

## SUPERINTENDENT'S WEEKLY WRAP-UP - JAN 29 - FEB 4, 2011

### HAMILTON TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL

**Guest Speaker** - HTHS Principal was honored and privileged to be invited in the Business and Accounting Classes to speak on Management versus Leadership. The students responded with excellent questions and great points of view.

**Student Teaches Students** - Within the Technology and Design Department, Students model and review safe operation of machinery by researching, practicing, and finally demonstrating assigned power equipment to their peers and the instructor. Students use prior knowledge, machinery manuals, books, and internet resources to prepare for the presentation. Within their presentation, each student must give a Description and Usage 25%, a Demonstration and Safety 25%, Adjustments and Operation 25%, and Maintenance and Cleanup 25% review for a complete grade. At the end of each presentation, students will participate in a Q & A session to wrap up the lesson.

*K-12 Technology, Academic Content Standard 7, Benchmark D, Grade 9, Use and Maintain Technological Systems.*

### OFFICE OF SPECIAL EDUCATION

**Office of Exceptional Children Seeks Applications for SAPEC** - The Individuals with Disabilities Education and Improvement Act (IDEA 2004) requires State Education Agencies to establish a State Advisory Panel. The Ohio Department of Education's State Advisory Panel for Exceptional Children (SAPEC) is seeking nominations for membership for a three year term beginning July, 1, 2011. **We are requesting your assistance with identifying potential members for this panel. We are seeking members who are individuals with disabilities, teachers, representatives of an institution of higher education and representatives of a vocational, community or business organizations concerned with the transition of children with disabilities.**

SAPEC's purpose is to provide broad based input to the Office for Exceptional Children (OEC) regarding policies, practices and issues related to the education of children and youth with disabilities who are between the ages of birth through twenty-one. In addition to the required federal mandates for State Advisory Panel members, SAPEC will investigate best practices and anticipate future needs for special education in Ohio. OEC's goal is to establish an active State Advisory Panel with broad representation from across the state to advise the OEC on issues related to Ohio's state performance plan, state improvement grants, OEC's General Supervision responsibilities, effective implementation of IDEA Regulations and other initiatives designed to improve outcomes for all children with disabilities.

State Advisory Panel membership, as prescribed in IDEA, includes a variety of constituents which are listed in the attached membership application. The majority of members must be individuals with disabilities or parents of children with disabilities ages of birth through 26. Please review the membership requirements listed on the attached application. If you are interested in seeking membership on the SAPEC, please complete the application and submit it along with the requested information by **no later than Feb. 28, 2011** in order to be considered for membership in 2011-2012. **Also, please forward this information and application to others who meet these requirements and may be interested in serving on the panel.**

All applications will be reviewed by the SAPEC membership committee and recommendations for membership will be presented to SAPEC members and the Director of the OEC for final approval during the April 2011 SAPEC meeting. Appointments to the panel will be made by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction.

Thank you for your assistance with identifying individuals to serve on Ohio's State Advisory Panel for Exceptional Children. If you have any questions concerning this process, please contact Crystal Ginn at (887) 644-6338 or [crystal.ginn@ode.state.oh.us](mailto:crystal.ginn@ode.state.oh.us).

**Information for College Bound Students with an IEP -  
COLLEGE BOUND STUDENTS WITH AN IEP  
SEMINAR FOR PARENTS, STUDENTS & STAFF  
Co-Sponsored by Hilliard & Dublin High Schools' Transition Programs  
These questions and more will be addressed:**

- **Do I need to take my IEP to college? Is there a college IEP?**
- **Will my professors be notified about my disability?**
- **Can I have extended time on tests like in high school?**
- **Can I take open book/note tests? Can I have reduced assignments?**
- **Can I substitute for a foreign language requirement?**
- **Can a parent call to inquire how their child is doing?**
- **What do colleges do to retain students?**

**WHEN: MONDAY, MARCH 7, 2011**  
**WHERE: Hilliard Darby High School**  
**4200 Leppert Road, Hilliard OH 43026**  
**TIME: 4:00 – 6:00 PM**

Please register at <https://prodev.edcouncil.org/>

**PANEL REPRESENTATIVES:**

*Moderator, Tim Conrad, Ph.D*

*Guidance counselor*

*College Student*

*Columbus State Community College*

*DeVry University*

*Hocking College*

*Otterbein College*

*Ohio University*

*Sinclair Community College*

*The Ohio State University,*

*Wright State University*

*Military Recruiter*

**HAMILTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

**Rescheduled Success Assemblies** - Due to the winter weather this past week some of our Celebrating Success Assemblies had to be rescheduled. On Monday, February 7th, House 3A will be honored at 9:00 a.m. and house KA will be honored at 10:00 a.m. Then on Tuesday, February 8th, it we will be recognizing House 3A at 9:00 a.m. and House 1B at 10:00 a.m. If there is any question about your child's awards assembly contact your child's teacher.

**Final Week To Purchase Spirit Wear** - The Hamilton Elementary PTO Ranger Spirit Sale is winding down. If you are interested in purchasing Ranger t-shirts, sweatshirts, polos, pajama bottoms or windbreakers, check out our website or stop by any of the school offices for more information. The sale will run through February 10th and order forms can be dropped off at any district office.

**Students Take Advantage of "Book Club"** - Miss DePascale has a few 2nd grade "Book Club" students that are presenting reports to their classmates on the books that they have read. Most recently, Cael Shaw is one of four students who will present their reports in the upcoming weeks. He presented a summary of the book titled "The Chalk Box Kid" by Clyde Robert Bulla and created a 3D "Movie Poster" to help highlight the important parts of the story.

**Africa Visits HES** - On February 9th, Hamilton Elementary will be having an in house field trip as African drummers take the stage. Sogbety Diomande, native of the Ivory Coast in West Africa, will be joined by several other performers as they share their talents with our students. Sogbety has been performing since he was a child and began his own troupe in 2005. His troupe performs at festivals and schools, holds drum workshops, and gives assemblies and lectures around the world. We are very pleased to host Sogbety and his friends during two assemblies on February 9th to our K-3 students. This assembly was made possible due to the generosity of the Hamilton Elementary PTO and coincides with our theme this year "Book A Trip Around the World."

**3rd Grade OAA Reading Program** - Beginning February 8th, students who met qualifications based on their 3rd grade Fall Reading Ohio Achievement Assessment score will be able to take part in a Reading Program to help improve their comprehension and fluency. Parents have the option of bringing students prior to the start of school, after school or allowing students to ride the bus after school on Tuesday's and Thursday's. Hamilton Elementary teachers have developed an interactive program based on student needs, using current resources to help students master the skills needed to master the OAA. The program will run through the week before the OAA, April 25th.

## **HAMILTON INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL**

**Preparing Intermediate Students For College** - Our intermediate staff has been focusing on the importance of preparing and getting our students excited about going to college. We realize how important it is to motivate our students at this young age to attend college and look into different careers. Along with participating in "Future Focused Friday," the intermediate staff is also reading articles on this topic, incorporating career and college information in their lessons, and having the students take an online "Are you prepared for college?" quiz.

**Hamilton Intermediate Post Is Going Green** - In an effort to "go green," the Hamilton Intermediate Post will now be paperless. Please view the latest edition of the Post on the Intermediate website at [http://www.hamilton-local.k12.oh.us/intermediateschool\\_home.aspx](http://www.hamilton-local.k12.oh.us/intermediateschool_home.aspx). Next month, Hamilton Intermediate will also be adding a few new talented sixth grade reporters. Take a look to see their latest news!

**Children's Hospital Will Receive 1,200 Books** - The Intermediate staff and students collected an astounding 1,200 books for Children's Hospital's Reach Out and Read Program. They will be collecting non-perishable food items for the Mid Ohio Food Bank during the month of February. Hamilton Intermediate is also continuing to collect pop tabs for the Ronald McDonald House.

**Compass Learning At The Intermediate School** - CompassLearning Odyssey® delivers standards aligned to our curricula that provide interactive, self-paced, challenging, engaging activities. Activities promote exploration, individual and cooperative learning, problem solving, reflection, and real-world connections. Odyssey applies current and confirmed research about how student think and learn. The first step in effectively using Compass Learning at home is to check to see if you have all of the system requirements on your computer. Students will also need their “user name” and “password.” They may get this information from their teacher(s). Teachers are then able to assign an initial assessment based on the Ohio Academic Content Standards, which will create a learning path designed to meet the needs of each individual student.

<http://www.campuslearning.com>

## **OFFICE OF ALTERNATIVE PROGRAMS**

**OhioLearns Offers High School Students Online Advanced Placement (AP) Classes** - Since September, the program has expanded its grade 9 to 12 offerings to include courses in core content areas as well as credit recovery courses. A total of 237 online courses are now available for high school students. ([www.ohiolearns.org](http://www.ohiolearns.org))

The OhioLearns high school program was launched with an initial focus on AP courses due to one-time state funding of \$1 million for students to take AP courses online. Fee waiver opportunities for the 40 OhioLearns AP courses for both second semester this school year and throughout 2011-2012 are still available. Students who are eligible for AP courses at public schools may apply for fee waivers to assist with the cost of AP distance learning courses. To be eligible for the fee waiver, a student must be registered by a local school counselor or official who ascertains that the school will accept the grade and credit for the course. The fee waiver provides free tuition for the course, but does not cover books, lab fees or the AP exam.

OhioLearns began in 1999 as the Gateway to Distance Learning in Ohio for anyone interested in college-level, distance-learning courses and degrees from the state's two-and four-year colleges and universities. The addition of high school courses to Ohio Learns was established by the Ohio Board of Regents and is administered in collaboration with eTech Ohio by the Ohio Learning Network, an Ohio higher education consortium. For registration details and the online catalog, go to [www.ohiolearns.org](http://www.ohiolearns.org) or contact Deb Segner, OhioLearns manager, at (614) 485-6737 or [dsegner@oln.org](mailto:dsegner@oln.org). (From Superintendent Delisle's EdConnect Newsletter, January 11, 2011)

**Gifted Education in Ohio Factsheets Now Available Online** - <http://www.ode.state.oh.us> - and search for Gifted Factsheets

**February Goal for Working with At-Risk Students** - Utilizing Elements of Motivation to Increase Student Achievement. Keeping our students motivated is a very important part of them continuing their coursework and ultimately being successful. Our Alternative Academy will be focusing on Motivation this month by talking with students about:

1) Setting a major goal, but following a path; 2) Finishing What You Start; 3) Learning how to Learn; 4) Taking risks. 5) We become what we think about all day. To change our lifestyle we must change our thinking habits. We change our thinking habits by focusing on desired goals, 6) Perseverance - developing attitudes/habits that keep you on track, 7) Overcoming failure - failure is a learning tool, 8) Breaking out of our comfort zones - In order to grow and change, we must be discontent with our current comfort zone, and 9) Seeing a goal as a journey of decisions.

## **OFFICE OF PUBLIC RELATIONS**

**Leader Alert** - When we tried to make the all-call that our district was closed on Tuesday, Feb. 1st, our automated system didn't work properly when initiating the calls. Their system sent out the calls to some of you, but not all. We send out the original closing call to staff at on Tuesday morning at 5:22 a.m. with the call going out to our students at 5:23 a.m. After realizing not everyone received the original call, we sent a second call at 5:36 a.m. for staff and 5:44 a.m. for students. The Leader Alert system finally distributed the all-call at approx. 7:30 a.m. Tuesday morning once they resolved their technical issues. We are researching to see if there is a similar communications product on the market that is more reliable.

Our complete staff list was called at 5:47 a.m. and was completed within three minutes of it being initiated on Wednesday morning. Our student calls began at 5:50 a.m. and the 2,300 calls were complete by 5:55 a.m.

If you believe we may be closed or on a 2-hr delay, and don't receive a call from us, there are many areas where you can find this information. Mr. Payne verifies that our information is included in all of the local news channel "info crawls" at the bottom of the screen, he contacts all of the highest rated radio stations in the area, along with posting it to our Twitter account (HamiltonLocalSD) and district Facebook group.

## **OFFICE OF TECHNOLOGY**

**SMART Exchange:** Many of you already take advantage of the wonderful resources available at SMART's exchange website. If you haven't checked it out yet, it is definitely worth the time. The site hosts pre-made lessons for SMART Notebook as well as SMART Response. Teachers can browse by grade, subject, or file type. There is also a search function for finding lessons correlated to state standards. There is a forum to connect with other teachers and teachers can also "share" their SMART lessons with others. SMART Exchange also has videos, pdfs, and much more. Some downloads even have classroom management functions, like fun ways to take attendance. For example, one of the most popular downloads this week is a Notebook file that allows students to come in and "pop" the balloon with their name on it, as a way to easily take classroom attendance. Check it out! :-)

From the Gallery tab in SMART Notebook, click on SMART Exchange  
<http://exchange.smarttech.com/>

## **HAMILTON MIDDLE SCHOOL**

**Principal's Honor Roll Students Rewarded** - On Friday, February 4, 2011, 72 Middle School students were treated to a pizza party during lunch because of their achievements in the classroom. All of the students involved have attained a minimum GPA of 3.8. Along with the pizza party and their certificates, these students also have earned the reward of a study hall in the cafeteria during intervention time. Congratulations to all of these high achieving students!

**Perfect Attendance Released for the Second Nine Weeks** - During the second nine weeks of the 2010-2011 school year, 74 Middle School students attained perfect attendance. During this time frame, they had no absences, were not tardy, and did not leave school early for any reason. This number of students was a 50% increase over the number from the 1st nine weeks. Congratulations to these students on being at school every day!

## **OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT**

**Health and Safety** - In accordance with state law (Ohio Senate Bill 210) and as part of our continuing effort to help ensure our students' health, we are completing Body Mass Index measurements for students in grades K, 3, 5, and 9. Body Mass Index (BMI) is a measure of body heaviness and an indirect measure of body fat. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, a BMI at or above the 85th percentile, or lower than the 5th percentile may be a health risk for your child. This is a screening and is not intended to be diagnostic. The purpose of the screening is to identify students who should follow up with their doctor to determine if there is any need for concern.

If you have questions, do not have a doctor or health insurance for your child, would like information on available community resources or would like to discuss these results with the school nurse, please contact our school nurse, Mrs. Kathy Brickey, at 491-8044, ext.1810.

Our high school and middle school teachers have been enrolled in an online class that will help them identify and provide support for students dealing with dating violence. The course will help our staff to recognize signs of dating violence and show them how to deal with both the victim and the perpetrator.

**Residency** - Mr. Yonnotti and Mr. Stevens continue to check numerous residency issues. It is our goal to investigate all concerns regarding students attending Hamilton Schools living outside of our district. When students are suspected of living outside of our district boundaries, Mr. Stevens and Mr. Yonnotti investigate the residence. Parents are then asked to provide proof of residency. If residency cannot be proven, we are required to withdraw the children in question.

**Transportation** - Hamilton Local Schools are actively recruiting new bus drivers. Please contact Mrs. Barbara Haughn at (614) 491-8044 or [bhaughn@hamilton-local.k12.oh.us](mailto:bhaughn@hamilton-local.k12.oh.us)

## OFFICE OF TEACHING AND LEARNING

**EXPLORE, PLAN, ACT** - As part of our post-secondary readiness efforts the district is encourages all students, starting in junior year, to take the ACT, which is the most widely accepted college entrance exam. The ACT assesses general educational development and ability to complete college level work and is used by colleges to help make admissions and scholarship decisions. In preparation for the ACT, sophomores take the PLAN. The PLAN test measures current academic development, explores career/training options, and helps with planning for the remainder of high school and post-secondary years.

Beginning this year, eighth graders will take two additional ACT assessments: EXPLORE and the Student Readiness Inventory (SRI). The EXPLORE test indicates if students are on the right track for college, helps guide course selection in high school, matches careers with areas of interest, and identifies areas for needed improvement. The SRI provides information on risk factors that may interfere with students' future success, such as school attendance and work habits. We believe the ongoing monitoring of students' college readiness and the opportunity to more readily adjust to student needs will result in better-prepared students. Research shows that students who begin the testing series in grade eight perform better on the ACT.

**South High Library Offers Homework Help and More** - In the South High Library Homework Help Center students will find everything they need to complete their homework -- friendly volunteers, computers, on-site school supplies and a welcoming atmosphere for studying and learning. The library also hosts a number of story times each week, and each summer it hosts summer reading clubs for children, teens and adults. The branch offers regular teen programs and a Job Help Center. In addition to its book collection, the library has many computers with word processing capabilities and access to the Internet. They also provide access to an extensive collection of electronic databases, which offer a wealth of information. The South High Branch is located just north of the Great Southern Shopping Center and across the street from Wendy's at 3540 S. High Street. More information is available by phone at 645-2ASK (2275). Library Hours are: Monday-Thursday 10-9; and, Friday and Saturday 10-6.

## PRESCHOOL

**Future Focus Friday** - The preschool staff proudly represented nine major universities and colleges, OU, YSU, OWU, KU, AU, Otterbein, Wright State, Marshall, and BGSU. Teachers discussed community helpers and what students would like to be when they grow up. Many students want to be teachers or the boss. Preschool students are on the road-the road to college!

**The Village Grows** - Lisa Payne is our preschool psychologist. She is responsible for testing students suspected of a disability and for students transitioning from PK to K. Lisa has also trained our staff on the DIAL 3 for screening purposes. It is great to work with such a organized and efficient professional. We are glad to have Lisa as part of our team.

Christie Johnson, a licensed Occupational Therapist works with preschool students on fine and gross motor activities. She is helping students on everyday tasks that they have difficulty performing. She works with students in a variety of settings-one on one, small group, and in an inclusion setting. She is also a great resource to all of the preschool teachers.



**ODE Inspection** - Chip Geckleler from the Ohio Department of Education spent two hours on Friday, February 4, 2011 reviewing required documentation for licensing purposes. He was really impressed with the facilities, curriculum, and organization of the preschool.

**100th Day Celebration** - We have rescheduled our 100th day for Monday, February 7, 2011. Students will be making 100th day soup, sorting, counting, and grouping items in sets of 10. It is a big day at the preschool!

## **OFFICE OF ATHLETICS**

**Seniors Make College Choices** - Seniors Josh Frakes and Mitch Horlocker were offered Division II football scholarship for the 2011 - 2012 school year. Josh has accepted a scholarship to play at Ashland University while Mitch Horlocker has decided to accept an athletic scholarship to attend Walsh University. Congratulations to Josh and Mitch and good luck during your college careers.

**7th Grade Lady Rangers Basketball: Rangers 29 - Teays Valley West 14** - The 7th Grade Lady Rangers defeated Teays Valley West 29 - 14 in the first round of the MSL Buckeye Division tournament. Lauren Longbrake scored a team-high 11 points, and Autumn Blosser added 10. Brittany Haughn and Jaelin Knight-Edwards scored 5 and 3 points respectively. Everyone contributed to the win by playing sound team defense and rebounding the ball. The team advances to play Teays Valley East in the next round.

The game is scheduled for 10:00 am on Saturday, February 5, at Fairfield Union High School. Go Rangers!

**8th Grade Lady Rangers Basketball: Rangers 35 - Amanda Clearcreek 34** - Down 34-28 with 33.2 seconds to go, the 8th-Grade Lady Rangers scored seven points to defeat the Aces of Amanda Clearcreek 35-34. After a timeout, Chelsie Tripp hit a three-point basket to cut the Aces lead to three. Another timeout allowed the Rangers to steal the inbound pass where a Zadei Edwards layup cut the lead to one with 18.5 seconds to play. The following inbound was again stolen, where Tripp was fouled with 13 seconds to play and made both free throws giving the Rangers a one-point lead and the victory. Tripp scored 11 points in all, leading the Rangers. Devyn Stevens scored 10 points, Jerica French six, and Anna McClain, Samantha Stone, Ali Belcher, and Edwards each scored two. The Rangers ended the regular season with a 4-12 record and await the final standings to determine positioning for the Middle School Tournament.

**Sally George Invitational Recap** - The varsity wrestling team improved from its 2010 season finish of 8th place at the 2011 Sally George Invitational finishing 4th of 19 teams. Chris Chandler wrestled in his first ever finals match beating the #1 and #4 seeded wrestlers in the Quarter and Semi Final Rounds. Brian Ray defeated two returning state qualifiers before finishing 4th in a tough weight class, while Micky Crum's only defeat of the weekend came to a returning state placer and the #1 ranked 189lb. wrestler in Central Ohio. Nick Rhoades and Chris Settles kept business as usual, making it to their fifth consecutive finals match in tournaments.