



OCTOBER
2006

Hollis Brookline High School

► **Some Thoughts from the Principal**

In the wake of recent news events we find the attention of many focused on the security of our buildings and the safety of the school community. I can assure everyone that the issue of security continues to be a concern of everyone in our building. We believe that unless all of our students and staff feel safe then meaningful education cannot take place. This applies when someone is being bullied or harassed within a small group of people or feeling insecure at a more building wide level based on what is happening at some schools across the country. At the individual level, we take bullying and harassment very seriously. Teachers and students report incidents to administration, guidance and others. If necessary, we file police reports and involve the school resource officer. At the building level, we will be installing security cameras shortly that will survey the rear student parking lot and we have begun locking the gym lobby doors leading to this parking lot during school hours. The only door remaining open during school hours is the main entrance on the first floor. All visitors are instructed to use this entrance, sign in at the main office and obtain a visitor badge. Some of these procedures are new and present a significant change but our students and staff understand that we are taking action in the interest of safety. The administrators, SRO and custodial staff are all in radio communication with each other and the main office throughout the day, allowing us to monitor the campus and be present in the halls with the students and staff.

It is often said that communication is the key component for all involved in education. One needs to be an effective communicator to be a successful classroom teacher and as principal there are many communication tools that I take advantage of daily. This includes the newsletter, PTSA meetings, after school events, email, telephone and walking the halls during the school day. Many times when parents call to express a classroom concern I direct them first to communicate with the teacher. Our teachers are aware of the benefits of communication with the home to ensure the success of the student. In turn my superintendent and board of education members direct school concerns raised by parents back to the administration for us to resolve. In order to ensure effective communication, there must be a certain level of trust that exists to ensure that people will listen, truthfully respond and act on the concerns raised if necessary.

Communication is a valuable component in raising the level of security within the building. At Hollis Brookline High School, we have a community where students hear information that could impact the safety of someone else and they trust that if they share that information with an adult, the appropriate action will be taken. The staff also trusts that information will be acted on in the interest of the safety and security of all. I have not experienced anyone in our community who witnesses something of concern and ignores it. Effective communication and trust goes a long way towards creating a safer and more secure school community.

(Continued on page 2)

► **A Message from the PTSA**

Happy Fall! The weather has been gorgeous, but the chill is beginning. We continue to hold our meetings on the second Thursday of each month in the mini-café at 7:00 p.m. Our October meeting was a full one with many in attendance. We were very happy to see everyone there. Principal Kelley brought Mrs. Sandy Demarest, our new Schools to Career Counselor, who filled us in on the services she is providing to our children. She is off to a great start helping students obtain job shadowing, and internships.

We are still accepting memberships. Please join us. We are a great organization and are looking to make it even better!! We would like to see an increase over last year even if it is only by one. Teachers, students, and parents can receive a 5% discount at Barnes and Noble if they are members!!!

The PTSA is looking for some help in a couple of important places. Pat Marquette who has been indispensable in coordinating our Parent Enrichment program has a graduating Senior and would love to get someone on board that she can train for next year. The Enrichment series for this year is set, so the person would be working with Pat on learning the ropes and getting set-up for next year. Please contact Lex or Trish from the information below if you are interested in helping out with this wonderful program. Marie DeGulis who has done an incredible job obtaining a \$5,000 grant from Lowes and has been spearheading the landscape project will be taking a break after the hardscape is complete. We are looking for someone who would like to head up the planting come this spring. We have the money if you have the time and interest. Again, please contact Lex or Trish if you are interested in taking this on. Finally, we are looking for someone to work with our very talented students in the PTSA sponsored Reflections programs. Hollis has had several winners in the past. This is a quick hit program with entries due to the state on February 3, 2007. You know who to contact if you are the person for this job.

We are in the process of revising our By-Laws. They will be available at the November PTSA meeting and posted on the website around the same time. We will be voting on them at the December meeting as they must be posted for 30 days prior to the vote.

Hope to see more of you for November meeting!!!

Lex Bundschuh UNOFAM@aol.com 465-3142

Trish MacDonald trish_macdonald@charter.net 465-2898

► **Some Thoughts from the Principal** *(continued from page 1)*

The recognition of the achievements of our students continues to amaze all of us. On the evening of October 10th, our National Honor Society held their annual induction ceremony. The wonderful evening was organized by members, officers and advisors, Mr. Connors and Ms. McElroy. The event was highlighted by a talk by Superintendent Pike.

Twenty of our students were recently recognized as AP Scholars for outstanding performances on the advanced placement subject tests last spring.

AP Scholars— *a grade of 3 or higher (on a 5 point scale) on 3 or more exams:*

Charles Askenaizer; Christopher Berling; Alexandra Daly; Dara Fisher; Paula Grieb; Jacquelyn Hodgson; Allison Huberlie; Adam Kaplan; Kimberly Mook; Casey Nemecek; Sean Tracy;

AP Scholars with Honor— *an average grade of 3.25 or higher on all exams and 3 or higher on four or more exams:*

Henry Cone-Roddy; Tyler Gold; Julie Griffin; Douglas Kopf; Mia Sacks; Rachel Wilson;

AP Scholars with Distinction— *an average grade of 3.5 or higher on all exams and 3 or higher on five or more exams:*

Benjamin Sacks; Paul Ullrich;

I have been a mathematics teacher throughout my career and have never seen anything quite like the Math Team we have here at Hollis Brookline High School. With over 60 members, it is a tribute to the hard working advisors, Mrs. Plummer and Mrs. Mooers, as well as the mathematics department. One can only imagine the impression they make when the team shows up for contests, sixty strong, with their numbered team shirts, reflecting the digits of π . Apparently their goal is to have an infinite, or irrational, number of team members.

Our Granite State Challenge Team: students Henry Cone-Roddy, Trevor Buteau, Eamon Fogarty, James Sterritt and JP Gorham as well as their advisors: Mr. Kittredge and Mrs. Kissell have been very busy recently between a full practice schedule and traveling to Durham to tape their contests. Stay tuned for broadcast dates on Channel 11.

On October 18th our junior class, as well as sophomores who signed up before hand, will take the PSAT test during the school day. This is the first time we have offered the PSAT to all juniors during the day. This change was initiated by our guidance department to assist students in their college planning, prepare them for the SATs and to provide more of an opportunity to participate in the National Merit Scholarship program.

Our music department presents its Fall Concert on the evening October 25th. They have received permission to charge a small admission fee for these events so that they may offset the cost of future off campus performance opportunities for our talented students.

Finally, a reminder to all that we will hold our first Parent Conference Day(s) on the evening of November 21st and the morning of November 22nd. If you did not sign up at Open House you may still do so by contacting your child's teacher to arrange a conference time.

All of this should suffice for enough communication for the month. My thanks to the hard working members of the PTSA, the group responsible for getting this newsletter out each month. This is just one of the many wonderful things this organization does for our school.

Timothy Kelley, Principal

► **Parent Educational Series 2006-2007**

Nov. 16th – **How to Motivate Your Teen, Become Financially Responsible, and Letting Go**

Jack Agati , Encouraging Concepts

Dec. 6th - **Teen Relationships**

Melissa Matthews, Bridges

Jan. 17th (snowdate Jan. 24th) – **Stress Management**

Ben Garber

Feb. 21st – **504's/ IEPs/ Special Education**

Mariellen MacKay, NH Connections

Apr. 4th – **How to Choose a College / Alternative Career Development**

Scott Power, NH Education Assistance Foundation

► **Jack Agati Speaks on Preparing your Teens to Leave the Nest**

Is the nest too comfortable? Are they ready to leave? How do we, as parents, motivate our teen, make them financially responsible, and let go without them feeling like we are abandoning them. How do we teach children responsibility for their decisions and behaviors? Can we avoid raising a generation of “house guests” in our homes and schools and hopefully guard against becoming a society of non-responsibility? You will find it not only informative but also humorous. Jack Agati, Encouraging Concepts, will be presenting this workshop sponsored by Hollis Brookline PTSA S-Team. The workshop is free and open to anyone in the community. It will be held Thursday, November 16th, at 7 p.m. at the Hollis Brookline High School. For more information you may contact Pat Marquette at 673-1957.

► **HBHS Ski Team Meeting**

Date: October 19th

Time: 7:00 PM

Location: HBHS Cafeteria

Fund Raising

For all ski team members and parents

► What's New in Career Services?

A major goal in Career Services is to encourage and assist students in the process of workplace learning activities through career events, job shadowing and internships. Students participating in real world learning experiences have an opportunity to explore their career interests through active participation in a work environment. Students also experience the connection between knowledge obtained in school and skills necessary in the workplace. They recognize and develop skills and responsibility for thriving in the workplace. Through planned activities and learning objectives, interns begin their career planning for the future and earn academic credit.

Resume building, dress for success, master the interview and networking skills are other services available to all students. If students would like to start exploring career options please visit Mrs. Demarest in the Guidance Department.

To continue to expand the opportunities for students interested in real world experiences we need your help. If you would like to mentor an intern please or know of someone considering this please contact Mrs. Demarest, by phone at 465-2269 ext. 129 or email at demarests@sau41.k12.nh.us

Look for a list of internship and job shadowing opportunities available in future issues

► Ice Hockey coming to HBHS

Are you ready for some hockey? This past summer the Cooperative School Board approved the formation of an ice hockey team at HBHS. The team will be skating out of the new Hudson Ice Rink and home games will be on Saturday evenings. Their first practice/tryout will be November 20th.

One of the major obstacles this team faces is a financial one. Due to budget constraints, the Coop school board did not fund the team. A subcommittee under the HBHS Athletic Booster Club has been formed whose sole purpose is to raise the funds needed to sustain a hockey team, roughly \$20,000 per year. Thus far, the committee has raised the funds to support the team for this coming season. They are now hard at work raising the funds for next year. This committee meets the first Wednesday of the month at 7pm in the office conference room and welcomes anyone wishing to help.

The team will be selling Cavalier pins for \$5.00 per pin and HBHS hockey long sleeve T-shirts for \$15.00. Please show your support for the team by purchasing these items. Until a team is selected, you may purchase these items by contacting Maggie Kerkhoff at www.kerknh5@charter.net or Colleen Clark at www.colleenclark@charter.net.

► Come Out and Support the Field Hockey Team

The Cavalier field hockey team will be at Barnes and Noble in Nashua on Sunday, November 26, 2006 from 12:00-6:00pm, on Saturday, December 9, 2006 from 4:00-10:00pm, and on Sunday, December 10, 2006 from 12:00-6:00pm to do holiday gift wrapping. Please come and support the team by doing your holiday shopping on these dates and getting your purchases wrapped by the team to help them raise money to participate in a national field hockey tournament in February.

The Cavalier Chronicle

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 Kelly Sewell, adviser, at sewellk@sau41.k12.nh.us or call 465-2269, ext. 414, 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 18th birthday. Register on-line at www.sss.gov or pick up a registration card at any post office. If you have any questions, please see Mr. Winslow in Guidance.



Guidance News

Note from the Director

It is really starting to feel like fall and I am thankful we are not living in Buffalo where they received inches of snow this week!!! With the time and leaf change comes the college admission process at full speed. We are deep in to the process as seniors are starting to pass in the required forms to have transcripts sent to the schools of their choice. This tends to be a busy time for our seniors, parents, teachers and counselors who are involved in this process. Be patient it will all work out. Not only is it a hectic time of year the time and paper work that is devoted to the college admission process is mind boggling. 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 can be a very interesting ride!

Juniors and sophomores 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 as report card time draws near it is important to remember high school students feel the stress and strain of the pressures. Seniors are under a lot of pressure to make sure their transcripts look good for colleges and employers, juniors know that junior year is looked at carefully and the stressors of testing are very real, sophomore students are just trying to manage 10th grade balancing driving privileges or a first job and freshmen are receiving their first real high school grades and the stakes seem to be much higher than in middle school. Therefore some students may need extra support and help during this time. Please communicate with your son or daughter's counselor at any time 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 nice November.

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) but click on to the Guidance link. Thanks to

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.

Mr. Boucher who has done a great job of updating the Guidance pages, we are able to regularly announce information on programs, career and college opportunities, scholarships, testing information, deadlines etc... 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:

gangemik@sau41.k12.nh.us
futrell@sau41.k12.nh.us
poznanski@sau41.k12.nh.us
winslowr@sau41.k12.nh.us

Senior News

The time is now! It is in the best interest of the seniors planning to go on to four year colleges to get their applications in the mail or sent electronically by December 15th. Check the colleges' websites or written information from the colleges for 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 if supporting documentation needs to be sent the student must submit the pink Supporting Documentation Request Form to the counselor 4 weeks prior to the application deadline. NOTE: the UNH application deadline date is February 1st but the Early Action Deadline is November 15th.

Counselors have been 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.

Mid Term Reports

Mid-term reports will be sent out to all schools the student has applied to after the semester ends in January. Please be sure to get any Mid-Term Report forms that the colleges require (as found in the Common Application) to the counselors as soon as possible – please do not wait until the end of the semester.

Colleges Visiting HBHS

College Representatives are visiting HBHS through the middle of November. Most representatives will be visiting on Mondays or Wednesdays. This is a great opportunity to meet with representatives from various colleges to learn more about the schools or ask additional questions. Seniors, juniors and parents are all welcome to come. Students can obtain a pass from Mrs. Noel but must have an o.k. from their teacher and are responsible for missed work. Please check the Guidance calendar and the white board outside of Guidance for dates and times.

Financial Aid Information

Financial Aid Night will be held in early December. A date and time will be posted soon. 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 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.

Note: The FAFSA form can not be submitted before January 1, 2007 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. 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. 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. The NCAA Clearinghouse will require that transcript be sent through the mail. Guidance is happy to send the transcript to the Clearinghouse if you provide us with the NCAA forms (downloaded from the website) that need to accompany the transcripts. One form must be sent when you submit your initial eligibility form and another must accompany your final transcript when you graduate. 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 carry 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. Guidance will be contacting those students immediately.

Junior News

College Information Night for juniors and their parents will be held in 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 18th. Results of the PSAT usual come out in late 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.

SAT Services for Students with Disabilities

A student with a documented disability may be eligible to take PSAT/SAT 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 to register for the SAT tests. Keep in mind that spring sports often conflict with test dates so plan ahead.

Test date	Registration date
January 27	December 6
March 10	February 2
May 5	March 14
June 2	April 27

College Fairs

Nashua High School North is hosting a college fair on November 6, 2006 from 7-9pm. All students are invited – this is a great way for juniors to start the process.

Sophomore News

Sophomore students will be eligible to apply for the HOBY scholarship coming out soon. Please check our website for more information.

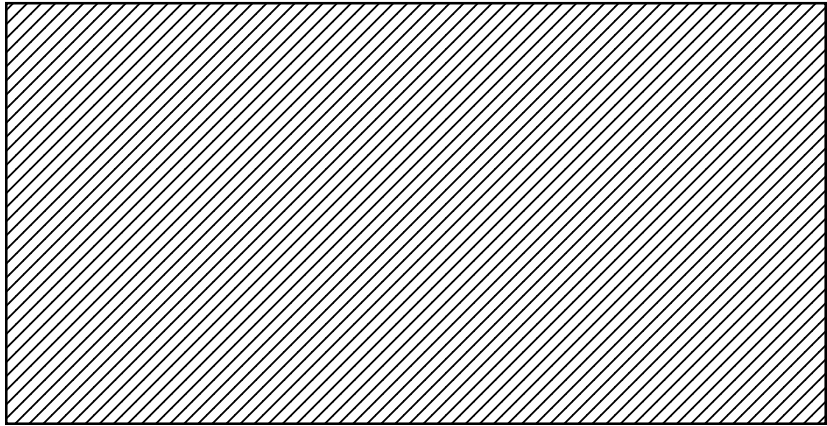
Freshman News

Freshman students will have met with the counselors and the career counselor through their wellness classes as this newsletter gets home. Please ask your son or daughter about this meeting so you can be informed of the information we shared.

Hollis Brookline High School
24 Cavalier Court
Hollis, NH 03049

OCTOBER 2006

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

The Hollis Police Department will hold an information night about "Keeping Your Kids Safe On the Internet" on Wednesday, October 18th at 7:00 pm, at the Hollis Brookline High School, in the auditorium. Detective Richard Mello from the Hollis Police Department for over five years. Prior to coming to the Hollis Police Department, he served as a patrol officer in Concord, New Hampshire, and as a patrol officer and detective in Manchester, New Hampshire. Detective Mello has extensive experience in the investigation and prosecution of on-line predators. The success of Detective Mello's investigations have led to numerous law enforcement agencies in New Hampshire to request his assistance in training their officers in this specialized area of investigation. In July of this year, several southern New Hampshire police departments, including Hollis, joined forces to form the Southern NH Cyber-Crime Task Force. Detective Mello was assigned to this task force, serving as team leader. In addition to those responsibilities, Detective Mello was responsible for training detectives that were assigned by their respective agencies. This presentation will help parents navigate the various Internet sights including, Myspace.com, Xanga.com, and Facebook.com. Detective Mello will also show parents the personal information that children put on the various internet-sites that could expose them to predators. Also in attendance will be Hollis Police Chief Russell Ux and Officer Tracy Dunn who is the School Resource Officer for the Hollis School District and Hollis Brookline Cooperative School District. If you have any questions regarding this presentation please call Kathy de Lacy at 465-5696.

▶ Keeping Your Kids Safe On the Internet