Students get back into the swing of things during opening week at HCS.
**HCS Mission**

The mission of the Hammondsport Central School District, a high-performing unique learning community, is to provide a dynamic, quality education to a close-knit and diverse population, and to ensure that all students are prepared to compete in an ever-changing global society by challenging each student through superior, innovative educational opportunities while promoting responsible citizenship through strong character and moral development.

**District Objectives**

100% of our students will meet their graduation requirements.

100% of school community members will contribute to a safe, secure, student-centered environment.

100% of students will meet proficiency with the continued goal of achieving mastery.

100% of the school community will rate the internal/external communications of the district as satisfactory.

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**Aiming High**

News from Hammondsport Central School District Superintendent Kyle Bower

The school was ready for students as scheduled on Thursday, September 5th and the first week went very smoothly. There is still much work taking place but it is happening in non-student areas during the day and after school hours throughout the building. It is certainly exciting to see the new developments every morning.

There is a great deal that is new and changing in the world of education these days, but the one constant remains the goals and aspirations of our students. We are very excited to have our wonderful students back in the building and working hard! From our Pre K students to our incoming seniors, our students are our top priority and making each student as successful as possible remains our number one goal each year.

I encourage parents of all of our students to stay informed and stay engaged. We cannot be successful in our work with students if parents don’t ask questions, look at student work, and stay informed. Ask your child’s teacher the best way to stay involved and informed and they will work with you. A phone call or an email shows your student you care about how they are doing. Sign up for and check Parent Portal regularly. Don’t just wait for progress reports and report cards.

I look forward to another great school year at HCS! As always, if you have any questions or need anything, my door is always open.

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**From the Desk of Tad Rounds, Jr./Sr. High School Principal**

It was great to see the smiles on teachers’ faces when students walked through the doors on opening day! Change and increased academic expectations will be a common theme for the foreseeable future.

Last year’s 7th and 8th grade students were the first to be exposed to the new exams aligned with the Common Core Standards in ELA (English Language Arts) and math. This year’s algebra students and 11th grade ELA (English Language Arts) students will be the first cohort of students that will take Regents exams aligned with the Common Core Standards. For this school year only students will be required to take both the Common Core Regents and the traditional Regents exam and keep the higher of the scores. These Common Core exams are much more difficult and require distinct skill sets to demonstrate proficiency.

The English department and math department are utilizing the grade level curriculum modules as they become available. The ELA (English Language Arts) curriculum has readings passages and selections that are and will be controversial. However, these are the central readings upon which the individual lessons and assessments are derived. Parents are reminded that real-time student performance information can be accessed by creating a Parent Portal account. The link can be accessed through the district’s web address.

The senior class will be departing for their senior trip to Boston on October 11th and Homecoming is scheduled for the weekend of October 18th. The pep assembly will commence the weekend, followed by the varsity girls’ soccer and volleyball game. Please come out to support the Hammondsport Lakers!
Welcome to HCS!

Meet the New Board of Education Member

Kevin has been a resident of the Hammondsport district since 1998 and was elected to the Board of Education in August 2013. He holds a B.S. in Applied Science in Engineering from Rutgers University and is currently employed as a development manager at Corning Incorporated. Kevin and his wife Christine have two daughters, who currently attend school at HCS.

Kevin W. Bennett, Board of Education
News from Mrs. Sincerbox, Elementary Principal

Please be aware, the elementary school has many events over the next two months to keep our students and parents busy.

During the months of September and October we will be hosting parenting classes. These classes will be focused on parents of children ages 1-4 and 5-12 and are provided by our prevention educators at Bath Hope for Youth and Steuben Council on Addictions. Topics to be addressed include: child development, bonding, development of discipline skills, choices and consequences, encouragement, respect, working together, logical consequences, stimulating independence, character courage and self-esteem, sidestepping power struggles and much more. Refreshments will be served. Please be on the look-out for flyers coming home and in the community and feel free to call the elementary office at 569-5200 ext. 5233 if you are interested.

Open house will be held on October 3rd at 6pm. The students are excited to show off their classrooms and the work they do to their parents. We look forward to you attending and will begin our meeting in the auditorium. More information will follow with your children.

Early dismissal is October 9th. Your children will be dismissed at 12:30 that day. Please expect them early and make arrangements with the office for any changes to your child’s destination. October 10th and 11th there will be no school.

Dignity for All Students Act
A Reminder to students and parents: Mr. Derr and Mrs. White are Hammondsport’s coordinators for DASA.

If ANY student feels that they are being threatened, bullied, or harassed, or feels that this is happening to a peer, **it should be reported to Mr. Derr or Mrs. White IMMEDIATELY.**
Homecoming Weekend  
October 17th–19th, 2013

Thursday Events:  
Boys Varsity Soccer vs. Prattsburgh 
6:30pm

Friday Events:  
Pep Rally (7–12th grades): 1:40-2:20pm  
Coronation of Homecoming Court: approx.  
2:10pm  
Parade Set-up: 5pm  
Parade Steps Off @ HCS: 5:30pm  
Class of 2016 Chicken BBQ pick-ups  
(back parking lot)  
immediately following parade conclusion

Girls Varsity Soccer vs. Dundee  
7pm under the lights

Girls Varsity Tennis Team Sectionals  
Time and place TBA

Modified Volleyball vs. Campbell-Savona  
6:45pm

Varsity Volleyball vs. Campbell-Savona  
8pm

Saturday:  
Modified Girls & Boys Soccer vs. Addison  
10am
Board of Education
August 2013 Meeting Highlights

- Approved Tax Levy 2013-2014 and approved legal notice
- Approved 2013-2014 Fundraising Events
- Approved the agreement with Steuben County and Hammondsport Central School for the assignment of a School Resource Officer.
- Declared surplus the 2004 Chevrolet Suburban, Vehicle #29, VIN#GNGK26UX4G24334 and a 2004 Chevrolet Suburban, Vehicle #30, VIN#3GNGK26U94G242325 for disposal

Curtiss School Still on the Market

The sale of the Curtiss School building to developer Robert Lack has been terminated by the buyer. Citing that proposed financing for the project was withdrawn, Mr. Lack notified the District by letter on Wednesday, September 11th that the transaction was terminated immediately.

Since the school first went on the market in 2010, the School Board has accepted three purchase offers for the building. The first deal with the Town of Urbana was terminated following a public vote against the transaction. The second deal with Mr. Simon Sananas was terminated in 2012.

Since first listing the building for sale, the District has spent approximately $100,000 in legal fees and carrying costs while seeking a buyer. The District’s current real estate broker, Realty USA, continues to market the property and hopes to have purchase offers to present to the Board of Education at its regular meeting on October 16th.

October/November Calendar of Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10/3</td>
<td>PreK-6th Open House 6 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/4</td>
<td>5 week period ends</td>
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<td>10/9</td>
<td>PreK– 12th Early Dismissal 12:30pm</td>
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<td>10/10</td>
<td>Conference Day– No students</td>
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<td>10/11</td>
<td>No School; Senior Trip to Boston</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Departs</td>
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<td>10/14</td>
<td>No School– Columbus Day</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Senior Trip Returns</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/16</td>
<td>Regular BoE Mtg. 6pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/17-19</td>
<td>Homecoming Weekend</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/18</td>
<td>Picture Retake Day</td>
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<td>10/25</td>
<td>PreK-12 Emergency Dismissal Drill 2pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/31</td>
<td>PreK-6th Halloween Parade 1:15pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>11/1-2</td>
<td>Jr. High Area All State @ Penn Yan</td>
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<tr>
<td>11/8</td>
<td>End of Marking Period #1</td>
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<td>11/11</td>
<td>No School—Veterans Day</td>
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<td>11/12</td>
<td>Marking Period #2 Begins</td>
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<tr>
<td>11/14</td>
<td>Jr./Sr. High 10 wks. Concert 7pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>11/15-16</td>
<td>Sr. High Area All State</td>
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<tr>
<td>11/20</td>
<td>BoE Regular Mtg. 6pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>11/25</td>
<td>High School Open House</td>
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<tr>
<td>11/26-29</td>
<td>No School—Thanksgiving Break</td>
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Welcome Officer Banik

HCS is pleased to welcome officer Charles Banik into the building as our new district school resource officer (SRO).

Officer Banik is a retired Corrections Officer and Drill Sergeant from the Camp Monterey Shock Incarceration Facility, where he retired from in January 2007. He also has 27 years of Military Service in Law Enforcement and a combined 20 years with the Painted Post and Hammondsport Police Departments.
Welcome to HCS!

Courtney Johnston holds a Bachelor of Science degree from SUNY Cortland in Childhood Education and a Masters Degree in Literacy from SUNY Potsdam. She currently lives in Troupsburg.

Sarah Dickson currently lives in Bath with her husband. She has a Bachelor of Science Degree from Keuka College in Unified Childhood/Special Education and is in the midst of completing her Masters Degree in Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment through Walden University.

Jackie Swarthout has a background in Hotel Services and lives in Wayne.

Tina Watson has a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Management from SUNY Brockport. She was previously employed by the district as a substitute teacher from 2009-2011.

Parents PLEASE NOTE:
- Computer Access: Students in need of computers may access the Senior/High computer lab until 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Also, students may bring laptops and tablets to the senior high office for approval to use for instructional purposes. Parents and students are reminded that the (AUP) Acceptable Use Policy applies for all devices utilized in the school building.
- Dropping off and picking up students at school- Please be aware students should not be dropped off at school or arrive on school property until 7:30 am. There is no supervision until that time.
- Students in grades Pre K-12th grade must be signed out.
- Parents of Pre K-3rd grade students, please report to the elementary gym at 2:30 to pick your children up. Bring identification with you as you may be asked for it. Parking should be along the baseball field and away from the circle until the buses have left.
From the Transportation Dept.:

BUS RULES:

- STAY SEATED AT ALL TIMES
- KEEP AISLE CLEAR
- NO EATING OR DRINKING ON BUS
- KEEP YOUR HANDS TO YOURSELF
- NO PROFANITY OR FIGHTING
- PLEASE KEEP YOUR VOICE DOWN
- DRIVER CAN ASSIGN SEATS
- COOPERATE WITH THE DRIVER

A New Face in Transportation

Chuck French is now a full-time bus driver for the district, operating bus #114

ATTENTION TAXPAYERS

This is a reminder that for both service and safety reasons, school taxes will no longer be collected at the Main Street School. If you wish to pay your school taxes in person, payment should be brought to the Five Star Bank on Shehar Street in the Village of Hammondsport. Five Star Bank is open Monday-Wednesday from 9 am - 4 pm, Thursday and Friday from 9 am - 5 pm, and Saturday from 9 am to 12 pm.

For taxpayers paying by mail, payments should be sent to: Five Star Bank, PO Box 14, Warsaw, NY 14569. School tax payment information and receipts can be printed by accessing the School Tax portal through the District website at www.hammondsportcsd.org.

Reminder: The District no longer has a post office box. No information or tax bills should be sent to PO Box 368. The mailing address for the District is 8272 Main Street Ext, Hammondsport, NY 14840.

The District Tax Collector, Mrs. Jerry Scott, will be in the District on Tuesdays and Thursdays between the hours of 9 am - 3 pm if you have any questions or concerns. Her phone number is 569-5200 ext. 5243. All of the above information is also noted on all tax bills.

REGISTER FOR NYS STAR SCHOOL PROPERTY TAX RELIEF

All NYS homeowners receiving a Basic STAR property tax exemption must register with the NYS Tax Department in order to receive the STAR exemption in 2014 and subsequent years.

All Basic STAR recipients will receive registration instructions by mail.

Visit www.tax.ny.gov to register now.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE is December 31, 2013

In order to continue to receive Enhanced STAR, senior citizens must continue to:

Apply annually with their local assessor

OR

Participate in the Income Verification Program

Questions? Call (518) 457-2036

Hammondsport Central School District
8272 Main Street
Hammondsport, NY 14840

Non-profit organization
U.S. Postage PAID
Hammondsport, NY 14840
Permit #8

Box holder