

Hanshew Happenings

10121 Lake Otis Parkway Anchorage, AK. 99507

Main Number 349-1561 Fax 349-2835

February 2008

*Principal
Sherry Ellers
Ext. 201*

Assistant Principals

*Peggy Huscusson
8th
Ext. 218
Brendan Wilson
7th
Ext. 202*

*Attendance
Lynn Caputo
Ext. 205
Registrar
Lisa Schleusner
Ext. 204
Financial Data
Clerk
Debbie Pool
Ext. 223*

*Special Ed.
Denise Helkenn
Ext. 212*

*Nurse
Mary Luken
Ext. 217*

*Counselors
Karol Benroth
Ext. 227
Jean Pollard
Ext. 226
Moriah Huseman
247*

*PTA President
Pauline Haas*

From the Principal's Desk

Safety First:

Winter weather is certainly upon us – snow, ice, rain, sleet, and sunshine. It is important that your child dress for the winter climate and unpredictable changes. Students are still coming to school without adequate coats and appropriate footwear. Please help your child make appropriate clothing choices.

The ice is very difficult to control around the campus. Even though walkways are sanded everyone needs to walk with extra care to avoid falls and injuries. “Walk like a Duck”, wear good traction footwear, and constantly be alert to icy spots.

Lake Otis Parkway continues to be a busy, dangerous street. Students are not to cross the street other than using the tunnel or at the crossing light. Running across the street is dangerous at any time, but with poor road conditions, the situation becomes even more serious.

Hats Off to...

- Honor Roll students who were recognized this month for their academic achievements during the second quarter.
- 4.0 students who celebrated with a pizza party and recognition for outstanding grades.
- Band, orchestra, and choir students who gave outstanding performances during their school tours and competition.
- Battle of the Books team who competed in the district competition.
- All 7th grade students who participated in the Terra Nova testing.
- Cross-country skiers who participated in snow, rain, and on ice.

Lunchtime Tutoring for All Students In All Subject Areas

Room 102

7th Grade..... Tuesday and Thursday

8th Grade..... Wednesday and Friday

Assistant Principals' News

Appropriate Dress for School

Neat and proper attire creates a safer and more pleasant atmosphere. Clothing that is not allowed in school includes:

- Clothing that causes a distraction
- Clothing that promotes gang affiliations
- Hats or bandanas
- Baggy Pants
- Pajamas or look alike pajamas
- Revealing attire
- Jackets, coats-students may not wear them to class
- Bare midriffs or shirts that bare skin when bending over or reaching up
- Clothing that advertises drug, alcohol, or tobacco products
- Clothing that is obscene or alludes to obscenity

If students have any questions regarding dress, please ask before wearing it. By addressing these issues and answering your questions, we hope to avoid dress code violations.

Backpacks

Backpacks, large purses, etc. will remain in student lockers. They are not to be carried in the school during the day.

Lockers

For security reasons students must use their own lockers. Lock combinations are confidential and are not to be shared with friends. Use only your assigned locker. Random locker searches will be done throughout the year, anything found in the locker is the responsibility of the student that has been assigned the locker.

Cell Phones

A student may possess a cellular telephone on school property. Cell phone use is limited to before and after school and in the lunchroom. As a condition of this permission, each student assumes all risk of loss, damage, or theft of the cellular phone.

Horseplay

This behavior is not permitted and will be considered a serious infraction of school rules.

Harassment

Harassment may be physical, verbal, nonverbal, written, or cyber-bullying. Repeated teasing and bullying will not be tolerated in our school. Harassing acts may include, but are not limited to sexual, racial, religious, age or disability issues. Remember that any name-calling can fall under this category.

Recently, we have had to address nuisance items, dangerous items, harassment issues, and Internet concerns. Parents, please keep a watchful eye on the sites that your child accesses via home computers. Homemade videos, chat rooms, blogs, and online diaries are used to post personal and private thoughts on the Internet. Unfortunately, conflicts that arise on the weekend may make an appearance at school on Monday. Additionally, what may seem as an innocent toy actually can become a nuisance item and disrupt the educational process. Dangerous materials/objects may result in such items being confiscated by staff and sanctions may be imposed even for a first offense.

One of the best sources for information is our ASD 2007-2008 Middle School Student Handbook. It contains school guidelines, district guidelines, and rights and responsibilities. Students sign that they received the handbook, teachers have gone over the handbook, and administrators, counselors, and security personnel, have presented decorum assemblies to assist in disseminating knowledge pertinent to school discipline.

Your input is always solicited and your child's welfare takes priority at HMS!

Peggy Huscusson, 7th Grade Assistant Principal

Brendan Wilson, 8th Grade Assistant Principal

Music Department

Julie Lucht's band students and Vance Zuehlsdorf's orchestra students had a recital at Hanshew on January 31. Why a recital format? Julie was absent during the Middle School Solo/Ensemble Festival and she wanted to give the kids a taste of performing in smaller venues with an accompanist. Vance felt this was a great warm-up for the Festival. Both conductors were able to serve as accompanists. Stage decorum and appropriate audience behavior was addressed. Far more students excitedly prepared than was anticipated and now there is talk of making the recital an annual event. Orchestra students are progressing toward the Festival, and band students will perform at the 5th Avenue Mall in March.

On February 14 the 8th grade Band performed at Abbott Loop Elementary and Heritage Christian School along with our orchestra and choir. On February 15, the 7th grade Band performed at Oceanview Elementary and Trailside Elementary. We hope that this tour inspired many potential music students to participate in music programs when they enter middle school.

Journalism

The 7th and 8th grade Hanshew Hawk Journalism students sold Valentines for \$1.00. These were published in the Valentine Edition of the school newspaper The Hawk. Fresh flowers were sold during lunchtime in the cafeteria for Valentines Day. The proceeds will be used to buy ingredients to make sandwiches for Beans Café.

Starting April 10 Hanshew Student Council will be meeting on Thursday afternoons from 2:45 – 4:00.

We will be discussing our next community activity. See Mrs.

Lemery (Room 115 if you are interested in joining Student Council.

Library News

Congratulations to the **Triple A Team**, the winning Battle of the Books team at Hanshew. 7th graders Allison Brawner, Alexa Stewart, Anna Kozyrenko, and 8th grader Breanna Benedict, will head to Romig Middle School later this month to compete at the district level.

There has been lots of researching going on in and out of the library this month. Orange Team studied countries and built Powerpoint Presentations, Jade Team researched current topics and wrote essays. The Outback Team researched chemical elements, Sapphire created Revolutionary War trading cards, and Teal researched whom they would add to Mt Rushmore. It's been a busy season for the library!

Poetry Alive is coming next month and we hope that every team will have a chance to attend. Poetry Alive performs poetry for large groups in an engaging and exciting way. Check them out at www.poetryalive.com. Also coming up this semester, another book fair to be held during conferences.

As always, feel free to give us a call or stop by if you want to see what middle level students are reading these days!

Hanshew Pennies for Patients Campaign

Clean out your pockets and change dishes. Hanshew is collecting change, to help fight childhood leukemia. Last year \$312,000. was raised in our local schools, and \$18 million nationally. As you support your child in this effort please know that 75% of the total raised will support cancer research, education, advocacy and services for patients. Every team has a container and we have a large one here in the office. For more information contact Mrs. Davis here at Hanshew.

Blue Pass

If you need to pick up your child for an appointment, send a signed and dated note with pertinent information. When she/he delivers the note to the Attendance Office she/he will be given a Blue Pass to leave at the requested time.

Geography Bee

Could you answer any of the following questions? “Name the independent country located entirely within the city of Rome.” “India borders two landlocked countries to the north. Name one of them.” “A United States island territory, where the official languages are English and Chamorro, has the motto ‘Where America’s Day Begins.’ Name the territory.” These are just some of the questions that determined the winner of the 2008 Hanshew Geography Bee, held on Tuesday, January 8.

Congratulations to Robert Wasser, Hanshew’s 2008 champion! Robert is on the Gold Team. Runner-up was Chris Hansmeyer, also Gold Team. These two battled it out in the final round. Other students participating in the bee were: Jordan Cearlock, Joe Dicerio, Kevin Cox, Hyrum Dobbins, Luke Cooley, Patrick Duffy, Paige Eikenberry, Steven Cassell, Marianne Estrella, Jake Franklin, Taylor Glennon, R.J. Halloran, Argel Isaquirre, Emily Manley, Audrianna Musgrove, Jeffery Overbaugh, Loni Smith, Will Springer, Olivia Williams, and Alex Stewart. Other top ten finalists were: Alex Dickinson, Connor Duff, Colin Hale, Kris Kuelper, Vanessa Muhlenbruch, Jordan Waite, Andrew Weldon, and Caleb Wood.

Winning the Geography Bee is not easy. Students take a qualifying exam and the top 30 become participants in the Bee. There are seven preliminary rounds, questions cover state and geographic comparisons, U.S. geography and cities, continents, cultural geography, and world capitals. At the end of the rounds competitors are narrowed to ten. These finalists start over with a clean slate of difficult questions.

Robert has taken a written test that was sent to the National Geographic Society. His score will determine whether he moves on to the state round. Mrs. Bradner wants to thank all the kids and staff who participated. “I’m so proud of the kids and what a great job they do up on the stage in front of their peers”.

Geo Bee Champion
Geo Bee Champion
Robert Wasser

Counselors Corner

School-Within-a-School

is an alternative school at East High School. SWS is a unique education experience. It is a small, supportive community within a large high school. To Enroll in SWS you will need an application for the lottery. You can print one off the internet. All interested students are encouraged to apply. For more information about SWS, please contact Ms. Janis Fleischman, SWS Admin. 742-2159 or by email: fleischman_janis@asdk12.org or use the district website: www.asdk12.org

SWS OPEN HOUSE

EAST HIGH 742-2172 / 742-2159

FEBRUARY 19 6:00 – 8:00 pm

Service High School will be holding a parent information night for the AVAIL Program:

Advancement Via Individual Determination

February 27, 6:00 – 7:00 pm

Lower G Commons

For questions call Erin Fleischman, 742-2159

Service High Open House

April 16, 6:30 – 8:30 pm

Gymnasium

East High School Open House

Tuesday, March 25, 6:00 – 8:00 pm

Park on the Northern Lights or Bragaw

Parking Areas

Spelling Bee Spelling Bee Champion Gabby Fowler

Students in the 7th and 8th grades who qualified to represent their team competed on Friday, January 11. **Gabby Fowler**, a 7th grader on the Teal Team, won the Spelling Bee with the final word "incredulous". **Connor Duff**, also a 7th grader on the Teal Team, was the runner-up. Connor was tied with Joe DiCiero from the Jade Team going into the tie-breaker round. The tie-breaking word was "omnivorous". **Congratulations to both of these 7th graders!** Thank you Mike Ross from KTUU Channel 2 News for being our moderator and Mrs. Indahl and Mrs. Huseman for judging the event.

Gabby will compete in the Alaska State Spelling Bee, February 29, at the Performing Arts Center. Good Luck Gabby!

Thank you to the 35 Spelling Bee contestants that participated in the Hanshew Spelling Bee: Dayna Allard, Dexter Aikey, Corisa Baker, Mariah Barker, Aurora Byers, Gene Chung, Joe DiCiero, Alex Dickinson, Anna Douangkham, Connor Duff, Jump Dusuntia, Crystal Echak, Gabby Fowler, Jake Fox, Marina George, Colin Hale, William Ji, Chris Kalilikane, Joe Kalis, Kris Kuelper, Cassie Lawrence, Suwan Lee, Keeli Long-Fuchs, Emily Manley, Ruben Mendoza, Christine Pena, Marivic Quiliza, Natasha Riggs, Adam Ritter, Matthew Saeteurn, Mason Scarpella, Charlie Telgenhoff, Alex Thompson, Tim Thornley and Taylor Turney.



NOW HIRING
Anchorage School District
SCHOOL BUS DRIVERS

The Anchorage School District Pupil Transportation Department is currently recruiting applicants for school bus driver positions. Applicants must enjoy working with children, have a good driving record and be willing to adhere to strict safety guidelines. Applicants will be screened and receive 40 hours of classroom and behind-the-wheel training before being licensed and employed. School bus drivers must obtain a background report from the Alaska State Troopers, must be 21 years of age, and will participate in a drug and alcohol screening program as federally mandated. The starting wage is \$15.00/hour. Call or stop by the Transportation Center for an application and more information:

Marty Elkins
Pupil Transportation Department
3580 E. Tudor Rd.
Anchorage, AK 99507
742-1200

The next training for school bus drivers will be held
March 6, 7, 8, 10, 11 & 12, 2008

Applications are also available at
http://www.asdk12.org/forms/uploads/class_fullapp.pdf

PTA - Memory Books-\$35.00

Please turn in your order form with a \$35.00 check, made out to "Hanshew PTA", to the Front Office. Your check is your receipt. No credit cards or cash please.

Dates to Remember

March 7	End of 3 rd Quarter, No School
February 26 – 27	X-Country Ski Championships
February	Spring Photos
March 10 - 14	Spring Break No. School
March 26 - 27	Parent Teacher Conferences
March 28	In Service Day – No School

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