

Hudson Teachers' Association

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A Letter from the President

Support a Moratorium on High Stakes Testing Consequences for Educators

Practically everyone – Democrats, Republicans, the Tea Party groups and even Governor Cuomo himself agree that the Common Core implementation has been flawed and unfair.

Lawmakers recognized that in the recently enacted state budget by including a two year moratorium for students on the use of state tests for certain decisions.

However, lawmakers failed to include a moratorium on the use of these same test scores against teachers and principals.

Students and educators must have the time to adapt to new demands. Simply put, students and educators should not be held accountable for materials not yet learned or been taught, and

teachers cannot be penalized for the poor implementation of the Common Core Learning Standards.

Lawmakers made the right decision in applying this moratorium to students in the state budget. But it's time for them to correct the mistake they made in not extending that moratorium to teachers

and principals.

Please tell our lawmakers to support legislation which imposes a two year moratorium on the use of high stakes tests in decisions regarding teachers and principals.

In Solidarity,

Jack Beyer



Contract Corner

By Lisa Dwyer

All openings for District-run summer school positions and evening school positions shall be adequately publicized in each school building as early as possible. Under normal circumstances, summer school openings will be publicized no later than the immediately preceding May 1st and teachers will be notified of the action taken no later than June 1st. Compensation for District-run summer school programs shall be \$46/hour. Such positions in the Hudson Summer School will, to the extent possible, be filled first by regularly appointed teachers in the Hudson School System. Previous successful experience in the Hudson Summer School will be an important factor in making selections theretofore. (refer to Article 7 on page 7-8)

Friday, June 20th

American Glory

**End of Year
Celebration**

Honoring our Retirees!

**Gordon Ringer, Jay
Aronson, Helem Hom,
Diana Praus, Lisa Kay,
Lis Stippa, & Lu Ann
Frederickson**

JLE June Events

-First Grade Concerts

Wed, June 11

9 & 10 am

-2nd Grade Moving Up

Mon, June 23

Tues, June 24

9:30 am

MC Smith

June Events

-3rd Grade Awards

June 23rd 9:00 am

-4th Grade Awards

June 24th 9:00 am

-5th Grade Awards

June 25th 9:00 am

-6th Grade Moving Up

June 26th 9:00 am

End of Year Payroll Information

- Cafeteria Plan Enrollments are due by Monday, June 30th. Even if you are enrolled for this school year, you MUST fill out a new application and submit to Kelly McDonald.
- Cafeteria Plan claims are due by 8/31/14 for the 2013-2014 plan year. All services must be dated prior to 6/30/14. Any money left over will be lost.
- Most forms requested from the payroll office are located on the X drive. Click on the Faculty and Staff Folder, and then click on Payroll. You can find blank timesheets, cafeteria plan forms, 403B information, direct deposit forms, pay schedules, time off request sheets, and more.
- Teachers' last pay will be Thursday, June 26th. No direct deposit.
- First pay in September will be 9/11/14



National Junior Honor Society at HCBF

The National Junior Honor Society sported Wizard of Oz heads as they paraded over from the Elks Club breakfast for HCBF. Many thanks to Lucy Rees for securing volunteers!

Calendar Events for June 2014

Jr. High June Events

7th Grade Awards

June 20th 1:00 pm

8th Grade Awards

June 24th 7:00 pm

High School June Events

Senior Awards Night-Thurs, June 5th 6:30 pm

Graduation Rehearsal- June 25th 10:30 am

Baccalaureate-June 25th 7:00 pm

Graduation-Friday, June 27th 7:00 pm

Remembering Patricia Wildermuth

By Theresa Cipollari & Janet Brust

Hudson High School recently lost a colleague and dear friend, Patty Wildermuth. Patty passed away on April 22, 2014, from a long illness. She fought gallantly until the end. Patty had only retired three years ago after teaching twenty –eight years in the Hudson City School District. She served as English Department Chair and taught English 12 during her last years.

Patty can best be remembered by her gentle spirit and kindness. She loved animals and always had cats that she cared for, even the strays. She traveled every winter to Florida but loved being home with her family. We remember Patty as a colleague who would help in a pinch, bring candy while we graded Regents exams, and remain calm, even during the most stressful situations.

Even though she was soft spoken, she felt that her job as English teacher was the most important job in the world. At her service, her family stressed how much enjoyment Patty received from teaching thousands of children in the Hudson City School District. She enjoyed seeing them years afterwards and hearing their stories of the type of adults that they became. She knew she made a difference in their lives.

Perhaps the best memories of Patty are reflected in the comments of former students who used social media to express their emotions. Bianca Rosario wrote "RIP Mrs. Wildermuth. You will always be remembered as one of the best teachers in Hudson. You were soft spoken and sweet." Biff Camarillo - "She was my favorite teacher. I used to walk down the hall with her under my arm." Catrina Lewis-"I loved her. God rest her sweet soul. She was the nicest teacher ever. She looked so cute with her Uggs on." Sean Maloy-"She was a nice lady and I loved her. She let me go to lunch and get cookies before class." Brittany Pertilla_"I would read out loud for her and she would give me candy." The words *love*, *favorite*, *sweet* and *awesome* were repeated in most of the comments. She truly made an impact on the students and she will be dearly missed.

The family requested that any donations made in Patty's memory go to Hudson Dollars for Scholars. So far, \$6,000 has been collected and will aid our students as they go on to college.



7th Grade Junior High Students at the 2014 Science Expo
Held at the Columbia Greene Community College



Above are all of the 2014 Science Expo Participants
From left to right are Martin DeGennaro, Rowan Meyers, Spencer Goldstein, Zac Cozza, & Gabriella Cozzolino



Gabriella Cozzolino, Science Expo cash prize winner for project on "Failures in Flight History"



Ferro Fluid, Science Expo



Making Maple Syrup, Science Expo

Photos Courtesy of Diana Howard

Ms. Howard's class is helping to plant blueberry bushes. Pictured here are some 7th grade gardeners!



Mrs. Howard had her students engage in a visit from Kuntu Matima, South African Peace Activist



Ellen Huemmer's class celebrated the end of their social studies unit on Mexico by hanging a piñata at their Mexican Fiesta Party at MC Smith.

Mrs. Ordway's Class Engaging in Various Activities at MC Smith



Noa & Brandon are reading to each other.



Joey is keeping a fire going during the Earth Day Celebration!



Adam is completing his observations on his science project.



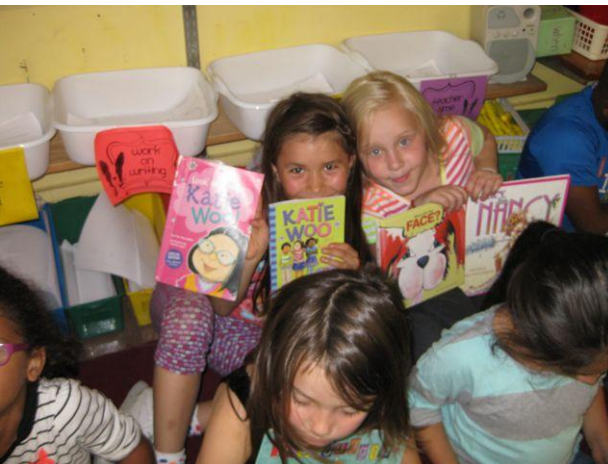
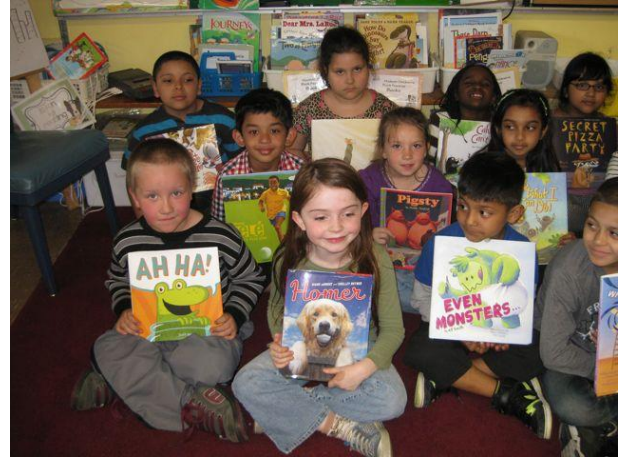
Justin making Oobleck!

Mrs. Murphy's Class Participating in Earth Day Activities



First Grade Study of Hudson Children's Book Festival Books

Students in Ms. Brown's first grade class spent much of April reading, listening to and learning about books that were featured in the 6th Annual Hudson Children's Book Festival. As a class, we studied the various genres of the books, making sure to read fiction and informational texts. We read everything from fantasy – *Even Monsters*, by AJ Smith; to science – *Body Actions*, by Shelley Rotner. The students raved about the books. Some comments included, "This book is hilarious!"; "I can compare these two books;" "Can I write about this book in my reading response journal?"



The Hudson High School Kindness Club ROCKS THE HOUSE!
NYS Special Olympics at Hudson Valley Community College
Saturday May 10th



Left to right: Coach Brian McSween, Rebecca Decker, Coach Kaniz Fatema,, Christina Johnson, Coach Lisa Foronda Schmitt, Alina Parvin, Jared Busta, Coach Tracy Simmons, Back row: Kentavis Newkirk, Tristin Roberts, Brandon McGee, Brandon McGuire, and Coach Shawn Briscoe.

The Hudson High School Kindness Club goes to the NYS Special Olympics at Hudson Valley Community College

**Results: 11 Gold, 7 Silver,
 1 fourth and 1 fifth**

Brandon McGuire- 2 Gold

(50 meter dash and Turbo-javelin)

Brandon McGee- 1 Gold and 1 Silver

(50 meter dash and Turbo-javelin)

Alina Parvin- 3 Gold

(50 meter dash, 100 meter dash and Turbo-javelin)

Rebecca Decker- 1 Gold and 2 silver

(shot put, softball throw and Turbo-javelin)

Christina Johnson- 3 silver

(50 meter dash, 100 meter softball throw)

Jared Busta- 1 silver and 1 fourth

(400 meter dash and softball throw)

Tristin Roberts- 2 Gold and 1 fifth

(50 meter dash, 400 meter dash and softball throw)

Kentavis Newkirk- 2 Gold

(softball throw, and Turbo-javelin)

A special thanks to our volunteers who came out to support us!

Mr. Ohrin and his fiancé, Mr. Briscoe (coach), Brian McSween (coach), Stephen and Lukas Schmitt, Tara McSherry, Rev. Lisajo Kay, Mr. and Mrs. LaCasse and Caleb LaCasse, Cathy Drumm, Tracy Simmons (coach), Kaniz Fatema (coach), Ms. Joni Groll and her daughter Beth Ann, MacKenzie Wagner, and Mr. Payne

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