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# DHHS Newsletter

online@www.danielhand.org

March, 2006

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## Principal's Letter

Dear Parents:

Third trimester literally blew in, in true March form. I shivered as I watched our spring athletes take to the fields.

We have just completed another successful trimester. Our students have proven themselves successful in academics, athletics, and the arts. Please see the DHHS Salutes section of this newsletter for specific recognitions.

The Connecticut Academic Performance Test, which was administered during the first two full weeks in March, engaged sophomores in approximately eight hours of testing in the areas of math, science, reading, and writing. The results of the test will show how students are achieving compared to the expectations for all grade ten students in the state. Beginning with the class of 2006, the law requires that results from the CAPT must be considered when assessing whether students have the basic skills necessary for graduation. The sophomore class is to be commended for the seriousness with which they took the test.

At the completion of CAPT, sophomores were given a workshop by Officer O'Conner from the Madison Police Department on Internet safety. The goal, through real life examples, was to caution students about the dangers of conveying personal information and responding to unknown persons through internet services.

The site myspace.com continues to be of concern nationwide and for us as a school community. We encourage you to be aware of your child's internet usage. Although we do not actively patrol these websites, if we are made aware of improprieties on the part of our students, we do notify parents. The safety and well being of our students is of paramount concern to us.

As the warm weather approaches, we once again battle with fashion designers and marketers. We ask for your assistance in monitoring and assuring that student dress is appropriate for the learning environment. It is uncomfortable for us and embarrassing to them when inappropriate

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## Principal's Letter

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dress is of concern and results in a phone call home. The dress code can be located on page 9 of *The Handbook for Students and Parents*.

This year's senior class is having another outstanding year of college acceptances. Please remind your child to inform his/her school counselor of acceptances. In many instances colleges do not notify us until June.

No time for us to rest, here comes the class of 2007! The Junior College Workshop is scheduled for Wednesday, April 5, in the Dining and Assembly Hall. The college search process will be discussed and a college planning guide will be distributed.

Spring trimester is a complement of continued focus on the importance of academics and the excitement of end-of-year activities. Please check our website for updated information on all end of year activities from awards ceremonies to graduation.

Thank you for the support that you give us. We consider ourselves fortunate to welcome students who are eager and ready to learn everyday.

Sincerely,

Barbara Britton  
Principal

*As members of the Daniel Hand High School community, our primary purpose is to graduate successful life-long learners who are responsible citizens of the global community. We believe all students can learn, discover, develop, and realize their talents. We can best accomplish our mission in an environment that is supportive, structured, challenging and secure. With the collaborative efforts of students, educators, parents, and the Madison community, Daniel Hand High School students will mature as motivated, self-reliant, and ethical individuals who respect learning and appreciate differences in others.*

*(DHHS Mission Statement)*

## Senior Auction

April 4, 2006

7:00-10:00 p.m.

Dining & Assembly Hall

*to benefit Nite-in-Hand  
Substance Free  
Graduation Party*

### Seniors

Start thinking about jobs you want to auction off to parents. This is Nite-in Hand's largest fundraiser.

### Parents

Get unwanted spring chores done by volunteering seniors. Clear your calendar, bring your checkbook, support our seniors.

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## Prom Planning . . .

We have been reminded by the State Department of Transportation that in order to legally do business in Connecticut, limousine operators and their vehicles must be inspected and registered at the Connecticut Department of Motor Vehicles.

Please be certain if your student will be traveling by limousine to a prom, that they hire only operators who are properly registered. To check on the status of any limousine company please contact the Regulatory and Compliance Unit at (860) 594-2868.

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## DHHS Salutes . . .

**Emily Barrios** '06 for being named a National Merit Scholarship Finalist in the 2006 Competition for Merit Scholarship Awards.

**DHHS student athletes, coaches, and the athletic department staff** for our First Place finish among Class MM schools in the Michaels Cup Competition for excellence in athletic programs. Schools are evaluated according to the following criteria: win/loss record, level of student participation, support of student athletes in the areas of scholarship, sportsmanship, substance abuse prevention, and health education.

Seniors **Amy Detmer** and **Eric Cantey** who were honored for their scholarship and leadership at the Southern Connecticut Conference Scholar Leader Dinner at Anthony's Ocean View.

New Student Council Officers: President **Shirin Karimi** '07, Vice President **Zoe Miller-Vedam** '07, Secretary **Rachel Niemiec** '08, and Treasurer **Brittany Londa** '07 on their new positions.

**Kevin Filippone** '06 for being selected by the Gene Casey-New Haven County Chapter of the National Football Foundation and College Hall of Fame as one of their Scholar-Athletes. Area Scholar-Athletes will be honored at a banquet in April.

**William Dickinson** '08, **Tom Sikes** '07, **Tess Coffey** '08, **John Michael Parker** '06, and **Libby Trainer** '06 for their selection to All-State Band and **Leandra Mosca** '07 for her selection to All-State Orchestra.

**Kelvin Castillo** '07 and **Kate Saltzman** '07 who were selected for the spring Rotary Youth Leadership Awards.

Kelvin and Kate attended a leadership seminar sponsored by the Madison Rotary Club.

**The DHHS Show Choir** for receiving the gold medal for Best Choreography, Best Female Soloist (**Ashley Mirando** '07), and Best Male Soloist (**Will Leet** '09) at the Annual Nutmeg Show Choir Festival in Windsor Locks in March. They competed against eleven other schools from New England and Canada.

**Kristen Heide** '06, Female Student-Athlete of the Year, and **Kevin Filippone** '06, Male Student-Athlete of the Year. They will be honored at a banquet hosted by the Connecticut Association of Schools CIAC.

**Mrs. Patricia McCahill** for being chosen Connecticut High School Coaches Association Coach of the Year and **Mr. Steve Filippone** for being chosen Connecticut Sports Writers' Association Coach of the Year.

Seniors **Heather Gilmore** and **Kim Simonsen** for being selected for the National Gymnastics Team.

**David Clyde** '07 for his selection as one of thirty Governor's Scholars of Connecticut for 2006. David was selected from over 120 of the top juniors in Connecticut's high schools and will be honored at a luncheon in May.

Our State Championship teams, **Boys' Ice Hockey** and **Girls' Gymnastics**, our SCC Championship **Wrestling** team, our Hammonasset Division Championship **Boys Indoor Track** team, and **all of our winter sports teams and their coaches** for a fantastic season.

The Varsity Math Team comprised of **Charlie Tian** '06, **Eugene Yao** '06, **David**

**Clyde** '07, **Alicia Johnson** '07, **Marcus Shak** '08, **Kendra Gedney** '07, **Joe Liang** '08, **Amanda Rawstern** '08, **Justin Beaty** '06 and their coach **Mrs. Maureen Brown** for earning first place overall in the Greater Middlesex County Mathematics League competitions. David Clyde was overall high scorer for the juniors, Charlie Tian took fourth place in the senior division.

Juniors **Max Calfo**, **Nich Gonsalves**, **Alex Taubes**, **John Zhang** and their advisor **Mrs. Laura Bomke** for winning the state competition for the Academic WorldQuest in February. They competed against eighteen schools. The team will go to Washington, DC in April to compete in the National Academic WorldQuest Championship.

**Neil Mammele** '08 for participating in the Swim Across American's Long Island Sound in Larchmont, NY. Neil swam as part of a team in memory of his Grandmother and raised over \$2,390.

The Cast and Crew who made the Connecticut Drama Association Annual Festival a success. **Sean O'Connor** '06 was awarded one of the Connecticut Outstanding Actor awards, **Chris Steines** '07 was recognized for being the technical director of the entire festival, and **Laura Boyle** '06 received the Outstanding Student Director Award.

The staff and **Mrs. Claire Sullivan**, advisor, of the 2005 Phoenix literary magazine for their rank of "Excellent" in the National Council of Teachers of English Program to Recognize Excellence in Student Literary Magazines.

## Second Trimester APTS Recognition Award Recipients

### Art

Freshman	<b>Hannah Honorof</b>
Sophomore	<b>Amanda Risner</b>
Junior	<b>Joe Brink</b>
Senior	<b>Meg Stirling</b>

### Career and Technical Education

Business	<b>Herschel Wolff</b>
Family Consumer Science	<b>Lauren Corniello</b>
TV Production	<b>Michael Farrell</b>
Transportation Systems	<b>Mike Cianfaglione</b>
Matherials Processing	<b>Adam Hubbard</b>
Construction Systems	<b>Nate Landon</b>
CAD	<b>Rianna DiBartolo</b>
Advanced Power and Energy	<b>Jeff Rufin</b>

### English

Freshman	<b>Kyle Shook</b>
Sophomore	<b>Mike Makara</b>
Junior	<b>Michelle Robles</b>
Senior	<b>Tracy Kyttle</b>

### Math

Freshman	<b>Sean Nestor</b>
Sophomore	<b>Kirsten Jerzyk</b>
Junior	<b>Chelsey Morin</b>
Senior	<b>Dan Morosan</b>

### Health

Sophomore	<b>Jeff McKinnon</b>
Junior	<b>Alex Duda</b>
Senior	<b>Louisa Lauher</b>

### Music

Chorus	<b>Rory Dion</b>
Orchestra	<b>Mairin Brunt</b>
Band	<b>Michael Davis-Penta</b>

### Physical Education

Freshman	<b>Sarah Scott</b>
Sophomore	<b>Sam Wood</b>
Junior	<b>Wendy Blair</b>

### Science

Freshman	<b>Nate Beatty</b>
Sophomore	<b>Laura Twohig</b>
Junior	<b>Alexandra DeVecchio</b>
Senior	<b>Libby Trainer</b>

### Social Studies

Freshman	<b>Abbey Anders</b>
Sophomore	<b>Jessica Ruiz</b>
Junior	<b>Brittany Londa</b>
Senior	<b>Andrea Nadeau</b>

### World Language

Freshman	<b>Max Lecar</b>
Sophomore	<b>Brittany Badik</b>
Junior	<b>Tom Sikes</b>
Senior	<b>Sam Edandison</b>

## Spring Sports

Spring sports schedules  
are available  
on the internet at

[www.danielhand.org](http://www.danielhand.org)

Go to Athletics  
and then to Schedules

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For daily updates  
on fields and times of  
sporting events . . .

simply dial into our  
voice mail system  
245-6475  
then dial the mail box #  
6367

## Public School Choices

Over the last ten years the State of Connecticut has expanded the range of public schools available to students and parents. In addition to our local high school, there are other options available, such as charter schools, magnet schools, vocational agriculture centers, vocational technical high schools, and public schools in nearby districts through the Open Choice program. Informational booklets are available in our Guidance Office for those parents and students interested in learning more about these options.



## Mark Your Calendar

### March

- 29 **Distribution of Report Cards**  
 30-31 **Spring Musical, *Footloose*, D&A Hall** 7:30 p.m.

### April

- 1 **Spring Musical, *Footloose*, D&A Hall** 7:30 p.m.  
 3 APTS Meeting, LMC 7:00 p.m.  
 4 Blood Drive  
 Board of Education Meeting, Town Campus 7:30 p.m.  
 Senior Auction, D&A Hall 7:00 p.m.  
 5 Junior College Workshop, D&A Hall 7:00 p.m.  
 10-14 **Spring Recess - No School**  
 18 Board of Education Meeting, Town Campus 7:30 p.m.  
 20 **Honors Breakfast, Students Only** Period 2  
 25 **Town Budget Hearing, Polson Middle School** 7:30 p.m.  
 28 Showboat, D&A Hall 7:30 p.m.

### May

- 1 Third Trimester Interims  
 2 APTS Meeting, LMC 7:00 p.m.  
 Board of Education Meeting, Town Campus 7:30 p.m.  
 3 Team Up Night, D&A Hall 7:00 p.m.  
 6 SAT Testing  
 Junior Prom, D&A Hall 7:30 p.m.-11:00 p.m.  
 10 **Art Show Reception** 7:00 p.m.  
**Symphonic Band Concert, D&A Hall** 7:30 p.m.  
 11 **Choral Concert, D&A Hall** 7:30 p.m.  
 16 Board of Education Meeting, Town Campus 7:00 p.m.  
 17 **Orchestra Concert, D&A Hall** 7:30 p.m.  
 23 **Budget Referendum (Tentative)**  
 29 **Memorial Day-No School**

## Important Dates for Seniors

<b>June 3</b>	<b><i>Senior Prom</i></b>
<b>June 5</b>	<b><i>Senior Outing</i></b>
<b>June 12, 13, 14, 15</b>	<b><i>Senior Exams</i></b>
<b>June 15</b>	<b><i>Senior Awards</i></b>
<b>June 21</b>	<b><i>Graduation</i></b>

Please make certain that senior dues and cap and gown fee are paid. The check should be made out to Daniel Hand High School and given to Judy Conroy in the main office. Financial assistance is available.

## Nurse's Notes

### Attention Parents of Sophomores:

Madison Board of Education policy and Connecticut State law, Section 10-206-C, require a physical examination for all students in Grade 10. Examinations must be completed between June 1, 2005 and the remainder of the tenth grade 2005/06 school year and submitted on the state issued blue Health Assessment Record (HAR-3) to the school nurse. The blue Health Assessment Record can be obtained from the school nurse's office and must be received by the school nurse in order for the student to enter grade 11 in school year 2006/2007. If the assessment is not forwarded to the school before the following school year begins in September, 2006, the student will not be permitted to enter the eleventh grade.

### Attention Parents of Athletes:

Students enrolled in school sports are required to have *yearly* physical examinations. The student must submit the completed Seasonal Sports Participation Health Record/ Consent to the school nurse prior to participation. The health forms can be obtained from the school nurse's office and online at [www.madison.k12.ct.us](http://www.madison.k12.ct.us). (Click on Health Services under Department tab, then Forms).

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## Newsy Notes

Mr. Connor's Art and Video classes and Mr. Arsenault's TV Production classes are hosting the first **Student Film Night** on the big screen, with stadium seating, on the DHHS stage on Thursday, April 20, from 7:00-9:30 p.m. Selections of student films/documentaries will be shown.

The Physical Education classes participated in the **Presidential Fitness Challenge** and the **Connecticut Physical Fitness Assessment Test** during March.

The Student Council will be sponsoring "**Daffodil Days**", an American Cancer Society Fundraiser, in April.

Students enrolled in Marketing and Personal Finance classes will be attending a one day **trip to New York City** on March 30 to study the behind the scenes operations of Macy's Department Store. Students will not only have a tour of the store, but they will also learn about merchandise placement, marketing techniques, visual statements, and the day-to-day financial operations of the world's largest store. Students will be accompanied by Mrs. Drew, Mrs. Valentin, and Mr. Schultz of the Business Department.

This winter Señora Wendt's and Señora Girald's Spanish classes attended a wonderful **Mexican feast** at Su Casa Mexican restaurant in Branford. The students enjoyed a variety of dishes from tacos to enchiladas and rice with beans. The students enjoyed each other's company speaking Spanish and bringing to life what they have learned in their classes. Students had just completed a unit on Spanish, Mexican, and Latin American foods and this field trip brought the lessons to life.

## Nite-In-Hand

Graduation is approaching and so is Nite-In-Hand, the annual all-night graduation party sponsored by the DHHS parent body, and the Madison community. It is a safe, substance-free event. Now, an eighteen year old tradition, graduates look forward to returning to DHHS after family celebrations to unveil the year's theme, which true to tradition, is kept secret until graduation night. Upon arrival, valet parking greets the graduates and car keys are taken. The school has been transformed into another place, another time, and a theme (not to be mentioned) that has everyone smiling as they reflect on the creative talent that abounds in this community. Games, music, activities, prizes galore, and food keep everyone well entertained. Historically, Nite-In-Hand has been such a popular night that 97% attendance is the norm.

Volunteers are warmly invited and encouraged to become involved with the planning/decorating of this event. It's a lot of fun for all. The decorating committee meets every Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday evening from 6:00-9:00 p.m. Additional times will be added and posted on-site. The working location is the St. Margaret's warehouse (across from Lynch's restaurant). Please contact the volunteer coordinators Ellen Paternoster (421-5977) or Carol Gordon (245-8001).

Visit the  
Madison Public Schools  
website at  
[www.madison.k12.ct.us](http://www.madison.k12.ct.us)

## APTS

The next APTS meeting will be Monday, April 3, at 7:00 p.m. in the DHHS Library Media Center. To further introduce our school staff, Michael Rollinson, Security Specialist/Student Advisor will be our guest. Barbara Britton, Fran Thompson, and Dan Zittoun will also keep us up-to-date on the events at DHHS.

Anyone interested in becoming the president (or shared co-presidents) of APTS 2006-07, please call Barbara Britton or Nancy Gerson, APTS President 2005-06 at 421-8446 for more information.

## Nite-in-Hand Bracelet Fundraiser

Order your "Nite-in-Hand" bracelets today. Choose from two styles in sterling silver and 22K vermeil. Have fun personalizing it for your graduate with a jersey number or graduating year or both. Each comes with a sterling Tiger paw charm. Charms representing your student's college choice can be added.

**100% of the profit goes to Nite-In-Hand.**

Drop by Perlina at 673 Boston Post Road and order yours soon!