

SOUNDINGS

Hendrick Hudson School District

Fall 2012 Edition

Speech and Debate Team Takes Home Awards from State and Regional Contests

The Hendrick Hudson High School Speech and Debate team is making waves across the competitive forensic circuit this fall. The team is seeing unprecedented successes in virtually all competitions they are attending. The team, though small in numbers, is returning to Hen Hud with big wins at national, regional and local competitions.

The first big win of the season came at the Yale Invitational Tournament hosted by Yale University's Speech & Debate Association in late September. In its 20th year, the Yale Invitational saw its largest turnout in its history. With 172 high schools bringing over 200 students together, the competition was fierce. With preliminary rounds for Speech on a Saturday and final rounds of competition on a Sunday, the Hen Hud Speech team had their weekend filled with entries in at least two category events, with five preliminary rounds each.

After finishing 10 rounds of competition on Saturday, three of our students advanced to quarter finals in three categories: Sanford Jones and Noah Ruff advanced in Dramatic Interpretation (DI); Rafiq Taylor advanced in Humorous Interpretation (HI); and Noah Ruff also advanced in Oral Interpretation (OI).

After an arduous weekend of near nonstop competition, Hen Hud's Noah Ruff took first place in Dramatic Interpretation.

According to the Forensics team's faculty advisor Kathryn Sponseller, who was also a judge at the competition, "...the level of performance at this tournament was incredibly high." She continued, "The size and performance level of this tournament makes our students' achievements all the more impressive."

Ruff was presented with his trophy during an awards ceremony held in one of Yale's beautiful chapels, packed to the rafters with students and adults from all over the country. Because of its popularity, Dramatic Interpretation was the last Speech event awarded. "You could almost see the anticipation as the countdown of the six final places in DI began," said Sponseller. "After second place was announced, the entire place erupted with cheering and applause for Noah, as the winner - one of our students - it was absolutely glorious."

When asked about his success in the competition, Ruff spoke about the need to "own your piece." Ruff continued, "It was important to

find a piece that wasn't boring but at the same time not too complex either."

Ruff found just what he was looking for from a stage production entitled "My Dog's Got No Nose." Ruff began working on his award winning piece this past summer at a debate camp. Through countless edits including cuts and rewrites, restructuring the piece to keep its humor and in the context of the larger work proved to be one of the most difficult aspects of the preparation process.

"Sitting there, I was on the edge of my seat," said Ruff as he listened to the presenter award third then second place. "When they finally announced the first place winner, I was relieved and excited about the award," he concluded.

Other members of the debate team who took part in the Yale Invitational include sophomores Jack Buckner and Emily Hayes, and seniors Lily Rafiq Taylor and Sanford Jones.

Since the Yale tournament, the Hen Hud Forensics team has gone on to compete in a number of other tournaments where our students did exceptionally well.

The Speech Team attended a tournament at Regis High School where Sanford Jones qualified for Finals in Dramatic Interpretation and took first place. This is the second year that we have taken first place in DI at the opening Regis tournament.

Most recently, the Speech Team competed in a national two-day tournament at Bronx High School of Science. Three students "broke" to quarter final rounds: Rafiq Taylor in Humorous Interpretation; Sanford Jones in Dramatic Interpretation and Oral Interpretation; and Noah Ruff also in DI and OI. Sanford and Noah advanced to semi and then final rounds in DI. "Of the six finalists in Dramatic Interpretation, TWO were from Hendrick Hudson ... It was very exciting," said Sponseller.





A Message from the Interim Superintendent of Schools, Brian D. Monahan, Ph.D

Dear Friends,

The first five months of my time here in Hendrick Hudson have been interesting, to say the least. I am extremely grateful for how welcoming everyone has been. It is always challenging to be the new person in town and it often seems that every issue has a long history behind it. With the help of many of you, I am doing my best to figure things out.

As I mentioned at a recent Board of Education meeting, over the past twenty year my career in government and education has caused me to make many weather related decisions. But, I think I have made more such decisions over the past month in Hendrick Hudson than during those years. I truly appreciate the patience and support that has been shown by the members of the community, especially in light of the incredible challenges many of you have faced. You will certainly continue to hear from me and our building principals as we struggle with our calendar throughout the winter.

Despite the challenges we have faced, our students continue give us many reasons to be encouraged and to work to give them the best education possible. The academic performance of our students on State and local tests gives us much reason to be proud. At the same time, there are always areas in which we know we can do better.

New testing requirements and new regulations make teaching an ever-more complex profession. I am especially proud of the way our teachers and administrators manage these new issues while keeping student learning in the forefront.

Similarly, our students give us many reasons to be proud by what they do outside of the classroom. Large numbers of students represent their schools by joining athletic teams or participating in performing arts events or other school activities. Both my own experience and research by others support the idea that involved students are more successful in school and in their careers.

Following the holidays, we will move into the budget season. Your input in this difficult task will be most welcome as we work to balance the needs of our students and the burden on our taxpayers. Each year that process gets more challenging.

Please accept my best wishes for the holiday season. I have had a chance to meet many of you during my first few months and look forward to getting to know more of you. Meanwhile, if you have questions or concerns, feel free to reach out to me.

Yours truly,

Brian D. Monahan, Ph.D.

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BMMS Students Take Part in the 10th Annual 'A Day in the Life of the Hudson River'

Blue Mountain Middle School Science teacher Sean Bugara and eight students, members of the school's SEAL (Search, Explore, Analyze, and Learn) team, took part in the 10th annual "A Day in the Life of the Hudson River" on October 4, 2012. The students who attended were Alexandra Lenz, J.D. Page, Margaret Gruber, Todd Siesel, Lila Trepp, Paul Hartigan, Mackenzie Porter and Alexander Lagos.

"When I found out I was invited to this trip I was so happy to have this opportunity. I enjoyed everything we did, from going in the water to helping doing different tests. Thank you for inviting us to this wonderful trip," said Mackenzie Porter.

The annual event, on the banks of the Hudson River, is designed to collect data on the physical and biological health of the river, while educating students about the importance of the river to the local ecology. Each year, students converge on the shore and take part in a series of activities to collect water samples from the river that will help determine everything from the river's pH level to its salinity.

Student scientists waded waist deep in the chilly water to collect samples of marine life and water off the shores of Peekskill's Riverfront Green. Blue Mountain students successfully collected about a dozen healthy fish, which now happily reside in the Hudson River Estuary Tank in Bugara's classroom that mimics the conditions

of the river. Classroom species include a Pumpkin seed fish, Red Breasted sunfish, Blue Gills, Banded Killi Fish, and Atlantic Silver Sides.

According to Bugara, "Our students took part in this event to collect and contribute data to the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation findings. Hands-on field work is one of the best ways to learn science. This event gave us the opportunity to be citizen scientists, becoming part of the solution to local environmental problems."

At the conclusion of the trip Margaret Gruber remarked, "It was a fascinating experience. It was a good opportunity to learn about the Hudson, and I hope more students will be able to go next year."





Hen Hud Conservation Program Will Save Energy Dollars

Dan Callahan Selected as Energy Education Specialist



The Hendrick Hudson School District has taken a proactive step in good stewardship of budgeted funds and energy by embarking on a comprehensive energy conservation and management program with Energy Education. The award-winning company's energy conservation programs have saved more than \$2.8 billion for educational and ministerial organizations across the nation.

The Hendrick

Hudson School District Board of Education approved participation in the program in July and recently named Hendrick Hudson High School Assistant Principal Daniel Callahan as Energy Education Specialist (EES). Callahan will perform the duties associated with this role in a part-time capacity in addition to his regular duties as Assistant Principal.

"Dan Callahan is the right person for this position," commented Interim Superintendent of Schools Dr. Brian Monahan. "He is highly respected in the community and will provide excellent leadership in this important endeavor."

Energy Education Specialists are responsible for helping to motivate everyone in the system to use energy wisely, keep classrooms comfortable, and practice smart energy strategies — ensuring that Energy Education's Transformational Energy Management® process is implemented throughout the system. This proven process turns recommendations into real savings, changing consumption behavior by focusing on four critical components: 1. Assessment + Planning, 2. Coordination + Communication, 3. Leadership + Focus, and 4. Measurement + Verification. Energy Education's innovative process trains client personnel to implement behavioral and organizational change that substantially reduces energy consumption without the purchase of new equipment. The program is funded solely and rapidly by the savings it generates, allowing clients to reserve saved energy dollars for other priorities.

Callahan will participate in a series of intensive trainings by Energy Education energy consultants to implement conservation procedures

at all district facilities. He will then conduct energy audits to ensure that students and teachers are comfortable during class time and scheduled activities, and that energy is used only as necessary.

Every energy use point throughout the organization is analyzed, with continual follow-up to ensure energy is used as necessary, but never wasted in classrooms, offices, athletic facilities, kitchens, or other areas of the system. Callahan will audit system facilities throughout the year during different times of the day and night to ensure that energy-saving practices are in place and adjust plans as necessary. The EES will ensure all equipment is operating as intended and motivate other system personnel to follow the program's guidelines. Callahan will analyze optimum practices for heating and air conditioning systems, ventilation rates, periods of occupancy, humidity, transition to unoccupied buildings, circulation pumps, and more. The program is designed to preserve comfortable environments during class and scheduled activities.

According to Board of Education President Mary-Pat Briggi, "The time has arrived for us to address savings at every level of our organization. Our district, together with our Board of Education, will implement this organizational behavior-based program to help us save valuable funds using the systems and personnel already in place. Every dollar we don't spend on energy is a dollar we save for educational purposes." All costs of the Energy Education program come from the system's existing utility budget, with savings projected to more than pay for the program. Additional savings can be reserved for other parts of the budget. Many organizations have credited this program with helping keep personnel and maintain programs that otherwise would have fallen victim to budget cuts. In addition, Energy Education provides free support after the paid term of the contract, as long as the system continues to implement the program. The energy savings will continue for many years.

To measure and verify the program's success, Callahan will track energy consumption using independent, third party energy-accounting software. The software compares current energy use to a baseline period and calculates the amount of energy that would have been used if conservation and management practices had not been implemented. It adjusts for weather, equipment changes, and variations in building use, according to industry standards. By analyzing consumption and energy use patterns, the software helps the EES quickly identify and correct areas that need immediate attention.

The Hendrick Hudson School District will be working with Energy Education on energy saving endeavors over the next years.

A Message from Mary-Pat Briggi President, Board of Education



When I originally started this letter, the topic was the Hendrick Hudson Homecoming - with its celebration of the start of a new school year, fall athletics, and HenHud students past and present. Publication of this issue of Soundings was sidelined by Hurricane Sandy, and all the destruction and upheaval left behind. Even the students were thrown by unexpectedly losing a week of school. Despite this, I like to think we were among the lucky ones - for the most part, the Hurricane left us inconvenienced, but relatively unscathed, and we are grateful for that. As we move forward, we look towards the Holidays and use this time to think about all that we do have to be thankful for. We can appreciate our family and friends, the past year's successes

that will carry us forward and failures that we can learn from, the many opportunities we all have, and our community. I may be channeling Pollyanna, but I know we can all find things that we are appreciative of.

As we go forward, we will be starting a new year; one that will bring challenges and opportunity. As a District, I believe our biggest challenge will be addressing budget issues and our greatest opportunity will be our search for a superintendent. Every year, as a Board, we strive to create a budget that can be supported by our community - one that meets the needs of our students and exists within the financial constraints of our taxpayers. We have already started this process and will begin making presentations after the holiday break. We have begun our search for a permanent superintendent as well. We have asked BOCES to help us in this undertaking (a service they provide at no additional cost to the District). They have already begun talking to community members - District employees, parents, community groups, and students - to get their input. Using

this information, resumes will be collected and interviews will be conducted in the next month or two, and we hope to make a decision by late February/early March. In both of these endeavors, the budget and the superintendent search, the Board considers community involvement a necessary part of the process and not only welcomes, but requests, your thoughts and feedback.

On behalf of the Board of Education, I would like to wish everyone a happy, healthy holiday season. Please take this opportunity to be grateful for what you have and hopeful about the coming year. I know that we, as a Board, are grateful for our own families and friends, for being part of a community that supports one another in good times and bad, and the strength to be optimistic as we address the future.

Take care,

Mary-Pat Briggi

Four Hen Hud Seniors Named Commended Students in the 2013 National Merit Scholarship Program

Hendrick Hudson High School Principal James Mackin announced today that four seniors, Leandre D. Eberhard, Matthew R. Ledwin, Kyle D. Monk and Conor S. Briggi, have been named Commended Students in the 2013 National Merit Scholarship Program. A letter of commendation from the school and the National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC), which conducts the program, will be presented by Mackin to these scholastically talented seniors.

According to Mackin, "This recognition is a tremendous opportunity for our students as they begin the college application process. It will help propel them into some of the best schools in our nation. On behalf of the High School Administration I offer them my congratulations."

About 34,000 Commended Students throughout the nation are being recognized for their exceptional academic promise. Although they will not continue in the 2013 competition for National Merit Scholarship awards, Commended Students placed among the top five percent of more than the



Conor Briggi



Leandre D.
Eberhard



Kyle D.
Monk



Matthew R.
Ledwin

1.5 million students who entered the 2013 competition by taking the 2011 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT).

"Recognizing academically talented students plays a fundamental role in the advancement of educational excellence within our nation," commented an NMSC spokesperson. "The young people recognized as Commended Students represent some of the best and brightest minds in the country as demonstrated by their outstanding performance in our highly competitive program. We sincerely hope this recognition will provide them with additional educational outlets and motivate them in their pursuit of academic achievement."

"These students have worked exceptionally hard throughout their academic careers to earn this type of honor," remarked Interim Superintendent of Schools Dr. Brian Monahan. "This recognition is a testament not only to our students' dedication and hard work but the efforts of their parents and the entire educational community to maximize student potential for academic success."

3 Hen Hud Seniors Named National Merit Scholarship Semifinalists

The Hendrick Hudson School District is pleased to announce that three seniors, Fiona Ewing, Maia Silber and Amy White, have advanced as semifinalists in the National Merit Scholarship competition.

"These three young ladies are exceptional individuals," commented High School Principal James Mackin. "From the beginning of their high school careers, these ladies have demonstrated remarkable commitment and dedication to their academic pursuits while maintaining the highest standards in athletics and the arts."

As students, these ladies have a remarkably diverse academic portfolio.

Maia, who aspires to be a journalist, is the Editor of the High School newspaper and is a member of the High School's National Art Honor Society. Throughout her academic career Maia has found her "...love for learning and a belief that anything is possible when you put your full self into it" has helped her to achieve her goals and has driven her academic success.

Amy, who loves math and hopes to attend Berkley in the fall, has been in the orchestra since fourth grade playing the viola and is currently the Captain of the Hendrick Hudson High School Cross Country team. Amy credits coach and teacher Marsha Bailey as being one of her biggest role models in the Hen Hud community. When asked about her greatest motivator for academic success she said, "I believe if I work hard now and apply myself now, I'll be able to enjoy life more later on."

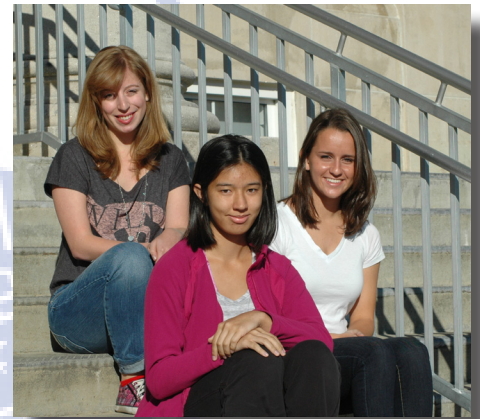
Fiona, an avid tennis player and accomplished pianist and violinist, spoke about competing not against her classmates but against herself in her academic pursuits. "I wanted to see what my full potential was

and if I could reach it," she remarked. In a piece of sage advice to her underclassmen trying to achieve their goals, she recommends they "...always stay focused and have goals to work toward."

"These students represent some of the best of the Hen Hud community," remarked Interim Superintendent of Schools Dr. Brian Monahan. "We are immensely proud of their accomplishments and wish them and their families congratulations on this great honor."

"This is a great honor for our high school and our community. These ladies have worked hard and I am excited to see them honored for their commitment toward academic excellence," concluded Mackin.

According to a press release from the National Merit Scholarship Program, "These academically talented high school seniors have an opportunity to continue in the competition for some 8,300 National Merit Scholarships worth more than \$32 million that will be offered next spring. To be considered for a Merit Scholarship® award, semifinalists must fulfill several requirements to advance to the Finalist level of the competition. About 90 percent of the semifinalists are expected to attain finalist standing, and more than half of the finalists will win a National Merit Scholarship, earning the Merit Scholar® title."



B-V Building Community by Compliments

Students in Christine Nightingale's 3rd grade class are building an important chain in their classroom. The Compliment Chain, comprised of paper links, will represent "compliments the students and class receive as a result of good behavior and following directions and otherwise setting a positive example in the B-V school community," said Nightingale.

So what is a compliment chain you may ask? Very simply, every time a staff member gives the class a compliment (walking nicely in the hallway, lining up at the end of class, working well together, etc.) the class can add a link to the compliment chain. Once the class hits a certain milestone in the chain (10 links, ceiling to floor and so on) they will have the opportunity to choose a reward of some sort. Rewards can range from anything from extra recess time to a Pajama Day. To make the lesson a little more interesting, compliments from different people receive different numbers of links. For example, a compliment from Mrs. Nightingale is worth one

link while a compliment from a parent is worth six.

"This is a great way to encourage our students to model positive behavior for the younger students in our building," said Nightingale. "I'm delighted at their excitement and enthusiasm as new links are added to the chain and it will serve as a visual reminder of the great work and progress they make throughout the year."



Jumping into the Common Core

By: Dr. Alice Gottlieb, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction and Professional Personnel



Along with most other states, New York State adopted the Common Core Learning Standards (CCLS) last spring. What exactly are these standards, and what does this mean for children in the Hendrick Hudson School District?

For the first time, students across the country will follow the same curriculum. Teachers and school districts will determine how the material is presented. For example, the under

the new standards, it is expected that children will read and write about as much non-fiction as fiction. The standards do not tell us which non-fiction texts to use.

The Common Core Learning Standards have been written for both Literacy and Mathematics. They are written, however, with interdisciplinary work in mind. In other words, included in the Grades 6-12 Literacy Standards are specific goals for Literacy in Social Studies and Science classes. In the lower grades, teachers are expected to integrate reading and writing instruction into every subject area.

Both the Literacy and Mathematics Standards call for major shifts from the older New York State Learning Standards. In Literacy the shifts include:

1. Read as much non-fiction as fiction
2. Learn about the world by reading
3. Read more challenging material closely
4. Discuss reading using evidence
5. Write non-fiction using evidence
6. Increase academic vocabulary

PLTW Partners with Local Business Community

The Hendrick Hudson School District was pleased to welcome representatives from BASF and Guiliante Machine Tool for a tour of Hendrick Hudson High School's engineering and biomedical classes and to discuss the formation of a Project Lead the Way (PLTW) Partnership Team with members of the Hendrick Hudson School District administration.

In 2010, Hendrick Hudson High School began offering PLTW courses, and the program rapidly became very popular with students. Now in its third year, the high school's PLTW program has grown to 11 sections with over 150 students participating. PLTW is "the leading provider of rigorous and innovative Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) education curricular programs used in middle and high schools across the U.S.," according to www.pltw.org.

Through partnerships with local businesses in related fields, the district is looking to enhance its STEM educational offerings to its students. Possibilities for collaboration include student visits to manufacturing sites, guest speakers, review of student projects by professionals in related fields, and internships. Several other companies including Entergy, Wheelabrator, and Hudson Valley Hospital Center have also expressed an interest in partnering with the district.

In Mathematics, the six shifts are:

1. Focus: learn more about fewer, key topics
2. Build skills within and across grades
3. Develop speed and accuracy
4. Really know it, Really do it
5. Use it in the real world
6. Think fast AND solve problems

Teachers and their principals are working hard to bring the new standards to our classrooms. Although we will certainly need additional materials, much of the work can be done by using old materials in new ways.

For specifics, please follow my blog at Curriculum Showcase for details: <http://www.henhudschools.org/blog.cfm?blogID=4306>



FGL Students take part in the annual bulb planting. Can't wait to see their efforts pay off this spring!

BASF, the world's leading chemical company, operates a plant in Peekskill that makes proprietary chemicals for many products, from make-up to bowling balls to automobiles. Guiliante Machine Tool, also in Peekskill, is a family-owned company that manufactures highly specialized gears for the aerospace industry. According to www.gmtgear.com, GMT's products are used for "fighter jets, helicopters, and transport planes as well as major commercial aircraft."



Anthony Washington, Training Coordinator of BASF visits the PLTW Engineering classroom.

Where are they now?

2003 Valdicorian Begins Residency at Massachusetts General Hospital



Sometimes we get so far in life, we have to step back and ponder where our journey began and where our foundation for learning commenced. Grace Peloquin was the Valdicorian for the 2003 Hendrick Hudson High School class. She went on to attend Brown University where she graduated in 2007 with high honors. She majored in Neuroscience and maintained a 4.0 GPA. She was also elected to Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society for her outstanding academic performance. In addition, Grace somehow managed to find time to serve as captain of Brown's equestrian team.

She went onto NYU School of Medicine and recently graduated this spring from NYU with the highest academic rating for all four years of medical school. Grace

also has the notable distinction of graduating NYU as the top female student in the Internal Medicine specialty. At NYU School of Medicine Grace mentored and tutored numerous junior high school students in the city. She was elected to Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society for her academic performance as well as for her altruistic contributions. She scored in the 99th percentile on the nationwide Medical Board exam.

Dr. Peloquin is obviously intelligent but she is also kind, generous and has an enthusiastic desire to help people. Dr. Peloquin is beginning her work as Medical Resident at the prestigious Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston in the area of Internal Medicine. It seems not that long ago, Grace was just walking into her Kindergarten class as she walked through the doors of Furnace Woods Elementary.

Fire Prevention Week at Frank G. Lindsey Elementary

On October 18th, Montrose Fire Department visited Frank G. Lindsey Elementary School. Chief Porter and many of our local fireman, talked with our kindergarten through fifth grade students on fire prevention. Students also learned how to plan a safe escape from their homes should a fire break out. Students enjoyed visiting the fire trucks and seeing how some of the equipment on the trucks are used.

This is a wonderful program that has been very successful for many years. Students enjoy learning from our local town heroes and seeing how people in our community keep us safe and sound. After the presentation, many students said that when they grow up, they too wanted to be a fire fighter so they can help kids be safe.

B-V Student Raises Money For Parkinson's Research



Maggie McCluskey presents Food Service Director Clare Carey with a check for Parkinson's Research

Late last spring, B-V 4th grader Maggie McCluskey asked her mom why Food Service Director Clare Carey has to use a cane. Her mom, who works for Carey in the kitchen at B-V, explained that Clare has Parkinson's Disease.

Ever the philanthropist and socially conscious student, Maggie decided to hold a "fundraiser" to raise money for Parkinson's research.

So on the next sunny Saturday, Maggie set up shop, a homemade lemonade stand, in her driveway to raise money for this noble cause. Over the next several Saturdays, Maggie raised over \$300 for the Parkinson's Center for Research and donated it on behalf of Mrs. Carey.

Incredibly, this is not the first time, nor will it be the last time, Maggie has raised money for causes. This was actually her third lemonade stand fund raiser. Prior to the Parkinson's Center for Research, Maggie raised money for the Maria Ferrari Children's Hospital.



Members of the Montrose Fire Department demonstrate how to use a fire hose to FGL students.



FALL UPDATE FROM THE HHCEF

HHCEF Innovation in Education Grant funds Blue Mountain Art Electives That Spark Students' Creativity

This past spring, the HHCEF granted the Blue Mountain Middle School's Art Department \$7,000 to purchase cameras and equipment for a new Digital Photography course, as well as expand the computer graphics program to include electives in Game Design, Digital Modeling, and Graphic Design. These art classes are offered in addition to the art curriculum, electives that are not commonly offered even at the high school level in many districts. Designed to enhance critical thinking and problem solving skills, the courses also reinforce math and science as they relate to everyday applications. As for their students' reaction to the new offerings, art teacher Paul Gioacchini said, "Mrs. Krause and I are both pleased at how engaged the students are in their work and how they are collaborating with each other. We know times are tough, but we're so grateful that we're able to give our students these amazing opportunities."

Fall 2012 HHCEF Grant Awards

HHCEF awarded a total of \$3,500 in its fall 2012 grant cycle. One grant will fund a brand new mountain biking unit for the Hendrick Hudson High School physical education program. High school physical education teacher Brad Fredman surveyed students about what new sports offerings they would like to see, and mountain biking topped the list. Over the past several years, mountain biking has become a popular interscholastic sport and has now spread to New York with the formation of the New York High School Cycling League just this year.

A second grant will fund the purchase of nonfiction books for a "book nook" in grades 3-5 classrooms at Buchanan-Verplanck Elementary School. Nonfiction reading has gained increased importance with the adoption of the Common Core State Standards. B-V's grades K-2 already have book nooks, and BV teachers Terri Outhouse, Marion Borges, Meme Weinheim, and Susan McCormack were eager to populate the upper grades' book nooks as well, knowing that these books will serve as a resource not only for those grades but also for students at lower grades who read above grade level. The entire school benefits!

Our BEST EVER Harlem Wizards vs. Hen Hud Community All-Stars Basketball Game!

On Saturday, November 17, HHCEF hosted an historic rematch between the Harlem Wizards and our Hen Hud team of teachers, staff and community members. The community came together to cheer our players on as they went up against the competitive and comedic antics of the Harlem Wizards. Students held up signs and rooted for their favorite teachers, and even the librarians of the Hendrick Hudson Free Library got into the act! It was a fun, memorable evening for families. We raised \$5,000, all of which will go back into enhancing education in our schools and our community.

Thanks to all who volunteered- we could not have done it without you!

HHCEF Annual Appeal

Look for our annual appeal mailing in the coming month. You may also donate online any time using our secure link to PayPal at www.hhcef.org. All contributions to HHCEF are deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.

Join the Hendrick Hudson Community Education Foundation!

If you're looking for a way to make a difference in our community we welcome you to learn more about the HHCEF. With your help as a member or volunteer on one of our committees we can further our work and continue to enhance the values of education within our district. One of these committees may be right for you:

- Alumni and Community Outreach Committee
- Fundraising Committee
- Bricks Committee
- Grants and Scholarships Committee
- Public Relations Committee

For more information, please contact Beth Gruber at johndandbethg@yahoo.com. Board membership is not a requirement as a volunteer. Join today.

The Hendrick Hudson Community Educational Foundation, Inc. is a community-based 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, existing for the purposes of raising and granting funds in support of educational activities to benefit the citizens residing within the boundaries of the Hendrick Hudson School District. The HHCEF does not receive financial support from the school district. To learn more about the HHCEF, visit www.HHCEF.org.



Members of the Hen Hud faculty, staff, and administration joined forces with Hen Hud Free Library staff and Hen Hud Athletic Hall of Fame members to take on the Harlem Wizards.



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Hendrick Hudson Mission Statement

2010-2016

The mission of the Hendrick Hudson School District, a dynamic, innovative, and supportive educational community, is to ensure each student is an engaged, passionate learner who achieves his or her maximum potential and contributes to society.

This is accomplished in a system characterized by

A culture of the highest expectations for all;

A rigorous, articulated curriculum;

Diverse, effective instructional strategies and resources;

An educational environment that is challenging, creative, exploratory, accessible, and nurturing; and

A fully engaged, supportive community.

Visit us on the web at
www.henhudschools.org
for the latest news and information

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