



North Hunterdon-Voorhees Regional High School District

"Providing Success for all Students"

Summer 2011

Congratulations to the Class of 2011!

On a very warm Friday evening on June 10 (luckily not as hot as the 100 degree temperatures that preceded the day), Voorhees and North Hunterdon High Schools awarded diplomas to 288 and 453 graduates respectively.

The Voorhees ceremony began at 5:00pm, with spectators in the bleachers finding some relief from the heat thanks to fans provided by the North Hunterdon-Voorhees Education Association. As graduates entered the football field for the last time, they touched the Voorhees rock for good luck and then made their way down the track to their seats.

Brendan O'Shea, Senior Class President, began the ceremony with the pledge of allegiance and then took a moment to thank the hard work of the Voorhees custodial and maintenance staff for the "vibrant array of flowers and perfectly manicured fields that bring our school to life." A well deserving round of applause followed.

Brendan also gave a heartfelt thanks to Principal David Steffan for his twelve years at Voorhees High School. Steffan is retiring as of



VHS graduates touch the Voorhees rock for good luck as they enter the football field

with Brendan that "for years to come he will be missed by students and faculty alike." (More on Steffan's retirement and his successor on page 5).

August 31 and this would be his last graduation at Voorhees. Steffan received a resounding round of applause from the audience as they agreed

Mr. Steffan spoke briefly on his years at Voorhees and shared a moment that he had with a senior earlier that day. He said the senior told him



As is tradition, VHS graduates throw up their caps to celebrate the official end of high school.

it was like they were both graduating today, to which Steffan joked "it only took you 12 years to get here but it took me 41."

The ceremony continued with the announcement of valedictorian and salutatorian. Nicholas Porto of Tewksbury Twp. earned the title of valedictorian and Kathryn Hahn of Lebanon Twp. was named salutatorian. Speeches were given by both students, followed by speeches from Superintendent Dr. Charles Shaddow and Board of Education President Beverly Thorne. Seniors then came forward one by one to receive their high school diploma.

(Continued on page 2)

Inside this issue:

List of Colleges.....	3
Blood Drive Records.....	4
Energy Plan.....	6
Board of Education News....	7

Congratulations to the Class of 2011, continued

Over at North Hunterdon High School, its ceremony kicked off at 7:00pm on Singley field. Diana Marchesini, Vice President of the Class of 2011, led attendees in the pledge of allegiance and then the show choir sang the national anthem, directed by David Lockart, Supervisor of Music for North Hunterdon and Voorhees. It was a poignant moment for Lockart as this would be his last graduation ceremony as he is retiring after 32 years in the district.

Senior Class President, Humza Rehmane, welcomed everyone to the 59th commencement of North Hunterdon and lightened things up when he spoke to his fellow graduates. "I am here to introduce you to the end. Today marks the beginning of the end of our childhoods (which will formally be completed in theaters everywhere on July 15th) when Harry Potter finally fulfills the prophecy."

Principal Michael Hughes continued the ceremony by announcing the valedictorian, Casey Maher of Clinton, and the salutatorians, Timothy Abbott and Kevin



Alexa Coules and Myriah Cockburn hold hands while walking onto Singley Field. Also in photo (Left side L-R) Tiffany Clarke, Julia Cocchiola, Coules, (Right side L-R) Cockburn, Elizabeth Cocchiola, Dana Ciarlariello

Lau, both of Bethlehem Township. The top six students in the class then gave a joint speech. Timothy Abbott began by saying, "Over the past four years in high school, we've had time to discover ourselves and crack open the door to enlightenment through a variety of experiences. Some memorable events that we will recollect are walking through the doors of the courtyard for freshmen discovery... and our first day of high school, feeling like the runt cub in a large pride, and trying to figure out what and where 'The Mall' is located and what kind of stores it has!"

Michele Sanabria finished the speech with the following: "Tonight we celebrate our last moments together as one graduating class. And although we differ from one another in countless ways, we all share the same limitless potential and we all have our own great purpose. Wherever we're going, there is a lifetime of adventures in store for each of us...Over the past four years, we have come to realize that each of us has something amazing to contribute to society. And with its awesome array of talented and passionate students, our class is ready to change the world."

Diplomas were handed to graduates by Principal Hughes, Board of Education President Beverly Thorne, Board Member Sandra Seidorf and Superintendent Shaddow.

Congratulations to all graduates of the Class of 2011 and we wish you good luck in your future endeavors! ■



The top six students of North's Class of 2011 deliver a group speech. (L-R) Timothy Abbott, Rachel Battaglia, Casey Maher, Kevin Lau, Isabelle Orrico, and Michele Sanabria.

Graduates Attend Top Colleges

Over 93% of students in the Class of 2011 from North Hunterdon and Voorhees High Schools will be attending a two or four-year college/university this fall. Each year, our high school students attend the top universities or colleges in the country. This year is no exception as we have 10 graduates attending Ivy League schools. Here are the universities and colleges recent graduates will be attending:

Albright College	East Carolina University	Lycoming College	Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
American University	East Stroudsburg University of Pennsylvania	Marist College	Rhodes College
Amherst College	Edison State College	Maryland Institute College of Art	Richard Stockton College of New Jersey
Arcadia University	Elizabethtown College	Marymount Manhattan College	Rider University
Art Institute of Charleston	Elon University	McLennan Community College	Roanoke College
Art Institute of Philadelphia	Engine City Technical Institute	Messiah College	Rochester Institute of Technology
Bard College	Fairfield University	Michigan State University	Rowan University
Bates College	Fairleigh Dickinson University	Misericordia University	Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey
Berkeley College - Middlesex Campus	Fordham University	Monmouth University	Sacred Heart University
Binghamton University	George Washington University	Montclair State University	Saint Joseph's University
Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania	Germanna Community College - Fredericksburg	Montserrat College of Art	Saint Michael's College
Boston College	Gettysburg College	Moravian College	Saint Vincent College
Boston University	Goucher College	Mount Saint Mary's University	Salisbury University
Bowling Green State University	Harding University	Muhlenberg College	Sandhills Community College
Brandeis University	High Point University	New Jersey Institute of Technology	Savannah College of Art and Design
Brigham Young University, Idaho	Hobart and William Smith Colleges	New York University	School of Visual Arts
Brown University	Hofstra University	North Carolina State University	Scottsdale Community College
Bryn Mawr College	Horry-Georgetown Technical College	Northampton Community College	Seton Hall University
Bucknell University	Howard University	Northeastern University	Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania
Carnegie Mellon University	Husson College	Northwestern University	Springfield College
Catholic University of America	Indiana University at Bloomington	Ohio State University	St. John's College
Centenary College	Indiana University of Pennsylvania	Ohio Technical College	St. John's University - Queens
Clarion University of Pennsylvania	Iona College	Old Dominion University	State College of Florida - Venice
Clark University	Ithaca College	Pace University, New York City	Stevens Institute of Technology
Clemson University	James Madison University	Pennsylvania College of Technology	Suffolk University
Coastal Carolina University	Johns Hopkins University	Pennsylvania State University, Altoona	SUNY College at Oneonta
Colgate University	Johnson & Wales University	Pennsylvania State University, University Park	SUNY Morrisville State College
College of Charleston	Juniata College	Philadelphia Biblical University	Susquehanna University
College of New Jersey	Kansas State University	Philadelphia University	Syracuse University
College of Saint Elizabeth	Kean University	Pratt Institute	Taylor University
College of William and Mary	Kentucky Wesleyan College	Princeton University	Temple University
Columbia University	King's College	Providence College	Texas Tech University
Cornell University	Kutztown University of Pennsylvania	Quinnipiac University	Tiffin University
County College of Morris	Le Cordon Bleu College of Culinary Arts, Chicago	Radford University	Towson University
Culinary Institute of America	Le Moyne College	Ramapo College of New Jersey	Tufts University
De La Salle University Manila	Lebanon Valley College	Raritan Valley Community College	Tulane University
Delaware Valley College	Leeward Community College		Union County College
Denison University	Lehigh University		United States Air Force Academy
DeSales University	Loyola University Maryland		
Dickinson College			
Drew University			
Drexel University			
Duke University			

Graduates Attend Top Colleges, continued

Universal Technical Institute
University at Buffalo, The
State University of New York
University of Arizona
University of California at
Berkeley
University of Colorado at
Boulder
University of Connecticut
University of Dayton
University of Delaware
University of Denver
University of Edinburgh
University of Findlay
University of Georgia
University of Hawaii at Manoa
University of Illinois at Chi-
cago
University of Louisville

University of Maryland, Col-
lege Park
University of Massachusetts,
Amherst
University of Miami
University of New Mexico
University of North Carolina
at Chapel Hill
University of North Carolina
at Greensboro
University of Northwestern
Ohio
University of Notre Dame
University of Pittsburgh
University of Redlands
University of Rhode Island
University of Scranton
University of South Carolina
University of Tampa

University of Tennessee,
Knoxville
University of Tennessee, Mar-
tin
University of Texas, Austin
University of Toledo
University of Vermont
University of Virginia
University of Washington
University of Western Ontario
Villanova University
Virginia Polytechnic Institute
and State University
Virginia State University
Wagner College
Wake Forest University
Warren County Community
College
Washington College

Wellesley College
Wesleyan University
West Chester University of
Pennsylvania
West Virginia University
Westchester Community Col-
lege
Wheaton College IL
Whitman College
Wilkes University
William Paterson University
of New Jersey
York College of Pennsylvania

High Schools Set Blood Drive Records

In October 2010, North Hunterdon and Voorhees High Schools received awards from New Jersey Blood Services for ranking first and second respectively for total blood donations during the 2009-2010 school year out of 526 high schools. North Hunterdon's blood drives received a total of 884 pints of blood and Voorhees' drives received 653 pints.

At its blood drive on May 26, 2011, North Hunterdon High School smashed its old record by exceeded 1,000 donations in a single year. North Hunterdon senior Emily Worthington of Clinton Township was the 1,000th donor and received gifts to commemorate the milestone. By the end of its last blood drive for the year, the North Hunterdon group had set a new record of 1,065 pints of blood collected in one year. North Hunterdon will be number one in the rankings again this year.

"I am both humbled and encouraged to see the enormous support of our students, staff, and community

as a whole towards our blood drives. We keep expanding every year and in turn continue to positively affect thousands of individuals and families across the state. Choosing to donate blood is truly the gift of life and I am honored to be involved with a school and community that understands the importance," said Steve DeLorenzo, Guidance Counselor at North Hunterdon High School and blood drive coordinator.



Steve DeLorenzo, North's blood drive coordinator, bestows gifts to senior Emily Worthington for giving the 1,000th blood donation of the year.

Voorhees High School also broke its previous record of total pints collected. The blood drives held at Voorhees during the 2010-2011 school year totaled 718 pints collected in a single year. Voorhees will be number two in the rankings for this year. Voorhees does, however, rank number one when it comes to percentage of seniors who donated in a single year. Voorhees had 128% of its seniors donate compared to North's 116%. Both

high schools' blood drives continue to be some of the largest in the state, even when compared to corporate blood drives. ■

"Providing Success for all Students"

New Principal to Lead Voorhees High School

David Steffan, Principal of Voorhees High School, has decided to retire after a career in education that has spanned over 40 years with the last twelve as Principal of Voorhees. His last day will be August 31, 2011.

During his tenure at Voorhees High School, Steffan has helped to increase students' standardized test scores and college acceptance rate, to keep the tradition of community spirit alive and flourishing among students and staff, and most importantly, to change the school environment into one that is warm and collegial where students, parents and staff feel welcome and appreciated. Of his 12 years at Voorhees, Steffan says he is "most proud of bringing the faculty and administration closer together. We have had considerable turnover mostly from retirements and I have had the fortunate opportunity to hire the vast majority of the staff. The faculty and staff are vibrant, caring and enthusiastic," said Steffan.

Steffan said he will very much miss the students and staff at Voorhees, but is looking forward to the next chapter of his life. At the graduation ceremony on June 10, his last as Principal, he described it as "bittersweet."

The search for David Steffan's successor was not an easy task as he will be leaving big shoes to fill. When the position was posted in early May, over 40 internal and external candidates applied. In the end though, an internal candidate was chosen.

Current Assistant Principal of Voorhees High School, Ron Peterson, was unanimously approved as the new Principal of Voorhees at the June 21st Board of Education meeting. He officially assumes his new position on August 1, 2011.

"I am very excited about my promotion to Principal of Voorhees High School. It is truly an honor to be selected to the position that has been held by Dave Steffan for the past 12 years. Thanks to his efforts, Voorhees enjoys an excellent reputation and it has been a pleasure to work with him for the past three years. I have a great deal of respect for the administration, staff, students and community of Voorhees and I look forward to working with them so that we may continually strive to improve an already high achieving institution," said Peterson.

When asked about his successor, David Steffan said, "I am very pleased that Ron Peterson has been selected as the next principal of Voorhees. He is an experienced educator and I am confident that he will preserve the Voorhees culture that I have found to be very special."

At the June 21st Board meeting, Steffan said that when they were searching for an assistant principal three years ago, he asked the interview committee to choose a candidate who they felt could one day become principal. Now that is coming true.

Prior to arriving at Voorhees in 2008, Peterson spent 13 years at South Hunterdon Regional High School where he wore many hats in the small district. At South Hunterdon, Peterson was Dean of Students, Supervisor of Athletics, Chairperson of the Special Education Department, and a Teacher of the Handicapped. He was also South Hunterdon's Affirmative Action Officer.

Peterson received his Bachelor of Science degree in Secondary Education/Social Studies/Psychology from Kutztown University in 1992 and his Master of Science in Educational Leadership from Delaware Valley College in 2004. He also holds a Certification as a Teacher of the Handicapped from Holy Family College.

From the over 40 candidates who applied for the position of principal, nine were selected by a screening committee to be interviewed. The interviews were conducted by a separate committee that consisted of parents, students, supervisors, a teacher and the Assistant Superintendent. The interview committee selected three candidates to be interviewed by Superintendent Dr. Charles M. Shaddow. Shaddow recommended Peterson to the Board of Education for the position.

"After an extensive and thorough search, it became apparent that Ron was the right person for the job. We all look forward to working closely with Ron in his newly expanded role as the educational leader of one of the finest high schools in the state and country," said Shaddow. ■

Energy Conservation Measures Move Forward

The high school district is ready to move forward with implementation of various energy conservation measures that will reduce the district's carbon footprint and, most importantly, its energy costs over time.

In February 2010, the district entered into an energy savings performance contract with Honeywell International. Under this contract, the district would be able to pay for critical building improvements with energy and operational savings. As part of the contract, Honeywell has developed an energy savings plan that identifies areas where energy consumption and expenses can be reduced. The plan includes findings from an energy audit that was conducted on all the districts' facilities the previous school year by Camp, Dresser & McKee. The energy savings plan was reviewed by an independent third party and approved by the Board of Education in July 2010.

The process is now at the point where the energy conservation measures can be advertised for bid, which will happen this summer. The projects/upgrades are expected to begin in late summer/early fall. All energy conservation measures are expected to be completed by the fall of 2012.



The energy conservation measures that will be completed at both schools include: lighting retrofits and motion sensors, vending misers for all vending machines, new boiler burner controllers, air handler unit replacements, roof top unit replacements, demand control ventilation, improvements to building envelopes (ex: sealing around windows and doors to prevent air leakage), transformer replacements, installation of premium efficient motors, building management system upgrades, and computer controllers. In addition, chiller replacements and conversion of heating system from electric to gas will happen at North Hunterdon and domestic hot water heater replacements will be done at Voorhees.

These upgrades and replacements will help the district reduce its energy consumption. The cost savings realized from reduced usage will go to offset the cost of the energy conservation measures. All projects will be paid for within a 15-year time period.

Early estimates from Honeywell were that the district will save approximately 5.4 million kilowatts of electricity once all energy conservation measures are implemented. ■

Other Construction Projects Being Completed

Thanks to the community's support of our 2011-2012 budget, our district is able to complete several capital projects this summer.

At North Hunterdon High School, the roof over the cafeterias will be replaced between June 27 through August 12. This means Cafeterias A, B and the annex will be closed during this time period. Since the referendum was defeated by voters in April 2010 and roof replacements at North were a big piece of the plan, the district is attempting to replace sections of the roof as is financially able to do so.

Also this summer, the administrative parking lot (which is to the right of the Route 31 front entrance) will be repaved. The steps to the Route 31

front entrance will also be repaired prior to the opening of school on August 25.

At Voorhees High School, carpeting will be replaced in the band room, senior mall, and athletic office. Concrete work on the outside gym entrance and repairs to the faculty bathrooms will be completed this summer. Repairs to a large drain in the parking lot were completed in early July and potholes in the parking lot were repaired towards the end of the school year.

Security upgrades will be completed at both high schools. These upgrades include additional interior security cameras, new recorders and hardware for the security system, and new electronic locks on exterior doors. ■

Board of Education News

This section will provide you with an update on key news and motions, which were discussed and/or approved at each Board of Education meeting. Agendas and meeting minutes can be accessed at this link: <http://www.nhvweb.net/boeagenda/>.

→ April 27, 2011 Meeting:

- Board recognized the efforts of staff members, a student and parents who helped save the life of another student at cheerleading tryouts.
- Board approved Strober Wright Roofing, Inc. to replace roof over cafeterias at NHHS.
- Sidebar agreements with NH-V Education Association and NH-V Supervisors Association were approved by the Board.

→ May 3, 2011 Reorganization Meeting:

- Report of elections results was given - 2011-2012 budget passed (3726-Yes, 3203-No). Two new Board members were sworn in: Robert Becker (Califon/Tewksbury Twp) and Renay Zamloot (Clinton Twp/Lebanon Boro). Re-elected Board members, Debra Roosen and Sandra Seidorf, were also sworn in for another 3-year term.
- Beverly Thorne (Clinton Twp/Lebanon Boro) was elected as President and Nicholas Nacamuli (Califon/Tewksbury Twp) was elected as Vice President.
- Professional consultants, re-adoption of bylaws and policies, authorization to sign checks by account, and other appointments were also approved.

→ May 24, 2011 Meeting:

- Board approved a resolution allowing the Voorhees Community Athletic Foundation to sell signs in order to raise money for a turf field - signs would be allowed on the scoreboard, press box, snack bar, and fence.
- Board approved the purchase of a new school bus to replace the one which caught fire on May 3
- Board accepted a safety grant of \$41,000 from the NJ School Boards Association Insurance Group

→ June 21, 2011 Meeting:

- Board approved Ron Peterson as the new Principal of Voorhees High School starting August 1, 2011
- Board approved requisition of taxes for 2011-2012 school year
- Board approved exchange students from Germany to attend Voorhees in October 2011 ■

Upcoming Board Meetings:

August 16, 2011: Regular Session, 7:00pm in District Administration Office

September 20, 2011: Regular Session, 7:00pm in District Administration Office

Board Meeting Calendar can be viewed at: <http://www.nhvweb.net/index.php/boe-district-services/boe-meetings-calendar/>

Board of Education Members:

<u>District/Member</u>	<u>Term Ends</u>
Franklin Township/ Town of Clinton	
Louis Pennucci	2014
Califon/Tewksbury	
Robert Becker	2014
Nicholas Nacamuli (VP)	2012
Union Township	
Monica Gondek	2012
John Kulick, Ph.D.	2013
Bethlehem/Glen Gardner/Hampton	
Francis Goger	2013
Debra Roosen	2014
Clinton Township/Lebanon Borough	
Sandy Seidorf	2014
Roger Straight	2013
Beverly Thorne (Pres.)	2012
Renay Zamloot	2014
High Bridge/Lebanon Township	
Carol Anne Mates	2013
Garry Peabody	2012

District Newsletter

North Hunterdon-Voorhees Regional High School District
1445 Route 31, Annandale, NJ 08801

Charles M. Shaddow, Ph.D., *Superintendent of Schools*
Frank C. Helies, Ph.D., *Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum/Pupil
Personnel Services*
Susan Press, *School Business Administrator/Board Secretary*

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8

North Hunterdon-Voorhees Regional High School District Newsletter * Summer 2011

Strategic Planning Update

Our high school district has begun the process of Strategic Planning. Through Strategic Planning, volunteers from the community and our staff will examine where our schools are currently, and then brainstorm where they believe the district should be by 2017. At the end of Strategic Planning, the high school district will have a mission, vision, specific goals and action plans to meet those goals, all of which will help guide the district into the near future.

Many volunteers signed up to be a part of the Strategic Planning process. We have an equal amount of staff members and community members participating. Thank you again to all those who volunteered.

Two committees are currently meeting, the State of the Schools and the State of the Community. These

committees will develop reports that express what is happening now in our two high schools and what is going on in the community. These reports will be reviewed by a

committee of about 40 volunteers whose task it will be to determine a mission, vision and goal areas for our district through 2017, using the two reports as a jump start for discussion. Once these goal areas are determined at the meeting in September, smaller committees will develop action plans in order to meet specific goals within each area chosen.



The final Strategic Planning report, including the mission, vision and goals with action plans, is expected to be presented to the Board of Education at its January 24, 2012 meeting for approval. ■

“Providing Success for all Students”