North Hunterdon High School

February Calendar

- 1 PTSA Meeting, 7pm English SAT Review, 3-5 pm in Room 012
- 2 American Math Competition
- 3 Staff In-Service,2 1/2 hour delayed opening for students

Math SAT Review, 3-5pm, room 207

- 4 Spring College Night, theater
- 5 Deadline to register for March SAT
 - Science League Competition, 2:25pm
- 8 Booster Club Meeting,7pmEnglish SAT Review, 3-5pm in Room 012
- 9 NHHS Music Association Meeting, 7pm, room 131
- 10 Math League, Café A & B, 2:30pm

Math SAT Review, 3-5pm, room 207

- 11 Science League Competition
- 12 President's Weekend, 11:55am dismissal
- 15 President's Weekend, school closed
- 17 Math SAT Review, 3-5pm, room 207
- 18 Parent Advisory, Media Center, 9:30am
- 19 Spring Sports Forms Due
- 22 English SAT Review, 3-5pm, room 012
- 24 Blood Drive, main gym, 7:30am—3:00pm
- 25 3rd marking period mid point
- 29 English SAT Review, 3-5pm, room 012

Principal's Newsletter

Volume 7, Issue 6



February 2016

February News



Richard A. Bergacs, Ed.D., Principal

Starting Second Semester

We are officially halfway through the school

year. I would like to thank our North parents and students for a great start to the year and remind everyone about the many happenings at our school in the coming weeks.

Driving and Safety



On any given day, morning and afternoon

drop offs/pick ups can be hectic. As the winter progresses, I would like to remind everyone about the safety of our students getting in and out of buses and vehicles in your neighborhoods and on campus. Parents, please be mindful of students crossing the street, walking in the parking lot and your speed entering and

exiting the campus. We appreciate your cooperation, understanding and assistance in keeping everyone safe.

Spring Sports

Many tryout dates for spring sports are in early March. If you are a candidate for a sports team, make sure forms are turned in on time so students are able to participate. We are now using Aspen to enter sports forms online and the deadline for submission is February 19.

Please <u>click here</u> to access the information for online sport forms.

For more information regarding spring sports, please <u>click here</u>.

Spring College Night



On Thursday, February 4, Mr. Christopher Hooker-

Haring, the Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid at Muhlenberg College will be speaking on "Trends in College Admissions." The pro-

gram begins at 7:00 p.m. and will be held in the theater.

Counselors will be meeting with juniors and parents to talk about the college process during designated times from February 22 to March 11. These appointments can

11. These appointments can be scheduled through the guidance secretaries.

Great Job Lauren Connor!

Over the holidays, Lauren Connor, a goalie for the North Hunterdon Girls Lacrosse team, traveled to Jamaica to work with the Lacrosse Volunteer Corps. She volunteered her time and shared her skills and coached young Jamaican athletes. Despite the language barrier, she helped her students further develop their lacrosse skills. Congratulations Lauren and thank you for representing North so well!!



January Departmental Students of the Month



English Jessica Maziarczyk '16 and Leonardo Gelato '16

Fine Arts Lexie Smith '18 and Nicholas Gurreri '17

Mathematics Lacey Kestecher '19 and Thomas Cerra '19

Music Anthony Vacca '16 and

Madeleine Andreas '16

PE & Health Amanda Chisholm '19 and George Kapetanakis '19

Practical Arts Rebecca Jones '16 and

Andrew Ferrante '18

Science Fernanda Flynn '18 and Leonardo Gelato '16

Social Studies Jessica Zalot '18 and Ryan Reed '18

World Language Emily Cerullo '18 and Jake Koscielski '19

January Good Citizens of the Month



Each department nominates one male and female student each month for being a good citizen. These students reflect one or more of the following characteristics: caring, citizenship, fairness, respect, responsibility and trustworthiness.

Congratulations to the following students!

English Theodora Mavros '16 and Steven Zakszewski '16

Fine Arts Skyler Hamilton '17 and Dante Buffa '16
Mathematics Hannah Baker '17 and Ian McKillip '19
Music Chinua Jones '16 and Marissa Mugnano '16
PE & Health Fernanda Flynn '18 and John Anderson '18

Practical Arts Emily Lundy '17 and Ryan Negoescu '16

Science Aniya Stevenson '18 and Connor McMahon '18

Social Studies Brinton Gibbons '18 and Peter Duttweiler '18

World Language Siddhi Sundaram '19 and Charles Brenckle '19

January Students of the Month



Senior, **Cecelia Higgins** has impressed many teachers at North. Her foreign language teacher, Mrs. Mullay says her work is so amazingly complete. Even on AP style tests at this point in the year, she gets a perfect score. Her insights and writing are mature and eloquent. She is so incredibly humble. Cecelia has truly enjoyed all

her classes at North so much, she really can't pick one favorite class. She is a member of the jazz ensemble where she plays baritone saxophone, and is a member of the Latin club. Cecelia loves to do a lot of creative writing on her own time. She is planning to apply to some short story / poetry scholarships this year. Cecelia went to England in December to take a math test for a math scholarship to Cambridge. She was also the keynote speaker at last year's GSA night. Cecelia is not sure which school she will be attending in the fall, but she is fairly certain she will major in mathematics, possibly with a minor in physics. Her favorite memories from North were all the discussions of "the dinghy" in Mrs. Flynn's biology class and the Invisalign joke from Mrs. Mullay's Latin class this year.



Blake Horun has had four very impressive years at North. He has played soccer for four years and was awarded the Dale Marsh Coach's Award 2015. Blake was a hurdler in the track program for three years where he was awarded 1 gold and 2 bronze medals. He is also the Principal Violinist in Orchestra, part of student council, is a peer leader, a violinist in Pit Orchestra, Interact Club, National Honor Society, Spanish Honor Society, National Art Honor Society, and volunteers at North

Youth Soccer Camp as a counselor. Blake has also won awards for Advanced Academic Literacy, Community Service Hours, Good Citizen in 2014 and 2015, Academic Excellence in World Language, and the Student Council Certificate sophomore and junior year. Outside of North, Blake takes flying lessons to be an aspiring Pilot, volunteers as a counselor at St. Catherine's Summer Camp, does other volunteering through his church, volunteers with Feed the Need and Grow A Row, is team Captain of Hunterdon FC, and works at the Pittstown Grill. His favorite classes at North were his Spanish classes. All of his teachers, Sr. Schultz, Sra. Morris, and Sra. Rigby are awesome and made each class an exciting place to learn. Blake's favorite memories from North were with his soccer teammates. Every season has its memories, but senior year he led the team in every pre-game huddle and chant. Winning the Coaches Award, being in "the Jungle" and the Milk Can Games were incredible. Blake plans on majoring in Biomedical Engineering and/or Medicine to pursue a career in Orthopedics or Anesthesiology. He would also like to minor in Music and become a fighter pilot in his free time.

January Student Athlete of the Month—Rebecca Errickson



Team Captain, **Rebecca Errickson** has been a Varsity Foil Fencer for the past three years. Rebecca has had four undefeated meets, placed 3rd in the Junior U20 Women's Foil and 3rd in D & Under Senior Women's Foil. She is ranked #29 in Region 3, which includes VT, NH, ME, RI, NY, CT, MA, PA, and

NJ. Rebecca also trains at Princeton Fencing Camp. She recently traveled to Poland with Medco Fencing Club, to train and compete this past summer. Rebecca's strongest skill is her long lunge, where she uses her height to her advantage. The team has already won a statewide tournament, Santellis, held at Drew University. Rebecca started fencing in high school her freshman year and fell in love with the sport. She competes as an individual at local and regional tournaments as well as tournaments on the national circuit. Rebecca is also part of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes at NHHS. She plans on fencing next year at the division one level and will major in nursing.

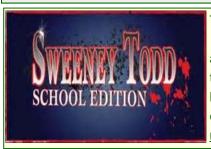
January Student Athlete of the Month—John Walton



Point Guard, **John Walton** has been playing basketball since he was seven and has played varsity for the past two years. John is averaging around 13.5 points per game. His season high at 22 points was against Watchung Hills, where he shot four three pointers. Some of John's strongest skills are his

competiveness, intensity on the court, and ability to perform at a high level consistently. He works hard at the game and understands what it takes a team to win. By being Point Guard, John controls the tempo of the game. He knows how to utilize each player's strengths and create scoring opportunities for the team. This involves setting up plays and getting the ball to his teammates in the best position to score. Last year, John received the Honorable Mention All League. Outside of basketball, John volunteers at the Hunterdon Medical Center as well as for the High School summer basketball camp. He is undecided whether he will play competitively in college, but would like to major in Business.

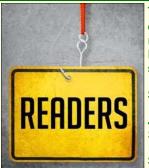
Spring Musical



The North Hunterdon Theater Organization will present its winter musical, *Sweeney Todd: School Edition*, on March 3 – March 5, 2016. Please mark your calendars and come out to show your support for our wonderful actors, crew, tech, and orchestra! North Hunterdon Theater Organization's staff and students will be working very hard to put on an excellent show for the community. For all ticket information, please contact:

nhhssweeneytoddtickets@gmail.com.

Media Center Names Enthusiastic Readers



The NHHS Media Center has recognized 32 students as "Enthusiastic Readers." Each of these students has read at least two library books per month from September through December, with some reading more than one book per week. The Media Center will send the names of these students to the Hunterdon County Library Association as nominees for the county's Enthusiastic Reader award in the spring.

Seniors: Jessica Blanchard, Celine LaBelle, Sarah Lezak

Juniors: Julian Calv, Skyler Hamilton, Nicholas Helriegel, Nicole Krok, Victoria Krok, Mugdha Sanglikar, Austin Spriggs, Destiny Thorne-Kovacs, Jacquelyn Twaddle

Sophomores: Grace Clifford, Peter Duttweiler, Marc Harris, Kathleen Hoban, Reed Montemurro, Robert Obermair, Rebecca Xu

Freshmen: Rebecca Beswick, Lianna Bonacorsi, Cian Cullen, Jayce Fortuna, Robin Kipe, Rebekah Lazarek, Adam Lum-DeBono, Ian McKillip, Anneliese Molzen, Chloe Neria, Adwait Sahasrabuddhe, Kateryna Voznyuk, Kara Walters

Advanced Placement Tests

Preparations are underway for the upcoming Advanced Placement Exams, which will be given in May. The deadline for ordering Advanced Placement tests is fast approaching. Please order all AP Exams by Friday, February 26, 2016. The cost is \$92.00 per test and must be paid at the time of ordering. Students need to bring their completed registration form and a check made payable to NHHS Activities Account to the main office. Please do not hand checks or registration forms to the classroom teacher. The Assistant Principal's secretary will record and process all registrations and checks. Please write on the check the exams that your child will be taking, and please record the child's last name if different than that on the check.

A reminder to all students and parents is that course weighting is dependent upon participation in the AP Exams. Students who take the AP Exam for a course will receive the full AP.50 quality point for GPA calculations. Students who choose not to participate in an AP Exam for a course will receive Honors Weighting .35 quality point for GPA calculations. Weighting is not dependent upon the AP Exam Grade; only participation in the exam for that course is considered.

Additional information on the Advanced Placement Program is available from their website at www.collegeboard.com/apcentral.

Please <u>click here</u> for more information and registration form.

Junior Prom



The 2016 Junior Prom will take place on Saturday, March 12, 2016 at Razberry's in Flemington. The evening will begin at 6pm and will conclude at 10pm. Appetizers, dinner and desert will be served through the

course of the evening. Tickets for the dance are \$50 per person and will be sold online using the school's ThunderTix system. The system will open to students February 1 and will remain open until February 26. Click here for more information.

As a reminder, Random Breathalyzer Testing is used at NHHS events as one facet of a comprehensive drug and alcohol prevention program. The purposes of random breathalyzer testing are to deter students from using alcohol and to identify students who are using so that families can take the appropriate steps.



Hour of Code







In December, we celebrated Computer Science Awareness week at both Voorhees and North by participating in Hour of Code activities. The Hour of Code is a global movement joining over 164,000 events around the world that introduce and promote coding through fun tasks. The entire student body from both schools was given information about the event and were provided a link to log onto http://hourofcode.com/us as well as additional resources they could try on their own. Students were able to program a game using Scratch-like drag and drop steps, learn the basics of JavaScript and Python programming languages, or make an app to share. Students were able to build a galaxy in Star Wars, cre-

ate a MineCraft adventure, or make a program where Anna from Frozen ice skates in different patterns.

All math classes participated in the Hour of Code activities either at home or in their math class. Some students created their own "Star Wars" games with characters from the new movie, *The Force Awakens*. Students were able send their new games to their smartphones or share the game on Facebook or Twitter. Other students worked on other activities from Code.org such as "coding with Anna and Elsa" or "make a flappy bird game" or through Khan Academy. A total of about 800 students from both schools participated in the hour of code activities during the school day. Others continued or worked independently at home. At the end of the week, three students from each school were chosen at random to win an Amazon Gift card. The winners at North were Elizabeth Kapral '18, Stephanie Thompson '16, and Connor Esch '19.

Student Council News



Once again Student Council is teaming up with Aeropostale stores to collect gently used jeans for the homeless in the United States. One in three homeless persons in the United States is under 18

years of age. The Student Council will bring all jeans to the store collection site on February 19. Collection bins are placed near the school's main entrances. We hope to add another 1000 pairs of jeans this year. Please send us your used jeans! Please ask all your neighbors and friends to join in this cause!



tacklehunger.org

Student Council will be participating in the Souper Bowl of Caring again this year the week leading up to Super Bowl (Feb 1-5). Students and staff are asked to bring canned food donations to school and place them in the bins by the main entrances. All donations will be given to local families in need via the Open Pantry Food

Cupboard in Clinton. Thank you for your continued generosity.

Many members of Student Council attended the winter leadership conference sponsored by the NJ Association of Student Councils at the College of New Jersey on Jan 6. Students participated in the election of state officers, heard motivational speeches and attended workshops on fundraisers, spirit raising and leadership.

Blood Drive



The next Blood Drive at North Hunterdon High School will take place on Wednesday, February 24 in the New Gym from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

All donors should drink plenty of water

and eat regular meals on donation day. All donors must show some official form of identification, such as a picture ID or driver's license.

Click <u>here</u> to access the principal's letter and click here to access the 16 yr. old permission form.

On Tuesday, November 24, North Hunterdon set a high school record for a single day donation of 480 pints of blood.

Please help make this drive the even better and consider donating to this worthwhile cause!

Math Students Will Participate in AMC 10/12 February 2, 2016



The Mathematical Association of America AMERICAN MATHEMATICS COMPETITIONS

The American Mathematics Competition (AMC) is dedicated to the goal of strengthening the mathematical capabilities of our nation's youth. One way to meet this goal is to identify, recognize and reward excellence in mathematics through a series of national contests called the:

- American Mathematics Contest 8 (AMC 8),
- American Mathematics Contest 10 (AMC 10),
- American Mathematics Contest 12 (AMC 12),
- American Invitational Mathematics Examination (AIME), and
- United States of America Mathematical Olympiad (USAMO).

For over 50 years, many excellent forums have been prepared by individuals throughout the mathematical community in the hope that all secondary students will have an opportunity to participate in these problem solving and enriching mathematics experiences. On Thursday, May 11, 1950, the first Mathematical Contest, sponsored by the New York Metropolitan Section of the Mathematics Association of America (MAA) took place. It was given in approximately 238 schools to around 6,000 students in the New York area only. The series of contests has grown and in 2011 over 413,000 students in over 5,100 schools participated in the AMC Contests. Both the American Mathematics Contests 10 and 12 are 75 minute long examinations consisting of 25 multiple choice questions in sec-

ondary school mathematics containing problems which can be understood and solved with pre-calculus concepts. The difference between the two contests is that the AMC 12 is for students who are under the age of 19.5 years and the AMC 10 is for students who are under the age of 17.5 and not enrolled in grades 11

More than 250 students at North Hunterdon will have the opportunity to participate in either the AMC 10 or AMC 12 on Tuesday, February 3, 2015. Qualifying students will then have the opportunity to further their problem solving and enriching mathematics experiences even more by participating in the American Invitational Mathematics Examination.



College Admissions Counselor Visits

NHEF was able to spearhead the college admissions counselors' visits to North this year. The turnout from various schools was excellent. Counselors from 38 colleges and universities visited our campus last Fall. **198 students took advantage of the opportunity to meet with the counselors.** The Foundation hopes that students found the meetings helpful in determining their college selections. Next Fall, the number of colleges visiting the North Hunterdon campus will be expanded, so stay tuned to see if your favorite schools are coming.

College Day Trips

The NHEF is looking forward to sponsoring bus trips to local colleges for interested students. This Spring, there will be a trip for juniors and then in the Fall, there will be a trip for current seniors and juniors. Directions on how to sign up will be provided by the Guidance department.

Grants

NHEF has been busy approving grants! There have been four grants approved so far this school year and the fifth is something that students, faculty, administration and visitors of NHHS can **ALL** be excited about... clean, cold, delicious water!

NHEF has approved a grant for Refillable Water Stations submitted by the Environmental/Botany Club. The water stations are a perfect compliment to a fundraiser that the club held earlier in the year selling refillable water bottles. Everyone will be able to fill their reusable bottles with clean, delicious water.

Fun Fact: Did you know that it takes up to 450 years for a plastic water bottle to break down? Each refillable water station has the potential for the reduction of approximately 22,700 plastic bottles a year!

The old water fountains at North had low pressure and students complained that the water "just didn't taste great." Students can now fill their refillable water bottles quickly and easily and not only save money; they'll be saving the planet!

Installation of the two new water stations will begin in the next few weeks.



Booster Club News



Silver Oaks Learning Center, NH Booster Club and NH Music Association are sponsoring a free timed practice SAT or ACT for sophomores and juniors on February 6th. Silver Oaks will provide an all-inclusive college prep workshop for parents while students are taking the test.

Our indoor shack is open for all 7pm games and Saturday and Sunday fencing meets. We will have drinks, candy, hot dogs, popcorn and pretzels.

Dave the Rave's Birthday Celebration will be February 25th during the Boys Basketball game against Randolph. He will be 70!! We will have a 50/50, we will accept donations for the Special Olympics, and we will have cupcakes. Dave will be shooting his famous half court shots during halftime. Come out and cheer him on!!

The Booster Club is seeking individuals to help in all areas (open/close the shack, shopping, scheduling, officers, reps, etc) for the 2016-2017 school year. Please email nhsbc@gmail.com to volunteer. We would like new volunteers to shadow the current volunteers. It makes the transition smoother.

Our meetings are the second Monday of the month in the Faculty Dining Room at 7:00pm. All are welcome!



Huge Shout-Out to everyone that made the Battle of the Bands 2016 a success. Congratulations to Ross Monteith for winning 1st place and a gift certificate to Guitar Center in Bridgewater.

The annual **Staff Appreciation Breakfast** will be held on **Friday**, **February 26**, **2016**. Please consider donating or volunteering—<u>click here</u> to sign-up.

PTSA is hosting **SAT Bootcamp on Saturday, February 27 and Sunday, February 28**, which will review the **New Redesigned SAT**. The Bootcamp will cost \$175 and be run by Catalyst Prep at Voorhees High School. Please signup at www.catalystprep.com.

Upcoming Dates:

<u>Senior Class</u> - Senior Banquet will be held on Wednesday, April 27, 2016.

<u>Sophomore Class</u> - please mark your calendars for a Mardi Gras Celebration on **Friday, March 11** from 7-10pm at the Grand Colonial.

The PTSA offers scholarships to graduating <u>Seniors of PTSA members</u>. Please see the Guidance website under local scholarships for an application.

We are always welcoming new members to PTSA. Please come to check us out at our next meeting: Monday, February 1st at 7pm in Café B. Click <u>here</u> to fill out a membership form.

Music Association News

Warm up with some music during these cold winter days. *Mark your calendars!*

Winter musical performance of *Sweeney Todd* - March 3, 4 & 5 Marching band in the Clinton St. Patrick's Day Parade - March 13 14th annual Prism Concert - March 17

Look for *Sweeney Todd* ticket information soon and look for the NHMA at each performance. We will be providing concessions, flowers, personalized Candygrams, and a 50/50 raffle! So, bring a little extra cash to support the programs and scholarships of the Music Association... and, in turn, of our music students!

Preparations have begun for the Prism concert. You won't want to miss this amazing event ~ a combined effort of choral and instrumental talents. Avoid waiting in line on the night of the show to buy tickets. Purchase tickets online! More info to come.

Join us for our next NHMA meeting on Tuesday, February 9, 2016. We meet at 7 PM in the choir room (Rm 131). www.nhvweb.net/nhhs/musicassociation