



HUDSON EXPLORERS CONNECT

News and Updates from the Hudson City School District

SPRING 2026

Class of 2026 Graduates at Blossom Music Center

It was a beautiful spring night on May 21st at Blossom Music Center to celebrate Commencement for the Class of 2026.

This year's class had 378 graduates. Of those, 92 students were Summa Cum Laude, 84 were Magna Cum Laude, and 86 graduated with the Cum Laude distinction. The Class of 2026 also boasted 15 National Merit Scholars and four students who scored a perfect 36 on their ACT exams.



Commencement featured several musical performances and class addresses. It concluded with the Turning of the Tassel, led by Class President **Graham Nye** and Vice President **Joey Herman**.

Earlier in the week, Hudson City Schools started a new tradition with the Senior Walk-Thru. Our graduates started at Hudson Middle School and walked the halls to cheers and applause from students and staff alike.

From there, they went through Evamere, East Woods, McDowell Early Learning, and Ellsworth Hill. Students had the opportunity to see teachers and staff they had not seen in years.

Many students also got to congratulate their older siblings, who are part of the Class of 2026. We hope to continue this tradition for years to come!

▶ [SCAN QR CODE FOR ADVICE FROM OUR CURRENT KINDERGARTEN STUDENTS TO OUR SENIORS](#)



Reading Night Under the Lights

On May 8th, students in grades PreK through 5th grade were invited to the second annual "Reading Night Under the Lights" at Memorial Stadium.



The children heard from guest readers, which included Superintendent **Dana Addis** and several Hudson High School students. They also received a free book to take home, which included tips for parents to keep students reading throughout the summer months. We want to thank our partner for the event, Hudson Community First.

State of the Schools Presented at Chamber Event

Hudson Superintendent **Dana Addis** presented a "State of the Schools" address at the Hudson Chamber of Commerce luncheon on May 14th, which took place at the Country Club of Hudson.

Addis discussed student achievement, arts, athletics, financials, safety, facilities, and communications. Hudson City Schools was ranked #18 in Ohio among 607 public school districts for the 2025-26 school year and earned a Performance Index (PI) score of 107.1. The Performance Index measures the academic achievement of all students. This data is from the Ohio achievement exams.

Harmony Performing Arts Project Phase One Underway

In March, Hudson City Schools broke ground on a new orchestra room at Hudson High School, which is Phase One of the *Harmony Performing Arts Project*. The orchestra room was originally part of the district's plans when the high school was constructed in the early 90s, but did not happen due to financial constraints. The new space is expected to be open and ready for students in January 2027.



Harmony is a \$5.5 million public-private partnership to improve the district's performing arts spaces. Phase Two will involve a complete renovation of the Hudson High School auditorium, and upgrades to the band and choir rooms. To learn more about the Harmony project and to make a donation for Phase Two, please visit the district website, under the tab Harmony or scan the QR code above.



Legally Blonde: The Musical Nominated for Four Dazzle Awards

Senior **Mira Cahalane** won **Best Supporting Actress** at the Dazzle Awards in May for her performance in the Hudson High School Drama Club's spring production of *Legally Blonde, the Musical*.

Legally Blonde was nominated for four Dazzle Awards, including Best Actor, Best Supporting Actor, and Best Orchestra. The Dazzle Awards are held at Cleveland's Playhouse Square and shine a spotlight on excellence in high school drama club productions, student thespians and crew members. This was Mira's second highly coveted Dazzle honor, as she took home Best Actress for her role in *Hadestown: Teen Edition* in Spring 2025.



Photo Credit: 421 Photo and Film

Here's a sneak peak for the 2026-27 school year: the drama club will perform *A Christmas Story* in the fall and *Frozen, The Broadway Musical* in the spring.

National Gold Key Winner

Congratulations to Hudson Senior **Annie Lawrence**, who earned a **National Gold Key** from the Scholastic Art & Writing Award Competition.



Her winning piece, titled "Friday at 10:52," was selected from thousands of entries nationwide. In fact, less than one percent of entries receive a National Gold Key in this competition.

Annie's artwork will be on display at Carnegie Hall in New York this summer.



Inaugural Hudson ArtVenture

In mid-May, our elementary art teachers held an inaugural Hudson ArtVenture at both East Woods Intermediate and McDowell Early Learning.

The event featured all kinds of artwork from our young Explorers in grades PreK through 5, from paintings to ceramics.

There was also a Chalk the Walk fundraiser to support the future of this one-of-a-kind event. This celebration highlighted the creativity, imagination, and talent of our young artists.

Fifth Graders Race Rocket Cars

On May 18th, East Woods Intermediate students had a beautiful day for the Bloodhound Rocket Car races at Memorial Stadium.

Each spring, students design and race model rocket cars to learn about energy, force, and motion. The students are divided into teams to develop their car, and choose a team name. HCTV is always on hand to broadcast the event and interview the winners. Sponsorships play a key role in the race, and we are grateful to all who made this event possible.

Back in 2017, Hudson City Schools became the first school district in the United States to formally add Bloodhound lessons to its curriculum.



Spring Athletics

Our spring sports athletes are enjoying a successful run after putting in the work in the off season. Roll Hud!!

At the time of this writing:

Girls Lacrosse

Undefeated Regular Season
Suburban League Champs

Boys Lacrosse

Suburban League Champs

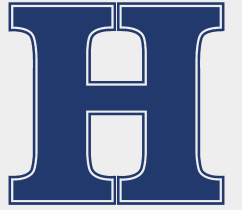
Boys Volleyball

Regional Champs

School Record Alert

Reno Ferri broke the school record in the boys 100M Dash with a time of 10.79 seconds

Makenna Bode set a new HHS record in the Pole Vault with a clearance of 12'5"



AI Exploration Day at Hudson Middle School

We all know that AI is increasingly becoming a part of our world, and a large group of our 7th and 8th grade classes at Hudson Middle School had the opportunity to learn more during the AI Exploration Day on May 8th.

Students participated in morning sessions led by industry experts to explore how AI is used in real world settings. Later in the day, they worked in teams to tackle AI Challenge Questions.

We appreciate our parents and alumni who donated their time and expertise to assist in this day of learning.



Postal Customer
Hudson, Ohio 44236

330.653.1495 www.hudson.k12.oh.us

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

Dana Addis, Superintendent
Jennifer Reece, Manager of Communications
& Alumni Outreach

Laura Jones, President
Mark Dzurec, Vice President
Jon C. Peterson
Tom Tobin
Kirstin S. Toth

HUDSON BOARD OF EDUCATION

Hudson City School District
76 N. Hayden Parkway
Hudson, Ohio 44236

Non-Profit Org.
ECRWSS
U.S. Postage
PAID
Hudson, OH
Permit No. 2

