



BEARCAT NEWS



Dates
To
Remember:

"Screenagers" Showing at HAHS

A Movie for the Entire Family on Screentime!

Feb. 14

HS—Youth Risk Behavior Survey

Feb. 17

ACT 80 Half Day—

Dismissal at Noon

Feb. 17

HS Talent Show

Feb. 20

NO SCHOOL

Feb. 27

Data-diving w/ Moms and Dads

6 pm

March 2

"Screenagers" Showing

5 to 9 pm HS Auditorium

On Friday, March 3, the Huntingdon Area School District, will show the movie Screenagers to the students in the Middle School and High School, the film is not rated, but is generally recommended for children 5th grade and older.

This movie reveals how tech time impacts kids' development and offers solutions on how adults can empower kids to best navigate the digital world and find balance. SCREENAGERS probes into family life, including the director's own, and depicts messy struggles, over social media, video games, academics and internet addiction. Through surprising insights from authors and brain scientists solutions emerge on how we can empower kids to best navigate the digital world.

Parents- you can view a trailer for the movie and get more information at <http://www.screenagersmovie.com/>.

We invite all parents and families to the public showing of the film on Thursday, March 2 at 7 pm in the High School Auditorium. Tickets for that showing cost \$5 and can be purchased online at www.screenagermovie.com or at this direct link <https://impactflow.com/event/presented-by-huntingdon-county-library-1244>.

Data-diving with Moms& Dads

Have you ever had these thoughts as a parent?

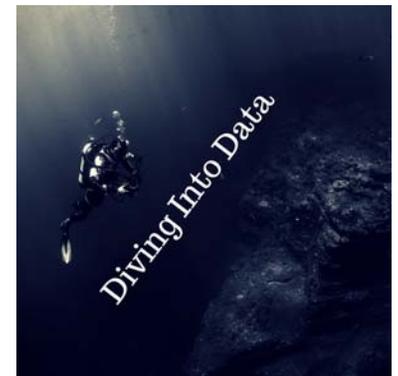
"NAEP- what is that? What does it mean?"

"CDTs- what are those? ? What do the teachers do with the results"

"PSSA- what is this? What does it look like for my kid?"

SAT, PSAT, and Keystones can all be added to the mix, too!

On **February 27th at 6:00 pm in the Middle School LGR**, we will review with parents what are the different assessments that your son or daughter take when in school. We will share with you specific data from your son or daughter's assessment history along with sharing with you how the different tests are set up. We will give you practice problems so you can sense the difficulty in the assessments our students prepare for and take. We are asking that parents call the MS office 643.2900 or the HS office 643.1080 to confirm your attendance by Friday, Feb. 24th so specific materials can be printed and provided to your during this parent program. We hope to see everyone at **Data-diving with Moms and Dads!** Babysitting will be provided for children under the age of 10 and snacks will be provided for moms and dads!!!



HAHS Musical—Into the Woods

The Huntingdon Area High School music department will be presenting Steven Sondheim and James Lapine's musical "Into the Woods" April 27, 28 and 29th this year! "Into the Woods" is a modern musical featuring fairy-tale characters from Brothers Grimm stories such as Cinderella, Little Red Riding Hood, Rapunzel, Jack and the Beanstalk, etc., as well as other characters including a Baker, his wife and a witch. The story follows the wishes of these characters to change their life and the consequences that do not always lead to "happily ever after."

This year, the musical is being directed by Mrs. Susan Bilich, the Southside elementary music teacher and her husband Mr. John Bilich, the assistant director at Mifflin County Academy. Rehearsals have already begun with a cast of 38 students from HAHS. If any parents or community members are looking to get involved with the musical, the students and crew of the show are seeking patrons. For as little as \$2, you can sponsor a student and support our production. You can also volunteer to help with one of many committees: costumes, set building and/or painting, ticket sales, baked goods for the shows, etc. There is information about both patron ads and committees on the bulletin board outside Mr. Hiles' door. Stay tuned for information on when tickets go on sale. Hope to see you at the show!



Press Club—Student Weekly Winner!

Ms. Jones, Press Club Adviser, and HAHS wanted to give a huge shout out to one of our writers whom we are so proud of. A couple of weeks ago, speakers come in to Ms. Jones' class to talk about drug education, and one of the reporters did interviews on the guest speakers. Out of 9 surrounding schools, HAHS was chosen with the winning article last week because of an amazing piece written by Ariell Chilcote.



Not only did she win the competition for the week with the Daily News, but she also was given a written shout out by the editor of the newspaper for her article. If you see Ariell, please congratulate her because she is an amazing student who deserves some extra praise!

Standing Stone FFA members receives Keystone Degrees!

During the Standing Stone FFA trip to the PA Farm Show, 5 senior FFA members received their state Keystone Degree. This is an accomplishment that less than 1/3 of all FFA members reach. It has multiple requirements such as community service hours and a certain level of profit attained in their own supervised agricultural experiences (SAEs) and requires them to keep detailed descriptive and financial records over multiple years. They started this either as freshmen or sophomores. Be sure to congratulate Dana Myers, Sydney Barnett, Hunter Einodshofer, Rachel Householder, and Paige Fouse if you see them.

There were also 6 new members who received their own FFA jacket by writing and submitting a short essay application. The state FFA Alumni Association solicits donations every year and is able to provide over 500 jackets state wide to new members through this process and only the best applications are awarded. This year Haylee Riley, Kendal Crotsley, Adrian Lender, Amira Mhadbi, Anna Snook, and Angeline Grove received jackets through this process. Please congratulate them also!



HAHS DISTRICT CHORUS RESULTS!

Sabin Fisher has been selected for one of the tenor solos. Alex Rothstein & Shannon Harrington are finalists for a soli trio in a Hayden selection; and Mikayla Harrington is one of 3 senior finalist in the choir won runner up for the PMEA District 4 Choral Scholarship and won a \$250 award. Alex & Shannon were also selected to perform with the soli trio at the concert.

We are so proud of these students!!!

HAHS Mock Trial Competition—Defense Team wins!!

HAHS Pennsylvania Mock Trial defense team had its first competition on Jan. 17th against the prosecution side of our biggest rival, Tyrone Area High School, at the Cambria County Court House. HAHS won the match by one point even though this is the first year that five of the six students on our defense team have ever participated. Jenny Shaffer was awarded Best Witness and Drew Weglarz won Best Attorney. Please congratulate them, as well as Lauren Reed-Brown, Soren Borgardt, Dylan Grove, and Jack Hosler. Our prosecution will face Altoona's defense at the Blair County Court House on February 6.



HAHS Students recognized in The Daily News Christmas Eve Edition!

Please congratulate Soren Bogardt for being the high school winner and Meghan Wright for achieving honorable mention in The Daily News Christmas Eve Edition writing contest. Both students' poems were published in the paper on Christmas Eve.

HAHS Bearcat Biologists are on the Case!

This month, biology has been delving into the structure and function of the DNA molecule. First, students learned all about DNA's structure and created a model of that structure with K'nex. They then learned about replication of the DNA molecule and why it is important for DNA to create exact replicas of itself every time a cell divides. One of DNA's primary functions is to synthesize proteins. This process is often quite challenging for students, but once it is learned, we can discuss biotechnology and possible mutations of DNA. The DNA Electrophoresis shown here is always a student favorite! Students perform electrophoresis of DNA samples to see if they can place one of two possible suspects at a crime scene. CSI and NCIS step aside because the Huntingdon Bearcat biologists are on the case!

(Photo of Lab Equipment)



CHAMP-A-THON 2017

Our Mission as CHAMP (Creating Hope And Making Progress) is to help families in need, within Huntingdon County, while uniting the communities of Juniata Valley, Huntingdon, Southern Huntingdon, and Mount Union. CHAMP also receives the support and participation of Juniata College and Planet LoveJoy. We are Huntingdon County's largest philanthropic group as we raise money for children and families in need. As an organization solely operated by students of Huntingdon County, as well as advisors from Planet LoveJoy and other faculty, our goal is to raise money, spread awareness, and unite our communities. Our biggest event is the CHAMP-A-THON, this year held at Mount Union Area High School. Our first year, 2015, we were

able to raise approximately \$22,000 for children and families in need within Huntingdon County. Last year, we raised about \$43,000. The CHAMP-A-THON is a twelve hour dance marathon that students can take part in to dance all night as we remember and support our peers. This year, our goal has been set at \$60,000 and the participation of at least 600 students. We are looking to grow bigger and bigger as the years go on and as more people need our help. As a whole, CHAMP's goal is to come together and make a difference in as many lives as possible.

Middle School—The Nation's Report Card and You

HUNTINGDON AREA MIDDLE SCHOOL

TWENTY-FIVE CASSADY AVENUE

HUNTINGDON, PA 16652

Phone (814)-643-2900

Fax (814) 643- 6513

Mrs. Deborah Luffy
MS and HS Principal

Mr. Zachary Treece
MS Assistant Principal

February 7, 2017

Dear Parent or Guardian:

Huntingdon Area Middle School will participate in the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) on March 7, 2017. NAEP is the largest nationally representative and continuing assessment of what students know and can do in various subjects. It is administered by the National Center for Education Statistics, within the U.S. Department of Education. NAEP is different from our state assessment because it provides a common measure of student achievement across the country. The results are released as The Nation's Report Card, which provides information about student achievement to educators, parents, policymakers, and the public.

Your child might take a mathematics or reading assessment. The assessment also asks students questions about their daily routine and their educational experiences. For example, students are asked if there is a computer at home and about the amount of reading they do. Student responses are anonymous, and they provide context and meaning to the assessment results. Please visit <http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/about/booklets.asp> to review sample questions.

The assessment takes about 90 to 120 minutes for most students. The results are completely confidential (in accordance with the Confidential Information Protection provisions of Title V, Subtitle A, Public Law 107-347).

The information collected is used for statistical purposes only.

Your child's grades will not be affected.

Students may be excused for any reason, are not required to complete the assessment, and may skip any question. While the assessment is voluntary, NAEP depends on student participation to help policymakers improve education. However, if you do not want your child to participate, please notify me in writing by February, 28, 2017.

There is no need to study in preparation for NAEP, but please encourage your child to do their best. A brochure that explains what participation in NAEP means for you and your child is available at <http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/pdf/parents/2012469.pdf>. Contact Mrs. Luffy at 814.643.2900 x 2180 or at dluffy@huntsd.org if you have any questions.

We are excited that our school is participating in NAEP. We know that Huntingdon Area Middle School's students will show what our nation's students know and can do.

Sincerely,

Deborah Luffy
School Principal

“Intergalactic Nemesis” at HAMS

On January 29th, our middle school students, watched a theatrical production of a live-action graphic novel, *Intergalactic Nemesis*. This is an adventure story set in the 1930's. The students entered our cafeteria to see an unusual set-up. Onstage, are three microphones, a huge table filled with household items, and a piano with a large projector floating above all of it. As the show unfolded, students watched every piece of it in real time: Two actors voicing dozens of parts, switching accents and characters between breaths. **A Foley Artist making hundreds of sounds live as the story unfolds, from train whistles to spaceship explosions.** A talented pianist improvising the entire exciting, dramatic score. And more than 1,000 original, hand-drawn, full-color, hi-rez, comic-book images blasting from the screen. The students had a great time.



WE ARE! PENN STATE!

We've heard this chant numerous times as people across the nation cheer for the Big 10 team, but this time, middle school students were doing the cheering!

On Thursday, January 19th, the HAMS 7th and 8th grade choir, along with the HAMS Cheerleaders, were invited to attend the Penn State Lady Lion Basketball Game vs. Nebraska. In total, 50 HAMS students loaded the buses, for what would prove to be a super fun evening! For the 3rd year in a row, the 7th and 8th grade choir has been asked to sing the national anthem for one of the PSU basketball games. What an honor! To build excitement, Mrs. Canner and Penn State Athletics thought to invite the HAMS Cheerleaders to participate this year. After speaking with Ms. Parsons, HAMS cheerleading coach, it was a resounding YES! Leading up to the 19th, each group diligently practiced, rehearsed and perfected their part for the game. Taking center court just before the game, the 7th and 8th grade choir honored our country with a newer 3-part arrangement of "The Star Spangled Banner". Shortly after the game started, the cheerleaders were showing off their dance moves and getting the crowd excited. What a proud moment for Mrs. Canner and Ms. Parsons as the students performed admirably! Congratulations to those who participated, and the PSU Lady Lions for their win against the Cornhuskers! We look forward to participating again next year and cheering on Penn State!



Activity Nights at HAMS!

Imagine clusters of kids at the middle school, waiting for the right song, the right beat, to get things moving on the dance floor, being involved in an intense game of flicker football or basketball in the gym, or socializing while snacking in the lobby. These are just a few of the opportunities that students can be a part of when they attend an activity night or dance at HAMS.

One of the major benefits of participating in activity nights is how it helps middle school-age children develop socially. Middle-school students are negotiating possibly the greatest stage of human development after infancy. Having a safe environment for students to socialize and grow is essential to fostering their social development.

For administrators and teachers, dances are another way to connect students outside of the school day. They can interact with the students in a non-classroom setting and it is an opportunity to make connections. For parents, it's safer than letting kids run around town. For kids, though, school dances are way more than that: They're rest stops en route to growing up and a way to foster their social and emotional development (with supervision). And they're a place to make memories.



On a typical activity night or dance there are many opportunities for students to get involved. In the lobby they can purchase food and drinks and socialize with their friends. The gym is open for a variety of sports such as flicker football, basketball, or volleyball. In the cafeteria, there is a DJ playing and he even does requests. The DJ plays songs that are popular and well-edited.

Engaging in non-academic pursuits helps encourage teamwork, leadership skills, cooperation and social development that students don't get to the same degree from working in the classroom. Middle school activity nights are the time for students to start developing these valuable life skills, and participating in activity nights is an excellent way to foster social and emotional growth.

Friday, February 10, 2017 from 6:00-8:00 pm will be the "Neon" themed dance at HAMS. The admission is \$6.00; tickets can be purchased at school in the morning or at lunch time or at the door the night of the dance. The dress is casual or "Sunday best," it is NOT a semi-formal. There will be food available for purchase.

ATTN: Senior Parents

If your child has not ordered their cap and gown, please contact Mrs. Bolton, Senior Class Advisor or Mitzi in the Guidance Office.

Also, they should have completed a card that stated how they would like their name on the diploma. If that was not completed, please contact Mitzi.



SAT[®]

Don't forget to sign up for SATs!

Attention Juniors: Huntingdon Area High School will be proctoring the SAT's on Saturday March 11. Deadline to register is February 10. Register at collegeboard.org. Stop in the guidance office for assistance!

PSAT Testing Make-ups—

The Guidance Department will be having the PSAT Make-up testing on Tuesday, March 14th during the morning. If your child is in 10th grade and did not participate in the original test date, he/she will be taking it that day.

Parent Points! Important dates and information for parents to know —if you have any questions or would like to have more details, please call the HS Guidance Office at 641-2156

COLLEGE CORNER—

On Thursday, February 2nd, Huntingdon students will be visiting the South Hills School of Business & Technology in State College in order to learn more about the higher education opportunities provided there. If your student is unable to attend and would like information about South Hills or about any other colleges, please encourage your student to stop by the Guidance Office to see Miss Sarah.

The college craziness continues in February! If you have not yet completed your FAFSA and PHEAA applications, please don't hesitate to email Miss Sarah at sscott@huntsd.org and she can help you get started. Once you have received financial aid letters from the schools to which you have been accepted, bring them in so you can go over them with Miss Sarah to determine what the exact cost per school would be.

Additionally, keep an eye on the school website and listen to the morning announcements as the local scholarship application and selection process will be starting soon.



Please email Miss Sarah (College Advisor) at sscott@huntsd.org if you have any college or career questions !
