

Some Thoughts from the Principal (cont. from page 1)

understand that some question the importance of time taken away from academics and others feel that the day serves to develop school spirit as a tradition here at Hollis Brookline High School, we feel that the half day represents a reasonable compromise.

As one year comes to a close, we find ourselves busy planning for next year. We anticipate distributing tentative 2008-09 schedules to students in June. Teacher names and rooms will not be on these tentative schedules as we are still hiring new staff and facing the challenge of finding classrooms throughout the building. The 8th Grade Fair is scheduled for Wednesday May 29th from 6:30 – 8:00pm. During the evening we will showcase our building and all the exciting things that go on here. The guidance department remains a busy place as counselors put the finishing touches on the college selection process for seniors while reminding them that their acceptances are based on a strong academic finish to their senior year.

As we plan for the next school year we are addressing items within our student handbook. This year a committee of parents, staff and students reviewed our dress code and they have made a few recommendations. Once they are approved, we will communicate these changes to parents via this newsletter and our website in time for your back to school shopping. Another item that has been problematic this year has been the use of cell phones within classrooms. We have tried to stay away from a total ban of cell phones from campus and taken the route of addressing it as a need for all of us to be properly educated on the responsible use of technology. However, we do not want teachers to be dealing with this issue at the expense of classroom instructional time and we will need to take the appropriate measures to address this problem. We ask for your support and understanding as we work with our students on this issue.

As this academic year comes to a close, we mark the retirement of three individuals who have been fixtures over the years at Hollis Brookline High School. Biology teacher John Kittredge has been a faculty leader as Chair of the Science Department and Co-chair of NEASC. In addition, this past year he served as coach of the Freshman Boy's Soccer and Girl's Tennis teams. Brian Maynard has also been a colorful teacher of Physics for many years. He is familiar to all for his daily bicycle commutes in all weather conditions each morning up Route 130 and serving as the official timekeeper at sporting events throughout the year. Brian's leadership within the Teachers Association over the years has been appreciated by the staff. We wish both of these science teachers well and hope that they continue to join us for the annual Penguin Plunge. Our Assistant to the Athletic Director, Kim Smith is also retiring next month. Kim is a fixture within our school community who understood that establishing connections to the kids was the most important aspect of her job. Her dedication and personality will be sorely missed and wish her well.

Over the summer, from July 1st through August 13th, the main office of the high school will be on a reduced schedule. A receptionist will be on duty and the building will be open to the public, Monday – Thursday from 8am to 12noon. We will resume regular hours for the school year on August 14th.

In closing, Hollis Brookline remains a special place due to the wonderful kids, a dedicated and hard working staff and a supportive SAU, school board and community. The PTSA organization is a great resource and this newsletter has been an invaluable communication tool between the school and your homes. Thank you for the opportunity to continue to work with your children each day. I look forward to next year and wish you and your families a restful, safe and enjoyable summer.

Tim Kelley, Principal

Camp RoboTech presents GameTrax, AnimeTrax and RoboTrax, summer 2008!

Our focus at RoboTech Center continues to be able to deliver family friendly programs that encourage participants to get an edge on fun technology programs during summer. We understand that parents are looking for a fun place where their children can learn valuable skills. At RoboTech Center, students leave with much more than that. Extending early discount till May 15, 2008, for programs at Rivier College, Nashua, NH! RoboTech Center extends the discount price of \$499 till May 15th, 2008.

Competitive Edge & Fun learning – Students at Camp RoboTech Camps leave with friends who share the same interests, leadership skills in presenting to an audience, completed projects, new technology skills and tech-confidence going into the new school year. The intent at RoboTech Center programs is focus on fun, exploration and technology explorations in Game Design, Animation or Robotics programs.

Increase in Self Confidence and Tech Knowledge – Students gain a sense of empowerment, independence and self-confidence as they learn to articulate their creativity in new ways by using technology. Many students even incorporate what they've learned at camp in their school projects and become mentors for their peers. Please register and pay online at www.robotechcenter.com

If you would like to use regular mail, please make checks payable to RoboTech Center and send in your registration information to RoboTech Center, 3 i Taggart Drive, Nashua NH 03060 . Thank you for your interest in Camp RoboTech! We look forward to seeing you this summer.

Naveena Swamy, Founder, RoboTech Center
naveena@robotechcenter.com

Guidance News

Note from the Director

Every year at the end of school it is always astounding how quickly the school year goes by. As the close of the school year draws near it is nice to reflect on what has happened in the guidance department and share some of the activities and accomplishments.

Again, this year was one of change and new faces. We welcomed Mrs. Maynard to our department as a counselor adding her wealth of knowledge and expertise in counseling to our staff.

As always communication is a big concern as we are always focused on getting to know our students and working effectively with them. With this in mind we revamped some previous programs to ensure communication specifically with students on each counselor's case loads allowing for more personal contact with the students. We offered two additional parent/student programs in an effort to give parents and students more information around college admissions and registration hopefully setting up more communication and options for support and help.

Some other activities:

- change in scheduling appointments so students were seen on a more timely basis
- visited all senior classes in early fall to discuss the application process
- edited and improved the college handbook
- revisited and enhanced junior and senior college information nights
- visited with counselor's assigned juniors in small groups to discuss college admissions
- offered Parent/Student information night for 9th and 10th grade parents to discuss course registration
- visited freshman wellness classes in the fall and spring to discuss transitioning to high school and goal setting
- visited sophomore classes to discuss future planning, careers, college and academics
- visited all classes including the 8th grades to discuss courses selection and the new online registration process
- article in each edition of the student newspaper highlighting upcoming events in guidance
- visited classes about AP testing

Please be sure to check our website and read the daily notices (www.hbhs.k12.nh.us) for all new information. We try to update both these sources of information on a weekly and sometimes daily basis.



- work closely with the Special Education case managers and the 504 Coordinator monitoring student success
- offered a new opportunity for parents and students to hear from a NHHEAF representative about college athletics, recruiting and NCAA
- worked with Mrs. Demarest to support the Career Symposium she set up for all 10th grade students.
- processed well over 1000 college packets for our senior students.

We could never do all that we do without the help of Mrs. Noel our guidance secretary, her sunny smile and organization skills keep us and the students on track. Mrs. Graff and all her patience, commitment, positive energy and hard work help us keep student records organized and correct. Without both of these very important people in the guidance office we would not be able to accomplish all we do. The support help in the main office is also vital to the work we do with students. We are appreciative of their time and commitment to the guidance department.

Reflection is an important activity at the close of any school year; it helps to learn, grow, expand as well as understand the complexities and the challenges of what we do. It is also a time to allow yourself to enjoy accomplishments, the results of dedication to hard work and successes along the way. Hopefully as you read this you are able to spend a moment to reflect on your own child's school year and find peace in their challenges and successes.

It has been a privilege working with such a dedicated group of professionals at Hollis Brookline High School and of course with the wonderful students and parents. Although the year has passed quickly and thoughts of summer are exciting and replenishing it will be no time before we are preparing for an even better 2008-2009.

Enjoy a safe and fun summer.

Summer School Announcement

Hollis Brookline High School and Hollis Brookline Middle are pleased to announce the beginning of the Summer *Academic* and Summer *Enrichment* Programs.


The Summer *Academic* Program offers courses for students enrolled at Hollis Brookline High School to recover credit from a failed course. Students who need to make-up work due to school failure are advised to register for this program. The program will run for five weeks beginning Monday, June 30, 2008 and concluding on Friday, August 1, 2008. After successful completion of core curriculum for the registered classes, students will receive credit, allowing them to advance to the next class during the next school year. Acceptance to the Summer *Academic* Program will be based on teacher and guidance counselor approval.

The Summer *Enrichment* Program at Hollis Brookline High School is a program that has been specifically designed to offer students in (and out) of the district *unique* educational opportunities beyond the classroom. Enrichment courses are designed for students who would like to take interesting and helpful courses over the summer. These courses are not credit bearing and cannot be used for course advancement.

For more information, please see our link on the HBHS website (www.hbhs.k12.nh.us) or contact the Summer Program Directors.

Kate Emerson emersonk@sau41.k12.nh.us

Melissa Oliver oliverm@sau41.k12.nh.us



The Annual French Club Bistro will take place on Sunday, May 18th from 4:00 to 6:00 PM in the high school cafeteria. Tickets can be bought at the door or from a French club member for \$5.00. Come and enjoy the music and delicious food!

Hollis Brookline Athletic Booster Club

Most Grateful for a Good Academic 2007-08 Year

As this academic year comes to a close, I would like to thank a number of people that made this year's Hollis Brookline Athletic Booster Club membership a very enjoyable, productive and rewarding experience.

Thank you to this year's HBABC Officers. I feel that one of the keys to going forward is having smart, dedicated people around you. The Officers were Eileen Kelly, Sue Nierendorf, Maggie Kerkhoff and Karen Sousa.

Thank you to all of the Sports Reps for each of our athletic teams. Your communication with the Coaches and the feedback that you provided back to the HBABC was extremely helpful, especially for our Fall, Winter and Spring Athletic Awards nights and our year-end Scholarship Awards. The Sports Reps were Tammy Campbell, Miriam Desantis, Rob Dion, Linda Drazin, Nancy Frick, Kathy Gorham, Maggie Kerkhoff, Eileen Kelly, Trish MacDonald, Donna McLaughlin, Jodi Reddick, Monica Rencken and Karen Sousa.

Thank you to the HBABC Basketball Concession Committee comprised of Linda Drazin, Nancy Frick, Susan Lyons, Donna McLaughlin, and Monica Rencken. You did an outstanding job.

Thank you to Dan Lorden, Eileen Kelly and all of the volunteers that made our major fundraising event, the 18th Annual Golf Tournament, a success. We would not be able to support the athletic programs without this tournament.

Thank you to John Filer and Roger Ogden for your fantastic slide shows at all of our Sports Awards nights.

Thank you to Eileen Kelly, Erin Magee and Larry Rencken for the very profitable Tom Brady Football Raffle.

Thank you to Kayleigh Ryherd, our Web Master. You were able to design and update the HBABC site while having both rigorous academic and athletic schedules.

Thank you to Denise Hurt and your staff for your HBHS monthly Newsletter. It is such a great communication tool for HBHS and the community.

Finally, thank you to Rhon Rupp and Kim Smith in the Athletic Office for your guidance and your patience. I have enjoyed working with you both. Kim, we will miss you dearly.

All the best,

Dan Lyons

Hollis Brookline Athletic Booster Club

dlafurn@aol.com

Hollis/Brookline High School Night at the Nashua Pride!

*Saturday,
June 21, 2008
@ 7:05pm*

Holman Stadium - Nashua, NH



*If you'd like to be seated in the Nashua Pride's
"PEANUT FREE SECTION" please note it on
your order form.*



VS



*A portion of each ticket sold will
support the
Hollis/Brookline High School
PTSA*

detach and return this portion payment

Student Name: _____

Home Room: _____

Phone (H): _____

Please make checks payable to:
Hollis/Brookline High School PTSA

of tickets _____ @ \$7.00 = \$ _____

Total Enclosed = \$ _____