

A Word from Mr. Powers

After a record-breaking winter, students and staff have all switched gears to prepare for the home stretch. We are seeing the results of new initiatives and ongoing practices reflected in student success. Successes span the curriculum and the whole high school experience:

In the classroom, second language students will have new oral assessments. Language teachers worked throughout the year to learn and implement tests with external reviewers. Using the expertise of the American College Teachers of Foreign Languages, our students are the beneficiaries of the most up-to-date speaking techniques that open avenues for continued improvement over the course of their studies in the ICSD.

On Saturday, April 5, school community members collaborated on a student-organized lip dub video (ask your student) to the tune of the terrific “Happy” from the movie “Frozen” and “On Top of the World.” Check it out on YouTube.

Community agencies coordinated with the television production and Driver’s Ed programs on a May presentation for 11th and 12th graders about safe driving. This topic is particularly important during the end-of-year events.

We are proud of these and all the wonderful ways that our community meets and enriches the lives of our students. I look forward to seeing you at our many upcoming events.

Jarett Powers

Important dates

July 3 Final Report Cards Mailed out

September 1 Labor Day

September 2 & 3 PLC for Staff; No school for students

September 4 First day of school for 9th Graders and New Entrants

September 5 First full day of school for all students

October 13 Columbus Day School Recess

Changing address??

Leaving ICSD??

Please notify

Deborah Casey,

IHS Registrar, ASAP!!

Phone: 607-274-2144;

Fax: 607-277-3061;

dcasey@icsd.k12.ny.us

WISE Program

We are pleased to announce that three WISE students: Naomi Powers, Julia Gil, and Andriy Volkov are recipients of WISE grant money to supplement project expenses. When you see them, be sure to congratulate them as you inquire about their projects!

June 2nd kicks off our 2014 Presentation Season. ALL are welcome to attend the annual WISE Sample Presentation scheduled for June 2nd, 2014 in York Lecture Hall at 6:30 PM. Tyler Fricke will present his project *Playing the Stock Market*. For students and staff interested in knowing more about the WISE Program, the independent project and the project presentation experience, this will be an interesting and informative event—see you there!

Each WISE Presentation requires the participation of a community evaluator. If you are interested in serving as an evaluator of a student's WISE project presentation, please review our Google

Calendar: <https://sites.google.com/site/ihswiseprogram/team-schedules> and then contact the program facilitator, Alexis Lord: alord@icsd.k12.ny.us to schedule your service.

If you are curious about the WISE Program and the independent project experience, feel free to sit in on one of the scheduled presentations—you may access the schedule via the link above.

Thanks!

Alexis A. Lord
IHS English Teacher and WISE Program

Library

The Library has had a banner year in terms of policy changes and student involvement. We initiated students being able to eat in the Library, on Mr. Power's request, and it has worked out very well. Students have made suggestions ("Why not have a Classics section?"—thank you, Daniel Barden— we did it) and Library Club has worked on all aspects of Library structure.

We are here to serve your students during the last weeks of classes and exam weeks as well. Library hours during exams (June 16-25) are:

8:15-12:45 Daily
3-4:30 Monday through Thursday
3-3:33 Friday

Also be aware that **all books belonging to our Library are due June 6!** The consolation prize is our annual book and magazine giveaway, also on that Friday, June 6. Not returning or paying for books has serious consequences: students can't borrow as many books next year; seniors are restricted from their events; parking tags are not issued to students not returning Library materials. It really is worth helping your students find their stray books!

And for summer, we will have a reading list coming out at the end of May, also appearing on our website. These are not required reading, but a collection of interesting, new, old, and favorite titles that can be found at the public library and bookstores (IHS Library is not open in the summertime).

Thank you for letting us work with your students all this year! The Library loves them!

"How we spend our days is, of course, how we spend our lives."
--Annie Dillard, *The Writing Life*, 1989

Yours in the Library,
Nan Bell

Fine Arts

Art students are wrapping up the year with their final projects. Studio Art students have a 3D focus on mask making and creative hat construction and are also collaborating with our Urban Art Club to complete a Social Justice graffiti mural that will be installed in the Art Yard, just outside of the art rooms.

In May and June, Studio in Crafts will be working on warm glass fusing with master glass artist, Tony Serviente. Drawing and Painting students are finishing their expressive botanical compositions on untraditional surfaces (cabinet doors, shutters etc.). They will be mounted in the Art garden just down the hall from D hallway. The Photo students will also feature their work at the annual Photo Exhibit at the IHS Library at the end of May through June 2014.

AP Studio Art students are designing their own projects, some working further with their Concentration theme and some working with the AP Art History students to recreate a master art work using models and props to bring art to life on a human scale. These recreations will be photographed by the Digital Photo students and included in the annual IHS Visual Culture art show. This year, that annual exhibit at the Tompkins County Public Library will feature paintings, drawings, prints, ceramics and mixed media work from IHS art students, July-August 2014.

Special thanks to all of our visiting artists this year (Hillary Gifford, Van Dyk Lewis, Jay Stooks, Maryterese Pasquale Bowen, Carol Hockett, Sylvia Taylor, Keith Millman, Rachel Reichert, Julia Dean, Pam Drix, Caleb Thomas, Milly Archaya, Zimra Beiner, Tony Serviente) and to IPEI and FABG whose grants have helped us fund these artists, expand our classroom resources and think outside the box. And a big thank you to Fine Arts Director, David Brown and our Principal, Jarett Powers who support the Arts in concrete and meaningful ways every day.

Every April we celebrate **Math Awareness Week**, starting with a T-shirt design contest and ending with a problem-of-the-day contest. We have so many students (and adults) enter that we have to do a drawing to see who will win a T-shirt. For the first time ever, this year's shirts were printed by students here at Ithaca High, in one of Bill Sauve's classes, thanks to a grant from the PTSA. The



photo shows the crew that did the printing, with the designer in the middle holding the shirt: Robin Broadbent, Kai McKee, Jun Hyung Lee, Hua Zheng, Beatrice Collins, Rebekah Stauffer (designer), Nickolas Cooper, Richard Langendoerfer, Dan Brown, Trisha Fox, Robert Fenton, Isaiah Cruz, John Snyder.

Algebra I Final Exam Information

All Algebra I students have Regents exams on the following days:

Common Core: Periods 1-3, June 3rd

Integrated Algebra: 8:45 am, June 20th

Students should bring pencil, pen and a graphing calculator – but not their phone. Cell phones are expressly forbidden during all Regents Exams. In addition, Honors Algebra I students (only) will have an in-class supplemental final exam on June 5th and 6th.

All Algebra I students are required to take both exams.

Review Sessions

In addition to the review students are doing in class, they can get help after school on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday in H112, as usual. There will be review sessions for specific Regents Exams held during testing week. Students can get passes from their teacher or the math department to attend these.

June 17: 9-11:30 Geometry; 1-3:30 Algebra 2/Trig

June 18: 9-11:30 Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra 2/Trig

June 19: 9-11:30 Algebra I, Geometry

LEGO Mindstorms Robotics: Thanks to a grant from Toshiba America Foundation, Ms. Kolhatkar's students have been building and programming working robots out of LEGO's latest EV3 sets in AIS math lab this spring (when their work is done, of course).

Competitions: In February, about 200 Ithaca High students challenged themselves by participating in the American Math Competition run by the Mathematical Association of America. We were very proud to have eight of our students qualify for the even more challenging American Invitational Math Exam that was held in March: Alexander Babiak, Gayathri Ganesan, Daniel Halpern, Rex Lei, Jensen Lo, Dekang Meng, Raymond Xu and Aryeh Zax.

Also in March, Ithaca High School took first place at the 26th annual High School Programming Contest at St. Bonaventure University. Congratulations to our amazing team: Aryeh Zax, Connor Simpson, Jensen Lo, and Rex Lei! In April, there was another programming contest at Cornell, organized by Fred Deppe of the Ithaca High School Mathematics Department and Robbert Van Renesse of the Cornell Computer Science Department. The teams that came in first and third for the Cornell University High School Programming Contest were both from Ithaca High! The winning team: Rex Lei, Jensen Lo, Aryeh Zax; the third place team: Gayathri Ganesan, Connor Simpson, Jesse Yuan.

Also in April, the Ithaca High School Math Team took third place in their division at NYSML (**New York State Mathematics League**). Congratulations are in order to all of the students and extra kudos to Rex Lei who was the high scorer for our team, correctly answering 9 out of 10 questions in the individual round. NYSML Roster: Lucie Fan, Gayathri Ganesan, Esther Jeon, Andrew Jin, Rex Lei, Jensen Lo, Sam Saloff-Coste, Bowen Shan, Connor Simpson, Ian Statema, Jesse Yuan, Weiqing Zhang. The High School students were joined by several from DeWitt and Boynton as well: Eric Dusenberry, Reynold Gao, Vivek Myers, Yuuki Real, Felix Shi, and Justin Tan.

The physics classes at the Ithaca High School will be going to Darien Lake to do experiments on the amusement park rides on May 19. It's a great opportunity for students to use their understanding of physics as it relates to their own physical experiences. For the Regents classes, it is an excellent review of basic mechanics in preparation for the Regents exam.

AP Physics classes have completed their Collegeboard exams and are starting projects. We also will begin a series of talks by various scientists on areas of research relating to physics including special relativity, the Brachistrone problem, particle physics, biophysics, magnetism, fluids, astrophysics, theoretical physics, nanotechnology and other topics. In addition, AP Physics B classes will be doing a workshop with Cornell graduate student Stacy Farina on the physics of fish. AP Physics C classes will be doing a workshop with Cornell graduate student Michael Lam on Exoplanets, Life in the universe, Pulsars and Cosmology.

A new series of talks this year at the high school was aimed at introducing students, families, and faculty to the applications of the basic sciences typical of high school and middle school classes. We had four talks this year and plan on a full roster of talks next year beginning in the fall. Talks were held from 5:30-6:30 PM in H Courtyard, an intimate setting that encourages conversations with the visiting speakers. We started with a talk by Chris Schaffer of Cornell on the use of laser technology for imaging living biological systems. We saw movies of blood traveling through the blood vessels and learned how this technology is being used to better understand Alzheimer's disease. Bruce Monger from Cornell helped us better understand how the rise in atmospheric CO₂ is affecting our oceans and what we can do to change this situation. Hod Lipson from Cornell told us all about 3-D printing and the many current and possible future applications of this technology with an emphasis on how it is revolutionizing industries. Finally, last month Lena Kourkoutis from Cornell regaled us with stories from the nano-world, explaining how electrons are used to image man-made and biological systems and the importance of understanding the behavior of materials at this minute scale.

We expect to begin our series next year with a talk from Bruce Monger from Ithaca College on how recommender systems are used by such sites as Google and Netflix. He plans to tell us how the computer programming is done to make these systems. Look for the full series information early in the fall.

World
Languages
Department

IHS senior Alexander Babiak is one of four students chosen for the first American team that will compete in the 12th International Linguistics Olympiad (IOL) in Beijing this July. Alex was one of 1,645 students who competed in January in the Open Round of the NACLO (North American Computational Linguistics Olympiad) contest, held locally at Cornell. The top ten percent of scorers were invited to the Invitational Round in March. As one of the top four scorers in that round, Alex will represent the US on the first of its two 4-person teams in China this summer.

Students had a range of problems to solve in these contests, involving languages such as Estonian, Maori, Cameroon Pidgin English, Turkish, Hungarian and more, as well as analysis of English from computational perspectives. Alex has studied German and Latin, both through the AP level, at IHS, as well as Ancient Greek (he's currently reading Homer), and numerous languages on his own in his spare time. Congratulations, Alex!

Once again, the IHS Latin students performed successfully on the National Latin Exam, given in March. Students performed "with distinction" (cum laude), "with great distinction" (magna cum laude), "with greatest distinction" (maxima cum laude, or Silver Medal), and "with highest distinction" (summa cum laude, or Gold Medal).

In Latin 1, there were 3 Gold Medalists and 3 Silver Medalists: Claire Derry, Julia Miller, and Cecilia Yearsley (Gold); Sarah Cohn-Manik, Rowan Cusack Miller, and Lena Weiss (Silver). Two students performed with great distinction: Maddie Crooker and Fisher Michaels. Four achieved with distinction: Maya George, Colleen Gorsky, Tuli Kuckes, and Max Shuhan.

In Latin 2, Andrew Robertson and Lehman Schwab won Gold Medals; Sarah Couillard won Silver; and Emily Pelliccia achieved with great distinction.

In Latin 3, Joseph Lunine and Phoebe Shalloway won Gold; Ben Sherman won Silver; and Jelle Schukken performed with great distinction.

Phoebe Lakin won her fourth straight Gold Medal, for Latin 5 this year. Like Phoebe, several students have won awards every time they've participated: 3 medals in a row, for Phoebe, Joseph and Ben (Latin 3), and two in a row, for Andrew and Lehman (Latin 2).

Congratulations to all who participated!

"Reading should not be presented to children as a chore or duty. It should be offered to them as a precious gift." — Kate DiCamillo

With DiCamillo's quotation in mind, students in the two sections of Readers' Workshop at the high school have been paired with reading buddies in Chris Bell and Abigail Bokaer's first grade classes at Fall Creek Elementary School. The buddy pairs have exchanged letters of introduction, and will meet at least twice to read to each other and play on the Fall Creek playground. Through a generous grant from IPEI, the high school students will be tasked with determining the interests and relative reading levels of their buddies, and will then conduct research on children's books and choose an appropriate book to match the interests and level of their first grade buddy. Readers' Workshop students will purchase a book for their first grade buddies, to be inscribed and presented at the final meeting.

Ms. McKown has reported that, once again, the annual Victorian Tea was a great success. English 10 Combined students waltzed, drank tea, and looked quite refined.

This spring, English teachers and students were treated to two wonderful theatrical performances. After meeting in small workshops for an introduction to acting and the play, nearly 300 11th graders visited Ithaca College to enjoy a special performance of Arthur Miller's *The Crucible*.

Mr. Byrne's AP Lit class has been work-shopping *Antigone* with local theater group Civic Ensemble. The students have acted out and improved scenes from the play, watched a 45 minute staged reading and will rewrite select scenes for an in-class performance. It has been a wonderfully creative post-exam two weeks. We look forward to continuing to cooperate with local theaters in order to bring even more live performances to IHS's students.

Students who have enrolled in AP English courses for next year should listen to announcements and attend an after-school meeting at which they will pick up their summer reading and writing assignments.

Join the PTA Listserv and Stay Connected

For up-to-date information concerning IHS, sign up for the PTA listserv by sending an (empty) email to IHSPTA-subscribe@yahoogroups.com.

To share information with or ask questions of other IHS families, join our discussion listserv by sending an (empty) email to IHSPTA-discuss-subscribe@yahoo.com.

School Store

The end of the school year is fast approaching and the Ithaca High School Store is having a sale on all remaining items! All school clothing is being sold at or barely above cost! Some great looking T-shirts are being sold for as little as three dollars and the few remaining hoodies and quarter zip-sweatshirts are being sold at prices you won't want to pass up. Students coming to Ithaca High School next year may want to get in on these deals so they can arrive to IHS next year wearing the school apparel! Please contact Ithaca High School Store Advisor Jay Barnes if you have questions or would like to make a purchase.

Jay Barnes, Office: 607-274-2147; Cell: 607-280-4637; Email: jbarnes@icsd.k12.ny.us



Physical Education & Health Department

As the warm weather finally reaches Ithaca, we want to remind students that they are expected to be prepared to participate in PE class, whether it is held indoors or outdoors. We recommend students wear comfortable clothes that are appropriate to be active in, which includes shorts or sweat pants, T-shirts, and possibly long sleeved shirts or hoodies if it is cooler out, and remember: **Sneakers are a MUST!**

The goal of our Physical Education Classes are to keep students participating towards lifelong fitness in a safe and healthy environment, so please remind students that they will not be allowed to participate in class without appropriate attire. It is important that each student attends his or her PE class and is prepared to participate because passing Physical Education is a New York State requirement in order to graduate.

Many students were issued PE locks at the beginning of the year. It is the responsibility of the student to ensure that their locker is cleaned out of all materials by June 17, 2014 and the correct lock is placed on their assigned locker. If the student is unable to produce the assigned lock, a letter will be sent home requesting \$10 for a replacement lock. Again these locks are provided to students to ensure the safety of their valuables (when they use the locks correctly). Please encourage students to be proactive in removing their belongings. We had a huge amount of clothing and sneakers left behind by students last year.

When the PE staff attends our continuing education conferences, we find out useful information we like to share with students and their families. Some more recent findings passed on from our professional organization, NYS AHPERD (**New York State Alliance for Health Physical Education Recreation and Dance**), were:

The New England Journal of Medicine reports for the first time in two centuries, the current generation of children in America may have shorter life expectancies than their parents.

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention report that physically active students have better learning, readiness, attention span, fewer behavior issues, hence the capacity for better academic outcome.

Thank you for your continued support for your students and their success in PE, Health and all of their other classes at IHS.

IHS Word is the Ithaca High School newsletter, jointly funded by the PTA and IHS.

It serves all IHS stakeholders and is mailed with student progress reports each quarter.

Please Join the PTA!

For more info visit the IHS PTA web site <http://www.ihspta.info/wordpress/>