



HUDSON EXPLORERS CONNECT

News and Updates from the Hudson City School District

SPRING 2025

Class of 2025 Graduates at Blossom Music Center

Hudson City Schools held its commencement on May 22nd at Blossom Music Center, celebrating 343 graduates in the Class of 2025. This year's class boasted nine National Merit Finalists and 17 Commended Scholars.

This year's graduation featured musical and dance performances by Gabriela Skomra and Alaina Walker, respectively. Class speakers included Sneha Upadhyayula, Evangeline Marquart, Samuel Robledo, Bradley Masiella, Samantha Rosenberg, and Julia Meese.



SCAN QR CODE FOR ADVICE FROM OUR CURRENT KINDERGARTEN STUDENTS TO OUR SENIORS

We wish the Class of 2025 the best in their future endeavors!

New Scoreboard Coming to Hudson Memorial Stadium



When student-athletes return in the fall, they will find a new, state-of-the-art scoreboard in place at Hudson Memorial Stadium.

Hudson City Schools is partnering with Daktronics to bring the new video board to the district. This will enhance the game day experience for fans and will also allow students to get real life experiences in using the new equipment. The scoreboard feature allows for the scoring and time to be shown, and now allows the video portion to be used for school events, live animations, upcoming events, live video, movies and more.

Hudson High School Students Visit Taiwan and Quebec

Twenty students from our Hudson High School had an unforgettable journey over Spring Break, as they spent the week in Taiwan with Chinese teacher Summer Xia!



Students had the opportunity to immerse themselves in the local culture, practice their language skills, and explore Taiwan's rich history and stunning landscapes.

Highlights of the trip included visiting Taipei 101, exploring night markets, touring the historic Sun Moon Lake, participating in a cultural exchange with local students and learning how to make xiao long bao (soup dumplings) and boba tea from scratch.



Meanwhile, a group of 27 French students traveled to Montreal and Quebec, Canada for an unforgettable adventure this spring!

Highlights of the trip included an evening ghost tour to learn about the haunted history of Quebec, a guided costume tour at the iconic Chateau Frontenac, an excursion to Montmorency Falls, and tours of Quebec Parliament and La Citadelle. Of course, dining at local restaurants and practicing their language skills in real-life situations also provided invaluable experiences. The trip, led by French teachers Maria Schiele and Emily Harrington, is a long-standing tradition at Hudson High School.

State of the Schools Presented at Chamber Event

On May 15th, Hudson Superintendent Dana Addis presented a "State of the Schools" address at the Hudson Chamber of Commerce luncheon, held at the Country Club of Hudson.

Addis discussed student achievement, arts and athletics, facilities, financials, and safety and security. For the 2024-2025 school year, Hudson City Schools was ranked #14 in Ohio among public school districts, and had a Performance Index (PI) of 106.9, the highest in school history.

Hadestown: Teen Edition Wins Dazzle Awards

The Hudson Drama Club's performance of Hadestown: Teen Edition garnered six Dazzle awards (including Best Musical) after being nominated in 11 categories. The awards were presented during a ceremony at Playhouse Square in Cleveland on May 17th.



The Dazzle Awards recognize outstanding musical theater productions and students in Northeast Ohio. Hudson City Schools was one of the first high schools in the state to perform the musical.

Photo Credit: Brittany Shemuga

McDowell Celebrates 50th Anniversary of the Reinhart Arboretum

On April 25th, the district celebrated the 50th anniversary and rededication of the Reinhart Arboretum near McDowell Early Learning School.

Ralph and Jewell Reinhart established the Arboretum back in 1975. Since that time, improvements have been made to the Arboretum for kindergarten students of Mrs. Fenimore and Mr. Shaw to use weekly for their "Forest Friday" outdoor learning space.

Members of the Reinhart family, including Jewell Reinhart, Jr., were on hand for the special occasion. After a luncheon and brief history lesson, the festivities moved to the Arboretum, where a tree was planted to mark the occasion and our young Explorers showed the group their love for outdoor learning.



The Hudson Garden Club provided a \$25,000 grant recently to assist with creating more accessible trails and enhanced signage.



Hudson Speech and Debate Qualifier Off to Nationals

Hudson High School junior **Selina Li** has qualified to compete at the National Speech and Debate Association (NSDA) Tournament in Des Moines, Iowa, in mid-June. This year, NSDA is celebrating 100 years of providing competitive speech and debate opportunities for students. Li is Hudson's 6th representative to the national tournament in the past three years.



You Be the Chemist and Science Olympiad Teams Qualify for National Competition

Two clubs at Hudson Middle School are off to compete at the national level!

You Be the Chemist won the state competition this spring and will compete in Houston, Texas in June. Members of the team are (from L to R): **Kyson Ren, Yi-Chaun Li, Jonathan Wu, and Harrison Jiang**. Teacher Courtney Bedzyk and Hudson resident Fangming Du lead this group of outstanding young chemists!

Meanwhile, the Hudson Middle School *Science Olympiad Team* has also qualified to compete at the national level. The team captured second place in April at the recent State Championship, earning medals in 20 of the 25 events. The national competition takes place in Lincoln, Nebraska.



H Spring Athletic Update

At the time of this newsletter writing, many of our Spring athletics were still going strong! Highlights to date include:

Girls Lacrosse
Undefeated regular season, Suburban League Champions

Baseball
Suburban League Champions

Boys Tennis
Henrique Sa
Suburban League First Singles Champion

Hudson Grand Prix Invitational
Drake Vander Cica broke the shot put school record set in 1979! with a throw of 60' 10"

Reading Night Under the Lights

All PreK through 5th grade students in Hudson were invited to our first Reading Night Under the Lights on May 13th.

Due to rain, the event was moved indoors to Hudson Middle School, where students enjoyed free ice cream, free books, guest readers, and a visit from the Akron Rubber Duck. The new reading materials encourage children to continue reading throughout the summer months. We graciously thank our sponsor for the event, Hudson Community First.

Murals Added to McDowell Early Learning

The next time you visit McDowell Early Learning, you'll see a creative new addition to the building.

Four murals of artwork, depicting the four seasons, have been installed. The National Art Honor Society members at Hudson High School have been actively involved in the creation of these designs for the past two years. Students spent more than 500 hours measuring, planning, priming, transferring, painting, and varnishing each panel. More than 40 student artists were involved in this collaborative effort.



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For questions regarding this newsletter, please contact reecej@hudson.k12.oh.us.

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