

Hull Public Schools Quarterly Report

Hull Elementary School Students Participate in Fire Prevention



Pre-kindergarten student Erin Goodfellow practices the correct way to stop, drop and roll with Firefighter Tyler Pari. (Courtesy Photo Hull Public Schools)

Pre-kindergarten students show off their new fire helmets with members of the Hull Fire Department. Left to right: Firefighter Brian Thompson, Capt. Gary Twombly and Capt. Steve Johnson. (Courtesy Photo Hull Public Schools)

HULL — Students at Lillian M. Jacobs Elementary School received a special visit from the Hull Fire Department last week to refresh their fire prevention skills.

Oct. 7-13 marked National Fire Prevention Week, and to ensure children are prepared in the event of an emergency, Fire Capt. Steve Johnson, Capt. Gary Twombly, Firefighter Brian Thompson, Firefighter Jake Williamson and Firefighter Tyler Pari met with students in pre-kindergarten through fifth grade for some important lessons.

In 1925, President Calvin Coolidge declared Fire Prevention Week a national observance, making it the country's longest running public observance. Each year, the week is observed to coincide with the anniversary of the Great Chicago Fire of 1871 on Oct. 8, where more than 250 people were killed and more than 2,000 acres of land burned.

This year's campaign, which changes annually, was centered on the message: "Look. Listen. Learn. Be aware. Fire can happen anywhere."

Look – Students were educated on potential fire hazards within their home and where to look for them.

Listen – Capt. Johnson reminded students that whenever they hear a fire alarm, they should exit their home immediately and leave all belongings and pets behind. "Get out and stay out," Capt. Twombly added. "We will arrive quickly and rescue your pets."

Learn – Firefighters asked that students talk with their families to learn two ways out of every room in their house in the event that one is obstructed by fire.

Capt. Johnson and Capt. Twombly, along with firefighters Thompson, Williamson and Pari visited students on Oct. 9-11, where they led customized 30-minute training sessions for each grade. During every class, firefighters reviewed lessons from last year's Fire Prevention Week and used captivating visuals to guide their presentations.

- Pre-kindergarten: Stop, drop and roll – students practiced the maneuver on gymnastic mats as the firemen assisted them. Once all students had the opportunity to practice they received a tour of a fire engine.
- Kindergarten: Firefighters are community helpers – Capt. Twombly and Capt. Johnson disused the role of fireman within their community. Additionally, Firefighter Thompson demonstrated how each piece of equipment is put on before entering a burning building in an effort to alleviate any fears students may have had when seeing a firefighter dressed in his or her gear.
- First grade: Crawl low under smoke – students learned about how smoke rises and practiced crawling on their hands and knees on the gymnastic mats.
- Second grade: Escape plans – students were instructed to speak with their families to plan two escape routes from their house as well as meeting places once outside. ("Get out and stay out.")
- Third grade: What is fire? – students were introduced to the fire tetrahedron, a four-sided geometric representation of the four factors necessary for fire: heat, fuel, oxygen and chemical chain reaction.
- Fourth grade: Reporting emergencies – students learned how to identify emergencies and the proper methods to report them.
- Fifth grade: Cooking safety – safety precautions around cooking were discussed.

At the end of the interactive presentation, each student left with a fire safety pencil, bracelet and plastic firefighter helmet.

Additionally, each student was given a poster board and asked to draw a picture that represents what they learned during Fire Prevention Week. Posters are due on Oct. 19. The Hull Fire Department will pick one poster from each grade level that best represented Fire Prevention Week and award the student who drew it a ride to school on a fire engine. Fifth grade students were also asked to write one paragraph summarizing what they learned.

“Every year Hull firefighters do an amazing job taking on the roles of teachers to educate our students about the importance of fire prevention,” Assistant Principal Kyle Shaw said. “Throughout their presentations, students were curious, engaged and enjoyed showing off some of the tips they learned from firefighters. Thank you to the Hull Fire Department for taking the time to meet with our students.”

###

Hull Public Schools Hosts Successful Open House for Local Realtors

HULL — In an effort to share all the great programs, events and accomplishments happening at Hull Public Schools with prospective homeowners, Superintendent Michael Devine held an open house for local realtors last week.

While the vast majority of students residing in Hull attend Hull Public Schools, the district has seen a decline in enrollment due to fewer children living in town compared to 10 years ago.

“We wanted to invite realtors into our schools so that they could learn more about everything that’s going on, from kindergarten through 12th grade,” Superintendent Devine said. “It is our hope that they will then take this information and share it with their clients. Hull is truly a great place to live, work and raise a family, and that’s something we’d like to ensure is conveyed to prospective buyers.”

On Oct. 3, 20 realtors met Superintendent Devine, along with Assistant Superintendent Judy Kuehn, Principals Christine Cappadona, Anthony Hrivank and Nicole Nosek, as well as Assistant Principals Kyle Shaw, Rebecca MacDonald and Dan Mastrogiacomo at Jacobs Elementary School for a presentation on how Hull Public Schools stands out among its neighbors. Topics included:

- 1:1 iPad program for all students at the Memorial Middle School
- 1:1 Chromebook program for all students at Hull High School
- Small class sizes at all schools
- All inclusive sports teams that move onto regional and state competitions
- An exceptional special education program that meets the needs of nearly all students in their own school

Realtors also learned about some of the many student accomplishments throughout the district:

- MCAS scores above state average
- Outstanding college acceptances (i.e. Harvard University, MIT, Bates College, Boston College, Northeastern University, Georgetown University.)
- League championships in lacrosse, cheerleading and cross country
- High School band recognized at national music festival, WorldStrides OnStage
- Drama program recognized at the State Drama Festival
- 85 percent of first grade students read at or above grade-level

Hull High School Media Specialist Tara Grosso also shared her personal experience living in Hull, after moving with her husband and two school-aged children from Hingham.

“My entire family is thrilled to be living in Hull,” she said. “We all love it here.”

###

Hull High School Students Take Part in Annual Kick-Off Day

HULL — Principal Nicole Nosek is pleased to announce that students at Hull High School celebrated the beginning of another school year with their annual Kick-Off Day festivities late last month.

On Sept. 27, students in each grade level participated in a range of activities alongside their classmates, with ninth graders spending the first portion of the day engaging in various team-building activities and learning new ways to build trust and support within their class.

They also enjoyed a barbecue before attending a presentation by John Hopkins on the power of kindness, and what a single act of kindness can mean to another person. Hopkins taught for 36 years at Hanover High School. As an English teacher, he combined his passion for literature and poetry with his love of working with students. He previously earned the Teacher of the Year and Poet of the Year designations from the New England Association of Teachers of English

“The freshman Kick-Off Day experience was nothing short of fantastic,” Guidance Counselor and Kick-Off Day co-adviser Meghan Preble said. “I was so impressed with the enthusiasm of the ninth graders and the relationships they have already formed with their advisers and advisory members.”

Sophomores, led by Athletic Director and Community Outreach Coordinator Scott Paine, spent the first portion of the day performing community service throughout town. Students picked up trash along the beach, cleaned up a local cemetery, helped at the senior center and worked with the custodial staff at Hull High School.

Students in 10th grade also got to enjoy a barbecue and spent the second half of their day with freshmen attending the presentation by Hopkins.

“The day gave sophomores a great opportunity to give back to the town and perform much needed services for each of the locations,” Paine said. “It also left a lasting impact on our students, who gained a better understanding of the importance of community service.”

While the freshmen and sophomores were spending time with their peers in and around the high school, members of the junior class were busy preparing for post-secondary experiences by choosing one of the many distinguished colleges in Boston to tour.

From Emmanuel to Wentworth, Northeastern to Boston University, students were presented with admissions information, a tour of the campuses, and in some cases, the opportunity to observe a class in session.

“Seeing a college campus and classroom firsthand is one of the best experiences a high school student can have as they start looking ahead to their post-secondary options,” Assistant Principal Dan Mastrogiacomo said. “It’s incredibly important that our students are given every opportunity possible to succeed, and providing them the chance to explore the variety of options we have, especially right in our own backyard, is invaluable.”

Seniors celebrated the beginning of their final year at Hull High School by exploring various sites around Boston as well. Groups learned about the history of Fenway Park and the socioeconomic impact it had on the city in the early 1900s. Others toured the Museum of Science and learned about the ways in which science impacts our everyday life, while some of their classmates learned about marine life at the Boston Aquarium or took a historic tour along the Freedom Trail. “For our seniors, this opportunity to visit Boston, explore the history behind it, and appreciate everything Boston has to offer was an amazing experience,” Assistant Principal Mastrogiacomo added.

“The PTO and Boosters are such an integral part of our school community,” Principal Nosek said. “The chance for our students to experience Kick-Off Day is, in large part, due to the financial support both groups have shown.”

###

Hull High School Graduate Recognized for Academic, Extracurricular Accomplishments



Hull High School graduate Christian Olivieri earned numerous accolades for his high school athletics career and community work. (Courtesy Photo)

HULL — High School Principal Nicole Nosek and Assistant Principal Daniel Mastrogiacomo are pleased to announce that 2018 graduate Christian Olivieri has been recognized for his accomplishments in and out of the classroom.

Olivieri, a three-sport athlete (football, basketball and lacrosse), received numerous awards for his exceptional character and athleticism, including the Hull Knights of Columbus award for outstanding male athlete, the William Quattlebaum Memorial Award for outstanding student-athlete and the second Annual Globe Foundation/ Richard J. Phelps Scholar-Athlete Award. He earned each award over the summer.

“Christian was an outstanding three sport captain at Hull High School who excelled in the classroom, on the fields and on the court,” Athletic Director Scott Paine said. “He was committed to his teammates, coaches, teachers and classmates, and was one of the most dedicated and passionate high school student athletes I have ever met.”

When not participating in sports, Olivieri was also dedicated to his school work. He is a recipient of the Superintendent’s Award for maintaining the highest class rank while also participating in three sports for at least two years.

“Christian is one of the top academic students in the graduating class of 2018,” said guidance counselor Meghan Preble. “He was enrolled in a rigorous AP and honors curriculum, was a leader for his peers and a star athlete on the field and court. He embodied what a true student athlete should be. As his guidance counselor, I was always impressed with his humility and desire to challenge himself.”

Additionally, Olivieri was recognized by the Bruce Fund Scholarship Program for his extraordinary leadership in the community. Throughout his four years at Hull High School, he gave back in many ways, from coaching youth basketball to week-long service projects with his church.

“Everyone here at Hull High School is extremely proud of Christian and we wish him well as he begins freshman year at Bates College,” Mastrogiamomo said.

###

Hull High School Students Take Part in 9/11 Commemoration



Hull High School students at the 9/11 memorial ceremony with Boston Mayor Martin J. Walsh (Courtesy Photo)

HULL — Superintendent Michael Devine is pleased to announce that a group of Hull High School students participated in the commemoration of the 17th anniversary of 9/11 in Boston.

Fourteen Hull High School students who are members of the National Honor Society and student government were invited too take part in the ceremony, which was hosted by the Massachusetts 9/11 fund.

The group, along with faculty advisers Lindsey Ruxton and Kim Wall, participated in a wreath laying ceremony at the Public Garden, escorted family members of those who died on 9/11, handed out programs and served as ushers for the ceremony.

Last year, representatives from the Massachusetts 9/11 Fund visited HHS and presented to the entire student body about the tragic events of that day, shared stories of their family members who perished and provided insight on the resilience involved in moving on.

“It’s critically important for our students — many of whom were not yet born in 2001, or are too young to remember it themselves — to learn about the events of 9/11 and the lasting impact of that day on those who lost loved ones,” Superintendent Devine said. “I’m grateful to the Massachusetts 9/11 Fund for inviting our students to be a part of this ceremony.”

For the students who attended, the ceremony left a lasting impact on them.

“I had an amazing experience,” senior Mairenn Mulvihill said, “one I will never forget.”

###

Hull Schools Introducing Web-Based STEM Curriculum

HULL — Superintendent Michael Devine is pleased to announce that the Hull Public Schools are implementing a new science curriculum this year.

The new **STEMscopes** program will be introduced this year for students in kindergarten through eighth grade and uses new and innovative approaches to help students engage in an equitable way with science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) topics.

STEMscopes is a modern, internet-connected science curriculum that aligns with the national Next Generation Science standards, as well as the Massachusetts Science Frameworks. The program enables teachers to differentiate their instruction based on individual ability levels, while ensuring that every student has exposure to the same essential skills and knowledge.

Teachers will use their classroom SMARTboards to bring students interactive lessons and seamlessly incorporate videos, quizzes and other activities. The curriculum’s materials also enable students to conduct hands-on activities and labs. Classrooms will also be equipped with kits to allow for further exploration of topics and concepts.

“We’re all extremely excited about this program because of the unprecedented opportunity it gives our students to learn by doing,” Superintendent Devine said. “STEMscopes will position our teachers to get the most out of classroom time while enabling students to learn at a pace that’s comfortable for them.”

As a web-based program, STEMscopes is constantly evolving and can be regularly updated with new material and resources. It also allows students to access reading materials as they surpass certain levels of the program. Additionally, students have the option to seek out accelerated learning opportunities that go beyond the scope of the core program with both independent and guided lessons.

The program also has professional development built into its core, meaning that classroom teachers are also learning and improving their own STEM knowledge.

Instructional coaches and principals will work with teachers throughout the initial implementation of the program, with elementary and middle school teachers participating in additional professional development to sharpen their understanding of STEMscopes in November.

Created by Accelerate Learning Inc. and Rice University in Houston, STEMscopes quickly became the most widely-used science curriculum in Texas. It has since rolled out nationally and is now used to educate more than 4 million students across the country.

###

Hull Public Schools Partner with Whitsons Culinary Group for New Dining Program

Focused on Nutrition

HULL — Superintendent Michael Devine is pleased to announce that Hull Public Schools has partnered with Whitsons Culinary Group to provide students with nutritious breakfasts and lunches this year.

Whitsons has designed custom menus and nutrition education programs to meet the needs of Hull students, faculty and staff at each of the schools in the district.

“We’re excited to integrate Whitsons into the district to support our mission of helping children eat and learn to enjoy healthy foods,” Superintendent Devine said. “We recognize that students can often be selective in what they want for lunch and breakfast, but we are confident that everyone will be able to find something they love on the menu.”

At the Jacobs Elementary School, students will be able to choose from a variety of daily offerings, including hot entrées (which feature whole grain pasta, buns and pizza crusts, along with brown rice), garden salads, fresh bagels and artisan deli sandwiches. A la carte offerings will also be available, like fresh fruits and vegetables, yogurt and other nutritious snacks.

Additionally, to motivate children to choose nutritional meals and develop lifelong healthy eating habits, Whitsons’ Nutrition Safari program will incorporate lovable animal characters that will help teach students about well-balanced diets. Luke the lion offers these words of wisdom: the ‘mane’ course is your protein source, while Jillian the giraffe encourages everyone to reach for their greens.

At Memorial Middle School and Hull High School, Whitsons’ menus will offer a variety of delicious and diverse entree choices — from a simple bowl of soup to an elaborate home cooked meal — that will change throughout the year to reflect the freshest seasonal ingredients.

The cafeteria will also take on a new look, featuring food-court style stations, where students can pick and choose from different areas and cuisines. At the Coyote Grill, children can grab southwestern specialties like tacos, burritos and quesadillas, while the Frait Express will have fresh, daily made sandwiches and salads. La Cucina will boast pizza and stuffed breads and Healthy Harvest is loaded with fruit, grains and a veggie bar.

###

Hull High School Students Head to Galapagos Islands for Ecology Project



Left to right: Sophomores Olivia Ball, Christina Murphy, Tess Froio, Hannah Duran, biology teacher Sheila Blair, Audrey Lofgren, Jimmy Regan and Shelby Craig will head to the Galapagos Islands this summer. (Courtesy Photo Hull Public Schools)

HULL — Seven Hull High School students will head to the Galapagos Islands this summer as part of an ecology program to conduct field-based research on giant tortoises.

In July, HHS “Galapagoers” — sophomores Olivia Ball, Christina Murphy, Tess Froio, Hannah Duran, Audrey Lofgren, Jimmy Regan and Shelby Craig — will participate in the Galapagos Islands Ecology Program, where they’ll collect data for the Galapagos National Park (GNP) through an adult tortoise monitoring program. The trip is organized by biology teacher Sheila Blair through Ecology Project International. Giant tortoise populations are threatened by invasive species like goats, rats, pigs and ants, in addition to plants that out compete native vegetation critical for tortoise survival.

To carry out conservation efforts, GNP works with students to collect data that better allows them to understand the status of tortoise populations. As part of the project, students will also assist world renowned tortoise experts who are studying tortoise migration and diet.

“We’re extremely excited to be going on this once in a lifetime trip to work with scientists and researchers on the tortoise monitoring program,” Blair said. “Students will have the opportunity to put classroom instruction into practice while immersing themselves in a new culture that they’ve only read about in textbooks.”

HHS students will spend the first four days of the project on the Santa Cruz Island, and will then travel to the tortoise breeding center near Puerto Villamil. Throughout the 12 days on the islands, Galapagoers will complete 40 hours of classes in the following subjects: desert and marine ecology, island biogeography and ecology, conservation and protected-area management, tortoise biology, evolution and species adaptation, introduced versus endemic species and the scientific process.

In between their studies and research, students will have the opportunity to spend time with their peers from the Galapagos and explore the waters and islands through snorkeling, hiking and kayaking.

To assist in funding for Ecology Project International, HHS received \$10,500 through fundraising and grant allocations. The trip wouldn’t be possible without the support and extremely generous donations from the Hull PTO and Boosters Club

###

Hull Elementary School Students Complete 5K as Part of Girls on the Run Program



Twenty-five girls at Lillian M. Jacobs Elementary School participated in the Girls on the Run 5K earlier this month. (Courtesy Photo Hull Public Schools)

HULL — Lillian M. Jacobs Elementary School girls completed a special 5K earlier this month as part of a program designed to foster self-respect and healthy lifestyles.

On Saturday, June 9, 25 girls in grades three through five participated in the Girls on the Run 5K at Hopkinton High School, joining more than 600 runners who participated in the event.

Girls on the Run is a nonprofit organization that inspires girls to be joyful, healthy and confident in their everyday lives through an experience-based curriculum that integrates running.

During the 10-week program implemented at the Jacobs School, 27 girls took time out of their regular schedules to meet with coaches Tuesdays and Thursdays in the morning before school and in the afternoons after school. They focused on activities that would build self-awareness, teamwork, goal-setting and healthy relationships. Students would then participate in physical activities to help build endurance for the 5K.

“Girls on the Run was fun,” said third grade student Grace Kiley. “I learned a lot about myself and how I can be true to myself.”

The Girls on the Run program also incorporated a community service project, which Jacobs students decided would focus on raising money to support homeless individuals.

On June 7, the girls held a bake sale during the annual Jacobs Elementary School spring concert and raised \$423, which they donated to Wellspring Multi-Service Center.

Physical education teacher Keryn Leonard led the Girls on the Run program at the Jacobs School, with assistance from Principal Christine Cappadona, school psychologist Lauren Snowdale, reading specialist Mary Ellen Moran, technology specialist Kerrie Ryan and special education teacher Elizabeth Sypek.

“We’re so proud of all the girls who partook in the Girls on the Run program,” Principal Cappadona said. “The creative curriculum allowed students to really build their self-confidence while strengthening peer relationships, increasing physical stamina and raising money for a cause they support.”

###

Hull High School Seniors Recognized with Scholarships During Awards Night

HULL — Principal Paula Girouard McCann is pleased to announce that 44 Hull High School students earned more than \$78,000 in scholarships during their senior awards last week.

On Friday, June 1, approximately 100 students gathered in the auditorium to receive scholarships and awards for outstanding performance in academics, athletics and involvement in school organizations.

“The annual senior awards night is a wonderful testament to the hard work and special contributions that so many of these graduates have made to Hull High School,” Principal McCann said. “We wish our seniors the best as they pursue post-secondary education and careers following graduation.”

John Abatuno

Catherine Coccimiglio Nantasket-Hull
Rotary Club Scholarship
Hull Boosters Scholarships
Hull Nantasket Chamber of Commerce
Scholarship
Hull Scholarship Fund, Inc.

Meredith Beckett

Beatrice Satter Kaye Scholarship
Thomas Griffin Foynes Memorial
Scholarship
Elizabeth Devitt Everest Memorial
Scholarship

Shea Burke

Denise Dolan Memorial Scholarship
EM20 Award
Hull Scholarship Fund, Inc.
Hull Pirate Youth Basketball
Scholarship
Hull Youth Football/Paul Mitchell
Award
Kevin Burke Memorial Scholarship

Margaret Canavan

Hull Boosters Scholarships
Hull Garden Club Scholarship
Hull Lions Club Scholarship
Hull United Youth Soccer Scholarship
Hull High School Student Advisory
Scholarship

Zachary Caulfield

Boretti-Condon-Grey Scholarship
Thomas Griffin Foynes Memorial
Scholarship

Hailey Cederquist

Kenneth Cowen, Mr. C, Memorial
Scholarship

Sarah Dahill

Emma B. Ryan Scholarship
Hull Pirate Youth Basketball
Scholarship

Jessica Delaney

Emma B. Ryan Scholarship
Hull Pirate Youth Basketball
Scholarship
Paul J. Sheehan Memorial Scholarship

Faith Devitt

Francis J. Lyons Memorial Award (Fire
Chief)

Hannah Diemer

Danielle E. Struzziery Memorial Award

Riley Dolan

Emma B. Ryan Scholarship

Megan Dunn

EM20 Award

Victoria Fuda

Catherine Coccimiglio Nantasket-Hull
Rotary Club Scholarship
Danielle E. Struzziery Memorial Award
Daughters of the American Revolution
EM20 Award

Helen M. Weiser Scholarship Award

Hull Boosters Scholarships

Hull Lions Club Scholarship

Hull Nantasket Chamber of Commerce
Scholarship

Hull PTO Academic Award

Hull United Youth Soccer Scholarship

Kelly-ann Resnick Memorial

Scholarship

Reuben & Lizzie Grossman Foundation
Award

Hull High School Student Advisory

Scholarship

Devin Gamble

Lawrence Stone/Paragon Award

Michael R. Devitt Memorial Scholarship

Gregory Jenkins

Charles G. Waterhouse Scholarship

Melaney Jenkins

Hull High School Theatre Arts Award

Hull Pride Acceptance & Inclusion

Scholarship

Joseph C. Doniger Theatre Scholarship

Vinny Bregoli Scholarship for Music &
the Arts

Cynthia Kellem Musical Theater

Scholarship

Andrew Jones

Treston O’Hare Memorial Scholarship

Olivia Kelly

Paul J. Sheehan Memorial Scholarship

Jacob Lanner

Walter E. Labonte Memorial
Scholarship

Kristen MacDonald

EM20 Award

Hull Youth Football/Paul Mitchell

Award

Christian Marcella

Robert & Marylou Galluzzo Scholarship

Emily Menice

Catherine Coccimiglio Nantasket-Hull

Rotary Club Scholarship

David & Joseph Stone Memorial Award

Dottie Ayers Jacobson Scholarship

Hull Nantasket Chamber of Commerce

Scholarship

Hull Scholarship Fund, Inc.

Hull Teacher’s Association Scholarship

Kasey-Emily Mullenhoff

Hull Pride Acceptance & Inclusion

Scholarship

Pauline & Edgar Cook Scholarship

Paul J. Sheehan Memorial Scholarship

Shawn Nally

Nantasket Fellowship Society

Nhu Nguyen

Rose Stone Memorial Scholarship

Will Nolan

EM20 Award

Hull Youth Football/Paul Mitchell

Award

Ronin O’Reilly

Jason Mazzeo Memorial Award

Michael F. Powers Memorial Award

Christian Olivieri

Boston Globe Foundation/Richard J.

Phelps Scholar-Athlete Scholarship

Danielle E. Struzziery Memorial Award

Denise Dolan Memorial Scholarship

EM20 Award

Hull Boosters Scholarships – Joe Menice

Hull Scholarship Fund, Inc.

Hull Teacher’s Association Scholarship

Hull Pirate Youth Basketball

Scholarship

Hull Youth Football/Paul Mitchell

Award

Reuben & Lizzie Grossman Foundation
Award

Sheila Eileen Pearlman

Wendy Oberg Nelson Scholarship
Hull High School Theatre Arts Award
Charles G. Waterhouse Scholarship
Cynthia Kellem Musical Theater
Scholarship

Allison M. Haake Memorial Award

Jake Peters

Danielle E. Struzziery Memorial Award
Anne M. Rogers Scholarship
Denise Dolan Memorial Scholarship
Emma B. Ryan Scholarship
Hull Firefighters Local 1657 Scholarship
Hull Youth Football/Paul Mitchell
Award

Sean Reichardt

Sons of Italy Scholarship

Madeline Richardson

Hull Boosters Scholarships – Charlie
Feist
Hull Lions Club Scholarship
Hull Scholarship Fund, Inc.

Hull Pirate Youth Basketball
Scholarship
Wallace and Elinor Richardson
Scholarship

Maeve Richardson

Hull Boosters Scholarships – Joe
Sullivan

Hull Lions Club Scholarship

Hull Scholarship Fund, Inc.

Hull Pirate Youth Basketball

Scholarship

Wallace and Elinor Richardson

Scholarship

Christopher Rivieccio

Hull High School Music Award

Daniel Rocha

Paul J. Sheehan Memorial Scholarship

Matthew Rymaszewski

Cynthia Kellem Memorial Scholarship –

Hull Public Library

Hull Scholarship Fund, Inc.

Jewish War Veterans: Classmates

Today, Neighbors Tomorrow

Jacquelin Schroeder

Paul J. Sheehan Memorial Scholarship

Olivia Smith

EM20 Award

Hull Boosters Scholarships

Hull Youth Football/Paul Mitchell

Award

Old Colony Youth Cheerleading

Kelly Smyth

Denise Dolan Memorial Scholarship

Ernest Leonardi Memorial Award

Nathan Sordillo

EM20 Award

Julia Tramontana

Dorie Mahoney-Saville Scholarship

Kenneth Cowen, Mr. C, Memorial

Scholarship

Walter E. Labonte Memorial

Scholarship

Madison Williamson

Paul J. Sheehan Memorial Scholarship

Matthew Williamson

Hull Scholarship Fund, Inc.

###

Hull Police Participate in National Bike to School Day with Jacobs Elementary School

Students



HULL — Chief John Dunn and Principal Christine Cappadona are pleased to announce that Hull Police officers safely escorted more than 130 Lillian M. Jacobs Elementary School students to class last week as part of National Bike to School Day.

On Wednesday, May 9, 138 students gathered at five different locations throughout the town, where they were met by members of the Hull Police bike patrol unit. The officers conducted safety briefings and made sure each student had operable bikes and were wearing helmets.

Together, along with several parents and school faculty members, the groups made their way to the school. Additional Hull Police officers provided assistance with traffic at checkpoints along each route.

“YOU rode your bike?” fourth grade student Tayvin Frongello exclaimed as he passed by his teacher Elaine Menice, who had also geared up to cycle to school.

Once they arrived to school, students received snacks, water bottles and a coupon for free ice cream for participating.

“I wish we could do this every day,” said fourth grade student JT Gould.

“It was so enjoyable. I hope it becomes an annual event,” said teacher Emily Rosado

“What a great way to start the day.”

National Bike to School Day is coordinated by the National Center for Safe Routes to School and had about 2,500 schools participate from all 50 states this year.

“It was great seeing all the kids on their bikes as we rode through town and it was a really a beautiful day,” School Resource Officer Sean Fahey said. “Everyone made it to school safely and this is hopefully an event we can look forward to participating in next year as well.”

###

Holocaust Survivor Shares Her Story With Hull High School Students



Left to right: Holocaust survivor Janet Applefield and Hull High School social studies teacher Stewart Bell. (Courtesy Photo Hull Public Schools)

Left to right: Hull High School social studies teacher Stewart Bell, Holocaust survivor Janet Applefield and Janet's son Jonathan Applefield. (Courtesy Photo Hull Public Schools)

HULL — To coincide with their history curriculum, freshmen at Hull High School received a visit from a Holocaust survivor last week, who shared her experience during and after World War II.

On May 3, students gathered in the exhibition room at Hull High School to hear Janet Applefield's heartbreaking account of the ways her life was forever changed by the chaos of the war and genocide.

Accompanied by pictures from her family during the war and afterward when she settled in America, Applefield spoke about the dangers of hatred, injustice, intolerance and prejudice.

Applefield grew up in a small village outside Krakow, Poland. Her father and grandfather owned a large hardware business, where people from surrounding towns came to shop. She was just 4 years old when the war began, and because of her pale blonde hair, blue/green eyes and upturned nose, she looked like the typical image of an Aryan child. Her appearance, she said, is a large reason why she believes her life was spared.

When the Nazis invaded Poland in September 1939, Applefield's family – like thousands of others – fled east to Russia. There, her younger sister, only 18 months old, died from diphtheria. Meanwhile, the Polish army surrendered to the Germans and everything changed.

Despite the turmoil in Poland, Applefield and her mother and father returned from Russia. Upon their arrival, they were moved to a ghetto. They attempted to escape, but were caught by Polish police, who were collaborating with the Nazis.

On the day before mandatory selection, Applefield's parents made the difficult decision to give her to their cousin's Polish nursemaid. The following morning, her father was taken to the Krakow ghetto and then later to the Plaszow concentration camp, while her mother was killed.

"Staying with the Polish woman, I had many frightening experiences," Applefield recalled. "Once, a Gestapo agent came, looking for Jews in hiding. After ransacking the apartment, he looked at me, held my blond pigtail in his fingers, and left. I still remember his chilling smile and black leather knee-high boots clicking as he descended the stairs."

Knowing she would not be safe with the Polish woman, her father, before being transported to the concentration camp, arranged for Applefield to stay with a cousin. Later, she was transported to a farm owned by a Catholic Church, where she was treated like family.

When the war ended, Applefield was then placed in a refugee center with other Jewish children, and then later moved to an orphanage, where she eventually reunited with her father, who had survived the war. She and her father fled to the U.S. in March of 1947.

"My rescuers were unusual, special people. They did not stop to analyze their actions, did not waiver, hesitate, or even think about the tragedy that could result from their acts," Applefield said. "Although they knew they were risking their own lives, they simply responded to the cries of an abandoned child. They did not care who I was or what religious background I came from. Their motive was pure and simple: to save a child. My rescuers are the genuine heroes. They asked for nothing and gave everything."

Applefield ended her presentation by asking the students to continue to tell her story, so that they can bear witness to history and help ensure atrocities like the Holocaust never happen again.

The event was made possible through a collaboration between the the Hull Cultural Council and social studies teacher Stewart Bell.

"Janet's story is something I think students will keep with them forever," Bell said. "The room was silent as she spoke and you could tell that everything she shared resonated with kids, especially given that we've been discussing World War II in class. We want to thank Janet for taking the time to come out and visit with us."

Former BMX Stunt Champion Chris Poulos Visits Hull Elementary School for “Everyday Hero” Presentation



Chris Poulos, former BMX Bike Stunt Champion, speaks to Jacobs Elementary School students right before jumping over teachers on his bicycle. (Courtesy Photo Hull Public Schools)

Former BMX Bike Stunt Champion Chris Poulos awes students with some of his impressive tricks. (Courtesy Photo Hull Public Schools)

HULL — Lillian M. Jacobs Elementary School students received a special visit last week from former BMX bicycle stunt champion and motivational speaker Chris Poulos during their Spirit Day assembly.

The monthly assemblies are designed to celebrate school spirit and give students the opportunity to discuss topics relevant to what’s going on in the building.

On Friday, April 27, students gathered in the gymnasium to listen to Poulos’ speech, titled “Everyday Hero: The Guide to Being an Upstander,” which he delivered while riding around and performing tricks.

“Chris’ emphasis on kindness, friendship and respect aligned well with the Jacobs School core values and emphasis on the growth mindset,” Assistant Principal Kyle Shaw said. “His presentation was interactive and compelling, and you could tell just by watching students that they were taking in everything he had to say.”

His presentation, which focused on safety, respect and the importance of pursuing your dreams, included several key points for students to keep in mind.

Be respectful of others: Be nice to people, cooperate and use kind words. One of Jacobs core values is “I will respect others,” so the group discussed how to earn respect. (Don’t be a bully, help someone in need, share, etc.)

Practice: Hard work pays off, so always do your best. Some stunts took Poulos weeks, months and even years to learn and master. Persevering through adversity leads to success.

Be a thinker: If you made a mistake, how would you do something differently if you had to do it again?

Don’t be afraid to apologize: Use courage to say you’re sorry when you do something wrong.

Be safe: Wear a helmet, use a seat belt, walk (don’t run) in the hallways. Listen to adults and teachers. Their words of wisdom are meant to keep you safe.

Make new friends: Poulos demonstrated with a group of students how to invite a new person into a group.

“I learned to be kind to everyone,” said a first grade student Maggie Jones after Poulos’ performance.

“I learned to be safe on a bike by wearing a helmet,” added first grade student Tess Schultz.

About Chris Poulos:

Growing up as a kid with a lot of energy, Poulos quickly realized he was able to focus that energy on perfecting a skill, which he turned into an acclaimed career. He has won 85 worldwide competitions, but is most well-known for winning the international 1991 Bicycle Stunt World Championship and 1990 and 1991 National Bicycle Stunt Championships. Poulos now travels to schools as a motivational speaker, talking about subjects like overcoming fear, respect and finding balance in everyday life.

Hull Public Schools Participate in District Art Show





HULL — Students from Hull Public Schools celebrated a mix of old and new earlier this month, teaming up with the Hull Lifesaving Museum to present a district-wide art show.

On Tuesday, April 3, members of the Hull community gathered at the Hull Lifesaving Museum, 1117 Nantasket Ave., to celebrate opening night of the 2018 Hull Public School District Student Art Show. Attendees enjoyed artwork from students in kindergarten through 12th grade and music from the Hull High School band.

Guests also had a unique opportunity to learn about the past and present by speaking with staff about the museum's history and viewing artwork and artifacts spanning the centuries which were displayed alongside students' work.

The show was on display until Sunday, April 22 during regular museum hours.

###

Hull Middle School Students Host Inaugural Plastic Awareness Week



Left to right: sixth grade students Madelynn Pearson, James Doty and David Brown won the tower challenge, where they were tasked with creating the tallest structure out of recyclable materials. (Courtesy Photo Hull Public Schools)

Left to right: sixth grade student Ava Russo, sixth grade science teacher Heather Weber and sixth grade student Elly Thomas. Russo and Thomas earned Hull water bottles for winning the Plastic Awareness Poster Contest Enrichment Activity. (Courtesy Photo Hull Public Schools)

HULL — Students learned a valuable lesson about the importance of recycling following the launch of Hull Memorial Middle School's Plastic Awareness Week.

From March 26-29, the Green Team — a student group that promotes environmental awareness — hosted several events and activities to increase awareness about plastic pollution.

"Although we can't change the world in a week, we can implement changes in our school and daily lives to help protect our planet," said sixth grade earth science teacher Heather Weber, who serves as the adviser for the Green Team. "The Green Team did a great job at coming up with and facilitating activities throughout the week to get students, faculty and staff to realize how even the smallest modifications can be beneficial."

Monday: Students watched the video "What really happens to a plastic bottle you throw away," which explains the ramifications of not recycling. Advisory groups — a small group of 10 students that meet with a faculty adviser once a week to explore different topics and participate in team building activities — then competed to make the tallest free-standing structure using only materials from the blue recycling bins in their classrooms.

During the activity, if students found that they were lacking materials in the bins, teachers pointed out that not enough items were being recycled. Anything sticky was used as conversation starter to remind students to always rinse recyclables before disposing of them.

"While the main goal of the tower challenge was to serve as a teachable moment and raise awareness, we also wanted students to have fun collaborating with peers and engaging in a friendly competition," seventh grade science teacher Joanna Frazier said. "They really got creative and came up with some interesting structures."

The Green Team served as judges and awarded John Whittle's sixth grade advisory group as the winner. They earned a breakfast party during a future advisory meeting.

Science teachers also spent time in the lunchroom to remind students which items they could recycle and how to properly dispose of trash. To further promote recycling, the Green Team sold reusable water bottles during lunch for \$12 each. The bottles were so popular they sold out, but more will be available at the science fair on April 4.

Tuesday:

Members of the Environmental Protection Agency visited the middle school to give a 45-minute presentation on plastic pollution to each grade. Through their work, the presenters have traveled around the U.S. and were able to share firsthand knowledge with students about the damage plastic causes to our wildlife and environment.

Waste Free Wednesday:

All students and staff were challenged to make at least one reduction in their daily waste. Students who brought in a waste-free lunch would then be granted permission to participate in an outdoor lunch when the weather permits in May/June.

Thursday:

From Tuesday-Thursday, students could sign up for a Plastic Awareness Poster Contest Enrichment Activity with Weber.

Following a vote by the student body on Thursday, sixth grade students Elly Thomas and Ava Russo received a Hull Green Team Water bottle filled with candy. Entries were judged based on relevance of topic, creativity, and originality.

Hull Memorial Middle School, under the leadership of the Green Team, will host Plastic Awareness Week annually to educate the community about pollution and the importance of recycling.

###

Hull High School Students Test Driving Skills in Distractology Van



Junior Griffin Bezanson completed the Distractology simulation. (Courtesy Photo Hull Public Schools)

More than 60 students took the Distractology course at Hull High School last week. (Courtesy Photo Hull Public Schools)

HULL — Hull High School students got a chance to perfect their driving skills last week after completing a distracted driving simulation.

During the week of March 12, more than 60 young drivers got behind the wheel of the Distractology Van to test their abilities to avoid distractions while on the road.

The National Occupant Protection Use Survey reports that at any given time, there are 660,000 distracted drivers on the road. To date, drivers who complete the Distractology course are proven to be 19 percent less likely to have major/minor accidents and 25 percent less likely to get traffic violations.

Participants sat in the simulation for 45 minutes each, getting a firsthand experience of how distractions interfere with their ability to react on the road, see hidden hazards and avoid accidents.

While “driving,” students encountered distractions like a ringing cell phone, spilling a drink, eating, or adjusting the radio, and soon learned how quickly accidents can occur even when they took their eyes off the road for just a few seconds.

After the simulation, students finished their training by completing a short, online interactive video reinforcing what they learned in the trailer. They walked away with a deeper understanding of the negative effects of distracted driving and a \$15 gas card.

“This was a great opportunity for students to learn the dangers of distracted driving in a safe environment,” Principal Paula Girouard McCann said. “After completing the real-life simulation, the hope is that participants will have a renewed commitment to keeping their eyes on the road and hands on the wheel at all times.”

Hull High School administrators are grateful to Sullivan, Garrity & Donnelly Insurance Agency in Cohasset, which the Arbella Insurance Foundation — an organization that sponsors Distractology and aims to end distracted driving — selected to host the learning experience at HHS.

The Distractology van was created based on research conducted by the Human Performance Lab at the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

###

Hull High School Drama Students Compete in Theater Festival



Members of the Hull High School Theatre Arts performed "Lockdown" in the Massachusetts Educational Theater Guild festival earlier this month. (Courtesy Photo Hull Public Schools)

HULL — Hull High School drama students put on a timely performance this month as their entry for the Massachusetts Educational Theater Guild festival.

On Saturday, March 3, members of the Hull High School Theatre Arts participated in the preliminary round of the festival, performing Douglas Craven's "Lockdown."

The show takes place at a high school that is in lockdown mode. Students congregate in a dark room and are unaware if what is happening in the building is a drill or a real emergency situation. When the teacher leaves to run after a panic-stricken student, the rest of the group is left to determine if they should stay or run.

Each year, the Massachusetts Educational Theatre Guild puts on a festival for high school students to showcase their acting and musical talents. This year, 112 schools from throughout the state competed. Winners from each performance site move on to the semifinals and a final competition determines two state winners that then represent Massachusetts in the New England Drama Festival.

Senior Melaney Jenkins, who served as the student director, chose "Lockdown" due to the relevant message, and appointed junior Sarah Ashley to be the student producer.

"Unfortunately, this piece, although fictional, illustrates a situation that so many students have been faced with recently," Jenkins said. "I'm really proud of everything we've accomplished and it was a great opportunity to lead my peers through this experience."

Jenkins and Ashley held auditions in September and recruited a production team comprised entirely of students. Senior Chris Rivieccio managed set design while junior Marcus Kurciviez handled lighting. Junior Olivia Whitman and Rebecca Rosenbaum, a sophomore, coordinated costumes for the cast.

Students first performed the piece for their peers and faculty members before competing at the festival. Audiences were riveted by the acting, and Rivieccio and Whitman received awards for excellence in acting at the Massachusetts Educational Theatre Guild festival.

As part of the competition, each school gives out a student recognition award to another participating school. Dover Sherborn High School presented Hull High School with the recognition award for working with a relevant topic that kept the audience on the edge of their seats throughout the performance.

Although Hull did not move on to the next round, HHS Director of Theater Arts Jim Sullivan is extremely proud of students' work.

"In only our second year of entering the festival we have gone from just putting in an entry to producing an award-winning show," Sullivan said. "We were the only school to be student led and produced, which allowed kids to further develop their leadership and problem solving skills."

###

Hull High School Students Raise Money for Those Affected by January Blizzard



Left to right: Hull High School students Lilly Whelan, grade 11, Shea Burke, grade 12, and Victoria Fuda, grade 12, with the check they sent to Wellspring following the Change for Good fundraiser. (Courtesy Photo Hull Public Schools)

HULL — Hull High School students held a fundraiser this month to help residents who were affected by the January blizzard.

From Jan. 22 to Feb. 2, students participated in the Change for Good fundraiser. Every day after lunch, each grade would collect their spare change to donate to Wellspring Multi-Service Center to help those in need.

In Hull, the blizzard caused extreme flooding, with water reaching the doors of some residents' homes. Many people lost belongings and some residents were forced to evacuate.

The fundraiser served as a Class Cup Challenge, where students in each grade level competed against each other to see who could raise the most money.

Throughout the year, students in ninth through 12th grade partake in various activities deemed Class Cup Challenges. The grade who earns the most points from the challenges at the end of the year wins the coveted Class Cup trophy. In total, HHS raised \$179, with the sophomore class collecting the most money — \$89 in change.

“Students wanted to be a part of the recovery efforts following the blizzard and really had a good time competing against their peers to see who could collect the most spare lunch money,” Assistant Principal Nicole Nosek said. “We know the storm in January really hit residents hard, so we are so glad to be able to partner with Wellspring to assist those in need.”

###

Hull High School Students Compete in Poetry Out Loud Competition



Left to right: Hull High School sophomore Rebecca Rosenbaum, junior Olivia Whitman and sophomore Luke Robbs. (Courtesy Photo Hull High School)

HULL — From the likes of D.H. Lawrence to the work of John McCrae, some of poetry's all-time greats were represented this year at Hull High School's annual Poetry Out Loud competition.

On Jan. 31, students gathered in the auditorium for the one-of-a-kind competition. Students from five different English classes first participated in an initial round of Poetry Out Loud, and teachers graded performances with the nationwide POL rubric. The top seven students were asked to compete in front of the school.

Poetry Out Loud is a national organization funded by the Poetry Foundation and the National Endowment for the Arts. It encourages students to learn about poetry, refine their public speaking skills, build their self-confidence and enhance their understanding of literary history and contemporary life.

Sophomore Rebecca Rosenbaum, who recited “America I Sing You Back,” junior Olivia Whitman, who read “I Sit and I Sew,” and sophomore Luke Robbs, who performed “In Flanders Fields,” placed first, second and third, respectively. In addition to Rosenbaum, Whitman and Robbs, the program also featured performances from sophomores Olivia Rys (“Bleeding Heart”) and Haven Veaguas (“Piano”), and juniors Marcus Kurvicies (“Where the Wild Things Go”) and Benjamin Fenelon (“Kubla Khan”).

Junior Kyle Miller emceed the assembly, giving a bit of background information on each of the student's performances, while senior Melanie Jenkins prompted the speakers.

Faculty members Jon Ridolfi, Amanda Davis, Paula Girouard-McCann, Brian Mullin, Jean Mazzilli, Cooper Marshall and Karissa Connors served as judges for the event. Participants were scored on their physical presence, voice and articulation, dramatic appropriateness, evidence of understanding, overall performance and accuracy.

As the first-place winner, Rosenbaum will represent HHS at the Southeast Regional Semifinal of the Massachusetts Poetry Out Loud competition, which will be held at the Cultural Center of Cape Cod in South Yarmouth on March 4. Rosenbaum will compete against winners from other high schools in the area for a chance to move onto the Massachusetts State Finals in Boston this spring.

"We're incredibly proud of all of the students who participated in this year's competition," Principal Paula Girouard McCann said. "It takes a lot of courage to get on stage and speak in front of the entire school, so I commend them for having the confidence and poise to do so. We're excited for Rebecca and wish her the best of luck as she heads to the regional competition this spring!"

Winners from each state will win a cash prize of \$200 and a trip to Washington D.C. to compete in the national competition from April 23-25 at George Washington University. The state champion's school will also receive \$500 to support the expansion of its poetry collection.

Poetry Out Loud is made possible by funding from the Poetry Foundation and the National Endowment for the Arts. For more information click [here](#).

###

Hull High School's Mock Trial Team Completes Successful Season



Left to right: junior Michael DelGuidice, freshman Fionn Krahforst, sophomore Haven Veraguas, junior James Barone, junior Andrew DelGuidice, junior Jillian Maxwell, junior Ben Fenelon, freshman Saxon Birnstiel, junior Katie Punchard, sophomore Ashley Dwyer and junior Michael Welch. (Courtesy Photo Hull Public Schools)

HULL — Whether discussing the merits of veganism, or the best video game in the Legends of Zelda series, the 17 students who make up Hull High School's Mock Trial team know how to make a case.

Led by English teacher Cooper Marshall and attorney coach Eric Hipp, the team includes junior James Barone, freshman Saxon Birnstiel, junior Andrew DelGuidice, junior Michael DelGuidice, sophomore Ashley Dwyer, junior Gabe Egan, junior Ben Fenelon, freshman Fionn Krahforst, junior Jillian Maxwell, junior Emma Mulvihill, junior Marienn Mulvihill, senior Kasey Mullenhoff, junior Katie Punchard, freshman Nolan Tiani, sophomore Haven Veraguas, junior Michael Welch and junior Olivia Whitman.

Despite the challenges posed this season by the loss of half of their teammates when last year's seniors graduated, the team walked away from their final competition victorious.

This year's case featured a fictional civil life insurance policy dispute, where students dug into theories of murder, jealous stepchildren and a potentially fake suicide note. In each competition, one team takes on the role of the prosecution or plaintiff and the other group argues for the defense. Strict courtroom guidelines regarding language and decorum must be followed, and students must be able to recall more than a dozen rules regarding hearsay, evidence and what to do when the opposing team cries, "Objection!"

Mock trials were held at Boston District Court. On Jan. 19, during the meet against Norwell High School, and Jan. 24, against Thayer Academy, Hull High School lost by less than five points, but were able to come back at the conclusion of the season with a win against Rockland High School on Feb. 2.

In March, the Hull Rotary Club will be sponsoring a banquet and awards ceremony for the HHS Mock Trial team. Awards will be given out for Best Attorney Performance, Best Witness Performance and Most Improved.

“We’re very proud of the team and how much they’ve accomplished this year,” Principal Paula Girouard McCann said. “This extracurricular group is a great way for students who are interested in legal studies to learn more about state laws and our court system.”

The HHS Mock Trial team hopes to continue their momentum into next season with their sights set on attending the national mock trial seminar at Harvard University in the fall.

###

Hull High School Students Expand Classroom Learning Through Interactive Field Trips



Left to right: Ryan O’Keefe, grade 12, Julia Tramontana, grade 12, Seth Anderson, grade 12, and Tyler Dunham, grade 11, took a field trip to Holly Hill Farm as part of their ecology class at Hull High School. (Courtesy Photo Hull Public Schools)

HULL — Principal Paula Girouard McCann is pleased to announce that Hull High School students are furthering their education through a variety of interactive field trips.

From trips for specific classes to outings for entire grade levels, students have enhanced their learning experiences through a variety of unique opportunities.

“We feel fortunate that our students have been able to participate in a lot of wonderful field trips this year,” Principal McCann said. “We put an emphasis on taking learning beyond the classroom and we believe that the field trips we organize are a great way for students to apply what they’ve learned in school to a real-life situation.”

Edward M. Kennedy Institute

As part of their final social studies course in government, Hull High School seniors attended the Edward M. Kennedy Institute in Boston earlier this month. There, they took on the role of real-life senators inside an exact replica of the Senate chamber in Washington, D.C. Through their immersion in the process of lawmaking and voting on legislation, students learned the complexity and hard work of a senator’s job, along with the important role that compromise plays in the American democratic system.

International Museum of World War II

In March, the junior class will visit a collection of more than 7,000 authentic artifacts at the International Museum of World War II. Students will be able to handle various weapons, pilot equipment, prisoners’ belongings from Nazi concentration camps, spy gear, parachutes from D-Day and more. After learning about World War II in class, the opportunity to see and handle real artifacts from the war will bring the learning experience full-circle.

Museum of Science

Sophomores and freshmen in Stephanie Harris and Jean Mazzilli’s math classes took a trip to the Museum of Science on Jan. 12 to view exhibits on making models and further their understanding of ratios and proportions, which were two concepts they focused on in the classroom.

Holly Hill Farm

In the fall, students in Sheila Blair’s ecology course spent a day at Holly Hill Farm learning about the human health and environmental benefits of sustainable organic farming. They were given a chance to work in the gardens, compost, harvest vegetables, hike through the woods, visit barnyard animals and learn the history of the Holly Hill Farm and the organic farming system.

Theater Performances

Students in Advanced Placement Language and Composition, English Honors 12 and Advanced Placement Literature and Composition are taking advantage of a number of performances happening at the Huntington Theater and Calderwood Pavilion. The performances include a modernization of “Tartuffe,” a one-woman show titled “Mala,” “The Skeleton Crew” and “Top Girls.”

Prior to the start of each play, students will engage in pre-show workshops with a member of the Huntington’s education department to discuss corresponding literature students read in the classroom. For example, after watching “Tartuffe,” the senior classes were able to explore the thematic and historical similarities to Voltaire’s “Candide” — a reading they completed during the second term.

“Watching live theater provides students experiences that could not otherwise be created in a classroom setting,” Principal McCann said. “This opportunity ultimately enriches their cultural, social and historical awareness, empathy, tolerance, creative thought, attention to detail and even theater etiquette.”

Norfolk County Correctional Facility

Senior English students conducting research on the problems facing American prisons have the opportunity bring life to the subject when they visit the Norfolk County Correctional Facility this spring. There, they'll listen to "Prison Voices," a program that brings together young inmates who share the stories that led to their incarceration.

Students will have the opportunity to ask questions about prison life and consider their own personal choices leading up to graduation.

Galapagos Islands

In July, science teacher Sheila Blair is planning an excursion to the Galapagos Islands to conduct scientific research on the giant tortoises and island ecology. Approximately 12 sophomores have chosen to accompany her on this scientific expedition.

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