



Hollis Brookline High School

February 11, 2011
www.hollisbrookline.org

Some thoughts from the Principal ...

Let it snow, let it snow! Our teachers are doing a great job staying on target with all the school time lost due to the weather. It is rare to have the students tell me that they don't want anymore snow days, but in fact they are! We are hoping we have crossed the hurdle and are on the upside of the weather but we shall see. I know many of you are anxious to know the date for graduation but we have to wait until the first of April to set the date due to future potential weather cancellations. As soon as it is set, I will notify you.

Spirit Week runs from **February 21 - 25** and the high school hallways will be charged with energy, creativity and levity. The Penny War kicks off this event and begins next week as students will be dropping off their pennies and loose change during lunch, competing to see which class can raise the largest amount of pennies for a local fuel assistance program. Each class has chosen their theme for their skits and plans are underway for their posters to decorate the gym for the **Pep Rally on Friday, February 25**. If you see your high school student dressed in pajamas to come to school on Monday, February 21st, don't worry as that is the theme for the day! Tuesday is formal day, Wednesday is ugly sweater day, Thursday is plaid day, and Friday is blue and white day. School spirit is alive and well at HBHS!

On Monday, February 14th the senior class will participate in a SaLT experience similar to the experience the Class of 2010 had in September 2009. All members of the senior class will attend a day-long team-building session, with the goal of developing mutual trust as well as cooperative problem-solving and leadership skills at the Hampshire Dome in Milford. This is part of a larger initiative to make the senior year more meaningful. This tone-setting event will pave the way for other activities and programs during the remainder of the year. Seniors will share leadership roles and build a sense of community within the building and beyond.

Congratulations to the nine students and two staff members who braved the cold and plunged into the ocean at the annual Penguin Plunge on February 5th. These brave souls raised over \$3500 for Special Olympics!! Mr. Ouellette and Mr. Kelley led the group of students into the chilly ocean! The High School Plunge is a Special Olympics New Hampshire fundraising event entering its THIRD year. Thanks to all who participated in the Plunge and to all who donated to this very worthwhile cause.

Be sure to mark your calendars for the upcoming musical, ***The King and I***, that will be performed on **March 25 and 26th**. The students and Ms. Tomlinson, Ms. Bissonnette, Mr. Umstead, and Mrs. Zingales have been working very hard already. This play will also feature a number of younger students from the elementary schools! It is sure to be a wonderful performance that you won't want to miss!

Thanks to Julie Sullivan and the entire Guidance staff, HBHS has joined the New Hampshire Scholars Program. This program recognizes academic achievement for students who successfully complete a rigorous course of studies identified by the program. For more information on the New Hampshire Scholars Program, go to their website at www.nhscholars.org.

The registration process for next year's courses will begin shortly. The Program of Studies is almost complete and will be going online for your perusal in the next couple of weeks. Guidance will be providing a course selection information evening for parents on Wednesday, February 23rd in room 221/222 and all course selection sheets for students in grades 9-11 will be due by March 11th. Further information and times are located in the Guidance portion of this newsletter.

As many of you are aware, February and March are key months in the budget process. You may have heard that there is a proposal to cut a number of positions, as well as the Latin program, at HBHS. I encourage you to keep abreast of information being made public and to attend meetings to learn about the issues for yourselves and support whatever budget you feel is in the best interest of your children's education. I understand that these are tough economic times for some and each of you has to make a choice that is right for your family. I can assure you that I will continue to work hard to maintain an efficient budget that will provide a quality education for the children of Hollis and Brookline as you have become accustomed to. It goes without saying that cutting the budget to a point that reduces staff and programs will have a negative impact on our students' education and it is concerning to me that we are at this point. **I look forward to seeing many of you at the District meeting on March 16 where you will have the opportunity to have your voice heard.**

Cindy Matte



FROM THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT

This April, the HBHS Honors Jazz Band will be traveling to New York City for a unique cultural experience. In order to raise funds for this trip, we are accepting donations of DVD and video games which will be recycled for a profit. Please help by delivering items to the Main office or the Band room.



SCHEDULE FOR PLC FRIDAYS—EVERY FRIDAY

Period 1	8:05—8:51
Period 2	8:55—9:40
Period 3	9:44—10:29
Period 4	10:33—11:56
Period 5	12:00—12:45
Period 6	12:49—1:34
Period 7	1:38—2:24

HEALTH OFFICE SNIPPETS

Do you have any unused crutches at home? If so, we could use some extras in the health office. If your child borrowed crutches from the health office, please return them when they are no longer needed.



Has your son/daughter had a visit to the ER or to their Primary Care Physician? Have you asked your medical provider for how to best meet their medical needs during the school day? Medical documentation is crucial. We can support by:

- Informing staff of classroom needs
- Excusing absences
- Issuing elevator passes
- Following any accommodation to best support your child

If medications (OTC's or prescriptions) are involved, **remember we do have a strict 'medication in school' policy.** Students are not to carry any medication in school without the proper documentation and communication to the health office.

Visit hollisbrookline.org to access the Health Office website which has our contact information, forms, and links! **Confidential Fax 603-465-2485 ***Phone 603-465-2269 x137.** Thank you. Cathy Burbee and Susan Patz.

A NOTE FROM YOUR PTSA



We hope you have all taken the S-Team survey that was sent out in the 1/24/11 Alert Now email from our Principal, Cindy Matte. Each year the HBHS PTSA works hard to raise funds to provide a safe and substance-free gathering after graduation. We want to increase participation so we are hoping the survey will give us some valuable information so we can do what's best for our Seniors!

On Tuesday, Feb. 15, Brookline's Chief of Police Bill Quigley and our HBHS resource officer Tracy Dunne will host a drug awareness presentation at HBHS in the auditorium at 7p. It will focus on the observable signs and effects of drug use, specifically prescription drugs and today's marijuana.

Have your children commented on the new PLC's which gives them a free hour every Friday morning from 7:15-8:05? It seems as though after 2 weeks things are running smoothly. Stay tuned for more information on this initiative.

We hope you will all take the time to attend the HBHS Co-Op Budget Committee meeting on Thursday Feb. 17th and the HBHS Annual School District meeting on Wed., March 16th. It is so important to educate yourself and become informed about all of the issues facing the school, budgets, and our children's education.

Our next meeting will be on Wed, Mar. 16, at 6:30pm at HBHS, just prior to the Annual school district mtg.

Hoping for no more snow days!

Jill Russell russell33@charter.net 620-2825

Kristen Berry Kbellep@aol.com 465-7447

BOOSTER CLUB NEWS

As we look out our windows it may not seem like it, but Spring is coming! That means it is time for our **Winter Sports Awards Night**. This year it will be **Tuesday, March 15th at 6:00pm** in the gym! We are looking forward to celebrating with all our student athletes. Coaches, parents, and athletes, please consider taking pictures and submitting them for our slideshow. We want to be sure to include all our teams in the slideshow. If you have pictures that you would like to share, please put them on a disc and get them to Jessie in the Athletic office before March 7th, 2011.

It is time to begin thinking about the 2011-2012 school year and the election of new officers for the Booster Club. We are still in critical need of people to help out. We will be accepting nominations for officers at our March meetings, with elections being held in April. Our meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month unless otherwise publicized. Please consider stepping up and helping out our HB athletes. If interested, please contact me at cwvanc@gmail.com.

The date for the Annual Golf Tournament that helps fund the three Awards Night plus many other areas of the sports programs has been set. It will be held September 12, 2011 at the Overlook Golf Course. Watch for more details to come on this great event.

Our **next meeting** will be on **Wednesday, March 9th at 7:00 p.m.**

Cindy VanCoughnett, President

HOLLIS WOMAN'S CLUB NEWS

It's not too early to start cleaning your closets and collecting 'valuables' for the Hollis Woman's Club annual **Yard Sale** in April! The date this year is **Saturday, April 8th** at the Lawrence Barn from **8am to noon**, with set-up time Friday night. Table space will be sold at \$20 per space if you bring your own 6' table, or \$25 if the club supplies one. Space is limited and this always sells out, so please call Jeanne Cleveland at 465-2097 if you are interested in participating!

IMPORTANT DATES AT HBHS

Feb. 15	Drug Awareness program 7:00pm HBHS auditorium
Feb. 17	Co-Op Budget Mtg.
Feb. 23	2011/'12 Course Selection Meeting (see Guidance section for details)
Feb. 28	WINTER RECESS (1 week)
Mar. 4	Registration deadline for 4/9 ACT
Mar. 8	EARLY RELEASE
Mar. 9	Booster Club mtg., 7:00pm HBHS
Mar. 15	Winter Sports Awards—6pm, HS Gym
Mar. 16	Hollis District Mtg.—HS Auditorium
Mar. 16	PTSA Mtg., 6:30pm HBHS
Mar.25&26	"The King & I" (school play)
Mar. 26	NHHEAF Statewide College Convention (Juniors and their parents, @ SNHU
April 8	Registration deadline for 5/7 SAT
April 12	"Understanding Bullying" 7:00pm HBHS auditorium
May 6	Registration deadline for 6/11 SAT And ACT

From Your Guidance Department

February seems to be one of the busiest months of the year in Guidance. This month alone we have sent out mid-year grades for our senior students to all applied colleges, updated the College Handbook, assisted with the Program of Studies, reviewed PSAT scores, and helped our junior students open accounts in College Board and Naviance. The distribution of the PSAT is a nice and gradual introduction into the college application process. Counselors will meet with parents and students for the **Junior College Evening Presentation** on the **10th of February**. Mr. Holding will once again entertain and hopefully awe us with his fabulous and hilarious presentation about the college essay. Parents who unavoidably must miss either of these events can locate copies of the Power Point on the Guidance website, and copies of Mr. Holding's notes in the Guidance office. Feel free to come to the Guidance office to pick up this information. On March 14th and 18th counselors will meet again in a small group format with junior students to delve further into the college search and review the process in more detail. A reminder to parents that the College Handbook is a wonderful resource for information, contains current information and updated test dates. This handbook can be found online at www.hollisbrookline.org – guidance – college information.

Report cards were distributed to the students. As parents and students utilize Power School to check grades, the report card has become demystified. However, it is important for students to review these reports and ensure correct information has been stored.

Senior Credit Letters — The counselors are sending home **credit check letters** to all seniors. These letters specifically review courses that need successful completion in order to fulfill the remaining graduation requirements. If there are any questions or concerns, please be sure to contact the counselor as soon as possible.

2011 – 2012 Course Registration: Outlined here is the tentative schedule for informational presentations to review course registration.

Student Presentations:

February 22 – Course Selection – Grade 10 – period 2
February 22 – Course Selection – Grade 11 – period 5
February 23 – Course Selection – Grade 9 – period 3

Parent Presentations – Room 221:

February 23 – Grade 9 Parents 6:00 pm
Grade 10 Parents 6:45 pm
Grade 11 Parents 7:30 pm

Grade 8 Presentations:

March 29, 2011 — Evening Course Selection Presentation
March 30, 2011 — Counselors will meet with 8th grade students at HBMS

More information will be sent in a separate mailing!

Advanced Placement Testing — Advanced Placement testing will begin and occur during the first two weeks of May. Counselors will be going to all the Advanced Placement classes to distribute 'Bulletin for AP Students and Parents', discuss the tests on February 16th, 17th and 18th and review the registration process. Information will be placed on the website as well.

Information Sessions and Tours — We are delighted that so many families find Hollis Brookline High School a potential option for their children and we are happy to answer any questions new members to our community have regarding the high school. However, due to the overwhelming amount of requests to talk with a counselor and tour the school, the Guidance department offers two time slots during the week for Information Sessions and Tours. Please call the Guidance Office (465-2269 x128) to schedule a time to come.

Communication — Please be sure to check our website and read the daily notices (www.hollisbrookline.org) for all new information. We try to update both these sources of information on a weekly and sometimes daily basis.

Senior News

College Admissions — Admission decisions will be coming out periodically but there will be many colleges notifying students at the end of March and early April. Congratulations to all students receiving acceptances to colleges. We ask that students please share with their counselors where they have been accepted and where they have not. This helps the counselors work with juniors as they start their college process. Please let us know where you plan to attend. This helps us prepare for the end of the year report and forwarding final transcripts to colleges. We love hearing good news about students' successes, and of course the bell ringing is fun, too! Any student who still wishes to make application should meet with their counselor as there are many schools with open deadlines and offer wonderful opportunities.

Accepted Student Open Houses — Colleges will be hosting Accepted Student days on their campus' in the spring. This is a great time to see the college through the lens of an accepted student, not a potential admission candidate. These days often help students make that final decision. If the college does not host such an event, it is very helpful to make some time to see the campus again to get a clear idea about your choice. Colleges welcome potential students to visit classes and experience the life of a student on their campus. Be sure to take advantage of this opportunity.

Financial Aid Information — Financial aid deadlines are here. Be sure to get financial aid information in as soon as possible. Any delay in this process can disadvantage a family from receiving aid. If you have concerns regarding financial aid at this time, an appointment with the college financial aid office is a good way to learn about that particular college's financial aid opportunities. All colleges require the FAFSA form from families that are considering financial aid. To fill out the FAFSA, use the government website: www.FAFSA.gov.org. Again, for most colleges the FAFSA must be submitted between February 1 and March 1, 2011. Financial Aid materials are available online either through the government website or the College Board. Please check the Guidance website for more scholarship and financial aid information. Don't self-select yourself out of the financial aid process. You never know unless you apply!!

Some private colleges will require the CSS PROFILE. The PROFILE is only for private colleges and only certain schools use this form. It can only be submitted electronically and can be accessed through the College Board website at www.collegeboard.com. The PROFILE can be submitted at any time, but should be submitted before March 15th (Always important to know the deadline the specific college has posted).

Senior News—cont'd

Another great source of information is the NH Higher Education Assistance Foundation (NHHEAF) in Concord. NHHEAF can be reached by e-mail www.nhheaf.org or calling 1-800-525-2577. Financial Aid materials are available in both Guidance and the library at HBHS. Again, please check the Guidance website for more scholarship and financial aid information.

Scholarships — Scholarship season is here and new scholarship opportunities are arriving daily in Guidance. A list of scholarships is located on the NAVIANCE website and is updated as frequently as scholarship information comes in. Applications can be accessed electronically or found in the scholarship drawer in Guidance. Please be aware of the procedures in place to ensure scholarship information is sent out in a timely fashion and has the necessary information attached. We ask students to please fill out the purple scholarship request form that lists the name of the scholarship and what is needed to complete the scholarship packet. These forms are found in Guidance near the appointment slips. Students are asked to give the counselor at least 48 hours prior to the postmarked deadline for processing. The **Naviance** – Family Connection – Scholarship – website is the best source of information so please check it often.

NCAA — Senior athletes interested in participating on athletic teams in college must register with the NCAA. This must be done online at www.NCAA.org for general information and www.eligibilitycenter.org for registration.

The NCAA Clearinghouse will require an official transcript be sent from Guidance. Guidance is happy to send the transcript to the Clearinghouse, but it is imperative that you have registered or HBHS will not receive notification to submit your transcript. One transcript is typically sent when you complete your initial eligibility, and your final transcript will be sent when you graduate. It is also important to have your SAT scores sent directly to the Clearinghouse. NCAA will not accept a copy sent from the individual high school. Remember, if you do not complete your NCAA requirements, it will delay your ability to compete at the collegiate level, so it is important to register and it is good practice to notify your counselor as soon as possible.

Junior News

It is now the juniors' turn to get into the college admission frenzy. Counselors are already busy meeting with juniors and their parents discussing options and colleges to visit. With two vacations on the horizon, it may be helpful to start scheduling college visits. All appointments to visit college campuses can be made through the admission office of the college or on the college's websites. By notifying the admissions office, families can be assured a tour and an interview if the school offers or allows them. February and April vacations are perfect times to visit college campuses. It is very helpful for the student to see the college students on the campus and it is more difficult to get a sense of the college in the summer when students are not present. Sometimes the hustle and bustle of the campus, or lack thereof, has a big impact on the decision of the student.

College Admission Handbook — The College Admission Handbook is now complete and will only be available online. If for some reason you do not have access to a computer, we would be happy to print a copy for you. It is hoped that going online will help ease school expenses. This handbook offers an enormous amount of information about the college admission process and is best used as a resource tool. It also has a sample of forms utilized in the process. The online version can be found on the Hollis Brookline website under the Guidance tab – college information.

Destination College — The New Hampshire Higher Education Assistance Foundation (NHHEAF) is sponsoring its annual state-wide college convention for high school juniors and their parents. **This free event will be held at Southern New Hampshire University on Saturday, March 26th.** Pre-registration is required and can be done online at www.destinationcollege.org. Reservations must be received in advance. This is a great program that offers a variety of workshops for students and parents, motivational speakers, a "mini" college fair, and an opportunity to enter a scholarship raffle.

SAT Information, SAT Reasoning Tests, and SAT Subject Tests — Registration for upcoming tests is ongoing through the College Board website, www.collegeboard.com. Deadlines are approaching quickly! **Registration deadline is six weeks prior to test date.**

SAT Reasoning Test/Subject Tests:

Test Dates 2011

Saturday, March 12, 2011*
Saturday, May 7, 2011
Saturday, June 4, 2011

Test Dates for Fall/Spring 2011-12

Saturday, October 1, 2011
Saturday, November 5, 2011
Saturday, December 3, 2011
Saturday, January 28, 2012
Saturday, May, 5, 2012
Saturday, June, 2, 2012

**No SAT Subject Tests are administered on this date)*

SAT's are not administered at HBHS but are available at Milford, Nashua, Souhegan and other local schools. It is important to plan testing around busy sports and activity schedules in the spring. Check with coaches and club advisors as to what weekend dates games, meets and activities may be scheduled.

SAT Subject Tests are required by a small percentage of schools, but always by the most competitive colleges. Students may want to think about taking these tests at the end of the year when they finish the corresponding class (i.e., accelerated biology students may want to take the SAT subject test in biology at the end of 9th/10th grade and/or pre-calculus students may want to register for the Math II SAT subject test at the end of that academic year). Students may take three subject tests on one test date as they are each only one hour in length. Score Choice is also available for Subject tests.

ACT — Students can also take the ACT. Colleges look at the ACT and the SAT interchangeably so there is no disadvantage to taking either or both. Some students find they do better on the ACT than the SAT so it is worth investigating or asking your counselor about this test. Registration and general ACT information can be found on www.ACT.org

ACT Assessment Test Dates 2011

April 9, 2011
June 11, 2011

ACT Test Dates for Fall/ Spring 2011-12

September 10, 2011
October 22, 2011
December 10, 2011
February 11, 2012
April 14, 2012
June 9, 2012

****Optional Writing Test for the ACT is highly recommended.**

Junior News—Cont'd

2011/2012 Course Registration — Counselors will be meeting with junior students to review course selection on February 22nd. Counselors are happy to meet individually with students to review selections and align courses with anticipated college plans.

Sophomore News

As with the junior PSAT takers, counselors have been meeting with any sophomore students who participated in the fall testing and reviewing test results.

Counselors will be meeting with 10th grade students on February 22nd to discuss registration for the upcoming academic year. Counselors will review the Program of Studies, online procedures and general information to assist in the selection of their upcoming year's classes. Counselors will also meet individually with students at the student's request to go over their academic and career plans.

NEW this year — The counselors will be hosting an **introductory college admission evening presentation for parents and students**. It is hoped that by providing information earlier will help parents and students enter this process feeling more confident, knowledgeable and less anxious. We will post the date shortly!

Freshman News

Counselors will be providing presentations to review course selection for our ninth grade students on February 23rd. We will be reviewing high school graduation requirements, online registration procedures and general information to allow students to be contemplating their academic four-year plan at HBHS. The counselors will be happy to meet with students individually to review their anticipated schedules after our group presentations.

Career Services News

Attention Parents! Spring Career Symposium — HBHS is preparing for our annual **Career Symposium** held for our Sophomore students. We recognize that we have a wonderful resource in our parents who are career experts in a fascinating variety of careers.

The morning event will include panel discussions with representation from five career clusters. Career clusters offer a context for learning by linking what students learn in school with the knowledge they need for future success. Your career expertise is needed as panel members.

Please contact Julie Sullivan, School-to-Career Counselor, at 465-2269, ext. 129, or julie.sullivan@sau41.org, if you are interested in sharing your professional experience with our students in a relaxed, conversational environment at our 2011 Career Symposium.

Save the date! Share the news! Make your plans!

- WHY:** Connect schools and communities through Career Exploration.
- WHEN:** Tuesday, April 12, 2011
- WHERE:** Steeplegate Mall, 270 Loudon Road, Concord
- TIME:** 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m (students only)
12pm to 2:30pm for the public

The goal is to help businesses connect with high school students, educate them about everything that makes their jobs/businesses unique, give them an opportunity to recruit the next generation, and talk with them about career opportunities within their industry.

Businesses will be looking for qualified applicants to fill summer job openings as well as the right person to meet a critical need within their company.

The target audience includes but is not limited to individuals with disabilities, local high school students, NHTI Concord Community College students, single parents, veterans, dislocated workers, under-employed NH residents, and unemployed NH residents.

Please be sure to check the Guidance Department website and read the daily notices for all new information!

<http://sites.google.com/a/sau41.org/hbhs>

Selective Service Registration.

The Selective Service System is an independent agency within the Executive Branch of the Federal Government. The mission of the Selective Service System is to provide the number of men needed by the Armed Forces, within the time required, should Congress and the President decide to return to a draft, in the event of a national emergency. Registration is the process of providing the Selective Service with name, address, phone number, and other related information about one's self. It is a civic and legal responsibility for every young man to register with the Selective Service within the time period starting 30 days before, and ending 30 days after, their 18th birthday. Register online at www.sss.gov or pick up a registration card at any post office.



The Cavalier Chronicle, the HBHS student newspaper, is published the third Friday of every month. Be sure to ask your kids to bring their copy home to share with you. We welcome parent input for story ideas by the first of every month (perhaps your teen is doing something newsworthy outside of school but is too shy to let us know). Additionally, business owners are encouraged to advertise with us. Please email your mailing address, and we'll send you a packet with pricing, sizes, and publication schedule. Contact Lin Illingworth at lin.illingworth@sau41.org or call 465-2269 for more information



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