

NORTH ATTLEBORO HIGH SCHOOL

NEWS & REVIEWS -- FEBRUARY/MARCH 2010

PRINCIPAL'S POINT OF VIEW:

I am pleased to share the following items with you.

- Congratulations to those students who performed in the recent *One Act Play Festival*. The three plays were: "*An Evening with Edgar Allan Poe*," "*The Hysterical History of the Trojan War*" and "*The Balcony Scene*." "*The Hysterical History of the Trojan War*" was voted the Audience's Favorite Play. The Best Actress Award went to Heather Shore, Best Actor was awarded to Brendan Emanuel and Best Director went to Erin Kayata.
- Congratulations to the approximately 700 students who were invited to the 1st Quarter Renaissance Recognition assemblies held on December 4, 2009. These students achieved *Honor Roll* status and/or perfect attendance for the 1st Quarter. The NAHS Jazz Choir and the Quartette, under the direction of Robert Couture, performed an array of musical numbers. Ice cream sandwiches were served in the cafeteria following the entertainment.
- The Student Council sponsored a blood drive with the American Red Cross on Thursday, December 3, 2009 in the Pickering Gymnasium. A total of fifty-one donors presented and forty-one units were collected. The Student Council will be sponsoring another blood drive in March.
- Another congratulations to senior student Brendan Emanuel for being published in the annual MIAA publication of "Sportsmanship: A Game Plan for Life." This year's topic was "How Do Your Choices Impact Sportsmanship?" Brendan's essay won a "Finalist Award," only one of nineteen students in Massachusetts to earn this distinction. He concluded his essay with a quote from Mahatma Gandhi, "You must be the change you wish to see in the world."
- As we begin the 2nd semester, I wish to remind parents that my primary concern as principal is to provide a safe and secure environment for your children. Thankfully, the vast majority of NAHS students come to school everyday to attend classes, increase their knowledge and to be successful. However, occasionally the learning process may be interrupted for some of our students when they are harassed or bullied by another student. The staff and administration have zero tolerance for any type of harassment and the Student Handbook has specific policies against harassment, sexual harassment, bullying and hazing. I ask you for your continued cooperation and support in having all of our students attend NAHS feeling safe and secure in their environment.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

February

- 2 Senior Class Cap & Gown Assembly, Cobb Theater, 9:10-9:30 AM
- 4 Early Release Day – Parent Conferences, 10:30-12:00 & 1:00-1:49
Evening Parent Conferences, 6:30 PM – 8:30 PM
- 9 Advisor-Advisee Meeting, 9:00 AM – 9:18 AM
- 9 One FAN Meeting, Attleboro High School, 1:00 PM
- 11 School Council Meeting, Martin Room, 5:00 PM
- 11 National Honor Society Induction Ceremony, Cobb Theater, 6:30 PM
- 12 Renaissance Recognition Assemblies, Periods 6 & 7
- 15-19 Winter Recess
- 16 NAHS Alumni Association Meeting, Room 161, 6:00 PM
- 22 Students return to School
- 23 Math League, 2:00 PM
- 24 Sophomore Class Ring Assembly, Cobb Theater, 9:10-9:40 AM
- 25 School Council Meeting, Martin Room, 5:00 PM
- 25 Parent Council Meeting, Martin Room, 7:00 PM

March

- 1-5 MCAS Retests for Grades 11 & 12
- 2 Junior Class Assembly, Boys & Girls' State, Cobb Theater, Period 3
- 2 3rd Quarter Progress Reports Issued
- 2 Academic Booster Club Meeting, Martin Room, 2:00 PM
- 2 Parent Class Ring Night, Café North, 4:30-7:00 PM
- 3-5 Class Ring Sales, Café North, Period 5 Lunches
- 4 One FAN Dodge Ball Tournament, Pickering Gymnasium, 6:30 PM
- 9 Academic Booster Club's "Underground", Room 62, 6:30 PM
- 10 Advisor-Advisee Meeting, 9:00 AM – 9:18 AM
- 11 Academic Booster Clubs' Spring Trivia Throw Down, Cobb Theater, 6:30 PM
- 14 Regional Science Fair, Bristol Community College
- 15 Spring Sports Begin
- 16 Guidance Department's Junior Parent Workshop, Cobb Theater, 7:00 PM
- 18 School Council Meeting, Martin Room, 5:00 PM
- 18 Parent Council Meeting, Martin Room, 7:00 PM
- 23 MCAS ELA Composition Testing for Grade 10
- 22 Math League, 2:00 PM
- 24&25 MCAS ELA Language & Literature Test, Grade 10
- 25 Future Nurses' Day, Sturdy Memorial Hospital, 8:30 AM – 1:00 PM
- 26 Model Senate Day, Bridgewater State College
- 30 Passover Begins

Robert J. Gay, Principal

SCIENCE FAIR:

The 25th Annual NAHS David R. Vito Science Fair was held on January 13 & 14. Congratulations to all of the students who participated in the Science Fair. There were three *First Place Award* winners. The “Herbert Mason Hedberg Award” prize for the highest scoring project went to Shweta Kitchloo. The 2nd highest scoring project winners were Megan Hornsby and Emily Tierney. The 3rd highest scoring project winner was Meghan McHugh.

Second Place Awards were presented to Matthew Kelleher, Noor Alam, Delaney Smith, Alyssa Whitney and Shalini Paliwal.

Third Place Awards went to Ryan Charpentier and Colton Williamson. Finally, the winner of the “Project that Best Exemplifies the Scientific Method” was Frank Cai.

This year’s Science Fair advisor was Mr. Alexander Hatzberger.

EIGHTY-SIX NAHS STUDENTS QUALIFY FOR JOHN & ABIGAIL ADAMS MCAS SCHOLARSHIPS:

The John and Abigail Adams Scholarships provide a tuition waiver for undergraduate education at Massachusetts state colleges, universities and community colleges. This scholarship is based on a student’s performance on the grade 10 English language arts and Mathematics assessments of MCAS. A student must score in the “Advanced” category in at least one of the two MCAS tests and a minimum of “Proficient” in the other. A student must also have a combined MCAS score that ranks in the top 25% in their school district. Congratulations to the eighty-six NAHS students who qualified for the Adams Scholarship.

MCAS RETEST RESULTS:

Based on the November MCAS Retest results we recently received, 100% of the Class of 2010 passed the English/Language Arts test. Also, 99% of the Senior Class of 2010 has passed the Mathematics portion of MCAS. Seniors will have another opportunity during March 1-5 to pass the MCAS test before their graduation.

For the Class of 2011, 99% of students have passed the English/Language Arts test. Also, 98% of the Junior Class has passed the Mathematics test. Juniors will have three more opportunities to pass the test before they graduate in June 2011.

Overall, the above information is great news and it reaffirms the fact that NAHS students are succeeding in MCAS. Nevertheless, our goal continues to be that every student passes both MCAS tests. If you have any questions about MCAS, please contact Assistant Principal Ted Barrett.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETIES:

The formal induction ceremony for the Foreign Language National Honor Societies was held in the Cobb Theater on Thursday evening, January 28, 2010 under the direction of Foreign Language Department Head, Ms. Anne-Marie McGrail. Congratulations to the following inductees:

French National Honor Society:

Samantha Allen, Kyle Aptt, Vincent Borowy, Stephen Bourget, Evan Briggs, Sarah Brousseau, Connor Bry, Kevin DeMarco, Lauren Dunn, Filipa Estrela, Edward Fitzpatrick IV, Mark Germani, Zachary Greenhalge, Shweta Kitchloo, Kayla Leary, Ian MacDonald, Jonathan Mudge, William Palmer, David Reiffarth, Emily Tierney and Ashley Woods

Spanish National

Kathrine Bliss, Frank Cai, Haley Costello, Brendan Curtis, Emily Davis, Connor Devers, Ryan Flannery, Jillian Gabriel, Alexander Goldman, Tashfia Hasan, Lauren Hauer, Kaylee Henriques, Justin Ismail, Jennah Jacobs, Mario Jaramillo, Sarah Jiannetti, Daniel Johnson, Matthew Kelleher, Lauren Keough, Ian Korsland, Heather Krasner, Elsa Laskorski, Jeffrey Mark, Kelsey O’Connor, Nicholas O’Leary, Kyle Orfan, Rukshini Perera, Tristan Richardson, Joseph Solomon and Laura Speicher

YEARBOOK WINS NATIONAL AWARD:

The *Northern Light* 2010 Yearbook “From A Different Angle”, modeled after the NAHS building, has received a first prize nationally in competition. Each year the editors of the yearbook submit their book to be judged by the American Scholastic Press Association in College Point, NY. The yearbook competes against thousands of other yearbooks in all fifty states and U.S. territories. Out of all of the high schools with populations of 1,001 to 1,700 only one other yearbook in Massachusetts

was awarded a prize, and that was also a first place to *Spire* from St. John's Prep in Danvers. No one from our state placed in the second or third place categories. The *Northern Light* received 940 points out of the 1,000 points that the yearbook is judged on. The 2009 staff's them "From a Different Angle" received praise since they used the unique architecture of NAHS as a feature in both the copy and the photography.

The editors, who did such a wonderful job, have gone on to college. However, they will always be fondly remembered for the way they appeared on page one of the book, enclosed in a glass-paneled display case. The editors were Jill Brunelli, Katie Czepiel, Colin Flynn, Amy Goss, Caitlin Kenney, Greg Kuhn, Jen Lougee, Chelsea Ryan, Nick Wade and Shums Alikhan. Congratulations also go to our dedicated yearbook advisor, Mr. Patty Lush.

PARENT COUNCIL (P.C.):

- Physical Education Curriculum Coordinator Chris Perron was the featured speaker at the January 14 P.C. meeting. He reviewed the physical education program at NAHS and the varied activities offered to our students in their gym classes. Parents in attendance commented that Mr. Perron's presentation was outstanding. Parents also had the opportunity to participate in a lively "Ask the Principal" and "Ask a Guidance Counselor" question-answer session. Linda Gay was the Guidance Counselor in attendance and provided answers to all of the parents' questions.
- The next P.C. meeting will be held February 25th at 7:00 PM. The featured speaker will be Mrs. Julie Ensign, who is a vocational counselor at NAHS. Mrs. Ensign does an outstanding job in placing students in "School-to-Work" opportunities. She also organizes and coordinates the annual "Job Shadowing" program at NAHS. Mrs. Ensign is truly one of the lesser-known gems at NAHS. I strongly encourage you to come to the Media Center on February 25th for her presentation.

PARENT CONFERENCE REMINDERS:

- Thursday, February 4, 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM and 1:00 PM – 1:49 PM. It is recommended that you call the Main Office (508-643-2115) or e-mail abibeault@naschools.net to make an appointment. Parents with scheduled appointments will have priority over those parents without appointments. No appointments will be made after Tuesday, February 2nd.
- Thursday, February 4, 6:30 PM – 8:30 PM – There are no appointments taken prior to the evening. All conferences will be on a first come basis.

GALADRIEL:

The staff of NAHS's literary magazine would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year and remind you about our art and literature contest for 2010. We are currently accepting student submissions of poetry, prose, paintings, drawings, photos, and any other work for the upcoming edition of *Galadriel*. The best art and literature submissions will win Visa gift certificates and will have their work displayed in the centerfold of this year's magazine. Although the contact deadline is January 29, we will continue to accept submissions until March 1, 2010. We ask parents to encourage their sons and daughters to submit works of art or literature. – The *Galadriel* Staff.

North Attleboro Athletics:

We've had quite a few successful sporting events already this winter starting with the boys' and girls basketball holiday tournaments as well as gymnastics meets, hockey games, girls' track meets, and wrestling matches. Our boys basketball team is 8-1 and in first place in the league. Our swim teams are both undefeated and in first place. Our boy's track team is Hockomock Dual Meet Champions and Division II State Relay Champions. The Division II South Sectional Individual Wrestling Tournament will be held this year on Saturday, February 13th at NAHS in the Pickering Gymnasium. The North Attleboro Cheerleader Invitational Competition will be held on Saturday, February 20, at NAHS in the Pickering Gymnasium. I look forward to these events as well as many more exciting games and matches. All schedules may be found on line at "highschoolsports.net".

The following information will be helpful for those parents looking ahead trying to plan spring vacations and who are also concerned about the start of fall practices for 2010.

1. Spring vacation runs from April 19th through April 25th. Students are required to be at all practices and games during this period. If you anticipate a conflict, please be pro-active and contact the spring varsity coach as early as possible if you are making any travel plans.
2. All spring athletic schedules may be found on line at "highschoolsports.net". Spring schedules should be available on line now. This site is continually updated for any cancellations and postponements.
3. Fall practices may (per the MIAA) begin as early as Thursday, August 26th. The single exception is football and fall cheerleading, which may begin on Monday, August 23rd. Many of our teams will begin on Monday, August 30th.
4. If you have vacation plans that involve late August, it is recommended that you speak to the varsity coach before finalizing those plans.
5. It should also be noted that "Captains' Practices" that begin earlier in the summer are not sanctioned by the MIAA or NAHS. Student participation in these "practices" is 100% voluntary.

A reminder that all athletes must have a doctor approved/signed physical within 395 days of the first day of practice. The start of spring practice is March 15th. Only physicals dated February 15, 2008 and beyond will allow for eligibility.

Continued good luck to all winter athletes. GO BIG RED!

Important Guidance Dates:

MEFA will host a Junior Parents night on Tuesday March 16th at 7:00 in the Theatre "How to demystify the college admission process."

The Regional College Fair will be held on April 15th from 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM at Norton High School.

Juniors who wish to take the May 2nd or June 6th SAT must go online to register at collegeboard.com

Fine Arts:

MUSIC DEPARTMENT

February

- 1 Percussion Sectional 2-3pm
- 2 Woodwind Sectional 2-3
- 3 3rd Washington D.C payment due \$175
- 5 Jazz Brass Sectional 2-3pm
- 9 Brass Sectional 2-3pm
- 9 Friends of Music Meeting 7:00 PM, Teachers Lounge
- 11 Percussion Sectional 2-3pm
- 12 Jazz Saxes Sectional 2-3pm
- 20 Canning Fundraiser for DC Trip 9am-3pm TBA
- 23 Woodwind Sectional 2-3pm
- 26 Jazz Rhythm Sectional 2-3

March

- 1 Brass Sectional 2-3pm
- 3 Final Washington DC payment due \$TBA
- 5-6 Jr. District Festival @ AHS

- 9 Percussion Sectional 2-3pm
- 9 Friends of Music Meeting 7:00 PM, Teachers Lounge
- 13 Clark Terry Festival @ UNH- Jazz Band & Jazz Choir
- 16 Full Band Sectional 2-3pm
- 18-20 MMEA All-State Festival in Boston
- 26 Music Department Videogame Fundraiser TBA
- 30 Full Band Sectional 2-3pm

THEATRE COMPANY

The NAHS Theatre Company is pleased to announce open auditions for the 2010 Spring Musical, "The Music Man" by Meredith Wilson. Auditions were held on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, January 26th - 28th from 4-6 pm. Performance dates are Friday & Saturday, April 16th and 17th.

All students are welcome to join us and/or join a backstage crew. We need singers, actors, and dancers. No experience is necessary! See Ms. Forsgard in Room 62 for more information.

SCHOOL NURSES

Vision and hearing screening will be performed on grade 9 students only, per new state mandates, in February and were postponed from December. Letters will be sent home to students who need follow-up by an eye care specialist.

The Physical Education Department and the Nursing Staff of the North Attleboro Public Schools will administer the scoliosis-screening program for grade 9 students on March 3, 2009 during each student's physical education period.

School physicals will be on Thursday, March 4, 2010. Any student needing a physical this year for the 10th grade requirement, athletics or inaccessibility to a medical doctor must come into the nursing office to sign up and pick up the required forms. No physical will be given without these forms and a parent signature.

Physical exams are a Massachusetts state mandated requirement for all Grade 10 students. Please send in a copy of your child's physical done after January 1, 2009. Students will be excluded from school Junior year without documentation of this required physical exam.

If your child has medical issues not documented on the emergency card, such as surgeries, orthopedic issues or concussions, please notify the nursing staff directly by phone or email.

The high school nurses' webpage can be accessed through the high school web site. Just click on "nurse's notes" on the far left.

Please contact us with any questions.
508-643-2115 x226 and 227

Anne Sandland RN; MSN asandland@naschools.net

Melissa Langille-Badger RN; M.Ed mlangille-badger@naschools.net

ALL NIGHT GRADUATION PARTY FOR THE CLASS OF 2010

Date: Friday, June 4, 2010 from 10:30 PM until 5:00 AM

Place: Hockomock YMCA

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Anyone interested in volunteering at the All Night Grad Party, please contact Pam Holden at nahsallnightgradparty2010@yahoo.com. Everyone is welcome to help; you don't have to be a parent of a senior.

SLIDESHOW FOR THE GRAD PARTY

Senior parents: We are putting together a slideshow to run the night of the party. If you would like to submit pictures of your child or a group of seniors from over the years, please label them with the child's name, put picture(s) in an envelope and submit to the Nurse's Office at the high school or forward to the following e-mail: nahsallnightgrad@gmail.com.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Dairy Queen on February 4 from 2:00-6:00 PM, Applebee's on February 11 from 4:00PM-12:00 AM, Hat Day on February 12, Pizza Night with Big Red Pizzeria on March 3 from 4:00-9:00 PM. Please consider attending one or all of these events to help support a safe, fun night for the Class of 2010 graduates.

For more information please check out the link on the NAHS website under class information or e-mail us at nahsallnightgradparty2010@yahoo.com.

Thank you,
2010 Grad Party Committee

North Attleboro High School
1 Wilson W. Whitty Way
North Attleboro, MA 02760

NON-PROFIT
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
NO. ATTLEBORO, MA
02760
PERMIT NO. 226