



NOVEMBER  
2007

# Hollis Brookline High School

[www.hbhs.k12.nh.us](http://www.hbhs.k12.nh.us)

## *Some Thoughts from the Principal*

As the first quarter comes to a close, the fall sports season has ended and tryouts for winter teams have begun. With the colder weather and shorter days, most of the activities move indoors. At our sports awards ceremony over 300 athletes were recognized as participants on the various fall teams. This event is outgrowing our auditorium, a nice problem to have, due to such a high participation rate. Not only are our students participating at such a high rate, our varsity programs are very successful with most teams making the playoffs and many players receiving regional or state wide recognition. Boy's soccer and volleyball made it to the semi finals and the girl's soccer advanced to the finals. Megan Flaherty was named Division II Volleyball Player of the year and Mr. Steve Connors, of our Science Department, was named Class I Field Hockey Coach of the Year. It is especially encouraging to see freshmen teams in boy's soccer and volleyball and this winter we hope to offer freshmen boy's and girl's basketball. The obvious effect of freshmen teams is that it will improve the varsity programs, but as a parent I see it as an after school activity for more of our kids at a critical stage of development.

At our fall academic assembly held on November 7<sup>th</sup> we recognized our National Merit Scholars, those with perfect SATs, Advanced Placement tests as well as other notable achievements. Those recognized at the assembly and not mentioned in last month's newsletter include: Our third and fourth seniors with a score of 800 on their SATs: Jared Noel in math and Nick Perricone in writing. Current students with a highest possible Advanced Placement test score from last spring: Amruth Jonnalagadda (Biology, US History, Calculus AB); Chantal deBakker (US History, English Language); JP Gorham (US History); Sadie Lang (US History); Jamie Nemecek (US History, English Language); Nick Perricone (US History, English Language); James Sterritt (US History); Kristine Bundschuh (Calculus AB); Owen Hawkins (Calculus AB); David Lindsey (Calculus AB); Patrick McDaniel (Calculus AB); Caleb Riatio (Calculus A, Computer Science AB); Shaun Sabo (Computer Science A); Daniel Cielinski (English Language); Ann Kowalski (English Language); and Stephanie Pillion (English Language). Two students selected for the NH Music Educator's Association Jazz all state festival- Shaemus Peebles (Jazz choir) placed as one of the top 16 singers in the state and Molly Furlong (Jazz Band) placed as one of the top 10 trombonists in the state. Finally JP Gorham was named as the New Hampshire winner of the Wendy's High School Heisman award, which recognizes achievements in academics, athletics and community service. The highlight of the assembly was the

*(Continued on page 2)*

## *A Message from Your PTSA Presidents*

The clocks have been turned back, the daylight is getting shorter, and the weather has turned brisk, but the PTSA is just getting warmed up. We have been very encouraged by the well-attended morning meetings. It is our hope that the numbers for these meetings will continue to increase as we make our way through this school year. However, our December meeting will be an evening meeting so that we can conduct a little business and have a lot of social time to celebrate the holidays. It will be held on Wednesday, December 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. at Trish MacDonald's home. Please R.S.V.P to Trish by November 30<sup>th</sup> if you plan to attend ([trish\\_macdonald@charter.net](mailto:trish_macdonald@charter.net)). Erin and Trish will provide the beverages, appetizers and desserts. Even if this is your first and only opportunity to join us, we would love to see you. Agenda items should be sent to Erin or Trish prior to the meeting. One of the items to be discussed will be meeting days and times for the rest of this school year.

Our PTSA Parent/Staff Book Club is up and running. The first meeting had 7 in attendance, but the email list continues to grow. If you would like to be on the email list or would like updates on what the book club is reading, contact Marie Degulis ([mariedegulis@yahoo.com](mailto:mariedegulis@yahoo.com)). The December meeting date has not been set, but the group has decided to read your choice of a book written by Jodi Piccolt and share it during the meeting. An email with the December date is forthcoming.

One project that the PTSA is undertaking is a Peace Pole Project. A parent approached the PTSA with the idea and both the school and the PTSA thought it was a great project. Nancy Hilliard, chair of the Social Studies Dept., will be the liaison at the High School. We are hoping this will be student driven project. If you have a student who might be interested in getting involved with this project, please contact Trish MacDonald or Nancy Hilliard. You can take a look at the scope of the project at [www.worldpeace.org](http://www.worldpeace.org). We will be giving updates at our monthly meetings. If you are unable to make the meetings, you can read the minutes on-line the following month.

Finally, we would like to congratulate all of the Fall athletes on their great seasons and personal accomplishments! Please remember to support our athletes and come on out to watch and cheer for them.

We want to wish everyone and safe Thanksgiving!

Co-Presidents,

Erin Magee                      [mageemd@massmed.org](mailto:mageemd@massmed.org)                      465-3233

Trish MacDonald              [trish\\_macdonald@charter.net](mailto:trish_macdonald@charter.net)                      465-2898

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

naming of JP as one of six national male finalists. JP will participate in the collegiate Heisman ceremony next month in New York City when the national high school award winner will be announced. An ESPN film crew visited our school on November 9<sup>th</sup> to conduct interviews and film background material which will be used during the December 9<sup>th</sup> broadcast.

Last month, our math team received a plaque for finishing in sixth place, out of 86 schools, at the WPI Invitational Math meet held recently in Worcester, MA. Hollis Brookline High School was the top school from New Hampshire.

We will hold our annual Parent Conference Day(s) during Thanksgiving week, on the evening of November 20<sup>th</sup> (3:00 – 7:30pm) and the morning of November 21<sup>st</sup> (8:00 – 11:30am). If you did not sign up for an appointment at Open House you may still do so by contacting your child's teacher to arrange a conference time.

Our seniors are busy completing college applications as deadlines are quickly approaching. College representatives have been visiting our school weekly since September. Please remember that since the guidance department is coordinating the delivery of all application materials their deadline is a few weeks earlier than the one posted by the college.

Other upcoming events at Hollis Brookline High School include:

- Parent Conferences – Evening of November 20<sup>th</sup> and morning of November 21<sup>st</sup>. Call or email your child's teacher directly to schedule an appointment.
- Fall Play - "Twelfth Nigh or What You Will" by William Shakespeare; November 30<sup>th</sup> & December 1<sup>st</sup>
- Early Release – December 5<sup>th</sup>, Students will be dismissed at 12:04 pm
- Winter Music Concert – December 13<sup>th</sup>

In closing, on behalf of the staff of Hollis Brookline High School, I would thank the residents of both communities for their continued support in our mission to inspire lifelong learning and achievement.

Timothy Kelley, Principal

### Attention please!

**Mr. Quinn wants your used ink cartridges.**

Through the magic of technology, he's able to turn them into money which works towards improving the technology in the building. Just leave them in the office and he'll take care of the rest!



## HBHS School Store

The HBHS school store opened last September and the Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) students began by selling school supplies during lunch. In late October, the store moved to permanent quarters on the third floor in the lobby across from the gym. At that time the students added to the inventory and the hours changed to after school only. This year, the store is in the same location but the hours have changed. The Marketing students run the store from 2:00-2:24pm and the FBLA students run the store from 2:24-3:00pm each day.

The school store carries a wide variety of school supplies as well as food items and clothing such as t-shirts and sweatshirts. The store offers pizza and freshly baked cookies as well as granola bars and chips.

This year we are offering parents the opportunity to order school spirit clothing for their students in time for the holidays. You will find t-shirts, sweatshirts and fleece jackets displayed on the school store's website as well as an order form that can be printed and sent in to the school. If you would like to see the items in person, please stop by the school store.

You can find more information on the school store by visiting the school website and clicking on Rhonda Southwick's web link.

## Parent Educational Series for 2007-2008

**January 16** (snow date Jan. 23)

Who is Influencing My Child?

**February 13** (snow date Feb. 20)

The Pressure to Succeed

**April 2**

College / Career - How to decide what path

## Who is Influencing my Child?

Friends, family, peers, teachers, activity leaders, and media all have a role in who are child is, and who they will become. How can we help keep our child away from the negative influences that are out there applying pressure? As a parent, we would like to maintain a positive environment, build a strong foundation, and aid our child in reaching their full potential. How do we help them navigate through the many influences that they will face? With the help of Robert Bryant, Program Director of Second Growth, we can begin to understand what influences, both positive and negative, that are out there, and how we can help our child through this developmental time. The Hollis Brookline PTSA S-Team will sponsor this entertaining and educational workshop, free and open to anyone in the community, on Wednesday, January 16th, at 7 p.m., at the Hollis Brookline High School. A snow date has been set for January 23<sup>rd</sup>. For more information you may contact Pat Marquette at 673-1957

# Guidance News

## Note from the Director

Is it really possible that it is already the Thanksgiving season? What a quick and exciting fall it has been. With our sports teams doing so well and our students excelling in academics and receiving national awards the time has passed quickly. However, the most overwhelming issue surrounding this time of year for the Guidance Department is the early college application deadlines. I am sure many of the seniors and their families are feeling the same stress but this year in particular seems to be over the top! The "application deadline creep" as it is professionally referred to is a key topic for local and national college admission counseling organizations. As I mentioned last year I am a member of the Current Trends Committee for the New England Association of College Admissions Counseling (NEACAC) and this is a very hot topic as it disadvantages many students and causes undue stress. Fortunately it is being discussed at the national level and hopefully some resolution will come of it in favor of the student. I will keep you posted.

There is no question this is a very stressful time for our seniors, parents, teachers and counselors who are involved in this process. The addition of earlier deadlines only adds to it. Two huge college admission deadlines have already occurred: November 1<sup>st</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>. Combining these two dates the Guidance Department sent out 453 packets to 172 different colleges. Within those packets are the school profile, two teacher and a counselor recommendations, transcript, first quarter grades and on some occasions a copy of the SAT report. As you can see, along with killing a few trees, this is a tremendous undertaking by the student, the parents, the teachers and counselors as well as Mrs. Noel and Mrs. Graff. Nothing about this process is easy yet it can go a bit smoother if you ask for assistance from the guidance department and the college admission offices. Do not hesitate to call either place to ask questions, get advice, vent or ask for help in getting your senior motivated. Ultimately it all works out but it is a very interesting ride!

Please be patient with your seniors because as the holidays draw near every one they see from grandma to cousin Eddie's girlfriend will be asking about their college plans causing more stress and anxiety. The process happens and the decisions are made - it is an individual family situation and what is good for one student is not necessarily the best for another no matter how alike they may appear. Students need to be true to themselves and make a good, solid, personal decision about their future plans.

Students who participated in the PSAT testing will be receiving their scores sometime in early January. Although the scores are sent to the Guidance Office in late December we would like to sit down with our students and go over the results in a more personal way. In order to do this and use the PSAT results effectively we will need to distribute them in early January due to the volume of college admissions work the staff is involved with in December. We ask your patience with this.

Keeping in mind the time of year we are heading into it is important to remember high school students feel the stress

Please be sure to check our website and read the daily notices ([www.hbhs.k12.nh.us](http://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.



ands strain of the season as well. Not only do the holidays raise personal issues with students but we are coming to the mid-point of the academic year. Hopefully parents have made appointments with their son's or daughter's teachers during our parent/teacher conference time scheduled right before Thanksgiving. If there is anything the counselors can do to support your child please feel free to contact us if you feel your child needs help or guidance.

Thank you again for your continued support of the Guidance Department. We hope you have a wonderful Thanksgiving.

**Communication:** In addition to reading this newsletter, please make a habit to read not only the daily notices on the Hollis-Brookline web site ([www.hbhs.k12.nh.us](http://www.hbhs.k12.nh.us)) but click on to the Guidance link. Please check it out!

E-mail is a preferred mode of communication for the counselors because we can usually return e-mails faster than phone calls. By all means keep calling but e-mail works more efficiently. The counselors' e-mails are:

[gagemik@sau41.k12.nh.us](mailto:gagemik@sau41.k12.nh.us)

[maynardk@sau41.k12.nh.us](mailto:maynardk@sau41.k12.nh.us)

[poznanskib@sau41.k12.nh.us](mailto:poznanskib@sau41.k12.nh.us)

[winslowr@sau41.k12.nh.us](mailto:winslowr@sau41.k12.nh.us)

## Senior News

Now it is getting late! First marking period has ended and we are almost half way through the second quarter so now is the time to get going on the college stuff! If you are unsure of what you want to do next year please see your counselor or Mrs. Demarest, our career counselor to discuss future plans.

Seniors planning to go on to four year colleges will be in a much better position if they get their applications in the mail or sent electronically by December 15<sup>th</sup>. Be sure to check the colleges' websites or written information for critical deadlines. Students considering Early Decision or Early Action should be filling out their applications now, if you have any questions regarding these early programs please call or e-mail the counselor. Keep in mind in order for the supporting documentation to be sent the student must submit the pink Supporting Documentation Request Form to the counselor 4 school day weeks prior to the application deadline. NOTE: the UNH application deadline date is February 1<sup>st</sup>. Plymouth and Keene are telling us that although their deadlines are in March it is more than likely they will stop *taking applications after February 1, 2008*.

Counselors have been proactively sending passes to seniors to meet with them about their post-secondary plans. Many students have been finding this helpful but some students are not showing

up for their appointments. Please encourage your senior student to honor this appointment.

### **Receipts for Information Sent**

When information has been sent to a college each student will receive a receipt stating what was sent to a college and the date it was mailed. Students should stop by the Guidance Office to pick up their receipts so that they know exactly what was sent to colleges and when. Please keep these for your records. Receipts can be picked up in the Guidance Office but will only be given to the student if they have paid the \$3.00 per school postage fee. Report cards will be held if these fees are not paid.

### **Admissions Decisions**

The really fun part of this process is hearing what colleges our students get accepted to. Please inform your counselor what your college decisions are. We are very excited to know and it helps us counsel future applicants. We also want to hear if the news is not good so that we can help strategize on what to do next. As you know there are four decisions that can be made accept, defer, waitlist and deny. The answer most students want to hear at this time of year is, of course an acceptance to the college but, colleges often defer when evaluating early applications. Being deferred at this point in time is not a bad thing. It is not a denial and it gives the student the opportunity to send additional information such as midterm grades and additional testing. Please do not get upset over a deferment at this stage in the process as it can ultimately lead to an acceptance. Please talk with your counselor if you have any questions.

### **Mid Term Reports**

Mid- term reports will be sent out to all schools the student has applied to after the semester ends in January. There is no need for students to request this mailing be sent we will automatically send the mid-term reports to all the schools the student has applied to unless otherwise notified.

### **Financial Aid Information**

Please mark your calendars - Financial Aid Night will be held on December 6<sup>th</sup> at 7pm. It is very important for parents to attend this meeting as it will break down the process and give good information regarding financial aid policies and criteria.

If you have concerns regarding Financial Aid at this time an appointment with college financial aid offices when visiting a college is a good way to learn about that particular college's financial aid opportunities. 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](http://www.nhheaf.org) or calling 1-800-525-2577. Financial Aid materials are available in both Guidance and the library at HBHS. Please check the Guidance website for more scholarship and Financial Aid information as it is updated weekly.

Note: The FAFSA form can not be submitted before January 1, 2008 but should be submitted as close to that date as possible. All colleges require the FAFSA form from families that are considering any type of financial aid including work study. The paper form of the FAFSA will be available at our Financial Aid night and in the Guidance Office after Thanksgiving.

Families are encouraged to fill out the FAFSA on-line which can be accessed through [www.FAFSA.gov.org](http://www.FAFSA.gov.org). Some private colleges will require the CSS PROFILE. The PROFILE is only for private college 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](http://www.collegeboard.com). The PROFILE can be submitted at any time. Colleges have very strict deadlines for Financial Aid applications so it is important to adhere to the deadlines.

### **NCAA**

Don't forget!!! Senior athletes interested in participating on athletic teams in college must register with the NCAA. This may be done online at [www.ncaaclearinghouse.net](http://www.ncaaclearinghouse.net). If these forms are not submitted to NCAA it will delay the athlete's ability to compete at the collegiate level so it is important to get these to Guidance as soon as possible.

### **Graduation Check**

Every senior and parent received a letter in early September regarding graduation requirements. Another letter will be going home after the semester ends and report cards are distributed. It is vitally important that any senior who is missing a required course or has been unsuccessful in a required course meets with their counselor immediately to determine a course of action. The school policy is that every student carries 6.0 credits to be considered a full-time student. If a student has less than 6.0 they need to add a course to their schedule for second semester. Students needing to add courses must come to Guidance immediately.

## **Junior News**

College Information Night for juniors and their parents will be held in early February prior to the February break. Please check the website and announcements for the date and time. Students are encouraged to attend this event with their parents. Juniors are also encouraged to come to meet with the colleges that are visiting HBHS. Juniors also can take the opportunity to meet with Mrs. Demarest to discuss possible internship possibilities and post secondary career options and college majors.

### **PSAT**

We are very excited to have offered all our junior students the opportunity to take the PSAT on October 17th. Results of the PSAT usual come out in early January. Counselors will meet with students individually in early January to go over results and how to use the test as a stepping stone to the SAT.

### **SERVICES FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES**

A student with a documented disability may be eligible to take SAT or ACT tests with testing accommodations that support their disability. The student's case manager should be contacted for details as soon as possible.

### **SAT Testing and Registration Dates**

Juniors interested in taking the SAT Critical Reasoning Test and the Subject Tests are encouraged to get on the College Board Website [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com) to register for the SAT tests. Keep in mind that spring sports often conflict with test dates so plan ahead.



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 e-mail your mailing address, and we'll send you a packet with pricing, sizes, and publication schedule. Contact Lin Illingworth at [illingworthl@sau41.k12.nh.us](mailto:illingworthl@sau41.k12.nh.us) or call 465-2269 for more information.

## 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 18<sup>th</sup> birthday. Register on-line at [www.sss.gov](http://www.sss.gov) or pick up a registration card at any post office. If you have any questions, please see Mr. Winslow in Guidance.



Visit the PTSA at [www.hbhs.k12.nh.us/ptsa](http://www.hbhs.k12.nh.us/ptsa) where you'll find the list of officers & committees, back issues of newsletters, PTSA meeting minutes and more!

## H/B Athletic Booster Club News

### Fall Sports Awards Night

Over 550 people filed into the HBHS Auditorium last Thursday night for the HBABC/HB Athletic Department Fall Sports Award Night. The Pep Band greeted the attendees with some great sounding music setting the tone for an upbeat evening. The Field Hockey, Boys Soccer, Volleyball and Girls Soccer teams were all recognized for taking their respective teams deep into the playoffs. Meghan Flaherty was mentioned for being named the Division II Volleyball Player of the Year. Coach Connors was also mentioned for being named the Class I Field Hockey Coach of the Year. A special acknowledgment was given by Athletic Director, Rhon Rupp, to JP Gorham. JP is one of the twelve national finalists for the Wendy's High School Heisman award. The award is given each year to one male and one female student throughout the country who have displayed outstanding records of achievement in academics, athletics and community service. Good luck to JP when the winners are announced in New York in December.

*Congratulations to all of the athletes that competed on this year's fall sports teams.*

### HBHS Athletic Booster Club Website

A New HBABC link is finally under construction on the HBHS web site. Our new Home Page will have links to the HBABC's Meeting Agendas, Meeting Minutes, the Sports Reps for each sport, Newsletter Articles, a Donation Form and the Inspirational Player Profile. We are proud to nominate our first Inspirational Player who is sophomore Field and Track sensation, Julia Bury. Please be sure to check out the profile when the site is completed.

Thank you to Kayleigh Ryherd, another sophomore, who is donating her time in between a very busy schedule, to design the site. We look forward to this being a better communication tool between the HBABC and the high school community.

### Basketball Concession Stand

This year the HBABC will be selling concessions at all of the boy's and girl's basketball games. A committee, consisting of Linda Drazin, Donna McLaughlin and Susan Lyons, promises some delicious additions to the menu this season at very reasonable prices. Please give us a try!

**Hollis Brookline blue Super Fan Tee Shirts will also be for sale at the concession stand. Wearing the shirt to the games would be a great way to support our teams from the stands.**

Finally, the next HBABC meeting is scheduled for December 12th @ 7:00 PM at HBHS. We always welcome new members.

Dan Lyons, Hollis Brookline Athletic Booster Club  
[dlafurn@aol.com](mailto:dlafurn@aol.com)

P.S. - The Booster Club is selling "HB SUPER FAN" T-shirts. They are Cavalier Blue, with the words in White. These t-shirts can be worn to all sporting events (think HB/Milford Basketball game, the gym filled with a sea of blue!)

For a mere \$10, they make a great Christmas gift!!! All profits will support the Booster Club's efforts on behalf of our athletic programs. A quick email to [trish\\_macdonald@charter.net](mailto:trish_macdonald@charter.net) is the easiest way to be sure you get your hands on one!



**Happy Thanksgiving!**

Hollis Brookline High School  
24 Cavalier Court  
Hollis, NH 03049

NOVEMBER 2007

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