

Message from the Superintendent

Hanover Park Regional High School District

Highlights of the 2009-2010 School Year

The Hanover Park Regional High School District is comprised of two high schools. Hanover Park High School is located in East Hanover, receives students from East Hanover and Florham Park, and has an enrollment of 836 students. Whippany High School is located in Hanover Township, receives students from Hanover Township and has an enrollment of 622 students. The district enjoys a tradition of excellence with an ongoing commitment to academics, the arts, athletics and community service.

Both schools continue to rank as one of the Top 75 High Schools in the New Jersey Monthly magazine. Combined, the schools administered 209 Advanced Placement exams with an average of 86% scoring a 3 or higher. Many district students achieved honors status from the College Board Advanced Placement Scholar Awards recognition program: seven Advanced Placement Scholars with Honors; seven Advanced Placement Scholars with Distinction; seven Advanced Placement Scholars; and, one Advanced Placement National Scholar. The schools recognized two National Merit Finalists; eleven National Merit Commended Scholars; twenty-six Edward J. Bloustein Distinguished Scholars; and, twenty-three Presidential Academic Scholars. SAT scores continue to surpass the state and national average in both schools. Students continue to compete in the Academic Decathlon Competition achieving amazing results- Whippany Park earned the following medals: four gold, four silver, and seven bronze. The team placed fourth, advanced to the State level and earned six medals: two gold, two silver and two bronze. Hanover Park High School placed first in the Group 2 Regional Competition and finished fourth overall in the State with one student winning the State Championship in Speech.

The Fine and Performing Art recognitions are also significant accomplishments. In fine arts, four students had paintings exhibited in "Through Our Eyes" program at the Morris Museum; fifteen students' artwork/photographs were accepted in the Blackwell Street Art Show with four receiving awards; and, one student had a photograph accepted into the Fresh Perspectives Art Show at the Morris Museum. Hanover Park High School's Choirs performed at a festival at Hershey Park. The Men's and Women's Chorus received a rating of Excellence and the Jazz Choir received a rating of Superior as well as Best Overall Choir. They also had three students selected for New Jersey All State Mixed Chorus; three students selected for New Jersey All State Women's Chorus; and, three students named to the North Jersey Area Band. Whippany Park High School had seven students selected to the North Jersey Area Band; one student to the Junior Region Band; four students for the North Jersey Region One Band and one student as the top trombone player in North Jersey by NJAJE.

Both schools earned honors for their publications. Hanover Park High School newspaper, The Forum, received a First Place Award by the American Scholastic Press Association; and, The Hornet Sting literary magazine won a first place Distinguished Merit Award by Scholastic Publishing for three consecutive years. Whippany Park High School's newspaper, The Wildcats Roar, received a First Place Award with Special Merit from the American Scholastic Press Association; and, the 2008 edition of the literary magazine, Etcetera, earned an honor rating of All American with Four Marks of Distinction from the National Scholastic Press Association.

Athletically, both schools won championships. Hanover Park High School, the Girls' Track Team won the Small Schools Division at the Morris Hills Relays; the Wrestling Team took home the Iron Hills Conference Championship; Winter Track won the Conference Championship; and, the Boys' Freshmen and Sophomore Track Team won a County Championship for spring and winter. Whippany Park High School, the Girls' Spring Track, Baseball, Wrestling and Softball Teams won their Conference Championships; Boys' Spring Track Teams won the Conference Relay Championship, the Randolph Relay Championship and their third consecutive State Sectional Championship; and, the Boys' Winter Track Team won the North Jersey Sectional Championship.

Community service and character development complement each other at the schools. The Character Counts program supports the six pillars of character: trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring and citizenship. Students who exemplify these values are selected and recognized throughout the year. Many clubs and activities encourage and support student volunteerism such as: cleaning parks, partnering with senior citizens, partaking in hunger walks, sponsoring food drives, collecting educational supplies and clothing for the needy, organizing blood drives, and tutoring students. The staff and students maintain the school climate of a caring environment by initiating new community service projects each year while keeping with those that have become "tradition."

The professional staff of the Hanover Park Regional School District continues to inspire students to be the best they can be. The district supports teachers with meaningful professional development that encourages them to learn strategies that foster the development of critical thinking and problem solving skills as they prepare the students with the 21st century skills needed to succeed in a global society.

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