
HAMP HIGH LIGHTS

Volume 34, Issue 2

October 2013

HAMP HAPPENINGS

October	1	Senior pictures. 8 a.m.–6 p.m.
	1	Senior parents night. Little Theater, 6 p.m.
	3–5	<i>Deathtrap</i> . Fayette Congdon Auditorium, NHS, 7 p.m. each night and 2 p.m. on 5 October.
	9	Powder Puff football game. 7 p.m.
	9	PTO meeting. Library, 7 p.m.
	14	No school – Columbus Day
	16	School Council meeting. Library, 5:30–7:30 p.m.
	16	PSAT, sophomores & juniors. 7:30–10:30 a.m.
	15–18	Booster week
	18	Pep rally, 1:00; parade from Smith Voke, 6:20
	18	Senior yearbook pictures and quotations due
	22	College fair. Easthampton HS, 6:30–8 p.m.
	23	Two-hour delay. School begins at 9:30 a.m.
	24	Picture retakes. Auditorium, 7:30–12.
November	5	No school – Professional development day
	8	Grades close for first quarter
	11	No school – Veterans Day
	15	First-quarter report cards sent home with students
	27	Half day – Thanksgiving break begins



Hamp High Lights is published monthly for NHS parents by the PTO of Northampton High School at 380 Elm Street Northampton, MA.

Deadlines for submissions are the 15th of each month or the Friday preceding the 15th if it falls on a weekend.

Hamp High Lights is brought to you by the PTO. Let us know if there's something you'd like to have included. Leave news at the front office (preferably on disc) or e-mail us at hamphigh-lights@gmail.com.

You can receive email updates on all sorts of news and events relating to Northampton High School by logging on to www.hamphigh.org and going to the Parents and Community Site. Click on the NHS Update link, and fill out a simple form. That's all there is to it!

Letter from the principal

Greetings,

Schedules have been adjusted, students and teachers are actively engaged in the educational process: clubs are meeting; singers are singing; artists are creating; actors are rehearsing and athletes are competing. School is back in session!

We have many exciting things occurring this fall from daily sporting events, a student-directed and produced theatrical production, a fall play, club activities, and booster week. Be sure to see the school calendar for updates and information regarding all events and activities at Northampton High School.

(continued on p 2)

GUIDANCE

Senior parents night

The Guidance Department will host an informational workshop for parents of college-bound seniors on Tuesday, October 1, from 6:00 to 8:00 pm in the Little Theater at NHS. The purpose of the workshop is to familiarize parents with the college application process, and with the procedures and timelines that we follow here at NHS. We encourage all parents of seniors to attend.

Seniors

Guidance counselors have been meeting with their seniors to go over college and post-graduate planning. NHS Guidance uses Naviance, a web-based comprehensive college and career planning tool that will allow us to track applications and outcomes; students have been registered to use the software, and will be sent updates and reminders about college visits, the application process, and other information via email. Parents will have the opportunity to create Naviance accounts as well, so that they can access students' college lists and participate more fully in the process.

SAT & PSAT

The SAT will be given at NHS on Saturday, October 5. Students who have registered for the test should be at the NHS auditorium by 7:45, with two no. 2 pencils and a calculator. Most students will be finished with the test by 12:30 pm.

The PSAT will be given on Wednesday, October 16, from 7:30 to 10:30, to sophomores and juniors. The cost will be \$15.00. Freshman and seniors will not be required to come to school until 10:30. Details on transportation and logistics for that day will be announced.

College visits

Throughout the fall, college admissions office representatives will be visiting NHS to meet with interested students. The schedule of these meetings is on the NHS website at <http://nhs.northampton-k12.us/index/college-visits-calendar> at and is posted in the Guidance Office.

(Principal's letter, continued from p 1)

Please also keep an eye out for the premiere of our online student newspaper. The faculty advisor and student members of the newspaper are working hard for a release date during the first or

second week of October. This paper will provide stories of interest by students as well as updates and information to the happenings of NHS. A student voice will be a welcome return to our school. I have been shown a preliminary view of this and am impressed!

As always, communication is essential for student success. We strongly encourage you to monitor your students' academic progress through Engrade. Teachers are expected to update at least weekly and should therefore allow parents and guardians a clear sense of how their student is performing. By providing easy and daily access to Engrade we expect that grades will not be a surprise. If you are having any difficulty accessing or if updates by a teacher are lacking please contact Associate Principal Chris Brennan.

Hope to see you at one of our numerous student events!

Sincerely,
Bryan Lombardi

PTO NEWS

Help NHS by shopping at Stop & Shop

Stop & Shop A+ If you have a Stop & Shop card, you can help Northampton High School earn a share of the \$2.5 million that Stop & Shop will award to K-12 schools this academic year. Local schools have received as much as \$20,000/year from this program as a result of high participation rates in their school and community. There is no cost to you, and participating in A+ will not affect your gas points. Visit https://www.stopandshop.com/our_stores/bonus_bucks/index.htm to register your Stop & Shop card and select NHS as the recipient. If you wish, you can designate a second school to share your points. For more information, click on "A+ FAQs" on the website above. The program runs from October 4 to March 20 this year, so please sign up now!

PTO mini-grants for teachers

NHS PTO announces a **Request for Proposals** for teachers who wish to apply for funding for the 2013-14 school year. Teachers may request funds for proven or new programs, in which a modest infusion of PTO-raised funds will enrich and enhance the educational experience of

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NHS students. A short application form, which is due October 21, is available from the NHS office.

Transperformance 2013

Thank you to the parents and students who volunteered on August 27 on behalf of NHS PTO to set up and pack up the Pines Theater stage for Transperformance, the annual concert that raises funds for music & arts in our public schools. The PTO appreciates the help of Adam Fishman, Ian Fishman, Bryce Wall, Ryan Wall, Simon Ever-Hale, Ruth Ever, Nancy Whalen-Viola, and Monica Green. Special thanks to Coach Pat Sledzieski and the NHS football team for taking the evening shift!

Next meeting of the PTO

The PTO will meet on **Wednesday, 9 October, 12 at 7p.m.** in the NHS library. Please join us!

Co-Chair – Ruth Ever
NohoPTO@gmail.com

Co-Chair – Carrie Goldstein
NohoPTO@gmail.com

Treasurer – Monica Green
mgreen@periodyssey.com

Secretary – Paula Sakey
psakey@comcast.net

School web site (including daily announcements)
nhs.northampton-k12.us

NHS PTO (including minutes and future meeting dates)
ptonhs.northampton-k12.us

Teacher wish lists

Don't forget to check out the teacher wish lists on the PTO Web site at:

<http://ptonhs.northampton-k12.us/teacher-wish-list>

As always, a **GREAT BIG** thank you to Carol MacColl and her staff at Paradise Copies for her generous donation of printing services and technical assistance for *Hamp Highlights*. She makes it possible for the newsletter to be produced monthly.

Yearbook deadlines for seniors!

All senior pictures, baby pictures, and quotes are due on 18 October to hampyearbook2014@gmail.com. If you are unable to access email, submit your material to the front office.

- Senior pictures and baby pictures should be submitted as wallet size, even if submitted electronically.
- Quotes should be roughly 140 characters.

Any questions, see Jocelyn Howard, Cassy Eastman, or Emma Tacy.

Attention Target shoppers

Northampton High School benefits when you shop at Target without costing you anything. The money comes with no strings attached, so NHS can use the money to support many things including field trips, supplies, technology, books, etc.

Simply designate NHS as your Take Charge of Education school, and every time you shop with your REDcard, Target will donate up to one percent of the amount of your purchase to our school.

Thanks to everyone who has participated so far. You can sign up at the store or online at Target.

Dropping off students at NHS

In the interests of safety for all, please adhere to the following guidelines when dropping your students off at NHS:

- **It is illegal to pass a stopped school bus vehicle (school bus signs on top) when its lights are blinking and its red stop signs are visible.** This is true even if it is in our NHS bus loop.
 - Please be respectful of others when using our parking lot and drop-off areas, and be mindful of students entering and leaving vehicles, especially those who need extra time to do so. If you must use the bus loop, please be patient and courteous. The best option is to avoid the bus loop and drop off/pick up students from the lower parking lot area or along Milton or Nonotuck Streets.
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ATHLETICS NEWS

New coaches

The Fall coaching staff is now complete. Nico Vega-Frey is the new freshmen girls soccer team coach. Freshman girls soccer has not been a sport at NHS for five years, and it is great to have it back. Dylan Boyd, a new math teacher at NHS, is the new freshmen boys soccer coach.

Fall athletics results

Northampton athletics is off to a great start. As of September 15, field hockey, golf and girls X-country are undefeated. Boys soccer and boys X-country have only one loss.

Powder Puff football game

The annual Powder Puff football game between the senior and junior girls will take place on Wednesday, October 9. Proceeds from this event will be divided among the four classes.

Booster week

Booster week will start on Monday, October 14, and conclude on Friday, October 18, with our pep rally, booster day parade and varsity football game vs The High School of Commerce.

Sporting events will occur all week long and we would like to see as many fans as possible.

- The pep rally games will begin at 1:00 pm October 18, on the stadium field.
- The booster day parade will leave Smith Vocational high school at 6:20 pm, continuing to Northampton High school where the class floats will be judged.
- The football game starts at 7:00 pm.

Final tallies of the booster week activities will be announced at half time of the football game.

Important dates

Late October and early November: Winter sports pre-season meetings. Check athletic web site for dates and times.

Thursday, November 28: Annual Thanksgiving football game. NHS stadium, 10:00 a.m.

Monday, December 2: Winter sports begin.

Tuesday, December 10: Coaches-parents meeting, 7:00 pm.

Athletics web address:

nhsathletics.northampton-k12.us

Please support all our student athletes and teams this year. **GO BLUE DEVILS!**

ANNOUNCEMENTS (cont.)

NHS Key Club coat drive

The Northampton High School Key Club, the student-led service club, is holding its third annual Fall–Winter coat drive for students in the public schools who need them, the Northampton Survival Center, and Northampton Goodwill.

Please bring coats in good condition to the high school office. Thank you for help with this drive.

This year, the Key Club has over 60 interested students! We are looking for speakers to come to our Monday night meetings or organizations that need help. If you have any ideas for service projects, please let us know.

Deathtrap

Deathtrap is a delightfully witty thriller that promises an evening of laughs and gasps, with plot twists that will keep you guessing until the curtain closes.

Successful Broadway playwright Sidney Bruhl is suffering from a series of flops and his financial dependence on his wife Myra. When he comes upon the manuscript of a brilliant thriller written by his former student, Clifford Anderson, his instincts for drama and intrigue take over with unexpected consequences. The manuscript's promise of success ensnares everyone involved, including a zany Dutch psychic and a sharp lawyer.

Featuring: Jonah Godfrey, Isaac Price-Slade, Isabel Snodgrass, Amalyah Leader, and Alex Koester

Directed by Rozi Tabachnick

Performances: October 3–5 at 7 p.m.; October 5 at 2 p.m. Fayette Congdon Auditorium, NHS.

Tickets: \$8 adults; \$5 students/seniors/faculty. Reserve tickets at: www.deathtrap.eventbrite.com

Parental guidance recommended

Questions? Call (413) 695 - 1213 or email halperemma@gmail.com

Hope to see you there!

Hamp High Lights

380 Elm Street
Northampton, MA 01060

Editor: Denise Lello
hamphighlights@gmail.com

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