



Seal Sightings

Selinsgrove Area High School's quarterly newsletter

Selinsgrove Area High School

December 2006

Math teams score well at Bloomsburg meet

The math team of Alexa Benner, Kelley Bohm, Steve Rubin and Joe Ruby placed second in the Brain Teaser competition and third in the Quiz Bowl out of 42 teams competing at Bloomsburg University on Nov. 13. They also made it to the final eight teams in the Game of 24 competition.

The second team of Caitlin Conn, Derek Houtz, Morgan Keller and Sara Lupolt made it to the final eight in the Quiz Bowl competition and the final 16 in the Game of 24 before being eliminated.

All students received tee shirts and certificates for their efforts. The first team received a plaque for the school and individual gift cards for placing in the competitions.

Peer Leadership program seeks sophomores

The 2006-2007 high school Peer Leadership retreat is set for March 1-3.

All tenth graders who did not participate in Middle School and all new students will be invited to attend after the winter holiday.

Peer Leadership gives students an opportunity to spend time away from school with a wide variety of peers and adult leaders engaging in fun, enlivening activities designed to break down barriers and improve their ability to act as good role models for others. Anyone interested in more information should contact Mr. Campbell, Mr. Edwards, Mr. Gruenberg, Mrs. Miller or Mrs. Underhill.

Bankers visit students to provide authentic learning experience in finances

Representatives from four local banks visited Selinsgrove Area High School's Personal Finance class in October.

The purpose of the visit was to expose students to an authentic situation in which they would shop for a bank to open a checking account, savings account, or anything else they were interested in financially.

From the Principal –

I would like to thank everyone who has enrolled in the GiantAPlus program. If you haven't already, you can do so online or at the store.

We will begin scheduling soon. Class meetings will be held in January to discuss the process. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call the guidance office.

Congratulations to all our fall athletes. This fall season was very successful. Also, the student-athletes consistently represented our school in a way we can be proud. Our band and student actors also put on excellent shows this fall as well.

We recently got our calling system up and working with our new student accounting software. One thing we noticed, however, is that we cannot enter field trips and educational trips in the system in advance. As a result, the system will call to notify you of your child's absence even in these situations.

Have a happy and safe holiday season.

Reed Messmore
principal

Students prepared for the visit by reading their textbooks, discussing "Banking Basics" found at the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston's web site, and using their own experience to formulate questions for the bankers. Their final project was an essay reflecting on each interview and ultimately making a decision about which bank they would choose based on sound reasons about their own current financial needs.

The representatives and their respective banks participating in this financial exercise included Erin Brouse, customer service representative at Service First Federal Credit Union; Angela Harrod, Customer Service Manager at Omega Bank, Selinsgrove; Nicole Sovic, Assistant Community Office Manager at Swineford National Bank; and John

Stoking, Branch Manager at Susquehanna Bank. Mr Stoking also participated as a guest speaker for the class on Credit. Steve Stanko, from Omega Bank, has also been participating in a Junior Achievement simulation game with the class.

Contest promotes interest in energy and environment

The National Energy Foundation, United State Energy Association and Johnson Controls have organized the "Igniting Creative Energy Challenge" to encourage students to learn more about energy and the environment.

Open to K-12 students, the Challenge is an educational competition designed to challenge students. All student entries will be recognized, and Grand Prize Trips will be awarded to three students and one teacher.

For all the details on this exciting competition, please visit www.ignitingcreativeenergy.org for all the details that students and teachers need to enter, including entry forms, rules and judging criteria.

Student submissions must be postmarked on or before February 17, 2007.

Volunteers needed for Strategic Planning process

The Strategic Plan is a continuous process used to ensure all students are achieving at high levels. Each school district is required to develop and submit a Strategic Plan every six years to the state.

Selinsgrove Area School District is starting the development of our new six year plan and we need your help. We need parents, community members, and business leaders to serve on our committees. If you are interested, please contact Chad Cohrs, Director of Curriculum & Instruction at 372-2203 for further information.

Also, watch our web site for online surveys which will allow you to give us additional input into the process.

Outdoors Club tries winter camping, minus snow

The Outdoors Club went to Poe Paddy State Park November 18-19 for a cold weather camping experience.

Unfortunately, the turnout consisted of only three girls, but the girls, Mrs. Hepner and Mr. and Mrs. Bechtel had a good time at the beautiful park woods setting.

Class to make Christmas toys for charitable programs

The Advanced Materials class will be making 40 wooden toys to be given away to the Haven Mission and Toy's for Tots. This project has been an annual activity for many years. The students find a toy idea and produce the toys from raw materials and design appropriate packaging as well. They will start to build next week.

Guidance Department News

Seniors applying to post-secondary institutions should contact their guidance counselors to provide information on where they want their transcripts sent.

Seniors using an on-line application form should complete the transcript request form located in the guidance office.

Please keep college and university deadlines in mind and allow the guidance department at least one week for processing transcript information.

The Guidance Department will be coordinating the administration of the PSSA in **Writing** for juniors **February 11-22**.

The PSSA in **Math & Reading** will be administered **March 12-23**. The **PSSA Field Test in Science** will be administered **April 23-May 4**.

The Guidance Department will be sponsoring a **Financial Aid Night on Monday, January 8, at 7:00 pm** in the high school auditorium. This program is an excellent opportunity for students in grades 10 through 12 and their parents to learn more about financial aid.

A representative from Susquehanna University's Financial Aid Office will present information and answer questions regarding the financial aid process.

The guidance department maintains an open file for anyone interested in scholarship opportunities. Please stop by the guidance office for further information.

The scheduling process for the 2007-08 school-year will begin on January 9 for current 8th graders. Course description booklets and course selection sheets will be distributed.

On January 16 from 6:30 to 8:30 an Open House for parents of incoming 9th graders will be available. Parents and students will meet with the high school department chairpersons.

Course selection sheets are due January 29 to middle school teachers.

On January 17, 2007 the guidance department will distribute course description booklets and selection sheets to current freshmen and sophomores.

Course description booklets and selection sheets will be distributed to current juniors January 18.

The deadline for course selection sheets (grades 9, 10, & 11) to be returned to the guidance office is February 12.

The guidance department is available to meet with any student to discuss course selections.