Haddam Killingworth High School January/February Newsletter 2023



From the Principal…

Greetings from Haddam Killingworth High School!

HKHS is a very busy place as we round the corner at the half-way point of the year and speed on to more learning opportunities, more successes, and more celebrations in the second semester!

Alumni Day Reunited us with Old Friends:



Members of the class of 2022 returned “home” to HKHS on January 4th, as they do each year, to talk with the Class of 2023 about the transition to college, and given advice based on their own personal experience. This is a popular event each year, with seniors benefitting from their guidance and insights six months after graduation.

Congratulations to our Scholar Athletes!

Tyler Perry and Kristin Thebeau have been named the Class of 2023 CIAC Scholar Athletes! The scholar-athlete program annually recognizes two seniors from each member high school whose academic and athletic careers have been exemplary, whose personal standards and achievements are a model to others, and who possess high levels of integrity, self-discipline and courage. The students will be celebrated at the 40th Annual Scholar-Athlete Awards Banquet on Sunday, May 7, at the Aqua Turf Club in Plantsville. Congratulations Tyler and Kristen!

HKHS Holiday Telethon Update



Haddam Killingworth High School Television held its 34th annual Holiday Telethon in support of Team Rachel on January 3, 2023.

During the live telethon, students throughout the district came together to perform live on stage. Holiday Telethon content included student-produced video, interviews, musical acts, and a dance performance. HKTV students worked tirelessly to produce an informative and engaging show for the HK community. Students produced, directed, hosted, and operated broadcasting equipment throughout the show.This year's Holiday Telethon raised $28,778.12 for Team Rachel - one of the most successful fundraisers in recent years! HKTV and HKHS would like to thank the HK Community for all your support!

School Day SATs and Senior Portfolio:

On Wednesday, March 22nd, HKHS juniors, sophomores and freshmen will be engaged in assessment for the first half of the day. Juniors will be participating in the School Day SAT. Sophomores will focus on test preparation. Freshmen will be participating in the PSAT 8/9. Students in all three grade levels will need to bring a charged chromebook to school. Students in grades 9-11 will come to school at normal time, and be dismissed at 11:55. (A special bus run will transport students home who need bus transportation.)

Seniors will stay home in the morning until Senior Portfolio Presentations which will begin around noon the same day, once testing for grades 9-11 is completed. (A detailed schedule will be sent home closer to the date.) If any senior needs a ride to school, they may take their normal bus run in the morning and will have a quiet place to read/study until their classmates arrive at noon.

In the meantime, seniors have begun their Learning Expectations #1 meetings this week. Each senior will meet with their school counselor and either Ms. Hayward or Mr. Apicella to share how they have met learning expectation #1 (i.e. to demonstrate personal responsibility, character, cultural understanding and ethical behavior.) All seniors were sent conversation prompts in advance and suggested evidence to share that might include:

- Community service experience and reflections
- Co-curricular participation and positive contribution
- Employment experience

- Letters of recommendation from faculty, employers, etc.
- A reflection on discipline issues/growth over time
- Impactful participation in special school programs such as the Names Can Really Hurt assembly
- Documented work with community organizations such as Habitat for Humanity, local shelters, etc.
- Personal anecdotes of when the “did the right thing”, where they find their moral compass, etc.

Course Selection Time:

Teachers are currently recommending students for courses next year; these recommendations will be available in PowerSchool. The window for students to make their course selections for the 2022-2023 school year opened on Friday, January 23rd and will close on February 3rd. Students received digital copies of the Opportunities Book earlier this month. If you have questions about the process, please contact your child’s School Counselor.



Freshmen, sophomores and juniors were able to visit stations for each elective course, speak with students currently taking it, and gain insight as to highlights of the course, workload, and learning outcomes.

As students consider their course selections for next year, several amazing electives are among their choices. HKHS hosted our first ever Elective Fair on January 4th to better support students in their decision making.



Winter Drama Production “Save the date” for February 10th at 7pm



The Hallmarks of Horror will be directed by senior Pooja Badami. Scary movies are full of different ways to give you nightmares--but once you figure out the formula, the frightful looks pretty funny. Take a whirlwind tour through the common categories of the creepy, from lines like "let's split up!" to tropes like the car that never starts. If you dare to master everything from cobwebs to clowns, you'll be ready when they all converge in a single hilarious finale scene. You won't believe how fast the spine-chilling turns side-splitting when you know the secrets of “The Hallmarks of Horror”.

Spring Musical Auditions!

We are excited to announce that we will be holding auditions for our spring musical on February 13th from 2:10-3:30. The show will be The Sound of Music! All students interested in auditioning or joining the stage crew are asked to begin to attend drama meetings on Tuesdays during second lunch in the chorus room. If you have any questions or need any information please email director Marcy Webster at MWebster@rsd17.org.

Upcoming dates for the Fine Arts

AllState Music Festival Auditions at North Haven High School….2/4/23
Student-Directed One-Act Play Performance at 7pm……..……...2/9/23
Spring Musical Auditions……..……2/13/23
AllState Music Festival in Hartford……..…….3/30-4/1/23

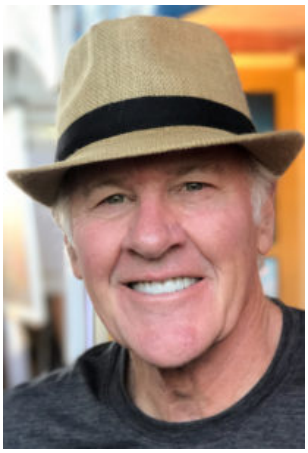
Scholastic Art Competition winners

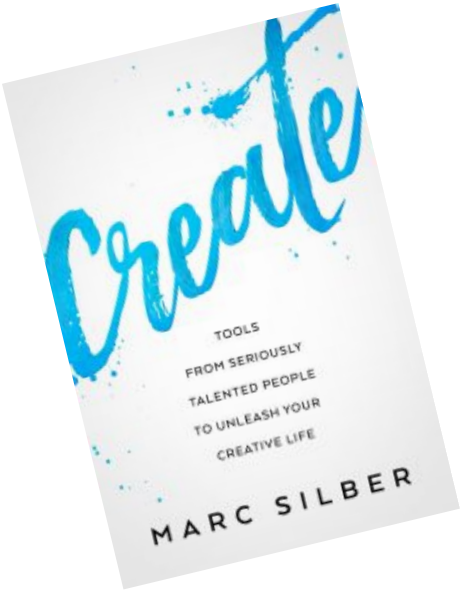


Congratulations to our two Scholastic Art Award winners:
Dakotah Maikowki 12th grade: "The Young Girls Salute" (Drawing & Illustration) Silver Key award; and Amelia Petersen 10th grade "The road not taken" (Ceramics & Glass) Silver Key award



Fine Art Photographer Presenter





On **February 8th** the Spring semester photography classes will be part of a Zoom presentation by fine art photographer Marc Silber. Marc Silber is an award-winning professional video producer, photographer, and photography educator who has been successfully working in the field for decades. Marc combines his passion for the visual art of photography with his love of life. Marc is the author of several photography books including his latest book titled “Create, Tools from Seriously Talented People to Unleash Your Creative Life”. He is also the founder and executive producer of the podcast and YouTube channel “Advancing Your Photography” in which he interviews contemporary photographers and holds live photography critiques. His zoom presentation is based on his latest book, and serves to inspire people to use their creativity in a variety of ways.

Whew! Clearly, there is a lot happening at HKHS! We hope to see you out and about at the myriad of school events planned in the coming weeks. Thank you, as always, for your continued support of our students and our school.

Respectfully,

Donna L. Hayward

SCHOOL COUNSELING UPDATE

Junior Planning Meetings:

Counselors are scheduling Junior Planning Meetings with our students and their families. In these meetings, we help students and families with the post-secondary planning process, including the college search, college applications, and standardized testing. We also discuss various pathways with our students, including two and four-year colleges, technical programs, the military, and employment. These meetings can be held virtually during the school day and last for approximately one hour. Please contact your child's School Counselor by phone or email to arrange a meeting if you're interested in attending. We look forward to seeing you!

Senior Families:

Local scholarships are starting to come into the Counseling Office! The list of scholarships will be updated in Naviance as new scholarships become available. Scholarships are also posted on the wall outside of the Main Entrance to the Counseling Office. Students interested in applying for scholarships should check the list regularly and see their School Counselors with any questions about specific scholarships.

Senior Reminder:

Students must submit documentation of 30 hours of community service prior to attending any senior activities. Community service forms are available on the counseling website and in the counseling office.

Annual College Fair:

HKHS's Annual College Fair will be held on Wednesday April 5th, 2023 from 10:00 – 11:30 a.m. during Advisory in the HKHS fieldhouse. Grades 9 – 11 students will have a specific time to attend the College Fair that morning. Parents are welcome to join as well! Counselors will prepare students to visit the College Fair and students will be provided with a list of suggested questions to ask, the college/institution names, as well as a map of the college locations in the fieldhouse.