
DHHS Newsletter

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June, 2006

In this issue

- ◆ *APTS*
- ◆ *Final Exam Schedule*
- ◆ *Newsy Notes*
- ◆ *Year End Activities*
- ◆ *06-07 Calendar*



A Message from the Principal

Dear Parents/Guardians:

As we reflect over this past year, we are very proud of the growth and accomplishments of our students. They have demonstrated successes in academics as noted by CAPT scores, their numbers on the honor roll, SAT and AP scores, and seniors receiving acceptance into colleges of choice.

Our elective programs have provided our students with opportunities to take courses exploring areas and realizing talents and interests not imagined before. Music plays a major role in the lives of a large number of our students. Approximately 600 students make up our instrumental and vocal music programs. Our recent art show highlighted the many talents of our students in the areas of painting, drawing, and pottery. Many thanks go to our culinary students who provided meals to guests over this past year. Sheds, boats, and metals boxes are not uncommon displays in technology education, and our students excel in the areas of business and computer applications. The performances of *Auntie Mame* and *Footloose* were amazing! And I have only scratched the surface of noteworthy accomplishments in these areas.

Our athletic program has taken our student athletes to numerous state championships. However, what is of most significance is our being the recipient of the prestigious Michael's Cup. This award is given annually, in recognition of students' successes on the fields, courts, or rinks, the number of students involved in play, and scholarship.

I cannot conclude my review of this past year without recognizing the recent loss of one of our former students. This was truly devastating to us all. The outpouring of sympathy, compassion, and support demonstrated by students, faculty, and staff towards each other these past few weeks was heartfelt.

Learning is a life long process, and I am ever grateful to be in a position where I can say that the relationships I have developed with students over the year has helped me to become a wiser person.

In closing I wish you all a relaxing and fullfilled summer.

Sincerely,

Barbara J. Britton
Principal

DHHS Salutes . . .

David Clyde '07, Li Tian '06, Alex Taubes '07, David Howell '06, Ashley Flanders '06, Alicia Johnson '07, Nikathan Kumar '06, Elizabeth Langevin '06, and John Michael Parker '06 for their participation in the American Mathematics Competitions and for qualifying for the "AIME", American Invitational Exam, by earning a score of at least 100. **David Clyde** has been named the school winner with a final score of 209.5. This is the highest score achieved by a DHHS student during our almost twenty years of participation. David's score places him within one question of competing in the Math Olympiad and trying out for the U.S. team which competes internationally.

Mr. Bob Schultz, Golf Coach, for reaching a milestone this season with his 500th win. This is Bob's 43rd season as Daniel Hand High School's golf coach.

Emily Barrios '06 for being selected as a winner of a National Merit Scholarship.

Mr. John Gaskell's horticulture class for growing lots of tomato plants that will be distributed at the Old Lyme Food Bank before the end of the school year. Families go to the Old Lyme Food Bank to receive groceries. This project will provide these families with the ability to grow some of their own food.

Mr. Bill Nelson for recently receiving a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to attend one of that organization's Landmarks of American History summer institutes for teachers. At the end of June he will join a group of about forty other educators from around the country for a week-long program in Tennessee entitled, "The Hermitage, Andrew Jackson, and America, 1801-1860." Noted scholars will host workshops and field studies in order to examine such topics as the expansion of democracy, the cotton economy and slavery, and relations with Native Americans during this turbulent period.

Mr. Stephen Sekula for being selected as a winner of a UConn Early College Experience Excellence Award. Mr. Sekula was honored at a dinner for his contributions to the University of Connecticut through academic advising and instruction.

Senior **Jamerlyn Brown** for being recognized by the Alliance Française as an excellent French student in the last level of language study. She will be recognized by the Alliance at a luncheon in New Haven.

The High School Bowl Team consisting of senior captains **Eugene Yao** and **Li Tian**, juniors **Nick Gonsalves, Alex Taubes, Max Calfo, John Zhang, Jack Betz**, sophomores **Marcus Shak, Amanda Rawstern, Layan Fuleihan, Jake Trupin**, and freshmen **Ruiqi Li, Chase Bastian, Joe Liang, and Wills Branches** for their undefeated season and for making it to the semi-finals.

Artsy Notes

DHHS art students have participated in a number of art shows this spring. *Future Choices*, which is sponsored by the Shoreline Arts Alliance (SAA), was held at Lyme Academy in March. First place in drawing was awarded to **Kate Proulx '06**. Second place in mixed media was given to **Kailey Brown '06** and second place in painting was awarded to **Chelsea (Clio) Newton '07**. **Chelsea Newton** received a scholarship award for her portfolio and **Kate Proulx** won honorable mention for her portfolio. Examples of both Chelsea's and Kate's work were displayed at the SAA Showcase in May. In addition, **Halie Sabatasso '06** won the Wall Street Gallery award for her print and **Joey Brink '07** won the Mary Lou Fischer award for his photo.

At the statewide *Seniors Only* show sponsored by the Women's Club senior **Kendall Falk** won an award for her animation drawing and **Kate Proulx** won for her computer graphic design.

In the *John Slade Ely House* show in New Haven in April, **Kate Proulx** won a portfolio award.

The *DHHS Annual Art Show* was held from May 10-25. Ten local artists served as jurors. Winners for Senior Fine Art Portfolios are **Anjelica Riccio** for Best in Show; **Kate Proulx**, first place; **Jillian Sandrey**, second place; **Kailey Brown**, third place. **Jenn Basler** received first place for her Senior Ceramics Portfolio. Senior Photography Portfolio winners are **Courtney Lynch**, first place; **Sean Nielsen**, second place; **Michael Caserta**, third place. Junior Fine Art Portfolios winners are **Chelsea Newton**, first place; **Emily Lubanko**, second place; **Caitlin Armitage**, third place.

A sample of the senior portfolios is currently on exhibit at People's Bank in the center of town. Please stop by and view their work. Congratulations to all the winners!

Mark Your Calendar

In the Good Old Summertime....

Summer Reading

Summer Reading Lists will be available on-line to all students soon (www.madison.k12.ct.us). A limited number of hard copies will be available in school. They will also be available at the Scranton Library, at R. J. Julia and on their website (rjulia.com). There is required reading for all grade levels at DHHS, as well as many suggested titles for leisure reading. Enjoy!

Summer Program

Registration for Madison Public Schools Summer Program, "Brainwaves", is underway. Many new courses are being offered this year. Please note that availability is on a first-come, first-served basis. Course details along with registration and medical forms are available on the website at www.madison.k12.ct.us or for more information, please call 245-6300.

June

3	Senior Prom, Aqua Turf	7:00 p.m.-12:00 a.m.
5	Senior Assembly, Gym	8:00 a.m.
	Underclass Awards , D&A Hall	8:15 a.m.
	Senior Outing, Holiday Hill	9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
	APTS Meeting, LMC	7:00 p.m.
6	Board of Education Meeting DHHS, Room 519	7:30 p.m.
8	Night of Songs, D&A Hall	7:30 p.m.
12	Senior Locker Clean-Up	
	Student Film Night, Stage	7:00-9:00 p.m.
12, 13	Senior Exams During Classes (Career and Tech. Ed., Art, World Lang., Music)	
13	Last day regular classes for Seniors	
14	Junior Locker Clean-Up	
14	Senior Exams-Social Studies, English	7:30-11:00 a.m.
15	Sophomore/Freshman Locker Clean-Up	
15	Last Day Third Trimester	
15	Senior Exams-Math, Science	7:30-11:00 a.m.
15	Senior Awards , D&A Hall	7:00 p.m.
16-20	Underclass Exams (see schedule p. 4)	
16	Senior Make-Up Exams	
19	Graduation Rehearsal, Gym	10:30 a.m.
20	Senior Meeting, D&A Hall	8:00 a.m.
	Senior Brunch, Amarantes	9:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
	Graduation Rehearsal Church House Lawn	1:00 p.m.
21	Last Day of School (shortened sch.)	7:25 a.m.-11:55 p.m.
	Make-Up Exams	
	Graduation Rehearsal Church House Lawn	1:00 p.m.
	Graduation Ceremony	6:00 p.m.
	Church House Lawn (Rain or Shine)	
	Nite-in-Hand	10:00 p.m.

Host Families Needed - June 30 to July 28

The Student and Travel Exchange Program (STEP) is looking for twenty-three families to host high school students from Spain for four weeks this summer, one student per family. Being able to speak Spanish is not a requirement.

While here, the students will attend advanced English classes held in Guilford four mornings each week. In the afternoons they will participate in a variety of fun and interesting experiences. On the fifth weekday the students go on an all-day excursion. Host family members are invited to go along on the excursions as they are able. Families need to provide their student with a bed (shared bedroom is fine), a bag lunch each day, and a typical American family experience. The students have their own spending money and medical insurance.

Call Nann Cooke at 245-6381 or 860 664-9867 if you would like to host a student or want more information.

Final Exam Schedule for Freshmen, Sophomores, and Juniors*

June 16	7:45 a.m.-9:45 a.m. 1st period class exam
	10:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m. 2nd period class exam
June 19	7:45 a.m.-9:45 a.m. 3/4th period class exam
	10:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m. 5/6th period class exam
June 20	7:45 a.m.-9:45 a.m. 7/8th period class exam
	10:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m. 9th period class exam
June 21	Abbreviated periods Student/teacher conferences Make up exams Dismissal at 12:00 p.m.



Senior Functions

June 3	Senior Prom , Aqua Turf - 7:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m.
June 5	Senior Assembly , Gym - 8:00 a.m.
	Senior Outing , Holiday Hill, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
June 12	Senior Locker Clean-up
June 12 & 13	Senior Exams* during classes Career and Tech. Ed., World Languages, Music, Art
June 13	Last Day of Regular Classes for Seniors
June 14	Senior Exams* Social Studies 7:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. English 9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
June 15	Senior Exams* Math 7:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. Science 9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
	Senior Awards Night , Dining & Assembly Hall - 7:00 p.m. <i>All seniors are invited to attend</i>
June 16	Senior Make-up Exams for excused absences Senior obligations due at 2:00 p.m.
June 19	Graduation Rehearsal , Gym - 10:30 a.m. <i>Attendance mandatory</i>
June 20	Senior Assembly , Dining & Assembly Hall - 8:00 a.m.
	Senior Brunch , Amarante's - 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
	Graduation Rehearsal , Church House Lawn - 1:00 p.m. <i>Attendance mandatory</i>
June 21	Graduation Rehearsal , Church House Lawn - 1:00 p.m. <i>Attendance mandatory</i>
	Graduation Ceremony , Church House Lawn - 6:00 p.m. <i>Rain or Shine</i>
	Nite-In-Hand , Daniel Hand High School - 10:00 p.m.

**All students are expected to take final exams at the scheduled time. Any requests for exceptions must be submitted in writing to the Principal by a parent or guardian prior to June 1.*

Newsy Notes

Madame Gill's French V class recently had lunch at Le Restaurant du Village in Chester as a culminating activity. As part of their final project they have been presenting various recipes from different parts of the French-speaking world. Our French exchange teacher, Guilhelm Fraysee, joined them for the luncheon.

In May ten members of the **DHHS Diversity Club** along with their advisors attended a prejudice reduction conference entitled, "Celebrating Abilities, Broadening the Mind" at Quinnipiac University. Students **Emily Barrios '06, Katie Baumgartel '08, Alexandra DelVecchio '07, Ryan Hansen '07, Nathaniel Kochakian '07, Caitlin McMahon '06, Zoe Miller-Vedam '07, Danny Peacock '07, Kim Penna '08, and Hannah Simkins '07** along with teachers **Ms. Victoria Crompton** and **Mr. Peter Nye** heard two nationally recognized keynote presenters and then had the opportunity to attend two workshops on topics such as "Prejudice Reduction through Humor", "Myths that Haunt Manhood or Womanhood", or "Overcoming Obstacles and Winning the Game of Life".

The **Physical Education Department** has completed the final trimester testing for both the Presidential Fitness Test and the Connecticut Physical Fitness Assessment. Results of each test will be sent home. Parents can compare their daughter's or son's scores with the state and national standards.

Registration for Fall Sports

Registration for Fall Sports at Daniel Hand High School and Walter C. Polson Middle School will be held August 21-23, 2006, from 9:00 am – 12:30 pm in the Nurse's Office at Daniel Hand High School. Any student wishing to participate in fall sports must have the required paperwork on file in the nurse's office:

Current annual physical	DHHS/WCPMS
Seasonal Sports Participation and Consent Form	DHHS/WCPMS
Athletic Emergency Information Sheet	DHHS/WCPMS
Code of Conduct	DHHS
Parental Waiver/Release of Information	DHHS
Payment in the amount of \$75.00 made payable to DHHS, or \$50.00 made payable to W.C. Polson Middle School.	

Forms may be downloaded from the Daniel Hand High School website, www.danielhand.org, or can be picked up from the Nurse's Office or the Athletics Office at DHHS.

Debate Update

Members of the Daniel Hand High School Debate Team had a very successful 2005-2006 competition season. In October two teams consisting of **Alex Taubes '07, Cullen Murphy '07, Shomik Ghosh '08, Vlad Vladescu '08** competed in a statewide policy debate sponsored by the Connecticut Consortium for Law and Citizenship Education (CCLCE). Shomik and Vlad made it to the semi-final round that took place in Hartford in October.

Starting in November, the entire Hand Debate Team consisting of: **Mary Altonji '08, Cindy Luo '08, Chase Bastian '09, Mike Clark-Polner '09, Isaac Ellman '08, Nick Gonsalves '07, Max Lecar '09, Matt Zwilling '08, Mary Lorenz '06, Alex Taubes, Cullen Murphy, Shomik Ghosh, and Vlad Vladescu** participated in six debate tournaments throughout the year as a part of the Connecticut Debate League (CDL). Tournaments took place once a month at high schools throughout the state. The tournaments were extremely intense endeavors requiring teams to compete in three debates over the course of a given Saturday. During the year, **Shomik Ghosh, Alex Taubes, Cindy Luo, and Mary Altonji** were awarded outstanding speaker prizes at various CDL tournaments. In a similar manner the teams of **Mary Altonji and Cindy Luo, Chase Bastian and Mike Clark-Polner, Max Lecar and Matt Zwilling** were recognized as outstanding teams for tournaments. Because of their success, eight members of the debate team qualified for the CDL State Tournament in April. **Shomik Ghosh and Alex Taubes** qualified as varsity members and **Mary Altonji, Cindy Luo, Chase Bastian, Mike Clark-Polner, Max Lecar, and Matt Zwilling** qualified for the junior-varsity tournament. Congratulations for an outstanding year to all members of the Hand Debate Team.

Library Media News Nite-In-Hand Info

The Madison Public School Libraries and the Scranton Memorial Public Library are the proud recipients of the **2005 Governor's Summer Reading Challenge Award**. This award honors public library/school library partnerships. Governor Jodi Rell, Betty Sternberg, Commissioner of the State Department of Education, and Kendall Wiggin, Connecticut State Librarian, presented awards at a ceremony on April 20, 2006. Awards of Merit were given to five districts around the state, and the award for the Outstanding Public Library / School Library Partnership was given to Madison! We are thrilled to be recognized! Besides our collaboration on the annual summer reading list, our libraries work together in a variety of ways. The One Book One Town program, visits by the Scranton librarians to the schools and visits by students to the town library, the sharing of resources, and coordinated parent and teacher programs are just a few of the ways we work together. We look forward to continued collaboration next year!

The Summer Reading List 2006 will be on the district and school websites before the school year ends. All of the titles on the list have been ordered by the DHHS library in the hope that the books will be in soon enough for students to borrow them before school ends. You'll be amazed at the variety of fabulous titles on the list. Enjoy!

Student Film Night
Monday, June 12
7:00-9:00 p.m.

Student films from Basic and Advanced Art and Video will be showcased on the big screen with stadium seating on the stage

Our graduation party, Nite-In-Hand is in the final stages of preparation. It will truly be an awesome night for our graduates. Please mark your calendars now to come to the preview on June 21st (times to be announced) and see why it is such a special night. Prior to that date much is going on and we need your help.

The Nite-In-Hand decorating hours continue to be Monday and Thursday 6:00-9:00 p.m. and Saturday 8:00-12:00 p.m. at the St Margaret's warehouse (across from Lynch's restaurant). Progress has been made on almost all projects, but many hands are still needed to complete them. June 1st is the completion deadline. Parents of all classes, please come and help! Also, hold the dates of June 20th and 21st for the party set-up! Everyone (and their brothers and sisters) will be needed then!

Parents, if you haven't gotten your pictures in for the Nite-In-Hand memory board, it is time to do so now. Any questions, call Nancy Brunt at 421-4425 or e-mail nbrunt@comcast.net.

It's never too late to make donations of prizes or cash gifts. All are appreciated. This graduation celebration is not part of the education or town budget. It is funded entirely by the DHHS parent body and the Madison community. For information e-mail mclarktill@aol.com.

APTS Update

The next APTS meeting will be June 5th at 7:00 p.m. in the Library Media Center. To further introduce our school staff, Taffy Bowes, Madison Youth Services, will be our guest. Barbara Britton will continue to keep us up-to-date with the events at DHHS and plans for the 2006-07 year.

Anyone interested in becoming the president (or shared co-presidents) of APTS 2006-07, please call Barbara Britton or Nancy Gerson at 421-8446 for more information. It is a great organization and a wonderful parent life-line to our years at DHHS.

Tardiness and Early Dismissals

We have seen a rise in tardiness and early dismissals at this time of year. We ask for your support in our efforts to promote sound work habits and to keep our students safe and engaged in learning activities for the entire school day. We remind students and parents that permanent early dismissals are authorized as a privilege for seniors only and that dismissals before the end of the school day are reserved for only extenuating circumstances. We ask that all appointments be scheduled after the school day whenever possible. With just a few weeks of school remaining, please support our efforts to maintain diligence and focus right up to June 21.