
DHHS Newsletter

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In this issue

- ◆ *Athletic Eligibility*
- ◆ *Final Exam Schedule*
- ◆ *Newsy Notes*
- ◆ *Year End Activities*



A Message from the Principal

Dear Parents/Guardians:

I am very proud to say that we have had an amazing year. Our students have demonstrated growth with success in academics, the arts, physical education, consumer science, and technology education. As well, they have been active in co-curricular and extra-curricular activities receiving many accolades as noted on the following pages. Our students' concern for their community and the global community continues to be demonstrated as their numbers in volunteering services grow and the number of fund-raising events increases.

I again appeal to you to engage in meaningful conversation with your son or daughter regarding the importance of making healthy choices and avoiding participating in underage drinking. This message was also articulated at school the week before Junior Prom as students in Safe Rides and SMASH made daily announcements about the importance of safe choices, decorated our building with posters, and asked students to think about, "How Will U Remember Prom?" They ended the week with an assembly featuring a guest speaker who spoke about her personal experience as a victim of a drunk driver. This was followed by their own video production of their classmates and their thoughts about how important they are to each other. The assembly, as well as the entire week, was amazing. I am a great believer in the significance and impact of students sharing their voices! A similar program will take place the week prior to the Senior Prom.

As the year comes to a close, the expectations for our students continue to remain consistent. We stress the importance of crossing the finish line with their integrity and pride intact. We ask for your support in helping our students to understand the importance of this positive finish!

In closing, I thank you for your incredible support. I know I have said this before, and I will say it again, the success of our students is a direct reflection of supportive families and a community that highly values education.

I hope the summer is joyous and relaxing for you all.

Sincerely,
Barbara J. Britton
Principal

DHHS Salutes . . .

The following Juniors for being inducted into the National Honor Society this spring: **Archibald Adams, Eric Anderson, Nate Beatty, Emily Chen, Jared Concannon, Amy Curtis, Emily Gao, Augusta Gillespie, Mia Helfrich, Negeen Karimi, Daniel Kilburn, Ethan Langevin, Hannah Lehman, Ruiqi Li, Happy Liu, James Muller, Kelsey Murphy, Shannon Noonan, Elizabeth Pelker, Leah Plummer, Thomas Presti, Taylor Richardson, Miller Sakmar, Ellen Schneider, Melissa Sosensky, Elizabeth Tutino, and Christina Veth.**

The DHHS vocal/musical groups for their many awards in their competition in Virginia Beach, VA: **Advanced Chorus** received a Second Place (Excellent) to our own **Waes Haeil** who received the First Place (Superior) award; the **Show Choir** won First Place; **Waes Haeil** received the Best Overall Mixed Choir award; the **Show Choir** won the highest award given, Best Overall Choir; **Nicole Poulter '09**, was named Best Soloist; and the **Show Choir Band** received the Best Instrumental Section award. Our vocal and musical groups received every single award for which they were eligible.

The Math League for their First Place Overall in the Middlesex County Math League. The First Place Senior Overall went to **Marcus Shak**, First Place Junior Overall to **Joe Liang**, Second Place Junior Overall to **Ethan Langevin**, and Third Place Overall Underclassman went to **Alan Zhao '11**. Congratulations also to their advisor, **Mrs. Maureen Brown**.

Seniors **Tess Coffey** (music) and **Ben Aron** (visual arts) for being recognized by the Connecticut Association of Schools for their excellence in the arts.

They were honored at a banquet at the Aqua Turf.

DHHS student athletes, coaches, and the Athletic Department staff for our first place finish among Class L schools in the Michaels Cup Competition for excellence in athletic programs. Schools are evaluated according to win/loss record, level of student participation, support of student athletes in the areas of scholarship, sportsmanship, and chemical free activities.

Our exceptional art students who have received special recognition at numerous area art shows . . .

Connecticut Scholastics Art Awards, a statewide juried show hosted by the University of Hartford Art School: **Ben Aron '08** was awarded a silver key for drawing, **Caroline Eisele '11** and **Erin Robertson '10** were each awarded a silver key for printmaking, **Hannah Lehman '09** and **Christy O'Connor '11** each received an honorable mention for their mixed media work, and **Ali Birnbaum '10** received an honorable mention for her sculpture.

Future Choices, a regional, juried show sponsored by the Shoreline Arts Alliance at Lyme Academy: **Lauren Feiner '08** received the Wall Street Gallery award for her ink wash drawing, **Hannah Lehman '09** was awarded the Breakwater Book Award for her abstract drawing, and **Ed Tian '09** took third place for his debut film "Freedom". Women's Club of Madison, Senior's Only Art Show: First place recipients were **Lauren Feiner '08** for printmaking and **Tyler Reep '08** for drawing. **Chelsea Asermely '08** won third place in drawing; Senior **Rianna DiBartolomaggio Cordovano's** digital image also won a third place award.

John Slade Ely House Greater New Haven High School Art Exhibition: Senior **Tyler Reep's** haunting "Revenge of the Cadavers", Junior **Emily Gao's** painted, self portrait "Soul of the Song", and Junior **Maddy Boyington's** photo, "Ted's Root Beer" were exhibited and received cash awards. SCC Southern Connecticut Conference: Seniors **Jessica Pereira, Chelsea Asermely, and Tyler Reep**, all students of **Mr. Robert Del Russo**, represented us well; each took an award. We were thrilled to learn Daniel Hand's art program won best on the Shoreline! Connecticut Association for Schools: Seniors **Ben Aron** and **Tess Coffey** were honored at a banquet hosted by the Connecticut Association of Schools in recognition of outstanding high school visual and performing arts students. Kudos to all of the above art students!

The following students for their nominations at the 2008 Fox 61 Student News Awards Ceremony: Juniors **Jack Callaghan, Luke Massella, Michael Liu, and Shaun Godiksen** for their story on "Safe Rides"; Junior **Travis Wismuler** and Sophomores **Dale Sweitzer** and **Nick Merulo** for their story on "Touchdown for Character"; and Sophomores **Lee Simkins, Dylan Smith, and Brian Woods** for their story on the "ABC House".

The following four Juniors of the University of Connecticut's Early College Experience Chemistry class who took part in the initial screening for the 2008 International Chemistry Olympiad. They were **Mia Helfrich, Emily Gao, Joe Liang, and Christopher Chen**. The event was sponsored by the New Haven Chapter of the American Chemical Society and led by Dr. Oliver Nicaise.

(continued on page 6)

Newsy Notes

Mrs. Denise Earles' American Literature Honors class and **Mr. Kris Connors' Film class** completed a project in which they produced public service announcements to be aired on homeroom news. Both classes had input on ideas and filming. It was a great joint effort.

In addition, **Mrs. Earles' American Literature Honors class** and **Mrs. Vicki Crompton's U. S. History class** (also juniors) began a short project in May researching a topic regarding the 1920s. They set up an exhibit called The 1920s Museum. This idea worked with both the literature selection, The Great Gatsby, in the English class as well as the history curriculum.

Teachers **Mr. John Hansen, Mr. Peter Nye**, and **Mrs. Vicki Crompton** will be taking students to a **Diversity Conference** on May 28th at Southern CT State University. The conference is organized by Hamden High School's Human Relations Club and attracts students from all over CT.

During a French Impressionism unit, students in **Honors French 5** traveled to the Florence Griswold Museum in Old Lyme to experience French culture. There they studied works of American Impressionist art and had the opportunity to create a painting of the nature surrounding the museum. This experience helped to cement an understanding of color and light, the tenets of this genre of painting, as they continued to report on French masterpieces when they returned to DHHS. Lunch was enjoyed at Café Routier in Westbrook, where the chef provided a tasty French meal including a main dish of "poulet provençal" and "profiterole" for dessert.

For the second consecutive year, the **Madison Land and Conservation Trust** has donated a \$1000 gift to the Science

Department. Teachers, **Mr. John Gaskell** (Principals of Ecology) and **Mr. Michael Docker** (Marine Science and Technology) will use the money to purchase equipment for their respective courses. Special thanks to **Mr. Joseph Oslander** and **Mr. David Skelly**, both of the MLCT, for their hard work in making the gift possible.

On May 29th, **Señora Clark and her Spanish Club students** are baking cookies and making cards to send to former Spanish Club members who have gone off to college. Spanish Club students learned vocabulary for the kitchen and for preparing the cookies and used commands to tell each other what to do next. They also picked out children's books to read next month when they visit a local elementary school. Thanks go to **Jared Reamer '09** and **Liz Tutino '09** for planning this event.

On May 13, **Ms. Paula Chabot** and thirty-three of her Latin students traveled to Holiday Hill for a day of Classical competition at State Latin Day. Many took part in workshops such as wreath-making, calligraphy and Greek dancing or presentations by professors on ancient coins or epic tradition in video games and dramatic improvisation. Many projects won awards: Architecture—First, **Natalie Weaver '11**; Sculpture—First, **Marina Sachs '11**; Textiles—First, **Meghan Derken '11**; Painting—Second, **Maggie Ovian '11**; Recreated Artifacts—Third, **Kirsten Chatillon '10**. **Alex McKissick '10** placed First in the Lower Declamation and **Brendan Andrew '08** was Third in Upper Declamation. All took academic contests with results to be announced. In sports events our Latin students went from an unprecedented Second in volleyball; First in boys' discus (frisbee)—**Scott Anderson '11**; Second in the shot put (softball)—**Brett Calash '10**; and Second in a relay—

Scott Anderson and **Natalie Weaver '11**. Our 3-on-3 boys' basketball team of **Derek Fish '08**, **Adam Hubbard '08**, **Brendan Andrew**, and **Alex Flanders '10** won a couple of hard-fought games. Our chariot was pulled valiantly by **Brenna Peters '09** and **Natalie Weaver**, and then **Alex McKissick** and **Bradley Napier '10**. Others who actively participated are seniors **Lindsey Flanders**, **Ryan Youngerman**, **Mike McConville**, **Emily Gilbert**, **Matt Gray**, and **Tyler Gabriele**; juniors **Erin Baumgartel** and **Charlotte Perkins**; sophomores **Kyle Pember**, **Adam Strawbridge**, **Madison Boris**, **Luke Parker**, **Brian Coer** and **Pearse McManus**; freshmen **Ally Anatra**, **Cameron Kelly**, **David Li**, **Sarah Bradford** and **Mike Schulz**.

The **FACS Club** and the **Tech Ed Department** are working with the Circle of Care organization. Circle of Care is an organization that supports families that have children with cancer. Together they will be working on a room redesign for a six-year old girl named Tatiana who lives in New Haven. Tatiana is one of many children with cancer who entered a room redesign contest at Dr. Joe's office in Guilford. Students have prepared interior design boards; the family has selected a combination of design ideas. Students both from Hand and Morgan High School are now making and shopping for items that will be placed in the room once they have painted it. Students have planned a bottle drive for June 8-15 and a bake sale on Sunday, June 15, at Stop & Shop to raise money for this redesign.

Student Film Night
Tuesday, May 27
7:00-9:00 p.m.

Showcasing student films and animations from the 2007-08 school year in the Dining and Assembly Hall on the big screen.

Mark Your Calendar

Phoenix Literary Magazine is here!

Attention parents and students! The annual school literary magazine, PHOENIX, which showcases the poetry, essays, short stories, as well as art work and photos of the Daniel Hand student body, is available for purchase this month. Staff members have worked hard this year to select and arrange the creative writing and art work of our students.

The magazine is on sale during lunch waves, and can also be purchased through any English department member.

The cost? \$3. The memories and the artistic efforts of our students? Priceless!

From the Library Media Specialist

At the April 1st Board of Education meeting, the members of the Board and the Superintendent of Schools honored the library media specialists and paraprofessionals who work in the district's school libraries. As library media specialist, I would like to thank the hard working paraprofessionals in the DHHS LMC, **Mrs. Tory Chaffee** and **Mrs. Dawn Tiscia**. The students certainly benefit from having their help in the LMC, and I appreciate their efforts every single day! In addition, I would like to acknowledge the wonderful volunteers who assist the LMC staff: **Mrs. Lianne Herdle, Mrs. Huma Kidwai, Mrs. Laura Crawford, and Mrs. Eileen Betz**. They are invaluable.

Finally, the Summer Reading List 2008 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!

May

- 30 Senior Assembly, Gym 8:00 a.m.
- Underclass Awards**, D&A Hall 7:30, 8:15 and 9:10 a.m.
- Senior Outing, Holiday Hill 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

June

- 3 Board of Education Meeting, Town Campus 7:00 p.m.
- 9 Senior Locker Clean-Up
- 9, 10 Senior Exams During Classes
(Career and Tech. Ed., Art, World Lang., Music)
- 10 Last day regular classes for Seniors
- 11 Junior Locker Clean-Up
- Senior Exams-Social Studies, English 7:30-11:00 a.m.
- Student Film Night, Cafe 7:00-9:00 p.m.
- 12 Sophomore/Freshman Locker Clean-Up
- Last Day Third Trimester**
- Senior Exams-Math, Science 7:30-11:00 a.m.
- 12 **Senior Awards**, D&A Hall 7:00 p.m.
- 12 Senior Make-Up Exams
- 13,16,17 **Underclass Exams** (see schedule p. 5)
- 16 Graduation Rehearsal, Gym 10:30 a.m.
- 17 Senior Meeting, D&A Hall 8:00 a.m.
- Senior Brunch, Woodwinds 9:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
- Graduation Rehearsal 1:00 p.m.
- Church House Lawn
- 18 **Last Day of School** (shortened sch.)7:25 a.m.-11:30 p.m.
- Make-Up Exams**
- Graduation Rehearsal 1:00 p.m.
- Church House Lawn
- Graduation Ceremony** 6:00 p.m.
- Church House Lawn (Rain or Shine)
- Nite-in-Hand 10:30 p.m.

Host Families Urgently Needed - July 1 to July 29

The Student and Travel Exchange Program (STEP) is looking for families to host high school students from Pamplona, 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 American culture and advanced English classes four mornings each week. In the afternoons they will participate in a variety of fun and interesting experiences. Each Wednesday the students will 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, transportation to and from class, and most importantly, a typical American family experience. The students have their own spending money and medical insurance.

Call or e-mail Nann Cooke at 860 664-9867 or NannCooke@wmconnect.com for an application. You may choose your own student once your application is completed.

Final Exam Schedule for Freshmen, Sophomores, and Juniors*

- June 13 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 16 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 17 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 18 Abbreviated periods
Student/teacher conferences
Make up exams
Dismissal at 11:30 a.m.



Senior Functions

- May 30 **Senior Assembly**, Gym - 8:00 a.m.
- Senior Outing**, Holiday Hill, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
- June 9 **Senior Locker Clean-up**
- June 9 & 10 **Senior Exams*** during classes
Career and Tech. Ed., World Languages, Music, Art
- June 10 **Last Day of Regular Classes for Seniors**
- June 11 **Senior Exams***
Social Studies 7:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.
English 9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
- June 12 **Senior Exams***
Math 7:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.
Science 9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
- June 12 **Senior Awards Night**, Dining & Assembly Hall - 7:00 p.m.
All seniors are invited to attend
- June 13 **Senior Make-up Exams** for excused absences
Senior obligations due at 2:00 p.m.
- June 16 **Graduation Rehearsal**, Gym - 10:30 a.m.
Attendance mandatory
- June 17 **Senior Assembly**, Dining & Assembly Hall - 8:00 a.m.
- Senior Brunch**, Woodwinds - 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
- Graduation Rehearsal**, Church House Lawn - 1:00 p.m.
Attendance mandatory
- June 18 **Graduation Rehearsal**, Church House Lawn - 1:00 p.m.
Attendance mandatory
- Graduation Ceremony**, Church House Lawn - 6:00 p.m.
Rain or Shine
- Nite-In-Hand**, Daniel Hand High School - 10:30 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 as soon as possible.*

Registration for Fall Sports

Registration for fall Sports at Daniel Hand High School and Walter C. Polson Middle School will be held August 11-14, 2008, from 9:30 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.

DHHS Salutes

(continued from page 2)

Mrs. Anita Ferron for being selected president of the American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences/ Connecticut Affiliate. She will represent Connecticut at the national conference in June and she will also present a program on Japan: Traditional and Modern Culture at the Northeast Regional Conference in October.

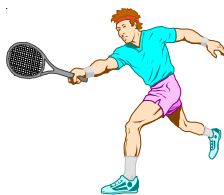
Academic Guidelines for CIAC Eligibility

A student-athlete cannot at any time represent a school unless he/she is enrolled in at least four Carnegie units/courses or its equivalent.

During the school year, a student must pass at least four Carnegie units/courses in the trimester immediately preceding the athletic season. For example, to be eligible for fall sports a student must have received credit toward graduation for four Carnegie units/courses of study for which he/she has not previously received credit during the preceding spring trimester.

Students receiving an incomplete grade for any course will have ten days to submit the necessary course work to receive a completed grade. If, after this ten day period, the course work has not been submitted, the student may be in jeopardy of failing the course.

Freshmen may compete in the FIRST trimester regardless of marks received in eighth grade. For participation in winter sports, first trimester grades will determine eligibility as outlined above.



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 athletic 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.

Everything You Need to Know About College Saturday, June 21, 2008

If you're still looking for secrets to discovering the right college and would like to remove some of the unnecessary stress from the process, get your calendar out and mark down Saturday morning, June 21, 2008

The *fourth Annual College Planning Seminar: Get A Jump Start Into the College Application Process* promises to provide plenty of pearls for parents and students seeking information on how to stay sane on the hunt for the right college.

Acing Your Interview—Many students make the mistake of walking into their college interviews without any preparation. Learn from a panel of college interviewers from Cornell, Dickinson, and Haverford.

Smith College's dean of admission, Debra Shaver, will help parents to keep their kids on track without too much nagging. Learn how to keep your relationship with your college bound student solid from an admissions director who just went through it herself.

Value – How to Find the Money? The thought causes most of us to take the deepest breath of the day and grimace. For some, the question of how to foot the bill is the most fundamental question. The Connecticut Student Loan Foundation's Carolyn Karno will help parents and students get a handle on who is eligible for financial aid, financing options and scholarship opportunities. College doesn't have to send a student into devitalizing debt.

Considering the Pre-Health Route? Students considering careers in

medicine, dentistry, nursing, veterinary, etc. need to make a careful college match. Learn what questions to ask of science departments from a professor and Pre-med advisor, Dr. Ann Aguanno of Marymount Manhattan College

Sam Rosensohn of College Planning Partnerships will offer a workshop on *How to Crack the SATs and the ACT*. He will provide test-taking tips, study plans, and an overview of why colleges place so much weight on the test.

Getting to "The List", There are over 3,600 colleges and universities in U.S. How can you get from 3,600 to "the list" of schools that you will apply to? This workshop will explore techniques for researching schools and how to cut through the barrage of marketing that swamps every junior's mailbox. Presenter: Betsy Morgan of College Matters.

The 21st Century Student, What are the skills that student need to gain in order to compete in our new global economy? What can students do now to ensure they will be successful? Presenter: Jean Card of the Learning Consultants Group.

Writing the College Essay, Regardless of where you are applying, the essay is your only chance to let your voice be heard. But what are college admissions officers looking for? Presenter: Chalini Uppu of Connecticut College

The Saturday, June 21, 2008 seminar, which goes from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., is sponsored by the Daniel Hand's Alliance of Parents, Teachers and Students (APTS) and the Daniel Hand Guidance Department. To register for the workshop, please go to www.danielhand.org and download an application to be returned to Hand. Register today because space is limited. The cost of the workshop is

\$30. All of the proceeds will go to the Madison Foundation Scholarship Fund. For further information or to register go to www.danielhand.org on phone contact Jean Baker at 203-245-6360 or at bakerj@madison.k12.ct.us.

Rule Reminders for Students and Parents

Dress Code

The warm weather and current fashion conspire to create an atmosphere in our school that, for many, is not conducive to learning. Among particular concern are styles that reveal bare midriffs, shoulders, and cleavage. We ask that students not wear off the shoulder tops, tank tops, or tops with spaghetti straps. This problem is chiefly with female styles consisting of skimpy and tight clothing; often the wearers of such clothing are targets of unwanted attention and/or comments. Male students' violations fall into the category of pants worn too low so as to reveal their boxer shorts and tee shirts with slogans or images that promote substance use or send offensive sexual messages. We will enforce the policies here and ask parents to reinforce the message that DHHS has a dress code, because we want the best possible learning environment. We are a culture of young people and adults and inappropriate attire can be offensive to both groups.

Help Wanted . . .

The LMC is in need of volunteers. If you have some spare time and would like to volunteer with some very nice people, please contact Mrs. Cindi Schneider at schneiderc@madison.k12.ct.us or call 245-6376.