

# HUNTINGDON AREA HIGH SCHOOL

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Mr. Travis R. Lee,  
Secondary Principal

Mr. Brent A. Stoltzfus,  
Assistant Principal

**"ALL LEARNERS, ALL FUTURES"**

**To:** Learners, Parents, and Guardians  
**From:** Mr. Travis R. Lee, High School Principal  
**Re:** HAHS School Update Memo  
**Date:** February 8, 2021

Good evening learners, parents, and guardians,

Despite our closure and weather-related remote learning last week, we hope that our learners have settled into their courses for the second semester. Please see below for updates and informational items from HAHS. We hope that we can continue to work together to help our learners through this challenging year!

## Notes and Updates:

- **Keystone Exams**
  - HAHS previously shared that juniors would not be taking the Keystone Exams, and that we would proceed with testing sophomores and freshmen within the March make-up window
  - With additional guidance from PDE, **HAHS has now cancelled the entire winter testing session**
  - **Learners that were in a Keystone course during the 19-20 school year are now deemed "proficient" for testing purposes, as long as they passed the associated course at HAHS last year**
    - Learners will now not need to take these exams. However, should they want to take the exams, they may do so during the spring 2021 testing session
    - Updated information regarding graduation requirements for the Class of 2023 (current sophomores) and beyond will be shared with classes prior to the Keystone Exams
  - Keystone Exams are still on as scheduled for the May 2021 session
- **ASVAB Testing**
  - All juniors are scheduled for **ASVAB Testing on Tuesday, March 23**. The ASVAB testing provides helpful information regarding post-secondary skills and career planning, regardless of any interest in the military.
  - HAHS will be communicating plans regarding how the day will be structured for juniors on 3/23, to account for both the Red and Blue groups
- **HCCTC**
  - The HCCTC mailed applications to all freshmen this winter
  - HAHS has shared application information with all freshmen and sophomores via Google Classroom
  - Applications that have not previously been submitted to the HCCTC should be submitted to the HAHS Guidance Office by Friday, February 12
  - Information, including a video overview, of each program at the CTC can be reviewed by visiting the HCCTC website

- **FFA Information**

- National FFA Week is scheduled for February 20th-27th. We have a few special events and activities planned to help celebrate FFA during that week. We hope you will join us in showing your FFA Spirit!
  - February 24th & 25th will be our Community Service/Celebration days. Each class period in Ag classes, students will be making cards for local nursing homes. Some refreshments will also be provided to enjoy during that time
  - We are also planning to have daily dress up days where we will encourage the entire school to participate by wearing the specific attire for each day such as red, white and blue, a hat, camouflage, official dress, FFA apparel and blue and gold. Watch for flyers around the school and through email
  - Daily Ag Facts will also be shared on the announcements during that week
- The **FFA Strawberry Sale fundraiser** ends this week. Be sure to get your orders in!
- **Learner Jacket Recognitions**
  - Congratulations to the following members who will be receiving their FFA jacket courtesy of the PA FFA Alumni and many businesses and individuals who support the mission of the Blue and Gold! These members took their first steps as FFA members earlier this fall and submitted applications for their jackets.
    - Evan Eutzy, Kyler Garner, Henry Kyber, Katie Robb, Leah Robb, Matthew Swartz, Emily Dysard

- **School Supports and Mental Health Information**

- **HAHS Mental Health Team**
  - Please know that if your learner is struggling with any barriers to learning or emotional wellness, our counseling staff and social worker are here to support you! The mental wellness of our learners is a high priority at HAHS and HASD. Especially in light of the pandemic, we want to remind you know that we are here for you!
  - Please see the end of this document for info regarding our mental health team and digital resources/websites for learners and families. These resources were previously sent in September as part of a National Suicide Prevention Month update
- **SAP Team**
  - A key component of our support system for learners is the **Student Assistance Program**, or SAP. The SAP program is confidential, and the goal is to identify barriers to learning, especially in the realms of mental health and drug and alcohol prevention
  - Our SAP team partners closely with community resources through Mainstream Counseling and Youth Advocacy Programs. In addition, the team can make referrals to additional community agencies and resources
  - For an overview of the SAP program, please visit this link (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=en72sfxevec&feature=youtu.be>). Though this video is from another county, the process remains the same at HAHS
- **Parenting in a Digital World: Youth, Technology, Social Media, Drugs, and Mental Health - Virtual Workshop**
  - The TIU11 is offering this presentation, presented by Ryan Klingensmith of Shape the Sky, on Thursday, February 11, from 6:30 - 8:00 pm
    - **Registration link:**  
[https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_p3t5yiG5RC-zgY18sqV3kQ](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_p3t5yiG5RC-zgY18sqV3kQ)
  - The following link (<https://www.smore.com/1e4sg2-parenting-in-a-digital-world?ref=email>) takes you to the IU11 website which provides a more detailed explanation of the event
  - ***Presentations from Shape the Sky have been well received in the past, so please consider this opportunity!***

- **Learner Recognitions**

- **Art at Standing Stone Coffee Company**

- HAHS artwork will be displayed at Standing Stone Coffee Company during the month of February
    - Please stop in to check out the work created by Rebecca Swartz, Tessa Haffey, Autumn Swope, Dameion Hammock, Brindel Rush, Olivia Weidel, and Eva Morris

- **Band Regionals**

- We aren't having our traditional district, region, and all-state band festivals like we normally do this time of year, but the learners who would have qualified for district band did get the opportunity to record audition videos and submit them for qualification to the region level.
    - The following musicians qualified for region band and will now have the opportunity to audition for all-state honors:
      - Taran Pelkey- Clarinet
      - Ali Hemcher- Clarinet
      - Michael Cantrell- Alto Saxophone
      - Alex Robbins- Cornet
      - Taylor Peterson- Trumpet
      - Merritt Leidy- Percussion
      - Alex and Merritt also earned the highest scores in their sections!

- **All East Honors Band - Alex Robbins**



**HUNTINGDON BEARCATS**

**Alex Robbins**

**All East Honors Band**  
**Trumpet I**

- Only 41 PA high school musicians selected
- Students from 11 states comprise the band
- First instrumentalist from HAHS to earn this achievement since 1999

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR MUSIC EDUCATION

### **HAHS Mental Health Team**

Mrs. Melanie Snare, School Counselor

Ms. Sara Neild, School Counselor

Mrs. Katee Rook, Social Worker

Dr. Chris Lantz, School Psychologist

### **Resources**

[https://www.preventsuicidepa.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/Parent-Resources\\_Final.pdf](https://www.preventsuicidepa.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/Parent-Resources_Final.pdf)

<https://www.preventsuicidepa.org/task-force-county-init/huntingdon/>

<https://suicidepreventionlifeline.org/?scrlybrkr=3c578483>

<https://www.crisistextline.org/?scrlybrkr=7bf9818d>

<https://www.nimh.nih.gov/health/topics/suicide-prevention/index.shtml?scrlybrkr=2662c3aa>

<https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/suicide/resources.html>

<https://afsp.org/suicide-prevention-resources>

<https://www.helpguide.org/articles/suicide-prevention/suicide-prevention.htm?scrlybrkr=35ff8a24>

<https://save.org/>

<https://www.thetrevorproject.org>

<http://aevidum.com/cms/>