

Haddam-Killingworth High School October, 2016

From the Principal...



Greetings Parents and Friends:

At long last, it finally feels like fall when I'm standing on the sidelines cheering on our athletic teams. In our classrooms, students have settled into their courses and are making great progress toward both short and long-term academic goals. I am consistently impressed with the level of academic discourse and student engagement evident in my visits to classes.

Thank you to all who attended our Open House on September 13th – we hope you found our school to be welcoming and the evening to be informative. If you would like to sign up for individualized conferences with your student's teacher(s), please use our Pick a Time online scheduling tool. You may access this system up until October 25th, 2016 at 9:00 pm to schedule or reschedule meeting times with your student's teachers. Please note that you will need your student's six digit ID number for this process. Please see attached directions for specific information for obtaining the ID and creating a log in.

From the Math Department:

OPTIMIZE! Students in the Algebra 2 classes have been learning how to apply the concept of Optimization (i.e. minimize cost and maximize profit) through a process called "Linear Programming."



To introduce the concept, students were asked to build tables and chairs using Legos (who doesn't like Legos?!) and, given certain constraints, optimize the situation. In other words, students had to figure out (and calculate) the number of chairs and tables they could build given material and cost restrictions in order to minimize cost and maximize profit.



The use of manipulatives allows students to experience the mathematical process visually while supporting a problem-solving approach to mathematics.



To help strengthen understanding of concepts and support students' comprehension of the curriculum, students in many of our math classes have also been working on improving their skills through the use of Khan Academy assignments (www.khanacademy.org). Khan Academy skill sets provide a variety of approaches and are individualized with respect to the needs of each student (i.e. students must master a certain number of problems before they can advance to the next level). Skills are presented in a variety of formats, including algebraic, numeric, and graphical, and include video help if needed. Khan Academy questions and content are aligned with the Common Core Standards as well as the Redesigned SAT.



Just a reminder that the math department encourages all students to own a graphing calculator (Texas Instruments TI-83, TI-83+, TI-84, TI-Nspire would be recommended models). Familiarity with their own calculator will be to their advantage in class as well as during standardized testing.

Academic Celebration:

Seniors have received information relative to their performance on the PSAT in 2015-2016, and we congratulate Morgan Neydorff as a commended student in the National Merit Scholarship Program. Morgan scored in the top five percent of the more than 1.6 million students who took the test!

New Staff:

We are pleased to share that we have hired Ms. Alexandria Stone as our new School Counselor to fill the vacancy created by Ms. Schreiber's departure. Ms. Stone most recently completed a long term counseling assignment in Valley High School. She impressed the selection committee with her expertise across the many facets of school counseling as well as her demonstrated ability to smoothly transition to a new school during the academic year while meeting the needs of her student caseload.

Yearbook Information:

PARENTS OF FRESHMAN, SOPHOMORES, AND JUNIORS: Please watch the mail for your order form for the 2017 Opticon! Yearbooks MUST be ordered in advance directly from JOSTEN'S at Jostensyearbooks.com. Discounts for ordering early are available. Please be sure to note ordering deadlines.

BUSINESS ADVERTISING: For parents who would like to place a business advertisement in the 2017 yearbook, the deadline for ads is November 18th. Your support in offsetting costs is greatly appreciated! Contact Nancy McGee with questions about ad size and pricing: 860-345-8541 ext. 3111 or nmcgee@rsd17.org

SENIORS who have paid dues each year do not need to order a yearbook. The class will use dues money to purchase a yearbook for all who have paid. HOWEVER, seniors who have not paid four years of dues and do not plan to pay dues, must order their own and can email Mrs. McGee for details at nmcgee@rsd17.org or order directly from Jostens at jostensyearbooks.com.

PARENTS OF SENIORS have recently received GRAD-AD information in the mail. This is an opportunity for parents to have a space in the yearbook to celebrate their graduates with pictures and sentiments. Proceeds help offset the price of the yearbook and are popular with the seniors!

Performing Arts Happenings:

We hope you will join us for our upcoming events:

Shoreline Music Festival Concert: October 13th at 7pm @ Portland High School

Southern Regional Music Festival Auditions: Saturday, November 5 @ Waterbury Art Magnet School

The Fall High School Band Concert: Thursday October 17th at 7pm @ H-KHS

The HKHS drama club will present "Our Town" next month – please see enclosed flyer.

A Message to the Parents of the Class of 2018 from the Class Advisors:

Wow! It's hard to believe that your children are now in their Junior year. It seems like just yesterday we were welcoming them as Freshman. We wanted to take this opportunity to let you know that we continue to be the Advisors for the Class of 2018. We look forward to hosting the Junior Prom on May 20, 2017, which will be held at the Elks Club in Westbrook, CT -- so mark your calendars. We will also be hosting a bake sale on October 26 and 27 during the Parent Teacher Conferences. We have appreciated your support in the past and hope that once again you will help us by encouraging your

students to bake, or bring in goodies. The success of this bake sale is dependent on the participation by our class members. Items may be dropped off in room C222. Thank you in advance for helping us make this fundraiser a success. Lastly, we are currently collecting class dues which are \$55 per year. We will accept them at any time. If you have any questions regarding dues please email pwarner@rsd17.org.

Thank You,

Jason Cannan and Paula Warner

Our Library Media Center is Refreshed:

The library media center is undergoing “re-visioning” and reorganization. The overall goal is to make the library a warm, inviting space for students and staff to work and learn. Stop by to see some of the changes!



As you can tell, we have had a flurry of activity these first few weeks of school – and we are learning and growing every day. We hope you are enjoying the beautiful autumn harvest season and wish you all the best from Haddam-Killingworth High School.

Respectfully,

Donna L. Hayward

OUR TOWN



By Thornton Wilder

**Haddam-
Killingworth
High School**
95 Little City
Road
Higganum, CT

**Saturday,
November 5**
7pm

All Tickets \$5
860.345.8541

Produced By
Special
Arrangement
With
Samuel
French, Inc.

SCHOOL COUNSELING UPDATE – OCTOBER 2016

College Visits

College representatives visit HKHS during lunch/activity period. This is a great opportunity for your juniors and seniors to ask specific questions regarding the application process to an admissions representative. Your child can sign up for College Visits by logging into Naviance/Family Connection, clicking on “Colleges”, then “View All Upcoming College Visits” (on the right of the screen). Once you see a college you are interested in, click “Sign-Up”. Your child will get a reminder of the representative visit a day in advance.

Financial Aid Night

Financial Aid Night: November 21, 2016, HKHS auditorium 6:00 p.m - 7:30 p.m.
Presented by: Irene Martin Director of Financial Aid at Middlesex Community College
Senior and Junior parents are encouraged to attend, all others welcome.

Senior Parent Night

Senior Parent Night was held the evening of September 19, 2016. Over 100 parents and students attended. The School Counselors discussed the College Application Process using Naviance, and went over the timeline for submitting applications, requesting counselor/teacher recommendations and how to obtain scholarship and Financial Aid information.

If you were unable to attend, please have your son/daughter stop by and pick up a copy of the PowerPoint presentation.

The School Counselors are busy meeting with individual seniors to discuss their post-secondary plans. If your child is applying Early Action or Early Decision, please see your School Counselor as soon as possible.

Juniors/Sophomores

PSAT Testing will be held on Wednesday, October 19, 2016 during the school day at HKHS. There is no fee for HK students and pre-registration was already held during Advisory. The PSAT's are the best indicator of performance on the SAT and provide sophomores with areas for improvement, while allowing juniors the opportunity to qualify as a National Merit Scholar and to match students to potential colleges.

7th & 8th Grade Preview Night

Principal Donna Hayward, Administrators, School Counselors, and Department Chairs will present an informational overview of HKHS to 7th & 8th Grade parents and students

on Monday, October 17 at 6:00 p.m. in the high school auditorium. Building tours are at 5:15 p.m. Please RSVP to Kati Mohr at kmohr@rsd17.org for tours.

Parent/Teacher Conferences

Parent/Teacher Conferences will be held on Wednesday, October 26 from 12:35 – 3:00 p.m. and Thursday, October 27 from 12:35 – 3:00 p.m. and in the evening from 6:00 – 7:55 p.m. Conferences are filling up fast, so please visit pickatime.com/hkhsconfrences/Fall2016Conferences.

Progress Reports

Quarter One Progress Reports were mailed home to those students who received either a “D+” or lower on Friday, September 30.

SAT/ACT Testing Dates

The following upcoming SAT & ACT Tests will be held at Haddam-Killingworth High School:

ACT Test **Date:** October 22, 2016

Register at: www.actstudent.org

SAT Test **Date:** March 11, 2017

Register at: www.collegeboard.org

Upcoming Dates To Remember

October 17, 2016 – 7th & 8th Grade Preview Night - 6:00 p.m.

October 19, 2016 – PSAT Testing (during school)

November 2, 2016 – Grades Close/Marking Period 1 Ends

December 12, 2016 – Junior Parent Night - 6:00 p.m.