
DHHS Newsletter

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Winter 2013

Principal's Letter

Dear Parents,

I was hoping to start this letter on a positive note about another winter with minor disruptions. Thanks to Nemo/Charlotte I can't! I hope that you all fared well in survival mode! Let's keep our fingers crossed for March coming in like a lamb and leaving as a lamb.

March Madness, not basketball, is once again upon us. On March 5, 6, 7, 12, 13, 18, 19 and 20 all sophomores will be taking the Connecticut Academic Performance Test (CAPT). CAPT scores are a part of Daniel Hand High School's graduation requirements (see the Program of Studies) and are also used as a measure for the high school program overall. Please note that on March 5, 6, 7, 12 and 13 CAPT testing will begin promptly at 7:25 a.m. On time arrival is extremely important. On March 18, 19, and 20 freshmen, juniors, and seniors will be taking trimester exams while the sophomores are taking CAPT. On those three days both CAPT testing and trimester exams will begin promptly at 7:45 a.m. Trimester exams end at 12:15 p.m.; however, CAPT testing will end at 9:15 a.m. on Monday and Tuesday and at 8:45 a.m. on Wednesday. The exam bus schedule allows for only one pick up and that is at 12:15 p.m. Sophomores may certainly remain in the school dining hall and wait for the bus. However, they are officially dismissed from school at the completion of their CAPT exam, so you may pick up your child following the exam. Please insure that your child has a good night's sleep and breakfast before taking these very important tests.

Scheduling for next year is in progress. The appropriate placement of students in selected courses is very important. Teachers have made recommendations that are in the best interest of your child, taking into consideration an academic review of their abilities. Should you have any questions, please contact the referring teacher and/or school counselor. Keep in mind that once schedules have been put in place, it is difficult to make changes.

I am very saddened by the events of Sandy Hook. The losses they have suffered I cannot even begin to imagine. Much consideration has been given by our Superintendent and the town in looking at what security we have in place and addressing necessary changes. The goal is overall student safety. Accordingly, we began the process of prohibiting movement from one building to another under the bridge. From our perspective, and that of the student leadership team, this did not create any major concerns in terms of congestion in moving from one building to another. Beginning on February 25 all doors into the building will be locked at 8:40 a.m. Upon arrival at school you will find located to the left of the double entry door a security buzzer. Please push the button and upon recognition give your name and business in the school. You will then be provided entry. In the event that you are sending a grandparent or neighbor to the school to drop off an item or pick

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Principal's

Letter

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up your child, we ask for your assistance in notifying us in advance.

The month of March is a pressure packed month over which I have no real control. I ask that you all remember that the wonderful relationship you have with your child is their most precious gift. As always, the faculty, staff, and administration thank you for your ongoing support.

Sincerely,
Barbara J. Britton
Principal

DHHS Salutes...



Seniors **Kate Boudreau, Tiffany Li, Matthew Richard** and **Arthur Wilkins** for being selected as Finalists in the 2013 Competition by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation.

Members of **the Student Council Homecoming Committee**, advisor **Mr. Peter Nye**, and the **faculty chaperones** for a very successful Homecoming Dance. The money raised will be used for the DHHS Student Council scholarship and donations to several charities.

The **Cast and Crew of *Sherlock Holmes***, their advisor, **Mrs. Joy Weaver**, and crew advisor, **Mrs. Jessica Littell**, for an excellent fall production.

Seniors **Marissa Rossi** and **Caleb Ewald** 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.

Seniors **Kelly Tomasevich** and **Matthew Richard** for being selected for the SCC Scholar Leader Award for their outstanding scholarship and leadership. They will be honored at a dinner at Anthony's Ocean View in late March.

Seniors **Tiffany Li** (Visual Arts) and **Ian Richardson** (Performing Arts) for being honored at the Seventeenth Annual Arts Recognition Banquet at the Aqua Turf for their outstanding achievements in the arts.

Sophomore, **Grace Kraus** for creating the winning design for the CT. State Latin Day t-shirt which you can see on line at [ClassConn.org / Latin Day](http://ClassConn.org/LatinDay). Her picture of the nine Muses illustrates the theme of the day - *Musae, Causas Memorate*- and will be worn by students on May 3.

The **DHHS Robotics Team #1695** who received the "Tournament Quarterfinalists" award on January 5th at Manchester High School's - Sack Attack! The team ranked 10th overall out of 42 teams from around New England at the competition and made it into the first round of the quarter finals.

This qualifies our team to register at the CTEEA Southern New England Regional presented by Central Connecticut State University.

The following Seniors for being accepted into the National Honor Society: **Jake Gardner, Erin Hallenbeck, Erin Healey, Erin Hennessey, Sheila Huang, Lynsey Kirby, Paige Kronauer, Stephanie Levin, Lauren McAllister, Tyler McAndrews, Elise Nye, Liza Sweitzer, Cameron Thomson**, and **Arthur Wilkins**.

PTO Meetings

Mark your calendars! Come attend the last two PTO meetings of the school year: Tues., April 2nd at 8 a.m., LMC classroom, special guest Supt. Tom Scarice and the year-end business meeting on Tues., May 7th at 8 a.m. in the LMC classroom. We hope to see you there.

Newsy Notes

Ms. Browne and Mrs. Filippone's Honors Biology classes were lucky enough to have Greg Barron, a first year medical student at UCONN, come in during his break to speak to their classes. He discussed many topics about high school courses in science and specific college courses that he enjoyed and found useful. He shared his extensive lab report as well as videos he made. The students were particularly interested in the information he has gained from the cadaver he is dissecting. It was a good opportunity for students to ask questions and talk to someone who is more or less a peer about future plans.

Senior Reminders

- If you have not been measured for your **cap and gown**, please see Mrs. Evans in the Main Office.
- **Class dues** should be paid *as soon as possible* in the Main Office. Dues should not be confused with Nite-In-Hand.
- The **Senior Outing** is scheduled for *May 31* at Holiday Hill.
- The **Senior Prom** will take place *June 8* at the Oakdale Theatre, Wallingford.



Musical Notes



On January 11th and 12th, 22 students from Daniel Hand's chorus, band, and orchestra participated in the 2013 Southern Region Music Festival in Meriden. After going through a rigorous audition process in November, these students rehearsed for two days with other students from southern Connecticut, culminating in a performance on Saturday afternoon. In addition to working with renowned conductors, these musicians had the opportunity to perform collegiate-level literature with other top musicians from the southern part of the state. Students who participated in the festival will now have the opportunity to audition for the All State Festival which will take place in Hartford in April.

Senior Ian Richardson was selected to rehearse and perform with the All Eastern Honors Band at the 53rd Eastern Division Biennial In-Service Conference in April. Directors from the thirteen states on the east coast submitted their recommendations and Ian was chosen among thousands of young musicians to be part of this group.

The DHHS Concert Band, Symphonic Band and Jazz Band performed their Winter Concert on Tuesday, February 26th in the Dining and Assembly Hall. This concert featured music by Chicago, Count Basie, Norah Jones, Edward Elgar, and favorites from Disney movies such as *The Lion King*, *Aladdin*, and *Beauty and the Beast*. In addition, the Tiger Marching Band performed their show for the Disney trip coming up in March.

Athletic News

The winter season is just about to draw to a close and we are very proud of the work our athletes have done.

The **wrestling team** competed in the Class L State Championships on February 15 and 16 and finished in 5th place. The **gymnastics team**, four-time defending SCC Champions will compete in the CIAC State Open on March 2. On February 23, the gymnastics team won the Class M State Championship with a score of 139.275 points. **Fencing** has been impressive in setting the groundwork for the State Championships in early March. **Unified BB** has been keeping ahead of the weather and making their mark. The **girls' basketball team** won the first round qualifier vs. Kennedy on 2/25/13 and will proceed to the second round next week. **Ski team** members placed fifth in its first race on January 10th against 12 other high schools. The **boys' basketball team** qualified and will play in the State Tournament starting next week vs. Career. The **boys' and girls' indoor track teams** competed in the Class L State Championship on February 15 with the boys' finishing in the top 10. The **boys' swim team** competed in the SCC qualifier on 2/25/13 and will compete in the SCC meet next week. The **boys' ice hockey team** will compete in the SCC Division II Championship on 2/27/13 and also qualified for the State Tournament starting next week. The **cheerleading team** placed fourth out of the 15 teams at the SCC cheerleading competition this year.

Spring Musical

If *Grease* is the word, then Daniel Hand High School is the place to be on May 2 - 4, 2013 as it produces the popular musical "*Grease*". With its unforgettable music and beloved characters, the well-known story of the Pink Ladies and the T-Birds comes to life starring some of Madison's most talented teenagers. *Grease* follows Rydell High School's Class of 1959 as they navigate the world of drive-ins, hot rods and teen love. Danny and Sandy fall in love during the summer but find themselves on opposite sides of the bleachers (and cliques) back in high school. "This show is an infectious dose of nostalgia with some of the catchiest tunes in the songbook," says Joy Grabow Weaver, Director of DHHS's production of *Grease*. This fun, family production will be interactive. We'll involve the audience and get them up and dancing as part of the show! Mark your calendars, this is one show you won't want to miss! Tickets will go on sale starting April 20th at R.J. Julia's and the Daniel Hand High School Main office. Tickets will be \$10.00 in advance and \$15.00 at the door. There will also be a Saturday matinee at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday May 4.



Artsy News



Connecticut Scholastic Art and Writing Awards run by the Alliance for young Artists and Writers, recognizes outstanding talent in the visual arts. This year 136 high schools statewide submitted nearly 2,000 works of art to be considered for the prestigious, juried show at the Hartford Art School. Exceptional artwork from a number of Daniel Hand Art students was submitted.

Kudos to the following students whose work received special recognition and was on view at the Silpe Gallery at the Hartford Art School through February 1st:

Connor Carpenter `13 for Film, Honorable Mention

Bronwyn Kuehler `13 for Painting, Honorable Mention

Charles Bratches `14 for Drawing, Gold Key

Hunter Bridge `13 for Drawing, Gold Key

Tiffany Li `13 for Drawing, Gold Key, CAEA Best in Drawing, American Visions Nominee

Tiffany Li's stunning portrait drawing titled *Ghosts*, was voted the best drawing in the show by the CAEA, Connecticut Art Education Association. Tiffany is one of five students in the state chosen as an American Visions Nominee. Next month a national panel will select one student from each state to be the recipient of an American Visions Award 2013.

An awards ceremony was held on Sunday, January 27th at the Lincoln Theatre at the University of Hartford.

Congratulations to all our winners and to those whose work was submitted to the show.

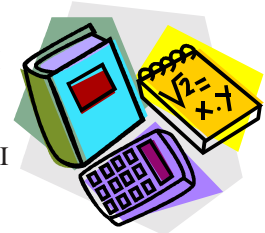
Reminders for the New Year



- √ 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 at 203 245-6355 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 8:29 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 203 245-6355 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 5	Interdisciplinary Writing I & Editing
March 6	Response to Literature
March 7	Interdisciplinary Writing II
March 12	Science I
March 13	Science II
March 18 (exam day)	Math I
March 19 (exam day)	Math II
March 20 (exam day)	Reading for Information



PTO Awards for Trimester 1

Art

Freshman **Lauren Hajus**
 Sophomore **Cory Walsh**
 Junior **Jesse Mullen**
 Senior **Max Head**

Career and Technical Education

Business **Kimberly Felleman** (gr. 12)
 Family Consumer Education
Nicole Pandolfini (gr. 12)
 Technical Education
Andrew Rossi (gr. 10)

English

Freshman **George McGuirk**
 Sophomore **Caleb Veth**
 Junior **Alex Distelman**
 Senior **Conor Hynes**

Health

Sophomore **Samanta Mancuso**
 Junior **Morgan Connors**
 Senior **Jacob Gardner**

Math

Freshman **Riley Erskine**
 Sophomore **Anna Bueno**
 Junior **Lauren Reid**
 Senior **Brian McNerney**

Music

Chorus **Stephen Spinnato** (gr. 12)
 Orchestra **Matthew Griffin** (gr. 12)
 Band **Andrew Hook** (gr. 12)

Physical Education

Freshman **Lyla Fischer**
 Sophomore **John Kleinhenz**
 Junior **Margaret Gautrau**

Science

Freshman **Kerrienne Rogers**
 Sophomore **Sandeep Dcunha**
 Junior **Stefan Nahar**
 Senior **Ryan Melino**

Social Studies

Freshman **Tess Smith**
 Sophomore **Crew Kirst**
 Junior **David Meskill**
 Senior **Richard Byrd**

World Language

Freshman **Connor Parsch**
 Sophomore **Lauren Condryn**
 Junior **Claire Bunes**
 Senior **Glen Foreman**

Nite in Hand 2013

Excitement is in the air as planning for the class of 2013 Nite in Hand is underway! This year marks Nite-In-Hand's 25th annual graduation party for the Daniel Hand High School Class of 2013. It is a fun, safe, substance free party held at the high school on graduation night. Decorations, entertainment, games, food, music, prizes and "more" makes this night one filled with magic and memories for years to come for our new graduates. But it takes a village. This year's Event Co-chair is Karen Healey. Many parents have stepped forward to help, but we are still short-handed. Please help us make this year's event the special one that our grads deserve! Nite in Hand is a way to keep our graduates safe and substance free on graduation night. NIH welcomes all parents; those of seniors and underclassmen. Getting involved long before your child is a senior is a great way to learn about Nite in Hand. If you are interested in learning more, send an email to Karen Healey at khhealey@sbcglobal.net or join us for the monthly meetings held on the first Tuesdays of the month: **March 5**, at 7:00 in the DHHS Library/Media Center. – all are welcome **RSVP'S:** Senior parents should now have received registration forms and important info about Nite in Hand. Please return the registration form as soon as possible.

Nite in Hand Fundraisers:

Senior Auction – **April 26th** at 7:00 pm in the DHHS Dining & Assembly Hall-an annual tradition where DHHS seniors auction their talents to raise funds for NIH. Truly entertaining! Contact sabo10@comcast.net to help.
2013 Lawn Signs – coming soon.
Solicitations: Nite-In-Hand is funded entirely by donations from parents, our Madison and Shoreline community, and local businesses. The Nite in Hand committee needs to ask for your help. Simply, we need donations. Would you, or do you know someone, who would donate prize items for our graduating class? Do you or someone you know, work for a business that has raffle items or could make a monetary contribution?

LIBRARY NOTES

The Daniel Hand Library Media Center now has a fully functional e-book/audiobook system that is fully integrated with its online catalog and is accessible from home and school. E-books are now offered through two systems, Follett Shelf and Overdrive. Follett Shelf is limited to e-books that can be read on tablets, certain digital readers, laptops, or desktop computers. Overdrive offers both e-books and audiobooks and is compatible with all the above devices as well as mobile devices such as iPhones, Android phones, and other smartphones. With the addition of a student Wi-Fi network, these audio and e-books are easily accessible from anywhere in the school at any time. The LMC also plans to add titles from the upcoming Summer Reading List to either Overdrive or Follett Shelf. Links to Follett Shelf and Overdrive as well as tutorials can be found on the LMC's website under the e-books link.

The LMC is always looking for volunteers to help with shelving books and designing our displays. Call us at (203)-245-6376 for more information or stop by the LMC. It is a great way to stay in touch with what is happening in the school.

Mark Your Calendar



March

5	Board of Education, Town Campus	7:30 p.m.
5-20	CAPT Testing (see schedule p. 4)	
9	SAT Testing	
13	Board of Education, Town Campus	7:30 p.m.
18-20	Second Trimester Exams	
21	Last Day of Second Trimester	
22	Third Trimester begins	
19	Board of Education, Town Campus	7:30 p.m.
21-24	Band trip to Disney	
29	Good Friday - No School	

April

2	PTO, LMC Classroom	8:00 a.m.
2	Board of Education, Town Campus	7:30 p.m.
3	Blood Drive	7:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
3	ASVAB Testing, LMC Classroom	7:45 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
15-19	April Break	
23	Board of Education, Town Campus	7:30 p.m.
25	College Fair	6:00 - 7:30 p.m.
26	Honors Breakfast, Students only	9:15 a.m.
26	Nite In Hand Auction, DAH	7:00 p.m.

May

2-3	Spring Musical, <i>Grease</i> , DAH	7:00 p.m.
4	Spring Musical, <i>Grease</i> , DAH	2:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.
7	PTO, LMC classroom	8:00 a.m.
7	Board of Education, Town Campus	7:30 p.m.
8	Art Show and Reception, Sr. Commons	7:00-8:30 p.m.
11	Junior Prom, DAH	7:30-11:00 p.m.
14	Band Concert, DAH	7:30 p.m.
21	Board of Education, Town Campus	7:30 p.m.
21	Orchestra Concert, DAH	7:30 p.m.
27	Memorial Day - No School	
27	Choral Concert, DAH	7:30 p.m.
31	Senior Outing, Holiday Hill	

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.

ST of CT Mandated Screenings:

As mandated by the State of Connecticut, the Health Office staff conducted *vision screening* for 9th grade students and *hearing screening* for 10th grade students. Parents of ninth grade students will be notified regarding *scoliosis screening* which will be conducted before the end of the 2012-2013 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 asterisk (*) 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, Mrs. Donna Konarski, RN or Ms. Karin Thelin, Health Paraprofessional.

Opportunity Knocks

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 2013 edition. The magazine group is always looking for new ideas, new staff members, and contributions from DHHS students. Please see Mrs. Sullivan in room 346.