



BEARCAT NEWS

Meet the New Additions to HASD!



Tarrea Coscomb—HS Learning Support

I am excited to join the Huntingdon Area School District this year. I moved to the area in June from the greater Harrisburg area. I am entering into my 19th year of teaching, and have taught 6th-12th grades (regular education and special education). I most re-

cently taught in the Carlisle Area School District.

When I'm not in school, I enjoy traveling, gardening, hiking, and spending time with my family.

Elaina Hummel—MS Physical Education

I graduated from Southern Huntingdon County High School. From there I continued my education at Frostburg State University. I majored in Health and Physical Education and played four years of college basketball. After graduation I taught one year of Health and Physical Education at Milton Somers Middle School in Maryland. This is my first year at the Huntingdon Middle School. I am very excited to be a Bearcat. My interests include playing alumni basketball, golfing, and running in marathons.



Dates To Remember:

- Nov. 2
HS Fall Concert 7 pm
- Nov. 4—
Report Cards sent home
- Nov. 8 and 15—
MS Parent Conferences
3:15 to 6:45 pm
- Nov. 10—
HS AVSAB Testing 8 am
MS Veteran's Day Program
8 am
HS Veteran's Day Program
1 pm
- Nov. 14—
HS Parent Conferences
3:15 to 6:45 pm
- Nov. 18—
Winter Sports Practices Begin
- Nov. 21—
Attorney General Assembly—
Cyberbullying
HS—12:30 pm
MS—1:30 pm
Parents' Assembly—6 pm
- Nov. 23—
Early Dismissal at Noon
- Nov. 24 to 29—
Thanksgiving Break
NO SCHOOL

Congratulations Huntingdon Area Marching Cats!

The Huntingdon Area Marching Cats competed in the Tournament of Bands Allegheny Mountain Region Championships this past Saturday at IUP. The band won first place, receiving their highest score since 2012! In addition to being Region Champions, the band also won awards for best Percussion, best Auxiliary (Color Guard), best Music and best Visual!



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Let's check out the Art Department!!

Paint the Plow Contest!!

The initiative was designed by PA Department of Transportation to raise community awareness about driving safely this winter. The theme was "Don't Crowd the Plow."

This is HAHS design!



-Four students had work accepted into the Shippensburg University show "Scholastic 144." This is a juried show that features the finest work from high school Juniors and Seniors. Representing Huntingdon are Alison Campbell, Dankeem Ngo, Emily Kyle, and Nora Tietjens.

-2D art students submitted artwork to the Huntingdon County Arts Council's call for entries show. The theme for this show was "Explore, Reclaim, and Conserve Huntingdon County." We are

thankful for the arts council staff who allowed our students the opportunity of helping hang the show for the public to see.

-The art room welcomed back Tara Houck, a 2012 graduate of HAHS who shared her experiences about preparing in high school for a career path in Art at the college level. Tara is currently a Senior at Shippensburg University.

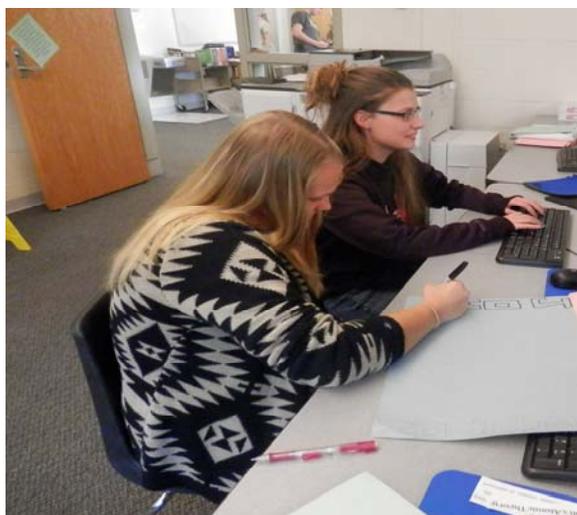
-Visual Arts and Graphic Design students were able to meet a representative from the Antonelli Institute who helped them to see the potential for using graphic design and photography as a potential career path.

Inside the Atom at HAHS!

Mrs. Berg's and Mrs. Wallace's College Prep Chemistry students researched the history of the structure of the atom. They chose a scientist that contributed to our current understanding of the structure of the atom that makes up the world around us. The earliest contributions were from Democritus and Aristotle, both philosophers from approxi-

mately 350 B.C.E., who came up with their theories about atoms using thought and reason. Advances in technology allowed for more experimentation, and as a result, we have a much more sophisticated and accurate model of the atom today. The students researched scientists who have made contributions to that model as recently as the 1930s. After completing their research,

they taught the class about their scientist so that everyone could add their piece to the timeline of the history of the atom.



HAMS—READING IS OUT OF THIS WORLD BOOK FAIR!!

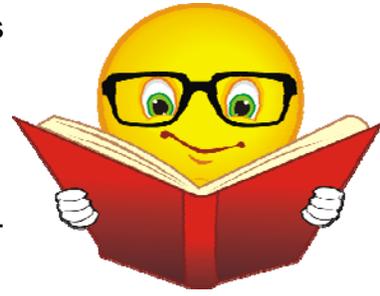
Reading is the most important skill you can teach a child. Of all the skills children learn, it is the one you can influence the most. Giving kids access to good books and the opportunity to choose books will motivate them to read more. And like most acquired skills, the more kids practice reading, the better they'll get.

Along with Reading, our 6th Grade Art Classes have been working on 3D projects to decorate our Reading it Out of This World Book Fair. At the book fair, you'll be able to see aliens, planets, stylized word sculp-

tures, UFOs etc.. Our students artwork is always out of this world!

So, we invite you to visit our Scholastic Book Fair and experience a celebration of reading and art that provides families the opportunity to get involved in a universal mission: *encouraging kids to read every day so they can lead better lives.*

The Huntingdon Area Middle School's Book Fair will be open to students during the school days from November 10th to the 15th.



Our evening event for the community, parents, and students will be on November 15th from 3:30 to 5:30. During our evening event, we will have the 6th grade art work on display, refreshments for parents, and door prizes. We love to see community members as well as parents stop in, so please spread the word.

CYBERBULLING ASSEMBLY—Open to Parents also!!

"Sticks and Stones"

The Attorney General's Office will be presenting to our Middle School and High School students in the afternoon on November 21st on Cyberbullying. The program, "Stick and Stones", aims to change the way students think about bullying. No longer just a push on the playground or a whisper in the hall, bullying has been transformed by the internet and now includes texting, social media, emails and websites. Cyberbullying is quickly becoming a challenging issue facing young people, parents and educators. We will be having an evening program for parents at 6:00 pm on November 21st.



How would you Like it?

Veteran's Day Assemblies

We would like to invite any and all Veterans to our Veteran's Day Assemblies on Thursday, Nov. 10th. The Middle School assembly will be held beginning at 8 am and the High School assembly will begin at 1 pm. A luncheon will be served from 11:45 to 12:45 pm at the High School for an Veteran that would like to attend. We would like to thank Standing Stone Post 1754 VFW for giving a donation for the luncheon.





HAMS is proud to show their P.R.I.D.E !!

The halls of the Huntingdon Area Middle School are coming alive with the sound of music this 2016-2017 School Year! The HAMS Positive School Wide (PSW) program has been an integral part of our learning environment since 2013. This program promotes the positive behaviors of our students through an incentive and rewards program. Students receive individual and/or group recognition for following P.R.I.D.E expectations. Starting on day one of the school year, the students are encouraged to learn the meaning and expectations of each individual letter in the word PRIDE.

Students earn Bearcat Buckaroo's for showing **Positivity, Respect, Integrity, Determination, and Everyone Together** throughout the school day. Students have many opportunities throughout the day and week to be recognized by their peers, teachers, administration, and school personnel. Teachers and staff are constantly on the lookout for students who are consistent leaders and positive role models in our building. These students' efforts are not unnoticed and are nominated for "Students of the week" and are recognized over the school wide morning announcements and given the opportunity to pick an individual reward or to contribute to a whole team reward. Students seem to be excited to receive buckaroo's and recognition for doing something well. Not only do they like the individual rewards, but the school wide PSW Days raise the roof!

In past years, the school has had Fall Days at Juniata College, Activity Nights during the Day, Talent Shows, Carnivals, The Price I\$ Right game show, and the first annual Bearcat Olympiad. We are excited to have a music theme this year and hope that the students have enjoyed the events that we have had so far! The school year kicked off with the students having an opportunity to watch video clips of famous musicians and how they show positivity, respect, integrity, determination, and everyone together in their personal and professional life. Students were then encouraged to do an art or writing activity that could be proudly displayed in the hallways for everyone to see. Then came the time for everyone to meet in the high school auditorium for a plethora of musical fun. Student watched videos made by their peers demonstrating appropriate behaviors in different school environments and participated in games like Name that Tune, Limbo, and Lip Sync. Just when the kids thought that this celebration couldn't be topped, along came the HAMS FallFest 2016. Thursday, October 20th couldn't have gone any better! Students spent the morning working through shortened classes and the afternoon circulating through activities like Pumpkin Tossing, Bowling, Darts, Sack Races, Hayrides, Guessing booths, and dancing in the cafeteria. Treats like apple juice, water, apple slices with caramel, and rice crispy pumpkins were free of charge and ready for the taking! Even a bake sale of teacher donated items was set up for students to purchase. All proceeds from the bake sale are going towards future purchase of items for the Buckaroo Cart where students exchange their Bearcat bucks for tangible items. The fun didn't stop there! The students were then escorted to the high school gymnasium where students watched teachers and selected peers run relay events. Students anxiously awaited the first ever crowning of the HAMS HalloQueen, Chesney Lauer, and PumKing, Levi Shope. Don't let us forget this year's student pick for the Pie in the Face Award....Miss De-Matteo and Rachel Webb!

This year we are seeking out anyone that would be willing to help! Our goal is to unite parents, community members, teachers, administration, and staff members. Some parents have already signed up to help volunteer with various activities and collection of monetary or supply contributions, but we would like to share our joy and excitement with you! If you feel that you would like to donate your time, energy, or items to help with the future success of the program, please call the Huntingdon Area Middle School office at 814-643-2900 and leave your contact information with one of the office personnel. We will also have an information booth set up for parent conferences on November 8th and 15th. You can also find updated information and announcements on upcoming events on Facebook @HAMSPSWPRIDE. Don't forget to LIKE us!



HAMS Positive School Wide—Fall Fest 2016

The students of Huntingdon Area Middle School participated in their first reward day of the 2016-17 school year for Positive School Wide Behavior. The planning committee decided upon a Fall Fest theme for the afternoon of activities. The school operated on an early dismissal schedule until 12:00pm.

Students were then able to freely navigate throughout the downstairs and outside of the middle school to participate in a long list of activities that lasted for ninety minutes. The diverse list is as follows:

Gym: Basketball and Volleyball
Cafe: Dance
LGR: Movie
Art Room: Arts and Crafts
Lobby: Snacks, Guessing Booth and Food Stand
Front: Hayride
Side: Bowling, Ring Toss, Darts and Sack Racing

After the allotted activity time students reported to homerooms to pack up for the day and then over to the high school gym for the final segment of Fall Fest. Students were treated to relay competitions, crowning of the HalloQueen and PumKing and a Pie in the Face activity.

The relays consisted of students representing each of the educational teams at the middle school and a teacher team. They competed in five events. The events were a mummy wrap, googly eye carry, pumpkin carry, three legged race and pumpkin golf. After some fierce competition the Blue Team was able to pull off a close victory over the teachers.

The crowning of the HalloQueen and PumKing was based on expectations of the PSW P.R.I.D.E

(Positivity, Respect, Integrity, Determination and Everyone Together) acronym. The educational teams nominated 18 total students, 3 girls and 3 boys for each grade level. The Stem and Encore teachers then voted to select the top girl and boy that fulfilled the expectations of P.R.I.D.E. It was a difficult decision but Chesney Lauer and Levi Shope were crowned the winners. The first duty of the king and queen was to smash a pie in a staff member's face. There was a money challenge conducted at lunch to find two winners to be receive a pie in the face.

The two lucky staff members were Ms. Webb and Ms. Dematteo. Chesney and Levi were careful to make sure that Ms. Webb and Ms. Dematteo were well taken care of as they precisely placed the pies to cover the entire face.

These types of PSW days will occur once a marking period for students who have adhered to the expectations of positive behavior. The staff looks forward to planning and executing the next event.



Positive School Wide comes to HAHS!

Mrs. Wallace, Chemistry Teacher, is Co-Coach of the PSW Team at HAHS. She explains what PSW is and what we are doing here at HAHS!



What is Positive School-wide?

Positive school wide is a framework that uses proactive strategies used to increase pro-social behaviors and decrease problem behavior by teaching new skills and making changes to the school environment.

How does it effect students and faculty in HASD?

The Positive School Wide Behavior Support System has been adopted by our high school as a means to create a positive school environment and clear expectations for our students. Using the guided model approach to teach clear expectations and positive behavior, faculty, staff, and the positive school wide student team of the high school will model positive behavioral expectations. By targeting instructional design and delivery, classroom/school arrangement, and rules and procedures, a significant number of school-wide behavioral problems can be prevented, leaving staff with fewer individual problems to manage and increase instructional time. With student and staff input, we developed our core expectations for positive behavior at the high school. From here, we developed our core expectations using the acronym

“BEARCATS” which focuses on the slogan: Be Engaged Act Responsibly Care About the Team Safety. Throughout our school, students will be taught the expectations for a particular area using the BEARCATS slogan. With this program, we are able to reward students on various levels for following the expectations. These reinforcements can be implemented by all employees – principals, teachers, custodians, para-educators, cafeteria staff, etc.

What sorts of work do members of PSW do?

We have two teams of PSW - the faculty team and the student team. The faculty team has been and will continue to work together to write/re-write the handbook to make sure all expectations are clear, to plan how PSW will work in the school, to make/purchase all signage for the school, to create a list of the rewards and also to gather them from local businesses, and most importantly to gather referral data and see if PSW is working and what we need to do next in order to see that the goals of PSW are being met. The student team is invaluable - they are responsible for connecting our PSW ideas to the students at the high school. They helped come up with and gather the rewards, they have worked on beautifying the school, and they are also in charge of teaching the expectations to their fellow students through vignettes which they wrote, filmed, and edited themselves. They are the leaders of PSW at the student level.

What inspired PSW?

PSW is not something new, it has been around for the last 20+ years. It is finally becoming an initiative for the state of PA and schools are adding this framework yearly. It is research based and it works, so why wouldn't we do this?

How does participating in PSW make you feel?

As one of the coaches of the PSW team I feel proud that I am making a difference in the climate and culture of this school. I know that the rest of the PSW

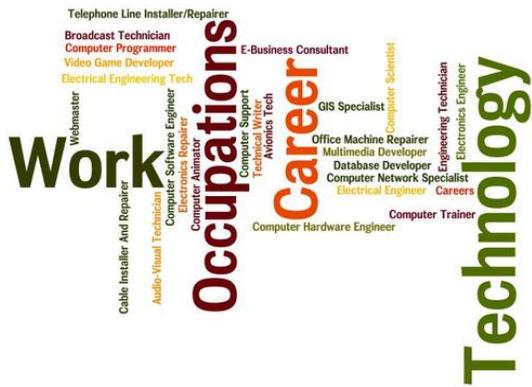
teacher team feels the same way. We know it is early, but we put in the work, and even without the data, we and the rest of the faculty have noticed a change in the air here and have seen a new/improved comradery and attitude among the students and staff. The students on the team have also seen this and are proud that they had a part in this.

Activities that have occurred so far this year:

- 3 weeks of dance party Friday - Homecoming/Movies, Today's Hits, Country
- Four expectation videos shown to student body
- Quarterly reward given out during Mr. Huntingdon (Zach G and Johnny W) - \$50 gift card
- Big hits for the weekly/monthly rewards - student parking spot, community rewards (Sheetz, BK, Standing Stone Coffee House, Monroe Mufflers, Clifton 5, Dominos)
- Halloween spirit day (costumes allowed to be worn by students and teacher costume contests)

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- More dance party Fridays: Halloween songs, Teacher's choice, 90's Throwbacks, and more
- More expectation videos (premiering on Thanksgiving break and Christmas break)
- Reindeer games on the half day before Christmas break (movies, arts and crafts, sports, and contests all winter/Christmas themed)
- Winter break spirit week
- More weekly, monthly, and quarterly rewards



ASVAB Testing: All Juniors!!

This year all juniors will be taking the ASVAB exam. This is a multiple choice test administered by the United States Military Entrance Processing Command used to determine occupation specialties that are linked to student skills in different career areas. Taking this exam does not mean you plan to join the military but offers students insight into careers that are linked to their skills and interests. If interested seniors may also take this exam and will need to come sign up in the Guidance Office. The date this exam will take place is November 10th.

If you have any questions, please call the Guidance Office at 641-2156.

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.

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

The Guidance Dept. will be working with the students throughout the year on various career opportunities. They will be hosting presentations and field trips for selected students .

Two field trips will be occurring this month. The first is on November 9th and will be a visit to Brown's Funeral Home. The second will be on November 17th to Faithful Friends Vet. The students may sign up for and get a parent permission slip in the guidance office for these trips.

Please be sure to have your child check the announcements and their school email for any important updates and guidance information.



COLLEGE CORNER—

Autumn is an exciting time in the college process! Here are the upcoming events:

Tuesday, November 1st from 5:30-7:30:
Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) Completion Night (suggested for seniors) ***Please call Guidance to schedule an appointment

If you would like assistance completing the FAFSA but are unable to attend FAFSA Completion Night, please email Miss Sarah to set up an appointment.

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