

Blue Pride Spotlight

Elementary and Hartnett Schools

September 2013

Elementary

Our kindergarten students transitioned very well into a new school setting with plenty of care and nurturing from our entire faculty and staff!

Parent visitation night for all grade levels was a true success. Mrs. Margaret Little, the elementary library and media specialist presented the library website and taught over 150 parents how to access and use the website!

Students were engaged in learning about anti-bullying with the principal as Mr. McGory shared a story titled "The Juice Box Bully" with all classes. Students recognized that they can make a difference by making a promise to not bully and to stand up for those who are being bullied.

Hartnett

Mrs. Keefe's Kindergarten students have learned the lunch rules and procedures quickly and are doing a great job at lunch time! Their transition into the school setting has been a journey that only Mrs. Keefe could take them on!

Mrs. Hartnett's 1st grade students are model students in the cafeteria. They have demonstrated for the Kindergarten class the importance of positive interactions among their peers and how to clean up after themselves.

On the first day of school, students entered the building with smiling faces stating that they were so excited to begin the new school year and were greeted by the entire Hartnett family.

Homer Intermediate School
Blue Pride Spotlights
9/24/13



1. We have had two family events already this school year. On August 29th we held an Open School night for students to find their room and drop off supplies. The turn-out was great! We also had a presentation for families new to the district. On September 12th we hosted our usual Open House for families. It was a very well-attended, positive night for all. Ms. Matteson had a large presentation for instrumental music, also. Thank you to our SCA for sponsoring our Book Fair to benefit our school book room and classroom libraries!!
2. Our Character Education Committee and Green Team welcomed students on September 6th. Our school sat together to learn about PRIDE, patriotism and environmental responsibilities. We used this assembly, also, to train students in accordance with the Dignity Act legislation.
3. Teachers are already noticing that the ELA CCLS modules are easier this school year after our implementation in 2012-2013. Students are ready and prepared to be close readers as we begin our first module in the Intermediate School. Our first math module is also underway. Students and staff are using a different yet consistent language of instruction. All the modules are available at www.EngageNY.org.
4. Please check out the "Hall and Walls" on the Intermediate webpage. It is our goal to post pictures of the things in the halls and walls of our school each month. There will rarely be photos of students- it will be the work and information posted throughout our school.
5. The Intermediate School celebrated Constitution Day the week of September 16th. There were guest readers and trivia contest to celebrate our Constitution and to show our continued patriotism for the month of September. Ms. Eddy, retired teacher, worked with grade 3 students to celebrate our Constitution on September 17, 2013.

Homer Junior High Blue Pride Spotlight Items 9/24/13 Board of Education meeting

Junior High Art teacher Lauren Flood has been chosen by the New York State Art Teachers Association to present at their annual iArt: Innovation in Art Education Conference to be held in Albany in November. Lauren will be presenting the workshops: Artsonia.com-Creating Your Own Online School Art Gallery and Optical Illusions. We are happy that a member from our district's outstanding art department has been recognized as an innovator in her chosen field.

Grades 6-8 Open House was held Thursday evening, September 24th. The format of the evening included a general assembly, P.O.S.T. time with teachers, team level meetings, and then self-guided tours of the building . Additionally, Mr. Seymour's library was filled with families as they browsed through the annual Book Fair. Many people went home with new reading materials as a result of their visit to the library. Numerous parents approached me throughout the evening to share how informative they found the presentations.

140 Junior High students are participating in five modified sports teams(field hockey, girls and boys soccer, girls and boys cross-country, and football) this fall. Grade six students are not eligible to participate in modified sports. The 140 number represents 40% of the 7-8th grade student population.

Blue Pride – September 24 * Board of Education Meeting
Homer Senior High School

Summer Science Experience

16 Homer High School students participated in 2 week-long science field experiences this past summer. The programs coordinated by OCM BOCES include students from the region. In Marine Studies, students traveled to Montauk, Long Island NY to experience life on the beach and share in experiences focused on ocean and marine studies. In the Adirondack Studies course, students traveled to SUNY ESF's field camp at Cranberry Lake and participated in a variety of environmental studies activities.

We continue to be excited for this opportunity through the collaboration with OCM BOCES and their partner organizations!

Marine Studies July 14-20

Nick Dentes
Liz Walter
Julia Bravo
Lucy Connery
Nate Ulrich
Mara Nasiatka
Alice Jenkins
Sarah Willsey

Adirondack Field Studies June 30-July6

Erin Stafford
Robin Baumeister
Brynn Hyde
Tamsin Smith
Rachel McNeill
Erik Gustafson
Hannah Agate
Chelsie Beard

Summer Driver Education

31 students from Homer High School and neighboring districts participated in summer driver education. Students involved completed the required 24 hours of classroom and 24 hours of in-car experience. We are thankful of the district and HTA partnership to continue to provide this important life experience for our students.

OCM BOCES Regional Summer School

Homer students again participated in the OCM BOCES Regional Summer School, held this year at Cortland Junior Senior High School. Credit was recovered or new credit received in 107 courses. The support of this program for students assists us in reaching the goal for all students to graduate college and career ready!

Environmental Club Presents

Students from the Homer High School Environmental Club presented information on the prior summer's trip to the Western United States at the Cortland-Onondaga Federation of Kettle Lakes Association. Discussion also included a review of the goals of both groups and the importance of the protection of local resources and the watershed.

THANCS helps out at Lime Hollow

Students in the Teens Helping Attain Neighborhood Community Service participated in the first of several annual Trail Work Days at Lime Hollow Nature Center on Sunday, September 22, 1-4 pm. Students rolled up their sleeves for some good outdoor cleanup work.

Show Your Spirit with Homer High School Students at Homecoming 2013

Homer High School's Student Government has been busy planning spirit activities for this year's homecoming week. Activities kickoff Monday night with a Pep Rally at the high school and culminate with the Homecoming Parade, Football Game, and National Honor Society sponsored Homecoming Dance Friday night! We look forward to students and the community showing their school spirit and Blue Pride at Homecoming Week Events!