush order" within two days so that the shirts could be printed and delivered to their first meeting of the year.
- Graphic Design 3 student **Brandon Ritter** created visually enhanced keyboard templates using Illustrator and Photoshop for **Mr. Henning's** word processing class.
- Graphic Design 3 student **EK** created the tolerance and diversity fliers for **Mr. Youngman**.
- Graphic Design 2 students created a new line of High Point t-shirt designs to be considered for printing and sale in the school store. They are now in the selection process.
- Thirty-five students auditioned for the Chambers Singers Choir.
- Approximately fifty students auditioned for the fall drama, Stage Door. A cast of twenty-nine was selected.
- Fifteen students were selected for the drama tech crew based on availability and experience.
- The duo of **JO** and **Erin McCormick** performed for the staff on the first day of school.
- **Melody Biber** and **Kara Bonn** participated in the Waksman Student Research summer program at Rutgers University.
- The High Point Technology Student Association (29 students) returned from the National Conference in Orlando with six top ten awards. Four thousand eight hundred students from around the United States and Germany attended the conference. The winners were as follows:
 - 4th Place - Technology Challenge - **Sam Brummell and AR;**
 - 5th Place - Agriculture and Biotechnical Design - **Cloe Kawecki and Sarah DeFalco;**
 - 6th Place - Transportation Modeling - **Carolyn Wallace and Kaitlyn Churchman;**
 - 6th Place - Animatronics - **Andrew Malone, JR, DM, and DR**
 - 7th Place - CAD Animation Architecture - **MS;**
 - 9th Place - Electronic Research and Experimentation - **BL, Andrew Fedynich, and CW.**
- **Ruben Mieses**, senior, attended FBLA Nationals June 26-30, in Atlanta, along with **JD**, Class of '08. Ruben attended leadership workshops and competed in the Business Ethics event at FBLA. Ruben will be our FBLA President this year.
- Seniors **Alex Sajak** and **Colin Fricke** have been named co-editors for this year's edition of *Calliope*, High Point's literary and arts magazine.
- On Thursday, September 25, thirty members of creative writing, creative writing workshop, and/or *Calliope* attended Student Day at the twelfth biennial Geraldine R. Dodge Poetry Festival at Waterloo Village. Throughout the day, students enjoyed readings and presentations by the finest names in contemporary poetry, such as **Mark Doty, Lucille Clifton, and Naomi Shihab Nye.** Students were accompanied by **Mary Hassenplug, Nancy White, Laraine Reedy, Lisa Hodgins, Erin Meyers, and Heather Strout.**

ATHLETICS

- High Point is proud to have 328 students participating in fall athletics.
- Our Week of Lights had a great turnout in terms of attendance and performance. Boys' soccer defeated Lenape Valley, Girls soccer defeated Lenape Valley, field hockey defeated Sparta, and Football defeated Kittatinny.
- Unfortunately, the anticipated annual bon fire was canceled due to inclement weather. However, the pep rally that was held in the gym was a great success.
- Parents' Day for fall sports athletes has been moved to November 1 due to weather.
- Girls' tennis finished second in the SCLI festival, and made states! The team defeated West Milford in first round, but fell to Tenafly in the second round.
- Cross country participated in the Roxbury, Passaic County, and Shore Conference Invitationals.

STELLAR STAFF

- 🔥 Welcome aboard to **Kate Harnish** (Penn State University) and **Laura Elmo** (FDU). Both join the math department after completing their degrees in Mathematics.
- 🔥 Welcome back to **Justine Riegel**. **Justine** was on maternity leave.
- 🔥 **Madelaine Travaille** and **Liana Heller** participated with two students in the summer research program at Rutgers University.
- 🔥 **Mark Wallace** has been asked to do a presentation on High Point's Women In Engineering course at the annual conference of the National Association For Single Sex Education.
- 🔥 **Mark Wallace** has been asked by Johnson and Wales University College of Education to assist in the development of a five year Master's Degree program in Technology Education.
- 🔥 **Mark Wallace** has been published in the September issue of Technology Teacher Magazine, published by the International Technology Education Association. His article was on the outstanding program of study offered at High Point Regional High School. Lemelson-MIT School of Engineering has already contacted Mr. Wallace because of this article to discuss possible partnerships.
- 🔥 **Mark Wallace** has applied to be on the Sussex County Chamber of Commerce Education Committee. The committee develops and sustains short and long-range programs for the county business community in support of high quality elementary, secondary, and higher educational environments. Examples of programs include educational statements, college/business partnerships, scholarship support, and cooperative education programs - all of which are part of High Point's partnership initiatives.
- 🔥 On Monday, September 15, **Heather Strout** was a featured presenter at a poetry reading held at Centenary College. She was invited by Dr. Mary Newell, director of the student writing program and website. Ms. Strout read five pieces of her original work, much of which was generated while writing in her classroom with her students.
- 🔥 **Laraine Reedy** was one of 15 poets chosen to participate in an exclusive weekend workshop with poet Naomi Shihab Nye at Chatham University in Pittsburgh, during the university's annual poetry festival. Reedy submitted ten original poems for review and will be traveling to Pittsburgh the weekend of Oct. 3-5 for this event.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- 💡 Five teachers from the mathematics department (**Anna Cuneo, Susan Moss, Christina Puzio, Justine Riegel, and Marie Walsh**) will attend sessions at the two-day AMTNJ (Association of Mathematics Teachers of New Jersey) annual conference. The conference will be held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Somerset, New Jersey, on October 23-24. Sessions will include SMARTboard, computer, and graphing calculator workshops, as well as the latest in hands-on lessons, real-world applications, and teaching strategies. All department members attended a mathematics-specific SMARTboard session sponsored by Rutgers University as part of the October 13 in-service. The department has made a conscious effort to infuse technology into all courses at all levels.
- 💡 On September 26, **Josephine Aiello** attended Montclair State's Coccia Institute for a workshop with an emphasis on strategies designed to teach speaking in Italian.
- 💡 **Brian Drelick** and **Stephen Peltier** participated for 10 days this summer in the BUILD IT program at Stevens Institute Technology as part of a national underwater robotics curriculum project.
- 💡 **Brian Drelick** and **Stephen Peltier** participated for 4 days this summer in the Systems and Global Engineering Project through Stevens Institute of Technology. The project will be piloted this year as an International Collaboration project designed to promote engineering and technology.
- 💡 **Kevin Fenlon** attended a two-day summer workshop for School TV News Shows & Video Projects in Amherst, NY. Adobe's Visual Communicator software was used to provide an affordable TV production solution. It included advanced green screen technology used in Hollywood movies and weather newscasts.
- 💡 **Chris Henry** and **Jackie Sutton** attended the Pass-it-Along Student Conference on Sept 25, 2008.
- 💡 On Friday, September 26, **Heather Strout** and **Laraine Reedy** attended Teacher Day at the Dodge Poetry Festival. They heard readings and presentations by current US Poet Laureate, Charles Simic, as well as other renowned poets, such as Ted Kooser and Billy Collins (former US Poet Laureates), Naomi Shihab Nye, Sharon Olds, Coleman Barks, and Edward Hirsch. Throughout the day, the two English teachers collected new names for the creative writing library as well as many new ideas to enhance and expand the current curriculum.
- 💡 On Saturday, September 27, **Tricia Woodhead** attended the Dodge Poetry Festival and saw Sharon Olds and Chris Abani present original poetry and listened to Billy Collins give a conversation on the craft of poetry. It was a refreshing and enriching experience!
- 💡 From June 30 to July 11, 2008, **Carolyn Acker** attended the Summer Fellowship Institute for Teaching the Holocaust, Genocides, and Human Rights Issues at the Holocaust Genocide and Human Rights Center at Brookdale Community College in Lincroft, New Jersey. She also attended a lecture entitled The Eight Stages of Genocide at Drew University on September 23, 2008. The lecture was the first of a three-part series on Genocide as a Process. **Mrs. Acker** teaches the new English elective Literature of the Holocaust and other Genocides.

MEDIA RECOGNITION

The New Jersey Herald, September 21, 2008 – “Prevent breakup of Sussex County sports”

The New Jersey Herald, September 21, 2008 – “High Point’s JC”

The New Jersey Herald, September 21, 2008 – “High Point defeats Lenape Valley”

Advertiser-News North, September 18, 2008 – “Regional adult education program starts registration”

The New Jersey Herald, August 26, 2008 – “Looking for more”

The New Jersey Herald, July 20, 2008 – “High Point being pushed out?”

The New Jersey Herald, July 11, 2008 – “Plan will realign the SCIL by size”

The New Jersey Herald, June 12, 2008 – “Micro discovery – Students ID protein; help cancer research”

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

- 👤 The new SAT preparation course is successfully under way with 35 students receiving instruction and preparation.
- 👤 All math department course outlines and curriculum guides were updated by **Gene Emering** in August for on-line publication.
- 👤 A virtual algebra tutorial from West Texas A&M University will be added to the math department website this month. The site will provide immediate topic-specific help for students in Algebra I, Algebra II, and Pre-Calculus.
- 👤 The College Prep A Chemistry curriculum was revised for 2008-2009 to include a new textbook, *Chemistry*. This new series will enable the teachers and students to apply chemistry to everyday problems.
- 👤 All of the biology teachers met in August to review and update their course outlines and curriculum guides and relate them to the End Of Course Assessment in Biology.
- 👤 The Science Research Club conducts primary research in molecular biology. Students are working on the identification of genes from *Artemia franciscana* (brine shrimp). Students meet weekly for lecture from September to December. Students must also meet weekly during that time to perform DNA extraction and purification (mini-prep), restriction digests, gel electrophoresis, and bioinformatics analysis of sequence results. Students dedicate 2 or more hours a week working on their research in hopes that they discover a gene and ultimately publish their results in the National Center of Biotechnology Information database. This database provides genetic information for scientists across the world. Rutgers remains the only university sponsoring a program which allows students to publish into the NCBI database. High Point Regional High School is 1 of 20 schools participating in the program. This year the club has grown from 5 members to 28. These students are working in teams of 2 or 3. The supplies for these experiments are provided by Rutgers University through a grant from the National Science Foundation and support from GE Healthcare. In addition, Rutgers has provided High Point Regional High School with expensive lab equipment through a grant from Toshiba. The equipment consists of a Transilluminator, camera set up, photo printer (to take pictures of DNA gels), and 6 micropipettors. The cost of the equipment alone is approximately \$4000.00.
- 👤 Rutherford school system will visit our technological studies department on November 19.
- 👤 On September 17, 2008 Anthem University (formerly Chubb) did a presentation to business studies students on what happens after high school.
- 👤 Full Sail University will do a presentation to technology and business students on October 10.
- 👤 Belvedere School systems and is looking to duplicate our Architecture program offerings.
- 👤 **Mr. Wallace, Mr. Kappler, Mrs. Hennion, Mr. Peltier, Mr. Dutko, and Mr. Hennings** are looking into establishing partnerships with dual credit courses in CADD, Architecture, Accounting, Business, and Programming with Sussex County Community College.
- 👤 FBLA started its year with a pizza meeting on September 16. We welcome new members!
- 👤 The focus for the social studies department during the October 13 in-service is curriculum mapping and SMARTboard training.
- 👤 Seniors studying *Siddhartha* in **Laraine Reedy’s** English12A had a taste of Eastern mindset and culture by participating in a teacher-led "bodies on" experience of yoga. In addition, there were several meditation exercises and assignments incorporated into the study of Hinduism and Buddhism as a context for better understanding the journey of Hesse's protagonist.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 👤 On October 23, sophomore social studies classes will visit Pax Amicus Theater for a production on Edgar Allan Poe as part of a language arts field trip. Teachers attending are **Joe Santora, David Ruppert, Kory Loyola, and Jim Brown**.
- 👤 **Joe Santora** will attend the NJSBA convention in Atlantic City on October 29 and 30.
- 👤 Sophomore American Literature students will be attending a performance of the works of Edgar Allan Poe on October 22 and 23 at Pax Amicus Theater in Budd Lake, NJ.
- 👤 A representative from Berkeley College will speak to several twelfth grade English classes on the topic of first impressions, a program offering guidance and suggestions on job and college interview techniques.