



HANNIBAL

Central School District

Farm to Table program plants seeds of knowledge at DMK



An agricultural enrichment program at Dennis M. Kenney Middle School is teaching students about the food they eat, thanks to the Farm to Table offering.

Seventh and eighth graders work with Dr. Christine Lamont to plant seeds and grow various fruits, vegetables and herbs. They see the process through, from start to finish, by using simple science activities to investigate the origin and nutritional content

of common foods. They also examine the structure and function of food crops, the impacts of fertilizers, light, and grazing on plant growth, along with the role of pollinators and bacteria in food production.

"The students are able to develop additional science skills that they don't get in regular science classes," Lamont said. "They leave the class able to design experiments and collect data. They use compound and digital microscopes and have had experience using digital probes to measure pH and temperature."

In addition to growing different crops, students also explore nature and identify birds in the area. They report their findings to the Cornell Ornithology lab via eBird, and they also research monarch butterflies and frogs. These opportunities, Lamont said, have given students the chance to thrive in a different classroom environment.

"I think this small group setting is ideal to facilitate teamwork and problem solving; skills that are important for all of their other classes," Lamont said. "The smaller setting lets shy students have the opportunity to speak up and be part of a team. I am hoping that the students will leave my class with a greater appreciation of the natural world and that, in turn, will lead them to be citizens who want to protect it."



Hannibal schools help 159 families through Christmas Bureau



A Christmas Bureau carnival attendee is all smiles after getting his face painted during the event.

The Hannibal Central School District community once again answered the call for help during the holiday season this year, as their generosity made spirits brighter for local families in need.

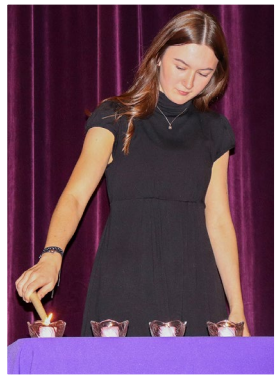
Through the annual Christmas Bureau fundraising and distribution efforts, 159 families received toys, food, clothing and other items just in time for the holidays. Donations from community members poured in, with \$5,000 in additional funds generated from the Christmas Bureau Carnival held in November.

All the donations and efforts culminated in distribution day, where volunteers delivered hand-packed baskets to local families days before Christmas.

"We are so grateful for the generous community members and local businesses who made this year's Christmas Bureau such a resounding success," said district clerk Amy Klein, who helped organize the event alongside Amy Gombas. "Our HCSD community continues to amaze us with their compassion and giving spirit."



Eight Hannibal students inducted into National Honor Society



Hannibal High School junior Meredith Wakefield lights a candle signifying her membership into the National Honor Society.

Eight Hannibal High School students recently earned recognition for a combination of academic success and overall character, as they were inducted into the Sadie Adamy chapter of the National Honor Society.

The inductees each lit a candle and took the NHS oath as they were lauded for demonstrating the characteristics required of an NHS member, which include scholarship, leadership, service, citizenship and character. Current NHS members read about each characteristic of the honor society and encouraged the inductees to strive to uphold their oath in their daily lives.

"This is an absolutely incredible accomplishment," said Hannibal High School Principal Meredith Furlong. "Please continue to honor this pledge. Our world needs more individuals like you."

NHS co-advisors Lisa Mason and Kristina Licatase-Linn echoed those sentiments as they presented each inductee with a certificate denoting their achievement.

The new inductees include Christopher Mandart, David Decker, Layla Emmons, Tyler Emmons, Olivia Kuc, Noah Poole, Sophia Salladin and Meredith Wakefield.



The newest members of the Sadie Adamy chapter of the National Honor Society gather for a group photo following the ceremony. Absent for the photo was Tyler Emmons.

Global School Play Day a success at Fairley Elementary

Fairley Elementary students recently participated in a global initiative to promote learning through play during Global School Play Day.

The worldwide event, held Feb. 7, was designed to give students time for free play without the use of screens, structured games or adult direction. Children were able to explore their creativity, problem-solving skills, and social interactions in an unstructured and spontaneous environment.

"This event helps build classroom communities and helps address the various academic and social emotional needs of our students," said Fairley Elementary Principal Amy Bird. "Students participated in self-directed activities where they learned valuable skills while having fun."

Although there wasn't any snow outside for this year's event, students had fun on the playground and running around outside. Indoors, they also played board games, cards and memory games.

"It's hard to measure the success of Global School Play Day, but the smiles on our students' faces says it all," Bird said.



Fairley students on the playground outside of school during Global School Play Day.



Big Buddy/Little Buddy Club a hit in Hannibal schools

After a handful of successful Big Buddy/Little Buddy sessions last year, the Hannibal Central School District has approved it as an official club, and it has been met with rave reviews among students and staff alike.

The program pairs high school students with Fairley Elementary School students each month, providing time for reading and crafts. The high school students serve as mentors for their younger counterparts, listening and laughing alongside one another.

"This has been such a tremendous program for our students," said Big Buddy/Little Buddy

facilitator Roseann Inzalaco. "It's a bonding over books experience where our students truly benefit in a variety of ways."

Each session is unique, with the books and crafts/snacks taking on a particular theme, such as the holidays, gratitude, etc. Regardless of the theme, the overall experience is the same, as students connect across grade levels and have positive interactions with one another.

Students in the Hannibal Big Buddy/Little Buddy program read a book during a recent session at Fairley Elementary School.





Hannibal High School student artists earn Scholastic Art Awards

Hannibal High School student artists shined in this year's CNY Scholastic Art competition, earning four awards, including a Gold Key, the top honor.

The annual competition features entries from school districts throughout the region, with more than 4,000 pieces submitted. Entries included photography, ceramics, digital creations, paintings and everything in between, with judges factoring in things like originality, creativity, skill and execution.

Once the scores were tallied, Hannibal's Erica Lockhart took home the top award, a Gold Key, for her "Pink Caddy" submission. A Silver Key was presented to Harley Somers for "The Julius," while Honorable Mention was awarded to Logan Majeski for "Ugly Love" and Leah Sica for "Fairy Parasol."

"Our entire art department is thrilled to celebrate these incredibly talented student artists," said high school art teacher Lyndsey Rowland. "We see their talent on a daily basis, and now others can see it too!"

The winning selections were displayed at the Whitney Applied Technology Center on OCC campus.



Fairy Parasol



The Julius



Pink Caddy



Ugly Love



UPCOMING EVENTS

March 11: Staff Development Day (No School)

March 13: Budget Meeting, 5:30 p.m., followed by BOE Meeting, 6 p.m.

March 14 & 15: Early Dismissal (UPK-8)

March 15 & 16: Drama Club Musical (Frozen Jr., the Musical),
6:30 p.m. both nights, HS Auditorium

March 19: Districtwide Chorus Concert, 6:30 p.m., HS Auditorium

March 20: FES Class Group Picture Day
Districtwide Band Concert, 6:30 p.m. HS Auditorium

March 29: Recess Day (No School)

Pre-K and Kindergarten Registration Packets Mailed Home

April 1-2: FES Spring Pictures

April 8: Solar Eclipse

April 10: BOE Meeting, 6 p.m.

April 12-13: All-County Chorus Festival at Mexico

April 22-26: Spring Break (No School)

May 8: Budget Hearing, 5:30 p.m., followed by BOE Meeting, 6 p.m.

Families flock to Fairley for Frozen Math Games

Fairley Elementary School recently hosted families for the annual Frozen Math Games activity to promote learning in a fun way.

The event provided families with an opportunity to come into the school to play math games and participate in strategy activities with students. Parents, guardians, siblings and grandparents joined students in classrooms to play games such as Yahtzee, Monopoly, Connect4, and card games designed to utilize math skills.

"Family engagement is important in our students' education, and activities like this are a great way for families to get involved in a fun way," said Fairley Elementary School Principal Amy Bird. "The math games reinforced some of the knowledge our students gained in the classroom. It is wonderful to see them apply that knowledge while playing games."



A Hannibal student and his family play a card game during Fairley's Frozen Math Games.

Hannibal students learn from US women's hockey director

Dennis M. Kenney Middle School students recently got a chance to meet the US Women's National Hockey Team director and learn about her career.

Katie Million of USA Hockey was on hand to talk about her role, answer questions and engage with the students of the school's fifth grade Genius Hour class taught by Shannon Kerst, library media specialist at DMK.

Million brought her Olympic silver medal from the 2023 Beijing Winter Olympics for the kids to see, and the whole group took a picture together to mark the occasion.

The Genius Hour class focuses on career research and exploration.

Pictured are Hannibal CSD students from DMK Middle School's Genius Hour class along with US Women's National Hockey Team Director of Programs Katie Million.





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Personal finance class teaches Hannibal eighth-graders valuable skills

While money management can be a very real challenge, the Hannibal Central School District is providing students with tools and resources to help lay a solid foundation for their financial future.

Eighth graders at Dennis M. Kenney Middle School participate in a 10-week personal finance course that teaches them basic skills when it comes to managing money and balancing a budget. The course covers various topics such as banking, earning income, budgeting, credit management, saving and self-protection.

"Students learn everything from money basics — such as calculating discounts, making change, figuring sales tax and calculating tips — to more complex things like managing risk and saving money," said personal finance teacher Stacy Adams. "The course covers needs vs. wants, writing checks and analyzing credit."

Adams noted that these skills are transferrable to daily life and that students are excited to learn about topics that they can utilize in the real world.

Students will be able to pull from their knowledge and reflect on the skills they learned in this course as they begin to handle their personal finances.

"Having the ability to efficiently handle your finances is an essential skill that every student will have to practice in a few years when they transition into adulthood and the real-world," Adams said. "It is truly wonderful that Hannibal students are given this valuable opportunity. On the first day, many students are unfamiliar with the concept of personal finances. However, once we begin to discuss money and other related topics, they begin to understand the relevance of this class in their lives."

Life Skills class opens Warrior Café for Hannibal High School staff

The Warrior Café is open for business at Hannibal High School, providing plenty of learning opportunities for its student employees.

Facilitated by Alicia Knight's Life Skills class, the café serves up a menu of items to Hannibal staff members. Each Wednesday, students prepare food, collect payments and deliver orders to faculty. The menu includes items such as coffee, tea, muffins and breakfast sandwiches.

"The students really like going on deliveries and running the cash register," Knight said. "They learn important job skills like customer service, communication, and following directions."

All the funds generated from sales help support field trips, which provide students with cultural and community experiences.

Hannibal High School's Life Skills students get ready to serve up food at the Warrior Café.

