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# DHHS Newsletter

online@www.danielhand.org

February, 2010

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## Principal's Letter

Dear Parents/Guardians:

There is no doubt that March comes in like a lion at Daniel Hand High School. For us March brings with it trimester exams and CAPT (Connecticut Academic Performance Test). CAPT is a required assessment for all grade ten students in the state of Connecticut. Unlike traditional standardized tests, it measures what students can do with what they know in authentic situations. It is a test of application of knowledge. By law, our Board of Education is required to have the CAPT as a graduation requirement. This test will be administered to sophomores on March 2, 3, 4 (state mandated dates), and 10, 11, 12, and 15 (district elected dates). To achieve our goal of providing students with an opportunity to be successful, we are coordinating the trimester exam schedule with the CAPT testing schedule. During exam periods, sophomores will take the CAPT. It is very important that students be in attendance and on time those days. We strongly recommend a good night's sleep and a healthy breakfast! Freshmen, juniors, and seniors are required to take trimester exams during the regularly scheduled exam periods March 10, 11, and 12.

We have much to be proud of here at Daniel Hand. Given the numbers of students involved in after school activities, it is difficult from an observer's point of view to tell when our day actually ends! I encourage you to enjoy the following pages highlighting student accomplishments, activities, and upcoming events.

My best regards,

*Barbara J. Britton*

Principal

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### REMI NDER

To receive important notices and updates, please sign up for the DHHS listserv at [www.danielhand.org](http://www.danielhand.org)

## DHHS Salutes...



Seniors **Zachary Glassman** and **Emily Wilkins** for being named Finalists in the 2010 Competition for National Merit Scholarships.

Members of the **Student Council Homecoming Committee**, advisor **Mr. Peter Nye**, and the **faculty chaperones** for a very successful Homecoming Dance. Despite having to be rescheduled, more than six hundred DHHS students enjoyed a great evening. The money raised will be used for the DHHS Student Council scholarship and donations to several charities.

Recently elected Student Council Officers for 2010-2011: Treasurer **Jessica Atton '11**, Secretary **Jennifer Yao '12**, Vice President **Maddie Boyington '11**, and President **Andrew Chapman '11**.

Juniors **Lindsay Balow** and **Brian Heflin** for being selected for the Rotary Youth Leadership Awards Program.

Winners of the Madison Rotary Speech Contest: **Abby Plummer '11**, **Meghan O'Sullivan '11**, **Nancy Wu '12**, **Jennifer Yao '12**.

The **Cast and Crew of *Get Smart*** and their **advisor, Mrs. Joy Weaver**, for an excellent fall production.

Seniors **Emily Jablonski** and **Timothy Forrest** for their selection as CAS-CIAC Scholar Athletes of the Year. This award goes to a graduating male and female senior who possess a cumulative grade point average of 3.5 or higher, who have participated in a CIAC sanctioned sport for at least two years, and who have exhibited outstanding school and community citizenship.

The following students for their selection to the Southern Regional

Music Festival. Chorus: **George Honorof '11** and **Sam Dickinson '10** Orchestra: **Matthew Nichols '10**, **Lucy Peng '11**, **Kathleen Wu '11**, **Sophie Zinser '12** and Band: **Eddie Barry '12**, **David Dorfman '10**, **Zachary Gardner '13**, **Keenan Hye '11**, **Matt Kostich '10**, **Tony Li-Geng '12**, **Oliver Lovejoy '10**, **Abby Plummer '11**, **Mark Sorensen '12**, **Adam Strawbridge '10**, **Daniel Tagliarini '12**, **CJ Tomasevich '11**, **Lia Tosiello '11**, and **Jennifer Yao '12**.

**DHHS Staff and Students** for donating more than sixty books to the Yale Child Study Center to be distributed to children during the holiday season.

The staff of the **Phoenix literary magazine** and their advisor, **Mrs. Claire Sullivan**. The Phoenix received a rank of Excellent in the 2009 National Council of Teachers of English Program recognizing excellence in school literary magazines.

Winners in the Connecticut Scholastics Art Competition at the Hartford Art School - **Photography: Amanda Cohen '11** Gold Award; **Painting: Kelsey Sparn '11**, **Sloane Davis '10** and **Katherine Meier '12** Honorable Mention; **Printmaking: Kathryn Minucci '10** Silver Award, **Olivia Brodbar '12** and **Elizabeth Saliba '12** Honorable Mention; and **Comic Art: Franceska Nebel '11** Gold Award.

The **Girls Soccer Team** for receiving the prestigious National Soccer Coaches Association of America/Adidas Team Academic Award for the third year for excellence in academics and an outstanding athletic season.

The **Girls Soccer, Field Hockey, Wrestling and Gymnastics teams** and their coaches for being the Southern Connecticut Conference Champions.

Coaches **Mr. Bob Faulkner** and **Mrs. Sue Leckey** for being named *New Haven Register* Coaches of the Year.

**Evan DeFrancesco '12** winner and **Sophie Zinser '12** for impressing the judges with their poetry recitations in DHHS's third annual Poetry Out Loud Contest on February 10. This contest is sponsored by the National Endowment for the Arts and was run by English teachers, **Mrs. Mia Corvino** and **Mrs. Claire Sullivan**.

## Newsy Notes

The **Engineering Design class** is in the process of building an alternative energy vehicle for a competition this spring.

The **Physical Education department** is finishing their fitness testing for all students during the second trimester. As students prepare to test during trimester three, it is recommended that all students be properly dressed in layers with hats, gloves, and scarves as they move outdoors to test for the mile run.

On February 9, 141 **honors level math students** participated in the AMC12 Competition. The AMC contests are sponsored by the Mathematical Association of America and are considered to be a valuable stimulus to student interest in mathematics. The juniors and seniors who score at the top of our school will have the opportunity to participate in the prestigious AIME competition.

**Marketing classes** took a field trip to Macy's in Manhattan in January. They had the opportunity to take a guided tour of the store with a special focus on marketing techniques.

## Opportunity Knocks

Production has begun on *Seussical*, our spring musical. This wonderful Broadway production has been adapted for our stage by director and choreographer, **Mrs. Joy Weaver**. Come out for an evening of song, dance, and entertainment on April 29, 30, and May 1.

The staff of the **literary magazine *Phoenix*** is soliciting poems, essays, and stories, as well as line art, sketches, photos, and other art work for the 2010 edition. The magazine group meets on Wednesdays in room 346 and is always looking for new ideas, new staff members, and contributions from DHHS students.



## Senior Reminders

- **Measurement for caps and gowns** will take place *March 4* during the lunch waves. All graduating seniors must be measured.
- **Class dues** should be paid *as soon as possible* in the Main Office.
- The **Senior Outing** is scheduled for *June 4* at Holiday Hill
- The **Senior Prom** will take place *June 12* at the Aqua Turf.

## Reminders for the New Year

- √ Students requesting an **early dismissal from school** must bring a note from home stating the reason for leaving school early. Notes should be presented to the attendance secretary upon arrival at school. At that time the student will be issued an early dismissal slip, which must be signed by teachers and returned to the attendance secretary before leaving school. *Parents are asked to call the attendance secretary in the morning of the dismissal to confirm the note.* Parents are also urged to request an early dismissal only in cases of pressing family business. *Seniors only* have the privilege of leaving school early after their last class of the day. **Trimester early dismissal forms for seniors** are available in the Main Office and must be signed by a parent and approved by a school administrator each trimester. For trimester 3 Juniors who meet the criteria in the DHHS Student Handbook can also apply for a daily early dismissal.
- √ First period **classes begin at 7:25 a.m.** followed by period 2 attendance at 8:34 a.m. Juniors and Seniors, who do not have scheduled first time block classes and who have their own transportation, must be in school by 8:15 a.m. Please help us by being certain that students are on time.
- √ Parents of **students who are absent** are required to call the school at 245-6355 between 7:00 and 10:00 a.m. each day the student is absent. This procedure also applies to students who will be tardy to school or who require an early dismissal.
- √ Students who are **tardy to school** must arrive at school prior to 9:00 a.m. All excused tardies must be for a valid reason and must be verified by a parent. Oversleeping is not considered a valid reason for tardiness. To be eligible to participate in an athletic or other after school activity, a student must be present for a minimum of four hours.

## CAPT Schedule

March 2  
March 3  
March 4

Interdisciplinary Writing I  
Response to Literature  
Interdisciplinary Writing II

March 10 (exam day)  
March 11 (exam day)  
March 12 (exam day)  
March 15

Math I and Editing  
Reading for Information II and Math II  
Science I and Science II  
Interdisciplinary Writing III



## APTS Awards

### Art

Freshman	<b>Taylor Ednie</b>
Sophomore	<b>Ali Castle</b>
Junior	<b>Jen Stirling</b>
Senior	<b>Felicia Martinelli</b>

### Career and Technical Education

Business	<b>Brett Taragowski</b> (gr. 12)
Family Consumer Education	<b>Georgia Loucopoulos</b> (gr. 11)
Technical Education	<b>Frank Finelli</b> (gr. 12)

### English

Freshman	<b>Tim Farmer</b>
Sophomore	<b>Max Flanagan</b>
Junior	<b>Bridget Weiler</b>
Senior	<b>Rob Hutchins</b>

### Health

Sophomore	<b>Margaret Howell</b>
Junior	<b>Adrienne Eckman</b>
Senior	<b>Sloane Davis</b>

### Math

Freshman	<b>Katherine Widman</b>
Junior	<b>Grace Graminski</b>
Senior	<b>Andriene Meyer</b>

### Music

Chorus	<b>Ian Roth</b> (gr. 12)
Orchestra	<b>Kelsey Lynch</b> (gr. 12)
Band	<b>Ian Richardson</b> (gr. 9)

### Physical Education

Freshman	<b>Ryan Gabrielle</b>
Sophomore	<b>Nate Levin</b>
Junior	<b>Kyla Martin</b>

### Science

Freshman	<b>Emma Zoeckler</b>
Sophomore	<b>Billy LeBlanc</b>
Junior	<b>Corey Sweitzer</b>
Senior	<b>Madeline Willson</b>

### Social Studies

Freshman	<b>Constantine Loucopoulos</b>
Sophomore	<b>Tyler Riccio</b>
Junior	<b>Carly Floyd</b>
Senior	<b>Jason Levine</b>

### World Language

Freshman	<b>Brian McNerney</b>
Sophomore	<b>Nicole McDonald</b>
Junior	<b>Scott Anderson</b>
Senior	<b>Corey Zachos</b>

## Host Families Needed – June 29 to July 26, 2010

The Student Travel and Exchange Program (STEP) is looking for families to host high school students from northern Spain for four weeks this summer, one student per family. Being able to speak Spanish is not a requirement. You get to choose your student once your application is completed.

Over 125 Madison families have hosted students from Spain in the past twelve years. While here the students attend advanced English/American Culture classes four mornings a week. In the afternoons they participate in a variety of fun and interesting experiences that range from tours of Yale and the Capitol in Hartford, to shopping, and visiting an amusement park. On Wednesdays the students go to New York City twice and one day to Boston. Host family members are invited and encouraged to go along on the excursions as they are able. Evenings and weekends are host family time.

Families need to provide their student with a bed (shared bedroom is fine), a bag lunch each day, carpool/transportation to class, and a typical American family experience. The students have their own spending money and medical insurance. If you would like to host a student or want more information, call Nann Cooke, at 860-510-2475 © or email: [nanncooke@comcast.net](mailto:nanncooke@comcast.net).

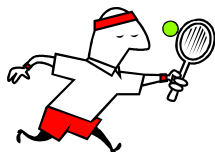
## More Newsy Notes



Students interested in opening their own businesses in the future were provided with the opportunity to hear from Daniel Hand graduates who are entrepreneurs. The panel discussion, a partnership between the Chamber of Commerce and the Career and Technology Education Department, was held on February 5. Presenters included **Mr. Ryan Duques**, founder of The Source; **Mrs. Dana Forsythe** of Hammonasset Ford, and **Mrs. Clare Dube**, founder of CMD Realty.



## Spring Sports Registration



Registration for Spring Sports at Daniel Hand High School is taking place this week, Monday-Friday, February 22-26, 2010, between the hours of 7:45 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. in the Health Office at Daniel Hand High School.

**Student-athletes registered for a Fall or Spring Sport** and whose physical exam is current and on file in the Health Office, need only complete the Athletic Registration Payment Form (see page 7). Submit it, together with a check for \$75.00 made payable to DHHS, to cover the registration fee.

Student-athletes **who are new to athletics this school year** **MUST** have the following paperwork on file in the Health Office:

Current Annual Physical	Annually
Sports Participation and Consent Form	Annually
Emergency Information Form	Annually
Code of Conduct Contract for Student-Athletes	Annually
Registration fee (\$75.00, checks made payable to DHHS)	

Forms may be downloaded from the Daniel Hand High School Website:

<http://www.danielhand.org/athletics/forms.shtml>

### **Academic Eligibility Requirements for Student-Athletes**

A student-athlete cannot, AT ANY TIME, represent the school unless he/she is enrolled in at least four courses. During the school year a student must PASS at least four courses in the trimester preceding the athletic season. No unit of work for which a student has previously received credit shall be included in those required by this rule.

### **Daniel Hand High School Student and Parent Notification of Ineligibility**

The academic success of our students is our primary purpose. Extra curricular activities, although secondary, are a very important part of our overall educational program. It is expected that all students will maintain passing grades and that they and their parents will be kept current on academic progress.

At the interim point in a trimester, if a student is receiving grades in the D and F range, his / her guidance counselor will contact the student and his/her parents for discussion on strategies for academic improvement.

At the interim point in a trimester the athletic director will be notified of student-athletes whose grades are in the D and F range, which may lead to academic ineligibility. The athletic director and coach will contact the student in an effort to support and encourage the student in making strides to improve his/her academic standing.

Prior to report card distribution, student-athletes' grades will be reviewed by guidance and the athletic director. Those students who are deemed academically ineligible will be notified in a meeting with their parents, the director of guidance, and athletic director. A proposal will be developed to put in place supports for academic improvement, and the athletic director will work with the student in developing a plan whereby the student can still feel connected to the athletic community.

## Nurse's Notes

**The flu season is upon us.** Please remember that hand washing is one of the most important means of preventing the spread of infection. For more information, please check the website for the Centers for Disease Control, [www.cdc.gov/flu](http://www.cdc.gov/flu).

As mandated by the State of Connecticut, the Health Office staff conducted **vision screening** for ninth grade students and **hearing screening** for tenth grade students. Parents of ninth grade students will be notified regarding **scoliosis screening** which will be conducted before the end of the 2009-2010 school year.

Connecticut State law requires each student in grade 10 to have a physical examination (PE) by a physician, APRN, DO, or PA. All areas that are noted with an asterick (\*) must be completed by the provider. Hemoglobin or Hematocrit is required. **Tenth grade physical examinations are due before entry to the eleventh grade.** Forms are available in the DHHS Health Office and your provider's office. If you have any questions, please call the Health Office at 245-6370 and speak to Mrs. Donna Konarski, RN or Ms. Karin Thelin, Health Paraprofessional.



# Mark Your Calendar

## February

22-26	Spring Sports Registration, Health Office	7:45 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
22-26	Sophomore Parent Guidance Meeting	7:30 a.m.-8:45 a.m.
23	Board of Education Meeting, Town Campus	7:30 p.m.
26	Showboat, DAH	7:30 p.m.

## March

2	Board of Education, Town Campus	7:30 p.m.
2-4	<b>CAPT Testing</b>	
4	Cap and Gown Measuring for Seniors	Lunch waves
10-12	<b>Second Trimester Exams</b>	
10-15	<b>CAPT Testing</b>	
12	Teacher Talent Show Sponsored by The Environmental Club, DAH	6:30 p.m.
13	SAT Testing	
15	<b>Last Day of Second Trimester</b>	
16	Board of Education, Town Campus	7:30 p.m.
16	<b>Third Trimester begins</b>	
19/20	CDA Festival, Greenwich High School	
30	Blood Drive	7:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

## April

2	<b>Good Friday - NO SCHOOL</b>	
6	APTS, Guidance Career Center	8:00 a.m.
6	Board of Education, Town Campus	7:30 p.m.
6	Nite-In-Hand Auction, DAH	7:00 p.m.
10	Honors Breakfast, Students only	9:15 a.m.
12-16	<b>April Break</b>	
27	Board of Education, Town Campus	7:30 p.m.
29-5/1	Spring Musical, <i>Seussical</i> , DAH	7:30 p.m.
5/1	Spring Musical, <i>Seussical</i> , DAH	2:00 p.m.



## DHHS Mission Statement

*Our primary purpose is to graduate successful life-long learners who are responsible citizens in the global community. Daniel Hand High School students, in collaboration with educators, parents, and the Madison community, will develop as motivated, self-reliant, creative, and ethical individuals who respect differences in others.*



## Traffic Tips

- **Pick up and drop off students in the rear of the West Building (gymnasium)**
- **Plan to arrive before 7:10 a.m.**
- **Plan to pick up after 2:10 p.m.**

*Please drive slowly at all times while entering and leaving the Polson/DHHS campus and stay alert for the many pedestrians and cyclists.*

## From the LMC

The Daniel Hand Library Media Center has had a great year so far! We have welcomed a new library paraprofessional and former volunteer to the LMC, **Mrs. Debbie Gilbert**. She has been a great addition to the library. Her easy going attitude and sense of humor make her a great addition to the staff.

In addition, we've had a visit from the author of *King Dork*, Frank Portman, who spoke to some creative writing classes. Look for Mr. Portman's new book, *Andromeda Klein* on the 2010 Summer Reading List. Both of his books are part of the library's ever-growing collection. The college resource area of the library also continues to grow. The library has built an awesome collection of the popular *College Prowler* books which examine different colleges from the students' perspectives. The DHHS LMC has over 100 books in the series and continues to expand.

On the technology side of things, the LMC is making a seamless adjustment to our new automation system, **Destiny**. The web-based catalog can be accessed from anywhere in the district and is a vast improvement over the older Athena system. The LMC is also happy to announce the arrival of brand new computers on the LMC floor. They will be the first in the district to be running on the Windows 7 operating system.

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MADISON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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DANIEL HAND HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC REGISTRATION /  
PAYMENT FORM

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DATE: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

STUDENT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

SEASON:

Winter    Spring

SPORT: \_\_\_\_\_

I confirm that the information provided on the Emergency Information Form and the Sports Participation and Consent Form submitted at the beginning of the school year remains the same.

PARENT / GUARDIAN NAME (print): \_\_\_\_\_

PARENT / GUARDIAN SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

CHECK #: \_\_\_\_\_      AMOUNT: \_\_\_\_\_

*The athletic registration fee check, in the amount of \$75.00, should be turned in with this registration form. Please make note of the student's first name and sport in the memo section of the check.*

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For Office Use Only

Physical will expire before the end of the season      Yes      No

Impact Test Taken      Yes      No