

# SPRING BLAST!! PARENT NEWSLETTER

## HILL REGIONAL CAREER HIGH SCHOOL

Principal: Zakia Parrish, Ph.D.

March 2017 Volume IV

Publicity Committee: PTSO

Editor: Parent Liaison

**PTSO Mission Statement:** "It is our mission to work collaboratively with the school community to provide a quality education for our children, through increased parental participation, productive communication and assistance, while fostering a warm and welcoming environment."

### ***From the Desk of: Dr. Parrish***

Greetings Career Parents and Guardians!

I want to first thank you for all of your support and understanding this year at Career. We have had some challenges this year, but we have continued to stand strong as a school community. We welcome new additions to our staff, Ms. Kimala Williams, our Business Teacher, Ms. Serena Crawford, our Reading Tutor and Mr. Christopher Singleton, our Math Tutor. They each bring a wealth of knowledge and experience, which will enhance our students' experiences both in and out of the classroom.

We are pleased to announce that we have been selected by Magnet Schools of America as a 2017 School of Excellence! The Magnet School of Excellence Award is given to a select group of magnet schools across the country that demonstrates the highest level of excellence. We are very proud our school's accomplishments and our Panther community!

We have reached the midpoint of the third marking period and in a few short months our seniors will be graduating and preparing to start new chapters in their lives. We had a significant number of students that earned honors for the first and second marking periods and I look forward to honoring those that earn it for third marking period. As we move forward through the remainder of the school year, if your child is in need of additional support they should participate in our Extended Day Program which runs Tuesday through Thursday from 2:30 until 3:30. During this time students can get extra help from teachers in various content areas based on the schedule below:

Subject	Teacher	Day(s)	Location
Math	Plair	Tuesday	316
	Rooney	Wednesday	303
English/SAT Prep	Murphy	Tuesday & Wednesday	Library
Science	Merico	Tuesday & Thursday	211
	Pratt	Tuesday & Thursday	209
History	Werth	Tuesday	218
Spanish	Cardalliaguet	Thursday	Library
Homework Help	Stannard	Wednesday	302
Research Assistance & Computer Access	Wilson	Tuesday & Wednesday	Library

In the coming months, students will participate in a series of assessments that will measure a variety of academic standards. All juniors in NHPS high schools will be participating in the SAT School Day on April 5, 2017, which will be administered at no charge to students. As a result of taking the PSAT in October 2016, they automatically gain access to My College Quickstart, an online tool through College Board, that provide resources for SAT testing strategies, personalized feedback, and college and career planning tools. We have been working with our students to link their College Board to Khan Academy, which will provide them access to individualized test preparation materials based on their PSAT scores.

The science section of CAPT is still a required assessment for all sophomores and will be administered at Career April 7<sup>th</sup> through the 12<sup>th</sup> during the school day. Our science team will be working with our sophomores to prepare them for this assessment, using a series of review session workshops.

We have had a tremendous year thus far and could not have gotten to this point without all your help and we look forward to continuing to work with all of you during the second semester. We ask that you continue to be an active member of our school community by joining our School Planning and Management Team (SPMT) which meets from 2:30 pm until 3:30pm on the second Tuesday of every month. Again, thank you for your continued support of the Career community!

## School Counseling Department

Course of study for next school year!

- First: Students received a Course Request Form for their individual grade level last month. Students were asked to get a parent/guardian signature before it was submitted. This eliminates confusion at the beginning the school year.
- Freshman should decide whether they want to follow the Business/Technology track or the Health/Science track for the next three (3) years. There is a planning card on the last page of the Course Selection Guide which lists the graduation requirements in each of these areas. The Course Selection Guide can be found on the school website.
- Second: Counselors have begun meeting with Juniors for Post-Secondary planning. Students are being encouraged to share this information with their parent/guardian so please speak with your child to see what they have been doing as part of the college search process.
- Ms. Smith-Huckabey @ 475-220-5029 (All 9th grade students)
- Ms. Schock @ 475-220-5026 (Grades 10, 11, &12 Last names A – L)
- Ms. Rice @ 475-220-5028 (Grades 10, 11, & 12 Last names M-Z)

## Social Work Department, Ms. Westefeld

### Peer Mediation is accepting applications!

Are you a sophomore or Junior? Would you like to improve your communication AND conflict resolution skills???

- Would you like to help your peers resolve conflict?
- Do you have good time management skills?

If you answered yes or would like further information: Please see Ms. Westefeld (3<sup>rd</sup> floor offices next to the elevator) and pick up an application. Applications will be due **Friday March 10**.

### Prom Dresses

The Social Work department has received 30 donated prom dresses/gowns. If you are in contact with a senior who needs a dress, please have them come to my office on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor... In addition to the gown the tailor has included a 10% off coupon for alterations and dry cleaning.

## Advanced Placement Courses, Jennifer Keith

Students currently enrolled in Advanced Placement courses will be taking the AP tests during the weeks of

May 4-15th. Students were presented with the AP Bulletin with the expectation that they share the schedule and information with their parents/guardians. However, we know that's not the always the case, so for your convenience two meeting times have been scheduled for all AP Parents/Guardians to attend an informational meeting - **Tuesday, April 21st from 7:30-8:00 am and 5:30-6:00 pm. It is highly recommended** that parents attend this meeting; also feel free to visit the AP Website:

@<https://apstudent.collegeboard.org/takingtheexam/exam-policies>. In preparation for this test, several teachers are providing Saturday sessions. Students are encouraged to attend. I can be reached at 475-220-5000 for more information.

**Mathematics**, Andy Wight, Lead Teacher

### Empowering Students to Excel on the SAT-- Khan Academy Link

Career High School has started a campaign to assist all students to improve their PSAT and SAT results. Thanks to the highly acclaimed Khan Academy.org learning website (with the slogan "where you can learn anything"), any student can "LINK" his/her *College Board Account* (where personal PSAT and SAT results are posted) to *Khan Academy* and receive **free individualized coaching and practice for the SAT** based on detailed analysis of their own test responses.

New Haven provides the opportunity for all students to take the full PSAT in school for free each year starting in 9<sup>th</sup> grade and the SAT in Spring of 11<sup>th</sup> grade. All 9<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> graders should create a personal College Board account (at [www.CollegeBoard.org](http://www.CollegeBoard.org)) and once their test results are posted, they should connect the link to Khan Academy to begin personalized practice. This practice can be done anytime, anywhere, even on a smartphone. (And we all know the key to success is "practice, practice, practice...")

Advisors, Counselors, Administrators, and all teachers can help your student if s/he is having trouble linking to the Khan Academy resources. We want this learning tool in our students' hands and we hope they will take charge and use it often.

You have undoubtedly listened as your child and her/his friends grumble at length about how dull and irrelevant much of their class time seems. While part of this is just normal adolescent complaining, most educators agree that students *do* spend far too much time as "passive receivers" of knowledge and information. We need a broad, candid conversation about the nature of real learning and I wish we could just hit a "refresh" button to reshape the way(s) we prepare students for their

future careers. Students and parents deserve more active roles in their learning and the ability to tailor learning interests and needs. The Khan Academy connection is one small step in this direction that offers potentially great gains. Please ask your student to show you their College Board link to Khan Academy today.

**Cynthia Scheetz**, Science Teacher/FIRST Robotics Mentor FIRST® STEAMWORKSSM the 2017 FIRST Robotics Competition game, invites two adventure clubs from an era in which technology relied on steam power to prepare their airships for the ultimate long distance race.

The 2017 Waterbury District Event was held at Wilby High School 460 Bucks Hill Road Waterbury, CT 06704. There were 42 teams that played 77 qualification matches in alliances of 3 robots. Only 24 teams get to play in the final round. We were chosen by the number 4 alliance captain and our alliance won in the quarterfinal matches, but was defeated in the semifinals.

Elm City Robo Squad won the Entrepreneurship Award sponsored by Kleiner Perkins Caulfield & Byers celebrates the entrepreneurial spirit by recognizing a team that has developed the framework for a comprehensive business plan to scope, manage, and achieve team objectives.

The write up about Elm City Robo Squad winning the award read at the closing ceremony:  
This team exemplifies the true entrepreneurial spirit by effectively leveraging its team's diversity, strengths and enthusiasm. It has demonstrated sound organizational and financial management through the creation and execution of its innovative and comprehensive business plan. They have an extensive outreach program including the hosting of an FLL Event and through the creation of a unique mentoring assistance source at FRCRentAMentor.com

Also, Selma Abouneameh is a Dean's List finalist and will compete at the NE District Championship at the University of New Hampshire in April for the opportunity to go to the World Championship in St. Louis. Dean's list is named in honor of the Founder of FIRST, Dean Kamen. Dean's list is an effort to recognize the leadership and dedication of FIRST's most outstanding secondary school students. Our next competition will be at Hartford Public High School, April 1 and 2.

**FUTURE PROJECT**, Jay Kemp

### 2017 Diddy Fund Application

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd6z2fVAkrlwBqA\\_U PbkB1FSVrLWCGRBMBBoZrK\\_rub1xI2EDQ/viewform?c=0&w=1](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd6z2fVAkrlwBqA_U PbkB1FSVrLWCGRBMBBoZrK_rub1xI2EDQ/viewform?c=0&w=1)

Any student or group of students working toward a Future Project in one of the schools in our seven cities is eligible to apply for a share of the Diddy Fund. Students may apply for up to \$250.

The application deadline for the Diddy Fund is Monday, 3/20 at 5pm.

For groups of 2 or more students working on major school-wide projects, we welcome you to apply for the MegaFund – a fund offering grants of up to \$500 for major initiatives in schools. If you are interested in getting \$500 to apply for the MegaFund, please specify "\$500" in the field that specifies "How much money are you requesting?", and mark the checkbox that says "I am interested in applying for a \$500 MegaFund grant this year. 3-5 MegaFund applicants will be selected. Applicants will be notified of a final funding decision by Monday, April 3.

Please note the following deadlines:

-Monday, 2/20: Applications Open

-Monday, 3/20: Applications Due

-Monday, 4/3: Funding amounts determined

#### \* Required Information

In the space below, please complete a description of your project. It should include (a) the problem, issue, or opportunity you are solving, (b) a description of the project you are launching, (c) how you plan on executing the project, and (d) any other information you want to share about your project! \*

○ Your answer: **This is a required question**

How much money are you requesting? You can apply for up to \$250 if you are an individual or up to \$500 if you are part of a group. \*

○ Your answer: **This is a required question**

In the space below, please write out a budget for how you will spend this money. \*

○ Your answer: **This is a required question**

DD Approval \*

○ This form has the approval of my Dream Director! **This is a required question**

MegaFund

○ I am applying for up to \$500 to fund a group project through the MegaFund

## COMMUNITY NEWS

### Tuesday, March 14, 6-8pm New Haven Climate and Sustainability Framework

Give Your Input at:  
Hillhouse High School, 480  
Sherman Parkway  
Lend your voice and ideas to our  
city's climate and sustainability  
framework at this community  
meeting or [online](#) (where you can  
also see the draft framework).  
[>>read more](#)

### How Peer Pressure Affects Your Child

<https://www.schoolfamily.com/tags/482-peer-pressure>



Peer pressure is one of parents' biggest concerns, but experts say it doesn't work the way we typically think it does.

### Higher Heights Youth Empowerment Programs, Inc.

## UNDERSTANDING YOUR FINANCIAL AID PACKAGE



Thursday  
March 9, 2017  
6:00pm - 8:00pm  
Albertus Magnus College  
- Hubert Campus Center -

Speaker: Lewis J. DeLuca, Jr., M. Ed.  
Southern Connecticut State University  
Coordinator, Student Financial Literacy and Advising

Speaker: Nicole Branch  
Wells Fargo  
Branch Manager



# nhfpl



NEW HAVEN FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY  
<http://nhfpl.org/>

NHFPL's array of programs, for children and teens, for families, for students and for adults of all ages, focus on four areas:



### DTE ENERGY College Student Co-Op Opportunities

DTE gives students hands-on, real work experiences that enrich their academics and prepare them for the future. Whether you're looking for a co-op position full or part time, or searching for summer employment, DTE Energy offers a rewarding opportunity for students to contribute to projects that truly matter.

Eligibility -Students must be 18 years old by the time of the program start in order to be considered eligible for the program.

- Students new to the program must have a minimum 2.5 GPA to be considered eligible.
- Students must be enrolled in college or provide an acceptance letter to college for fall of that year.
- Preference will be given to students with college experience.

### How To Apply

[Learn more](#) about student career opportunities at DTE Energy! Are you an MBA candidate? We have two [MBA tracks](#) available to help qualified applications boost their careers. Stay informed about your job search by keeping up-to-date on your [application process](#).



<http://newhavenreads.org/>

### Celebrate 15 Years of NHR!

Guess who is celebrating 15 years of sharing the joy and power of reading in our community! We invite you to join us for a benefit to celebrate New Haven Reads on Thursday, March 30, 2017 from 5:30 – 7 pm The L&B Reading Room, Sterling Memorial Library; Yale University Tickets cost \$75.

Project Hope CT 2017  
*Say Yes to the Prom Dress!*  
Boutique  
286 York Street, New Haven, CT  
**GRAND OPENING!!**  
**\*Sat April 8th 9-5pm\***  
April 8th - April 29th  
Hours: 12-5pm Mon-Fri  
9-5pm Sat  
\*CLOSED ON SUNDAYS\*  
*free prom dresses*  
ANY HIGH SCHOOL FEMALE SENIOR  
OR  
8TH GRADER ATTENDING DINNER DANCE/FORMAL

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### April Vacation Camps in 3 Locations

**Camp Dates:** April 17 - 21, 2017  
(Monday - Friday)

**Camp Hours:** 9:00 am – 3:00 pm/  
Extended Day 8:30 am – 6:00 pm

- Games, Teamwork, Hiking, Field Games, Swimming, Discovery Museum Trip, Pizza and more. For more information download the flyers and registration forms.