



Winter 2019

Hopewell Area School District

The Hopewell Area School District is committed to preparing students to be productive citizens and life-long learners in an ever-changing world.

The Hopewell Area School District will be a united community in which rigorous curricula will be fostered. Students and staff will embrace educational opportunities and experiences in a diverse society.

Did You Know?

- Representative Josh Kail visited Hopewell Elementary to tour our building and visit our Headstart classroom. We currently support one Headstart classroom with 16 students.
- All administrators participated in a training on Act 44, Safe and Security compliance. We will create a comprehensive district plan in collaboration with our SRO, Officer Rogers. The State Police will be providing the District a Risk and Vulnerability Assessment in January.
- Our Transportation Department participated in the holiday Stuff-A-Bus program to donate items for soldiers deployed overseas. This project is in cooperation with the Yellow Ribbon Girls.
- Author Jeff Kubiak visited Hopewell Elementary to read his book, One Drop of Kindness to the students. This event was sponsored by the PTA.
- Our Band drumline will be playing at Carnegie Hall in Pittsburgh for the BE Taylor Christmas Concert.
- The Artist in Residency and BF Jones Library Christmas Concert: Holly Jolly Christmas was presented at the High School on December 7th.
- Students look forward to the middle of the week at Margaret Ross, as we continue "Wednesdays with Wrigley". Wrigley is our certified therapy dog who visits the school each week.
- Our Service Learning Classroom was showcased during a recent Special Education Local Task Force meeting. Mrs. Grandovic and her students presented to the members of the task force and shared information about our programs and the opportunities offered to our students.
- The annual Veteran's Day Assembly was held at Independence Elementary. This was organized by our Title I Reading teacher, Mrs. Boranko.
- We had 70 6th, 7th, and 8th graders participate in the Jr. High Musical, "Mary Poppins, Jr." There were 50 cast and 20 stage crew members. We also had 15 students in grades 9-12 participate as part of the High School Production Team.
- We have several notable accomplishments by student musicians:
 - In January, we will have 4 students participating in the PMEA District 5 Jr. High Chorus Fest, all of whom are in 8th grade.
 - Two high school students will participate in Honors Chorus: Emily Watts and DJ Spang, both sophomores.
 - 22 JHS and SHS musicians performed at the Beaver County Festival.
- The JH Band of Hope has 20 student musicians this school year. They took their first trip to Pediatric Specialty Care on December 4, with monthly visits to follow. 7th and 8th grade Band of Hope students are also participating in a composition project this spring with students from the Western Pennsylvania School for the Blind.

- Classes from all three elementary schools took part in the Christmas Cards for Kayden program creating individual Christmas cards for a little boy in Michigan who is battling illness and has asked for people to send him cards for the holidays.
- District Equity Committee plans are underway and we will begin meeting in Winter/Spring 2020.
- Core crisis teams in each building were re-certified in de-escalation techniques through Crisis Prevention and Intervention (CPI) training which was facilitated by the BVIU.
- In an effort to improve and expand opportunities for students to explore potential career options, the district has established a Career and College Readiness Advisory Council which includes community members, local business owners, representatives from the Beaver and Allegheny County Chambers of Commerce, representatives from local technical programs and colleges, and representatives from Juvenile Services. The goals of this advisory council are to help the district identify areas of strength and need in our existing career exploration activities and to develop new exploration activities for students of all ages.
- Our second Student Services Parent Roundtable meeting was held. These informal meetings focus on special education and student services and are open to all parents and families.
- 12 student ambassadors and two counselors from the High School and Junior High participated in the Beaver County Youth Ambassador Program (YAP) at CCBC. (YAP) is a youth-centered, youth-driven program with kids in grades 8-12. This is a county-wide program for all Beaver County districts that helps support mental health awareness.
- The US Marine Corps and a team of X Games BMX riders presented a “No Place for Hate” Anti Bullying assembly at Hopewell High School. This fast-paced high energy positive interaction assembly was very well received by the HHS students.
- This fall, Mr. Short accompanied four HHS student-athletes to the annual WPIAL Sportsmanship Summit at Heinz History Center. This WPIAL event brings together students from all WPIAL schools to promote sportsmanship and leadership.
- Sixth-grade students have experienced monthly career exploration speakers, learning about jobs as an Air Traffic Controller, Teacher, Principal, and Law Enforcement.
- High school students participated in the county’s first International Diplomatic Simulation workshop brought here by the Beaver County Gifted Consortium. Students were introduced to the process, given a situation common to the world today, and had the morning to try and negotiate a solution.
- 7th-grade computer classes are working on Apple Coding Programs, Everyone Can Code 1 & 2. Using iPads and the Swift Playground app students are learning code for loops and conditions.
- High school students attended the Student Leadership Forum at RMU in October. This forum centered on “America’s Involvement in the World; why we should care.”. Students heard from Angelica Ocampo Pres/CEO of World Affairs Council of Pittsburgh, Former French Consul Jean-Pierre Collet, and US Congressman Connor Lamb.
- Animal Friends partners have visited a number of our JH classrooms. Students choose books, practice their reading, and interact with therapy dogs.
- 67 Physics students attended an NFL Alumni Pro Day Experience at RMU. This educational program features former NFL Players and coaches, technology experts, STEM educators, military leaders, and successful professionals. The goals of the program were to introduce high school students to future careers in STEM fields and to give them the chance to learn from individuals who have been successful in athletics and business in our community.
- 174 students participated in Fall sports including Cheer, B/G Cross Country, Football, B/G Golf, B/G Soccer, Girls Tennis and Girls Volleyball.
- 126 students are participating in Winter Sports including B/G Basketball, Bocce, Bowling, Cheer, Gymnastics, B/G Swimming, Wrestling, and Hockey.

Notable Recognition

- Thank you to School Board Members, Mr. Santia and Mr. Patterson for their service to the district. Welcome to our new Board Members, Mrs. Harries and Dr. Erickson.
- HHS Junior Volleyball player Leah Driscoll received all WPIAL Honors for her outstanding play during the fall Volleyball season.
- 372 HS students who had no behavioral or attendance issues in the first quarter went to Main Event in Robinson for our first Viking PRIDE incentive day. Students bowled, played laser tag, played pool, played arcade games, and ate pizza.
- 2 high school students and 9 JH students attended the Academic Games Propaganda competition presented by the Beaver County Academic Games League. Brooke Ladakos, Ethan Pletcher, and Delysia Jackson all qualified in the top 30% of competitors.

Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment

- Winter keystones have been completed in Algebra, Literature, and Biology.
- The district applied for a Teacher in the Workplace grant through PDE. If awarded, the \$25,000 would go towards teacher stipends and curriculum writing with a focus on preparing graduates for workforce expectations.

Technology

- The district is gearing up for our 4th annual Tech Fest. This full day of professional development is based on teacher needs and interests. Many sessions are also led by teachers.
- Office 365 licensing is being deployed now through the next quarter.
- We have also deployed devices to para-professionals for use in the Senior High School.

Is there someone or something that you think needs to be featured in the next District dashboard?
Please contact Dr. Jacie Maslyk, Assistant Superintendent. maslykj@hopewellarea.org