



High Tech Times

A bimonthly newsletter of the Parent Faculty Association



Monmouth County Vocational School District

Volume XIV, Issue 5

April/May 2008

Principally Speaking April/May 2008

There are two lasting bequests we can give our children: One is roots.
The other is wings.

Hodding Carter, Jr.

The signs of spring are upon us and we are all anxious to pack away our winter clothes, open the windows, and fire up the barbeque. As the temperature outside begins to rise, a certain fire inside begins to spark. Like Pavlov's dog we all can sense the reward that comes with the tweeting of the birds and the smell of fresh cut grass. The school year will soon be complete. For many, this signifies the start of vacations, camps, or even more school. For a certain group of young men and women, this year the end of the school year means so much more.

Our Senior class has worked tremendously hard this year to accomplish so much. Between all of the college applications, essays, and scholarships, it's a wonder that they've had time to breathe, let alone continue to perform at such a high level. While many have already made up their minds relative to what the next step in their life's journey will be, many still wait for that letter with a certain letterhead that begins with the words "Congratulations and Welcome to ...". College orientation lies just around the corner. So how do we know that they are ready?

There have been so many positive articles published in the media, most recently one having identified HTHS as the highest performing high school in the county (by the way, the state as well) on the S.A.T. Of course that is an outstanding achievement that we are all so very proud of. But do you know what impresses me even more? The manner in which these students interact with one another and treat each other on a daily basis. There is no better indicator of a student's character than those traits which they display when "no one is watching". I may not be able to see everything (though some of them think I do), but I see enough caring, respect, and common decency to validate my sense that each and every one of these young men and women is going to be successful in whatever direction life takes them.

The words of Hodding Carter, Jr. speak volumes. While we want our children to be 'rooted' in the love and support of home, there comes a time when we must provide them with their independent 'wings' and prepare them with the knowledge and responsibility that comes with them. A great deal of the credit for the success of the students at HTHS belongs to all of you 'roots' out there, but soon the time will come that we all have longed for at some point in our own lives. Be confident that you have done all that you can and should do, yet mindful not to allow your own emotions to cloud the path for your new 'bird' to fly.

Daniel D. Simon, Sr.
Principal

P.S. Congratulations to Mr. Robert Dennis, our 2007-08 Teacher of the Year. His dedication to the students, staff, and administration of High Technology High School are appreciated.

Co-Presidents' Letter

Spring is upon us. The college acceptance process is in full swing.. As I write this letter, Jean and her son are almost done with this process and I am just starting with my son. It truly seems like just yesterday that we received his acceptance into HTHS and how excited we were for him to be here. I am finding time so fleeting that I feel we all must take a moment to smell the roses and count the many gifts that we have been given in this life.

Speaking of gifts....on April 25, we will be holding our Annual Art and Gift Auction. This is our biggest and most fun fundraiser and we hope that you all will support this exciting event. Good food, good art and good gift baskets can be found right here at High Tech. You can even attempt to see if you are smarter than a High Tech student! Please show your school spirit by attending this fun filled event. For more information, please contact Alison Wollman, our event chair, on the BBS.

Every year our senior and junior prom attendees have a wonderful opportunity to spend the Post Prom time together listening to music, eating food, playing games, and enjoying other fun activities. This year's Post Prom will be held on May 16 at the Red Bank YMCA. Ellen Cahill is chairing this event, thematically entitled "Night of the Stars", which looks to be an exciting one for our junior and seniors. If you want to help in any way, with food donations and /or chaperoning, please contact Ellen on the BBS.

May 8 is the date for another incoming Freshman Picnic. This is good opportunity for the incoming freshmen to meet the current freshmen and faculty and get a feel for High Tech life.

Happy spring!

Michele A. Schultz-Robins and Jean Primavera
PFA Co-Presidents

PFA Nomination Needed—Your PFA is looking for nominations for Recording Secretary. This position requires a 2 year commitment. For more information or the position description or to volunteer, please contact Susan Carlson, VP on the BBS, at susangcarlson@verizon.net .

NEWSLETTER NOTES

High Tech Times is published six times a year by the HTHS PFA. It is available through the HTHS website www.hths.mcvsd.org. It can also be found on the BBS; look in the *PFA-HTHS Conference* and click on the *Old PFA Newsletters* folder at the top of the window. You might find the web or BBS version useful for printing out copies of forms, leaving your printed copy intact.

If you would prefer to "go green" and get *High Tech Times* as a PDF file via email instead of paper mail, please contact us via the BBS.

~ Dianne Thompson and Laura Tiano

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PFA Scholarship News

The PFA is delighted to be able to offer eligible graduating Seniors a number of scholarship awards. Your support of the PFA fundraising efforts and the generous donations from a variety of Monmouth County engineering firms have made these awards possible. Seniors can download the application form which will be posted on the BBS in April. By completing a single application form, you will make yourself eligible to receive one of these scholarships valued from \$500 to \$1,000.

Good luck!

Joan Dale and Jane Lemonde,
PFA Scholarship Co-Chairs

PFA Membership

Renewal notices are going out to PFA member families whose membership is expiring. Please renew or join for the first time! Currently 94% of HTHS families are members of the PFA. If you are not sure of your membership status, you can send a note on the BBS or call Karen Rock with any questions.

Career Day—May 2

Career Day will be held on Friday, May 2 this year. Volunteers are still needed to have lunch with the speakers that day. If you are interested, please contact Jane Rappleyea on the BBS. As always, it promises to be an informative day for the students.

Thanks to everyone who helped or sent a goodie to the Sophomore and Junior Parents' Nights! Your help is appreciated!!

Penny Mueller, Hospitality Chairperson

Fundraising Corner

Barnes and Noble June 3, 2008

Before you go anywhere else to get the summer reading books, head to Barnes and Noble for our last fundraiser of the year. We'll get credit for all of it if you just mention



High Tech High School at the check out counter! No voucher needed! Just tell the cashier you are supporting the High Tech HS PFA! More info later but mark the calendar now!

HTHS Clothing

We're taking orders for HTHS logo items. Please go to the HTHS website and download an order form. All orders should be sent to the PFA mailbox in the school office.

HTHS Car Decals

We now have HTHS car decals—clear static clings that are easily removed without damage to your car! Get 2 for \$5 or \$3 each. Contact Jayne Kelly on BBS, jayne.kelly@verizon.net for purchase and delivery.

Need Anything?

Remember the PFA's "no work fundraisers"

- **SchoolPop.com:** Shop online at over 250 merchants, and up to 18% of every purchase comes back to our school - at no extra cost to you. Go to www.schoolpop.com, click "Join" to register, and choose High Technology High School (**Account #0241489**) to receive credit for your purchases.
- **QSP Reader's Digest:** We earn 50% of all gift purchases and 40% of all magazine purchases. Go to www.QSP.com and follow directions to register. Our **GIFT** account number is **710317075** and our **MAGAZINE** account number is **425011118**.

If you would like to volunteer to help with fundraising, please call or BBS Linda Kern. Your help is greatly appreciated.

PFA Post Prom

The PFA is looking forward to hosting the annual Post Prom Party at the Red Bank YMCA immediately following the Junior-Senior Prom on May 16th, 2008. This event provides our students with a fun and substance-free evening of camaraderie and entertainment.

We need your help to make
******* Night of the Stars *******
memorable!

The generous donation of your time and talents will ensure the success of this wonderful event. Please consider one of the following ways in which to participate. (We have something for everyone!) Check off what you'd like to volunteer for and return the form to the PFA, Attn: Post Prom.

___ **Donate a fabulous prize** to the raffle that is held at the end of the evening — we are looking for 4-5 BIG prizes—or cash to purchase them! We really need your help on this one!! Think BIG— TV, iPod, microwave, printer, digital camera, dorm fridge, gaming system such as a Wii. Smaller items also accepted—we'll combine into a basket!

___ **Decoration Committee:** 9 pm until midnight Friday.

___ **Chaperone** anytime between midnight Friday to 6 am Saturday morning. (Please fill in your preferred time: _____ to _____) This is a great way for freshman and sophomore parents to meet and socialize. This experience will be helpful when planning **your** child's Post Prom!

___ **Provide food and drinks** such as baked goods, sandwiches, a fruit and vegetable platter, bottled water, soda and juices, candy and munchies.

___ **Clean up Committee:** This is a great way for the junior and senior parents to get involved. Just arrive 1 hour early before picking up your child.

Name _____ Phone _____

Feel free to contact by phone or BBS: Ellen Cahill

Volunteers are also needed for Rude Awakenings on Thursday, May 15, from 8:45 am to 1:30 pm at HTHS—Brookdale campus. This program is an award winning anti-drinking and driving program for all juniors and seniors. Contact Mr. Simon as soon as possible to volunteer!!

The HTHS-PFA
Art and Gift Auction
Friday, April 25th, 2008!

This is our **BIGGEST** and **BEST** event of the year, and just keeps getting better because of you – **THANK YOU!** This fundraiser benefits **ALL STUDENTS**. 100% of all proceeds go toward the **Scholarship Program** and **General Fund**. Invitations have been mailed out and we hope you will attend with family and friends. Advanced admission is only \$10 per person (\$15 at the door). You can send your check (payable to **HTHS-PFA**) to the office with your student or mail it to the school. Reserve your spot at this annual gala today!

Here's a sampling of what you'll see that evening:

Students serving a delectable array of foods from local restaurants and families-

Artwork, professionally presented for all tastes and price ranges-

Chance Auction with gift baskets galore with names like Broadway, Coach, iPod, Disney, Pampered Chef and more-

"Stump the Students" Challenge! Test your knowledge while supporting the PFA-
Friends – new and old!

Student Reminder: We've asked each student to donate **\$10.00** to purchase items for the "Class Baskets." If you have not yet participated in the this campaign, CASH or CHECKS (payable to **HTHS-PFA**) should be placed in the office in the "Class Baskets" box or mailed to school – Attention: PFA Art and Gift Auction. Please put your student's name and grade on the envelope. **The class with the highest percentage participation wins a bagel/donut breakfast for their grade!**

Here's how you can help:

Donate a Theme Basket: Families may donate baskets, either individually or with other families; just pick a theme and be creative!

Donate Gift Certificates or Merchandise: Consider contributing either of these from your own business or favorite store. You may donate an item or basket and in exchange we will display your product brochures, business cards, etc. **All contributions will be noted in our program.** You can download a letter for soliciting donations, ads or sponsorships through the HTHS PFA web page at <http://www.hths.mcvsd.org/pfa>

ALL CONTRIBUTIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE and BENEFIT ALL HTHS STUDENTS!

(Checks should be made payable to **HTHS-PFA**)

Questions? Contact Alison Wollman on the BBS

THANK YOU!

Congratulations To Our Science Bowl Team!!

Our Science Bowl team was victorious for the first time in HTHS history in winning the Regional Science Bowl competition at Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory Feb. 23. The winning team (Team A) and coach Mrs. MacNeill will go to Washington DC for the Nationals (all expense paid trip) on May 1-6. This is an incredible achievement. The students reported that this was the toughest, most nerve wracking academic competition that they had ever been in. Our teams represented our school very well. Thank you to all the teachers who helped prepare them for the subjects from Biology, Chemistry, Math, Physics, Earth Science, and Astronomy.

HTHS fielded two teams this year and our Team B came in 4th, having played Team A in the quarterfinals. Team B was Yinuo Wang, Mariya Zakhalyavko, Praveen Ranganath, Robbie Karol, and Sujoy Gayen. Team A, made up of **Tom Jackson, Andrew Shum, Jake Robins and one other student**, will represent HTHS and our region at the Nationals in May. Good luck!

CONGRATULATIONS to the HTHS Panasonic Design Challenge Team for qualifying to compete in the 2008 Panasonic Creative Design Challenge Finals on Tuesday, April 8th, 2008 at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center in Newark, NJ. The team must submit their final written report and engineering logbooks in advance of the Oral Presentation on April 3rd. The team consists of sophomore Laura Oster and freshmen Patty Thompson and Jane Threefoot.

Chess Club Wins ALL!

The HTHS Chess Team has been extremely successful this year. They finished in first place in Division 2 of the Shore High School Chess League (SHSCL). Out of 50 game points possible during the regular season, the HTHS Chess Team won 47.5 game points—an astonishing .950 winning percentage for games—to finish the regular season undefeated at 10-0. They also placed 1st in the annual Knights Of Columbus tourney in Eatontown .

The team defeated North Brunswick in the SHSCL Playoffs to advance to the SHSCL Championship Tournament. They earned the #1 seed in that tournament, held Mar. 5 at Freehold Raceway Mall. High Tech beat Monmouth Regional (1st place team from Division 6) and Toms River East (1st place team from Division 1) earning a spot in the championship match. In the championship match, High Tech was pitted against Holmdel (1st place team from Division 4) and the only other undefeated team during the regular season. High Tech earned a 3-2 win to claim the SHSCL Championship. HTHS will be in the NJ State Championships March 15-16.

Congratulations to varsity players: Junho Kim (12 wins- 0 draws - 3 losses), Bryan Oakes (14-0-0), Spencer Lindeman (13-0-2), Sujoy Gayen (11-0-2), and Matt Sherbert (15-0-0). Their chess skill, dedication, competitiveness, and passion for the game have all contributed to the success of the team. They are coached by John Bartlett.

Science League Sweeps 2/28!

The latest Science League results are from the Long Branch match on February 28. **All 6 teams came in first** and all the high scorers were HTHS students!

Bio I—High Score: Sidney Buchbinder
 2nd high: Josh Chao
 Bio II—High Score: Yinuo Wang
 3rd high: Maria Zakhalyavko
 Chem I—High Score: Ben Katz
 2nd high: one HTHS student
 Chem II—High Score: Jake Robins
 2nd high: Abe Waldman
 Physics I—High Score: Josh Ma
 2nd high: one other student, Ben Lynch
 Physics C—High Score: Tom Jackson
 2nd high: Andrew Shum

HTHS Math Team World Ranked!

The HTHS Math League Teams are currently in contention for titles in multiple competitions this year. The HTHS Students compete in the Continental Mathematics League –Calculus Division, AMATYC Math League (through Brookdale CC), NJ Math League (NJML) and Shore Mathematics League.

After two rounds of the Continental Mathematics League–Calculus Division, HTHS is in 1st place in their division covering the NY and NJ region and tied for 2nd place in the world! This is a world wide competition. The leading scorers for HTHS are Patrick

(Student News continued on page 8)

NHS Italian Dinner

The National Honor Society Italian Dinner will be held Saturday, April 26, 2008 from 5:30 to 7:30 at the Trinity Church, 65 W. Front Street, Red Bank. It is better to enter the dinner from White Street in Red Bank next to the firehouse. For tickets, please contact any NHS member! The dinner is to raise money for St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital.

Enter Laughing

The HTHS Performing Arts Club's production of Enter Laughing will take place at the Middletown Arts Center April 18th & 19th. This heartwarming comedy, based on Carl Reiner's autobiography, follows a young machinist apprentice as he endeavors to become an actor, with plenty of high jinks and vivid characters along the way. Show times are 7 PM on Friday and 2 PM and & 7 PM on Saturday. Tickets will be available beginning in April.

Please wish "Bonam Fortunam!" to the Latin students at HTHS who will all be taking the National Latin Exam on March 11, 2008. Results will be posted in the next newsletter.

Math league (continued) Cardone, Thomas Jackson, Robert Karol, Andrew Shum, Patricia Yau, and Afanasiy Yermakov. Each has 18 points out of 20 possible.

The AMATYC Math League is a college Math League for two-year colleges. After the first competition, Brookdale Community College (BCC) is #1 in the Mid-Atlantic Region and #5 in the country. BCC has 8 of the top 20 individuals in the Mid-Atlantic region (4 of the top 10 and 2 of the top 3). All of these top students are High Tech students. They are: Thomas Jackson (#2), Anthony Bakshi (#3), Robert Karol (#5), Franz Sauer (#7), Andrew Shum (#11), Angela Wei (#16 tie), Brandt Ziegler (#16 tie), and Eric Chao (#20).

HTHS is tied for second place in Monmouth County after 4 competitions of NJML. The current high scorer for High Tech is freshman Channing Huang with 24 points followed by Josh Ma with 22 points.

Finally, in Shore Mathematics League, High Tech claimed the 1st place trophy by completing a magnificent comeback. They edged out Holmdel by a cumulative score of 282-280 on 3/10! They had been tied after 5 rounds. The leading scorers for High Tech are Robert Karol, Sujoy Gayen, and Josh Ma.

Great job everyone!!

The Environmental Club is collecting used printer cartridges as a fund raiser. All monies received are given to various environmental causes at the end of the year. Any used cartridges can be placed in the labeled box outside of room 170. Thank you!

Ms. Grunthamer
Environmental Club Advisor

Multicultural Fair

The HTHS Multicultural Fair will take place on **April 4, 2008 at 6:30** at the school. In addition to the foods from around the world and the hallways decorated as various continents with tri-board and cultural highlights, there will be a talent show. Your minimal cover charge will go to support our other activities. All MCVSD families as well as the general public are invited to attend!

Multicultural Club has joined the Monmouth County 4H umbrella. This should allow us even more opportunities. For more information, contact Ms. Semoc-Morris.

TSA State Conference will be held at the College of New Jersey on April 15th. Ninety-five HTHS students are scheduled to compete in over 34 different events. Good Luck to ALL participants!

Three Memorial Scholarship Funds have been established in memory of HTHS students:

Sgt. Stephen Sherman (Class of 1996)

Carrie Wolfe (Class of 2002)

Anthony DeSarno (Class of 2005)

If you would like to make a donation to one of these memorial funds, please write a check to the HTHS PFA and mail it to:

*HTHS PFA - Att: Memorial Funds
P. O. Box 119
Lincroft, NJ 07738*

(Be sure to write the name of the intended memorial fund on the memo line.)

Thank you! We hope to maintain these awards in memory of our students for many years to come.

THE PARENT FACULTY ASSOCIATION (PFA)

PFA Executive Committee

Membership on the Executive Committee consists of the elected officers and the chairperson(s) of each standing committee. For the School Year 2007-2008, the Executive Committee consists of the following members:

PFA Executive Board Members 2007-2008

*Co-President Michele Robins
 Jean Primavera
 Vice-President Susan Carlson
 *Corresp Sec Gail Folinas
 *Recording Sec Kathy Woolston
 *Treasurer Jackie Francisco-Sapienza -

*Hospitality Co-Chairs.....Penny Mueller
 Barbara Chao
 Lin Jagendorf
 Mary Ellen Castellano

*Membership.....Malu Felizardo
 Karen Rock

*Newsletter.....Dianne Thompson
 Laura Tiano

PFA Committee Members 2007-2008

*Alumni Support Chair....Bill Warshauer
 *Ed. Support Chair.....Jane Rappleyea
 Practice PSAT/SAT Linda Kern
 Driver's Ed Course Debbie Shields
 Career Day Jane Rappleyea
 Global Enrichment Dianne Thompson

*Parent-Student
 Activities Chair.....Shelley Ziegler
 Classical Evening.....Shelley Ziegler
 Annual Picnic.....Victor/Laurie Olefson..
 Post Prom Party.....Ellen Cahill

*Scholarships & Corporate
 Grants Co-Chairs Joan Dale
 Jane Lemonde

*Fundraising Chair.....TBA
 Super 50/50 Jane Kelly
 Barnes & Noble Patty Friedhoff
 Art & Gift Auction Alison Wollman
 Clothing Sales Linda Risden

Senior Luncheon Co-Chairs... Michele Robins
 TBA

*Tech Support.....Jayne Kelly

* Indicates positions that may vote according to bylaws.

HTHS Annual Donation Option 2007-2008

Your ANNUAL DONATION can make a huge difference in your child's educational experience at High Tech. This replaces many of the smaller fundraisers! Please consider this option!

If you are interested, please complete this form and return it with your check to the PFA Mailbox in the office or mail it to:

HTHS-PFA, Attention Jackie Francisco-Sapienza
 P.O. Box 119, Lincroft, New Jersey, 07738

I/We choose the single annual donation of the recommended \$100.00 or more. Enclosed is our check made payable to HTHS-PFA. I/We understand that we will receive the information on the other fundraisers because of the method the PFA uses to distribute them. We can ignore this information with a clear conscience or participate if we choose to do so.

 Parent/Guardian

 Date

 Student's Name

Class of 2008
 Class of 2009
 Class of 2010
 Class of 2011

Yes, my employer will match this gift.

Name of Employer: _____

Your annual **tax-deductible** donation goes to Scholarships and the PFA General Fund, which historically supports the Post-Prom Party, education enrichment grants, trips, directory and hospitality events. Contact Jackie Francisco-Sapienza email via BBS with any questions.

HTHS CALENDAR

APRIL 2008

- 4 Fri Multicultural Fair—6:30 pm
- 7 Mon PFA Meeting (7 pm) - *All are welcome!*
- 10 Thu End of MP 3
- 11 Fri District-Wide Dance—CHS—6:30 pm
- 15 Tue MP3 Report Cards Mailed
- 17 Thu New Freshmen Orientation—6:30 pm
- 18-19 Fri-Sat PAC Production of “Enter Laughing”
- 21 Mon School Closed—Staff Day
- 25 Fri PFA Art & Gift Auction/General Mtg.— 7:00 pm
- 26 Sat NHS Italian Dinner—5:30 pm

MAY 2008

- 2 Fri Career Day — noon
- 3 Sat Official SAT test date—home school
- 5 Mon PFA Meeting (7 pm) - *All are welcome!*
- 5-9 Mon-Fri AP Exams
- 7 Wed Teacher Appreciation Luncheon—11:20 am
- 8 Thu Incoming Freshman Picnic
- 9 Fri SGA Event—6:30 pm

MAY 2008

- 12-16 Mon-Fri AP Exams
- 14 Wed MP4 Progress Reports Mailed
- 15 Thu Rude Awakenings at HTHS
- 16 Fri Junior/Senior Prom— 6:00 pm
- 17 Sat Post Prom Party—12-6 am
- 26 Mon School Closed—Memorial Day
- 29 Thu Incoming Freshmen Placement Test

JUNE 2008

- 2 Mon PFA Meeting—7 pm
- 2-4 Mon-Wed Senior PEEC Trip
- 3 Tue Barnes & Noble Fundraiser
- 7 Sat Official SAT test date—home school
- 8 Sun PFA Picnic—1-4 pm
- 13 Fri SGA Event —6:30 pm
- 17 Tue **TENTATIVE** Senior Brunch & Graduation
TENTATIVE Last Day of School