Hudson City Schools®

HUDSON EXPLORERS CONNECT

News and Updates from the Hudson City School District

FALL 2026

Hudson High School Boasts 26 National Merit Scholars

The Hudson City School District is proud to announce the academically talented students who have been recognized as National Merit Scholars.

Eleven Hudson High School seniors earned honors as National Merit Semifinalists. They are among the top 1% of high school seniors nationwide to receive this prestigious distinction based on their PSAT scores. These students will now compete for approximately $24 million in National Merit Scholarships.



Congratulations to (Front Row) **Scarlett Benson, Skye Nguyen, Elsa Scherer, Emily Shott.** (Back Row) **Jerry Du, Seongyum Eom, Roman Kim, Spencer Shabino, David Banweg, Duy Tran, Dayson Du.**

In addition, 15 HHS Seniors have been named as National Merit Commended Scholars. This honor is bestowed upon those students who score in the top 3% to 4% nationwide based on their PSAT scores.



Congratulations to (Front Row) **Hajoo Yu, Rong Han, Evelyn Cicen, Ingrid Walters, Hannah Cho, Rowin Kotheimer & Jocelyn Vogel.** (Back Row) **Samuel Latina, Will Keenan. Elliot Myers, Yiyan Zhu, Zelin Shen, Adhav Samidurai & William Jia**. Not Pictured: **Sabrina Jones.**

Hudson City Schools Celebrates Five Stars on State Report Card

Congratulations to our staff and students on another 5-Star Rating from the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce, based on the latest state report card results, which were released in September.

Our district's Performance Index (PI) score grew from 107.1 to 108.2 this year, making us #16 in Ohio out of 607 districts. The PI score measures the overall academic achievement of every student—not just those who reach proficiency—across grades 3 through high school on the state tests.

For additional information on the state report card, visit **https://reportcard.education.ohio.gov**



Planning for the District's Financial Future

As we look ahead to the financial wellness of the district, a Permanent Improvement Fund (PIF) levy renewal will likely be on the ballot in May 2027.

A five-year limited PIF renewal means this levy will not collect additional taxes. Funding from the PIF is used for chromebooks and iPads for students and staff, technology improvements, safety and security enhancements, school buses, roofing and paving projects, and building improvements. The PIF allows us to continue providing first-rate facilities for students, staff, and the community to use year-after-year.

By Ohio law, PIF money cannot be used for daily operating expenses, such as staff salaries or classroom supplies. The PIF for Hudson City Schools has been in existence to maintain our properties since 1962. The funds generated also can only be used for property, assets, or infrastructure with an estimated useful life or lifespan of five years or more.

Harmony Project Nears Completion of Phase One; Gears up for Phase Two

The new 5,000-square-foot orchestra room at Hudson High School will be near completion next month. The building addition is Phase One of the *Harmony Performing Arts Project*. The $5.5 million project, which includes two phases, is a joint venture utilizing public and private funds.



Phase Two fundraising is now underway, and will be used for major auditorium renovations, along with upgrades to the band room and the choir room at Hudson High School.

The updates to the auditorium will include new seating, new stage and house LED lighting, and a mid-house station. The goal of the project is to create instructional and performance spaces that match the growing talents of our students as well as the needs of the community.

We extend a sincere thank you to all who have contributed thus far to this project.

HARMONY
Performing Arts Project

To learn more about the Harmony project and how you can help, please visit the district website at www.hudson.k12.oh.us and click on "Harmony."

2026 Distinguished Hall of Fame Inducted

The 2026 Hudson High School Distinguished Hall of Fame induction ceremony took place in front of friends and family the weekend of October 16th.



Photo Credit: Ken Klemencic

Seven outstanding HHS alumni received the prestigious honor for their accomplishments following graduation: **Ken Christensen** (1969)**, Allison DeVito (1999), Marybel Huston Johnson (1982), Chris Mikolay (1995), Kathy Moran Sheehan (1982), Suzie Stammer (1966), and Tom Tobin (1979)**.

The purpose of the Distinguished Alumni Hall of Fame is to recognize individual Hudson High School graduates who have distinguished themselves in their careers, positively contributed to society, or achieved significant or noteworthy success in a worthwhile endeavor.

Hudson Hosts Parade of Bands

It was a night filled with music and patriotic spirit as "The Pride of Hudson" hosted the 65th Annual Parade of Bands.

"America250: This Band Is Your Band" celebrated the semiquincentennial of our Declaration of Independence under the lights at Memorial Stadium on Saturday, October 3rd.

A pair of special performance presentations by the Hudson City Schools Band Program brought together students from grades 5-8 to perform alongside the HHS Swing Marching Band. The shows honored veteran and active duty military personnel and also thanked our incredibly brave local first responders.

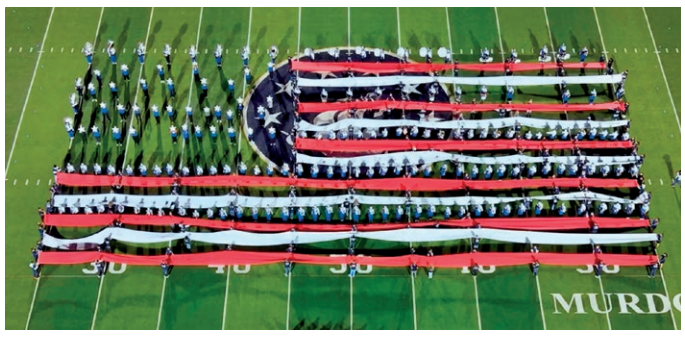


Photo Credit: Ben McRae & StoryMode Media LLC

High schools that also showcased musical talents at the beloved event: Cuyahoga Falls, Olentangy Orange, and Solon. The Hudson High School Alumni Marching Band also performed.

The "Parade of Bands" is a longstanding tradition in the Hudson community that invites marching bands to perform together for an evening of music, marching, and fun.

8th Graders Explore Nation's Capital

Our 8th grade class was up bright and early to board buses on Tuesday, October 13th for the annual trip to Washington D.C.

Students had a jam-packed schedule, which included stops at the Capitol Building, the White House, the Lincoln, FDR, & Jefferson Memorials, Marine Iwo Jima Memorial, Arlington National Cemetery, museums, and more. This is always a highlight of the year for 8th grade.



Kindergarteners Visit Davey Tree Seed Campus

There was a very special field trip for students in Mr. Shaw's classroom in September, as his kindergarteners visited the new Davey Tree Seed Campus in Kent.

Students teamed up with scientists to take a deep dive into monarch butterflies, as Davey Tree boasts a large Monarch Conservation program with experts who specifically focus on monarchs and milkweed plants.

In addition, our young Explorers studied different types of insects in the research laboratory and learned about the safety measures that go into tree climbing. The class was one of the first groups to visit this new facility.



Calling All Hudson Alumni!

Are you a graduate of Hudson High School who would like to keep in touch?

The district produces an Alumni E-Newsletter each fall and spring. There are also opportunities to speak with our students along with special events. Scan the QR code to make sure your contact information is up-to-date so you receive the latest news from the district. **Once an Explorer, always an Explorer!**

A Christmas Carol

Tickets for *A Christmas Carol* at Hudson High School are on sale now!

This Hudson community tradition features students grades 3 through 12. Performances are Thursday and Friday, November 20th and 21st, both at 7 p.m. There is also a matinee on Sunday, November 22nd at 2 p.m.

Tickets can be purchased by going to **www.cur8.com** and searching "Hudson." Both general admission and reserved seats are available.

Hudson senior citizens are invited to attend a complimentary performance of the dress rehearsal for *A Christmas Carol* on Thursday, November 19th at 5:30 p.m. A dessert reception for seniors, beginning at 4:30 p.m., will take place in the Hudson High School commons prior to the show.

We ask that you RSVP. Please use the QR code to register to attend, or email Jennifer Reece at reecej@hudson.k12.oh.us.

Fall Sports Enjoy State Bids

Hudson athletics rolling in the fall season, with both golf and tennis sending competitors to states!

It was an impressive season for boys golf, as they clinched a 5th place finish at the State Championship Tournament in Kettering in early October. Senior standout **Ben Fauver** led the team with a sixth place finish, with senior **Dexter James** also securing a spot in the top 20. A huge congratulations to the entire boys team for the hard-earned state bid — **Ben Fauver, Dexter James, Isaac Mikolay, Jerry Du and Barrett Atchinson**.

Senior star **Elena Varga** represented the girls golf team and punched her ticket to the state tournament. She battled against the state's top players and finished in 21st in the state for D1 golf.

Meanwhile, junior tennis player **Emma Liu** and freshman standout **Anna Li** both competed in the OHSAA State Championship Tournament in Mason on October 15th. Despite a strong showing, both fell short in their opening matches. **Head Coach Tim Morgan** was selected as the 2026 NFHS Tennis Coach of the Year in the state of Ohio.

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