



**OCTOBER  
2007**

# **Hollis Brookline High School**

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

## ***Some Thoughts from the Principal***

Please note that the Coop School Board approved a calendar change at their September meeting. The teacher workshop day originally scheduled for October 31<sup>st</sup> has been moved to November 1<sup>st</sup>. This was done to align the calendars throughout the SAU. Once the change was approved it was announced in the morning to the students for a few days and as well as on the website. I am not sure why the original dates were inconsistent, apologize for any inconvenience and hopefully this message arrives in a timely fashion.

At our annual open house, held on Thursday September 27<sup>th</sup>, the building was busy with parents moving from class to class meeting their child's teachers in an atmosphere that was positive and uplifting. Many teachers new to our district were pleasantly surprised by the high attendance rate, which is something we sometimes take for granted, but serves as another reminder that this a special place to teach. If anyone has recommendations on how we could improve upon this evening please bring them to our attention for consideration. We will hold our annual Parent Conference Day(s) during Thanksgiving week, on the evening of November 20<sup>th</sup> and the morning of November 21<sup>st</sup> and if you did not sign up for an appointment at Open House you may still do so my contacting your child's teacher to arrange a conference time.

On October 10<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> our juniors took the NECAP statewide assessment in Writing, Reading and Mathematics. There is a Science component of the test that will be administered next spring. These tests are now the assessments that in the past were administered to the sophomore class. The results will be used to measure our school's Annual Yearly Progress (AYP) as determined by the No Child Left Behind Act. During this transition the test was administered last year to the juniors as a pilot program, therefore there are no high school results to report this year.

On October 17<sup>th</sup> the junior class, as well as sophomores who signed up before hand, will take the PSAT test during the school day. We began offering this test last year to all juniors during the day as a means 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. In light of the NECAP test now involving juniors and the close proximity of these two tests, we will reevaluate continuing this program next year. We continue to see positive results of opening the PSAT to all juniors. As pointed out in last month's newsletter, seniors JP Gorham, Sadie Lang and Erin Oittinen were named National Merit Semifinalists and this past

*(Continued on page 2)*

## ***A Message from the PTSA***

We hope that you are enjoying this wonderful weather. The calendar tells us it is Fall and the PTSA is in full swing. We have many events coming up that we hope you will participate in. Beginning on Friday, October 12<sup>th</sup>, the HBHS PTSA will host it's first Book Club meeting. Parents and staff are encouraged to join Erin Magee, Marie Degulis, and Barbara Boucher at 3:15 p.m. in the school library. Please bring a book selection idea. On Monday October 15<sup>th</sup>, we will be attending the Blue Ribbon Award Ceremony with Principal Kelley to accept the award for all of the volunteer work done in 2006. Thanks to all of you for the great work you do. The second presentation in our Parent Education Series is set for Wednesday, October 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. The topic is 504's vs. IEPs-Side by Side Comparison.

Donna Cormier has been working diligently to get the Student Directory compiled and printed. As soon as they are ready, she will be handing them out during the lunch periods. Please check in with your students in the next month or so to see if they have received them. Our Staff Appreciation Committee is planning a Harvest Luncheon to coincide with National Education Week. The luncheon will be held on Thursday, November 15<sup>th</sup> and will consist of soups, salads, and desserts. If you are not on the list to help out and would like to contribute, you can get in touch with Kristen Berry at [kbellep@aol.com](mailto:kbellep@aol.com) or Lisa Schmalz at [lschmalz@charter.net](mailto:lschmalz@charter.net)

Finally, we are compiling an email list to send updates, reminders, etc. If you would like to be on the list, please email us at the addresses below and we will be sure to add your name. Conversely, if you are receiving emails and do not wish to, please let us know and we will remove your name. Our next PTSA meeting will be held on Thursday, October 18<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 a.m. in the High School Cafeteria. We were very excited to see 26 people at our first meeting! Thank you for joining us and we hope to see you all again this month. Feel free to bring a friend.

Have a great month!!

Your 2007-2008 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

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•  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! •

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

week, we received word that ten additional seniors have been honored as National Merit Program Commended Students. They are: Chantal DeBakker, Lara Hasychak, Owen Hawkins, Samuel Heddle, Amruth Jonnalagadda, Savannah Parker, Hannah Post, Erin Powell, Hillary Smyth and Ryan Tracy.

Recognition of the achievements of our students continues to arrive weekly. Last spring, 267 Advanced Placements tests were administered to our students. This statistic alone may result in our again being cited on Newsweek's list of top high schools in the country. While the number taking the tests is important, we are more interested in the actual results and are pleased to announce that our students have again done remarkably well due their hard work and talented instructors. Forty-nine of our students achieved a perfect score on AP tests including English (13); US History (7); Calculus (14); Computer Science (4); Chemistry (9); Biology (1) and Statistics (1). Additionally four of our current students have already achieved perfect scores (800) on their SAT and SAT Subject tests. These include Sadie Lang (Critical Reading and Writing); Erin Oittinen (Critical Writing); Patrick McDaniel (Math 2) and Amruth Jonnalagadda (US History)

On the evening of October 4<sup>th</sup>, 19 of our students were inducted into the National Honor Society. The wonderful evening was organized by members, officers and the advisors, Mr. Connors and Ms. McElroy. The event was highlighted by a talk by Superintendent Pike and a visit by their former advisor, Mrs. Kissell.

Hollis Brookline Cooperative School District is very pleased to announce the receipt of a third very generous grant of to support both high school and middle school programs. These grants were made possible at the direction of a Brookline family through matching charitable funds made available through Fidelity Investments. This family is a strong supporter of the Coop educational community and in particular of the technology and performing arts programs and hopes that their endeavors will inspire others to contribute to the district. This year's grant of \$15,000 allows the high school to equip at least one classroom in each department as well as the library with SMART Board technology. SMART Boards are interactive touch-sensitive white boards that positively affect learning by raising the level of student engagement, motivation and enthusiasm within the classroom. This equipment provides students with a large area for exploring and manipulating computer material. Immediate access to information encourages students to investigate and organize ideas. There are currently four teachers in the building fully trained in the use of this equipment who will provide additional training to the staff.

As we move into the budget season we are also in the process of writing our year two progress report, to the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC), the organization that grants us accreditation. In their 2005 report there were a number of recommendations that we continue to address, two of which that could potentially impact the budget are: initiate a plan to increase parking space and initiate a plan to increase the capacity of the cafeteria. We are also required to report any significant changes that have taken place since the initial report

and one major impact is that in the 2004-05 school year, when the visiting committee made their recommendations, our official enrollment was 819 and today it is 931, a 13.6% increase. Initiating a student parking fee has allowed us to take control of an overcrowded back parking lot and has provided us with funds to address parking needs throughout the campus. It may soon become necessary to address the space needs within the building via the budget process.

In closing I would like to remind all of the many contributions of our Parent Teacher Student Association. The organization and distribution of this newsletter is just one of the many contributions that they make to our school community. At the last PTSA meeting (well attended as they try out an 8:30AM start time this semester) it was suggested by some that parents stay connected by reading the daily announcements which are posted on our web site. You will find an incredible number of clubs and organizations available to our students and we welcome your input and participation.

Timothy Kelley  
Principal

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# Guidance News

## Note from the Director

The fall is finally starting to creep in with some chillier weather as we have forgotten what it feels like to have brisk cool days with the wonderful fall we have experienced. Hopefully the Red Sox's will keep us going right through the next few weeks and we won't even notice the leaves and the temperatures falling. My biggest fear is that my son will be caught up in the Red Sox games and not pass his first semester of college, so my loyalty is somewhat jaded! With all of this we realize how fast the fall is going and quickly the school year goes by. The guidance office has been busy working with our senior students through the admission process and new students to HBHS on transitioning to our school community.

October in to November is extremely busy for us as we prepare our seniors for the next step from high school. Whether it is college or a career it takes a lot of discussion and discerning as to what will be the right choice for a student to achieve their future dreams and goals. It is an important process and the counselors know that students need this time of year to talk and think it through so often we spend many days talking to just seniors. Because of this we try to get out to the classes to talk with the rest of the students we work with so they know who we are and how they can access us. Most of the time students are unaware of what high school counselors do so we refresh their memory and encourage them to contact us with whatever concern they may have. This is true for parents as well. Please feel free to call and/or e-mail us at anytime if you have any questions concerning your son or daughter. School counseling is very different than it used to be or what you might remember of your guidance counselor when you were in school so please do not hesitate to contact us. We feel very strongly that this is a partnership and our goal is to work successfully to help students graduate from this fine school.

Hope you have a wonderful fall.

Go Red Sox!

## Communication

Please be sure to access our website if you have any guidance questions. There is so much information on the website and we update it weekly.

**Drop/Add** – students are not allowed to drop or add a full year course after the drop/add period is over. When a student or parent asks to make a change at this late date it puts the student in jeopardy of compromising his or her schedule. We spend a great deal of time informing students during the registration period, throughout the spring and summer and during the drop/add period of the caliber and difficulty of courses, the amount of work involved, whether the class is an appropriate fit, and offer students many options prior to the last day of drop/add. Therefore it is virtually impossible to change or adjust a schedule at this time of year. It puts a great deal of pressure on the students and teachers involved. Please be aware that all students must carry 6 credits to be considered a fulltime student.

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.



## Senior News

The time is now for college admissions and for career planning! Seniors who have not met with their counselor to discuss their post secondary plans should do so right away.

Seniors who are interested in applying to a four year college should plan to get their applications completed and to the colleges by December 15<sup>th</sup>. Check the colleges' websites or written information for admission deadlines. Students considering early admission programs (EA or ED) need to fill out their applications now and get their forms in to their counselors as soon as possible (remember the cost of postage is \$3 per school). Keep in mind for early programs it takes the counselors 2-3 weeks to put all the supporting documentation together for the admission packet. Regular decision applicants need to know that the counselors need four working weeks to process the information and holidays disrupt the months of November and December. All forms can be found in the guidance office, in the College Admission Handbook and on the guidance website. NOTE: UNH has an early action program and the deadline is November 15<sup>th</sup>.

Counselors have been proactively sending passes to all seniors to discuss post secondary plans. Be sure to encourage your senior to meet with his or her counselor to develop their future strategies.

**Receipts** – students will get a receipt from their counselor regarding information that was sent to the colleges. Please keep these receipts so that you are aware of what went out to the schools and when. If a student does not get the receipt please check with Mrs. Noel.

**First Quarter Grades** – will not be ready until after November 10<sup>th</sup>. We will do our best to get them to the colleges in time for the November 15<sup>th</sup> deadline. However it is most important that the student's application is at the college on the deadline. The supporting documentation can follow.

**Midterm Reports** – all midterm reports will be automatically sent out to the schools students have applied to when we receive the grades in January.

**Colleges Visiting HBHS** – the college visitation program is well on its way with over 30 colleges visiting our school on Mondays and Wednesdays until Thanksgiving. Please check our website for times and dates when the colleges will be at our school. Students are encouraged to attend but need to obtain a pass from guidance ahead of time in order to visit with a college representative. Please see Mrs. Noel to get a pass.

**Financial Aid Night** – will be held on December 6<sup>th</sup> at 7pm. The Director of Financial Aid at Southern New Hampshire University will be our featured speaker for the evening. It is very important for parents to attend this informative evening. Our presenter will discuss how financial aid is awarded, the FAFSA form and the CSS PROFILE among other important topics.

Another great source of information for funding a student's college education is the NHHEAF Organization in Concord. NHHEAF is open throughout the day and evening to better service families and can be reached through their website or toll free number.

[www.nhheaf.org](http://www.nhheaf.org)

1-800-525-2577

Note: The FAFSA form cannot be submitted until January 1, 2008. It is important to try to submit this document as close to this date as possible. It must be submitted electronically. All colleges require the FAFSA form from families if they want to be considered for any type of financial aid. The website for this form is [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov). Some private colleges require the CSS PROFILE form and this is accessed through the College Board website and like the FAFSA can only be submitted electronically. The website for the PROFILE is [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com). Check with the colleges to assure you are sending the appropriate forms.

**Scholarships** – the guidance website is updated weekly with new scholarship opportunities for students. Please be sure to check on scholarships often. Local scholarships will not be available until February or March but many national scholarships are available now. Applications can be found either in the guidance office or through internet links listed on our guidance website.

**NCAA** – don't forget to register if a senior is at all interested in playing a college sport. This is done thorough the NCAA Clearinghouse and also needs to be done electronically. The clearinghouse website is [www.ncaaclearinghouse.net](http://www.ncaaclearinghouse.net). Please be sure to download the form and bring it to guidance so we can follow up with a transcript.

**SAT/ACT Information** – there is still time for seniors to participate in these testing programs and should do so immediately if they have not already taken at least one SAT or ACT. Please come to guidance for more information.

## **Junior News**

**College Fair** – Nashua High School is hosting a college fair the first Monday in November. Please check our website for more information.

College Information Night - for juniors and their parents will be held the first week in February. This is a wonderful opportunity for parents and students to get started on the admission process. All students will receive a new revised copy of the College Admission Handbook and important information to get started on their college search.

PSAT – all juniors took the PSAT on Wednesday, October 17<sup>th</sup>. Results of this test will be available the first week we return

from Christmas break. Counselors will meet with all students individually to discuss their test results. This is a great opportunity for counselors and students to meet and start the college discussion.

**SAT/ACT Services for Students with Disabilities** – students who will need testing accommodations for these tests are strongly encouraged to discuss this with their case managers as soon as possible to ensure the accommodations are available for their testing.

Upcoming tests dates and test registration can be found on the College Board and ACT websites.

[www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)

[www.act.org](http://www.act.org)

## **Sophomore News**

**PSAT** – students will be receiving their results after the Christmas break. Counselors will be meeting with students individually to discuss the students' results.

**HOBY Scholarship** – students are now eligible to apply for the HOBY scholarship. Please check our website for more information.

## **Freshman News**

Wellness classes - counselors have been speaking in all the freshman Wellness classes to discuss transitioning to high school, the importance of getting involved in school activities and the meaning and use of progress reports. Please be sure to ask your son or daughter about this activity.



## Parent Educational Series for 2007-2008

### October 17

504s vs. IEPs - side by side comparison

### November 14

Teen Development

### 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

## Special Ed...504 vs. IEPs

What does it all mean? What do I need to know to protect my child and have them be successful in school? Did I fail as a parent? Where do I turn for the answers? What is my role in their success? As parents and educators, we play a significant role in the lives of children. We are the biggest assets they have in helping them reach their full potential.

Mariellen MacKay, Regional Facilitator, from New Hampshire Connections, and Charlene Mayo from the Parent Information Center will conduct a workshop providing information for parents and educators' concerning what is the difference between your child being identified with a 504 versus an IEP. Hollis Brookline PTSA S-Team will sponsor this educational workshop, free and open to anyone in the community, on Wednesday, October 17<sup>th</sup>, at 7 p.m., at the Hollis Brookline High School. For more information you may contact Pat Marquette at 673-1957.

## Is this my Teen?

Is my Teen normal? What is "normal" in a teenager's life? How do parents interpret the various signals we receive from our child? What is truly a "phase" and what is problematic? What arguments do you think "Well, that makes sense, what can I say?" What is the best approach to setting limits with your adolescent? Learn the answers to these questions and what is considered "Normal" teen development by attending an informative and enlightening workshop on the ins and outs of teens. Jeri Ryan, PhD, LMFT will help answer some of your questions regarding this issue. Hollis Brookline PTSA S-Team will sponsor this educational workshop, free and open to anyone in the community, on Wednesday, November 14<sup>th</sup>, at 7 p.m., at the Hollis Brookline High School. For more information you may contact Pat Marquette at 673-1957.

## Maintaining the School - Home Connection

*HBMS and HBHS Special Education Staff*

With the academic year in full swing, teachers, parents and students alike have turned focus from the initial thoughts of schedules and materials to questions of student progress. Clear, consistent, timely communication remains a necessity both at home and at school to provide our students with opportunities to succeed. However, developing and maintaining a level of communication that is effective and informative is an ongoing process. The following strategies have proven to be effective to parents, students and teachers at both the middle and high school levels.

**Email:** Email is the most time efficient way to convey information between home and school, and provides a written documentation of the issue to be addressed. It is a tool that is readily available to students, parents, and teachers. Most teachers are able to respond to an email the same day it is received. Messages, however, should provide or request a focused amount of information. Parent or student initiated requests regarding grades or assignments between regular progress reporting periods are appreciated by teachers and are preferred to contact after grades have been assigned.

**Phone calls:** Phone calls allow direct, personal contact between parents and teachers. However, phone messages or voice mail messages may not be received as quickly as an email due to teachers' schedules. It is expected that a phone message received by a staff member will be answered within a 24 hour period. Phone calls, as emails, should be made with a primary focus.

**Web pages:** Many teachers at both the high school and middle school maintain a web page. When questions arise regarding specific homework assignments and class expectations, it is best to locate and view any information posted directly by the teacher on his or her web page first.

**School publications:** Throughout the year, the school provides numerous announcements, newsletters, and posts events on its web page. Additionally, progress reports, report cards, and interim monitor reports (provided by Special Education) are distributed. Parents and students are encouraged to check school calendars and other publications for the distribution dates of such reports.

### 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!



## PENNY PICKERS NEEDED - VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY



It's time for our 16th Annual Penny Picker Campaign to support the programs of the Nashua Pastoral Care Center. Our mission is to offer support and provide services to assist individuals and families transition from crisis to self-sufficiency. Last year the Penny Picker Campaign raised \$43,000 with your help.

Once again, we are in need of volunteers to canvass the neighborhoods in Hollis and Brookline. Over the years we have worked with volunteers from the Hollis Brookline Interact Club and National Honor Society. For the past 3 years Hollis Brookline High School has won the award for the highest percentage of volunteers among the greater Nashua area high schools. Let's make it a fourth year!

We need your help! We are in need of volunteers who are looking for community service opportunities, or who just want to lend a helping hand. October 27 has been selected as the day that volunteers from Hollis and Brookline will be going out into the neighborhoods and asking for spare change to support the Care Center. We will actually meet the volunteers at Hollis Brookline High School that morning.

If you would like to get involved, please feel free to contact Christine Heaton at the High School or contact me directly with any questions by phone: (603) 886-2866, or email: [jlancy@nashuanpcc.org](mailto:jlancy@nashuanpcc.org). You can join us at the High School on October 27 or come to the Care Center at 7 Concord Street, Nashua, NH, on October 28, November 3, 4, 10, or 11.

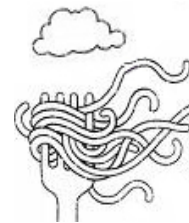
## Selective Service Registration

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.



## SPAGHETTI SUPPER

The Hollis Boy Scouts are having a spaghetti supper!



Saturday, Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5:00 – 7:30 pm

Hollis Congregational Church

**Ticket prices as follows:**

Teen/Adult (ages 12 – 60) .....	\$5.00
Sr. Citizen/Children (ages 6-12; 60+) .....	\$4.00
Under age 6 .....	FREE

## H/B Athletic Booster Club News

### HBABC Annual Golf Tournament

Our 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Tournament was played at the Overlook Country Club in Hollis on Monday, September 17<sup>th</sup>. It was a dark, chilly morning when the HB Athletic Booster Club members took to the course to distribute the soft drinks and snacks. Inside the clubhouse, the registration tables were being set up and the coffee and home made muffins were being served. By 8:30 when all of the 108 golfers had assembled to begin the Scramble formatted tournament, it had warmed up to become a beautiful sunny day on the course.

Of the 108 golfers that participated, the team of Dave Bingham, Chris Fitzgerald, Robert Lee and Lou Shattuck brought home the trophy with a low team score of 57. A luncheon, raffle and auction soon followed the tournament at Alpine Grove. Overall, the tournament was a huge success.

Thank you to the golfers and the sponsors that participated in this year's event. We appreciate your taking the time and donating the money to help the HBABC help the athletic programs at HBHS.

A special thanks to Dan Lorden, the Chairman of the tournament. For 18 years, Dan has directed this tournament and it has never been an easy task. Thank you also to Eileen Kelly, Vice President of the HBABC, who assisted Dan in this year's event. You both did a fantastic job.

Finally, thank you to all of the HBABC members and volunteers that helped on the day of the tournament. Your efforts are extremely appreciated.

### Fall Sports Award Night

The Fall Sports Awards night will take place at HBHS on Thursday evening, November 8<sup>th</sup>. As we come closer to the end of the fall season, many of the Athletic Teams have had a very successful year on the fields, courses and courts. Some of these teams are looking forward to post season play, some even with home field advantage. On this award's evening, we look forward to honoring *all* of the athletes that competed on this year's teams.

The next HBABC meeting is scheduled for November 14<sup>th</sup> at HBHS. We always welcome new members.

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

**String Ensemble  
and Middle School Students  
Hollis/Brookline High School**


The HUES String Program is piloting a String Ensemble for Hollis/Brookline Middle and High School students. Ms. Deborah Jordan, the HUES String Program instructor, will be coordinating the effort. Ms. Nancy Goodwin will be the Director of the String Ensemble. Ms. Goodwin is a professional violinist, private violin teacher for 25 years, and has taught group lessons and string ensembles in the Nashua School District and at the Nashua Community Music.

The first session of the String Ensemble will meet once a week for 10 weeks. Rehearsals will last 1 hour. There will be a fee to cover expenses and all levels of ability are welcome.

If you have a child that is interested please contact Ms. Deborah Jordan.

Deborah Jordan  
603-465-9509  
strings@netjordan.com  
Nancy Goodwin  
degani@verizon.net

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 noteworthy, 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 [illingworth@sau41.k12.nh.us](mailto:illingworth@sau41.k12.nh.us) or call 465-2269 for more information.



**Hollis Brookline High School  
24 Cavalier Court  
Hollis, NH 03049**

**OCTOBER 2007**

**BULK RATE  
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