

Nathan Hale PTSA
10750 30th Avenue NE
Seattle, WA 98125

February, 2007
Volume XIII, Issue 5
Leanne Hawkins, Editor

Nathan Hale High School PTSA
Local Unit 6.15.470

Officers:

President, Melissa Larson
larschmitt@hotmail.com

Vice President, Richard Brandon
brandon@u.washington.edu

Treasurer, Jackie Stratton
wellnessresource@yahoo.com

Secretary, Judy Reed
thosereeds@juno.com

The **Raider Reader** is published nine times during the school year. E-mail your articles to: Hawkins1022@msn.com
Deadline: February 13 for March 2007 issue

Inside this Issue:
Principal's Message 1
PTSA News 2
School News & Information 3-5,8
Bulletin Board 6-7

Calendar Watch

February 6: Special Election—
School Levies
February 8: Hale class registration begins
February 10: *Nowhere Men* concert/
Hosted dinners
February 14: Course paperwork due
February 14: Staff Appreciation breakfast
February 26: Grad Ads deadline
March 2: Bingo Night

Raider Reader

The Nathan Hale High School PTSA Newsletter

Principal's Message

Lisa Hechtman, Nathan Hale Principal

Registration for fall classes opens Thursday, February 8 during mentorship. Mentors distribute registration packets containing guidelines, a four-year plan worksheet, a student's academic history, and a course option sheet. (Running Start students should arrange to speak with a counselor.) An important part of registration is the conversations among family members as they confirm meeting or making progress toward completing high school graduation requirements, research or reaffirm post-secondary plans, and discuss courses and Hale. You and your student can read the guidelines and view the 2007-08 Course Guide on-line beginning February 7. *Note:* Although this is a catalog, not all courses in the Guide are offered annually. This is why we ask students to select alternative choices so we have more options for creating a full schedule for them.



SCHEDULING PRIORITIES Each student should register for six classes, keeping in mind the following priorities:

- 1. Graduation Requirements:** High school graduation requirements insure each student will attain a certain level of development and complete a well-rounded program.
- 2. Future Plans:** Few high school students know exactly what they intend to do after graduation. Interests and plans change with experience and education. Thus it is important to take courses that lay a foundation for four-year or community college, vocational training, military or employment options. (This idea drives much of the design of our four-year academic program for students.)
- 3. Interests and Abilities:** Students should be realistic about their ability levels and interests. Selected courses should be challenging, rewarding, and motivating. Students are encouraged to talk with their mentors, teachers, families and/or counselors about their plans.

We schedule on a year-long basis to provide our students the best opportunities to prepare for their future, to complete Hale's graduation requirements, and to most wisely use our resources (time, staff, budget, etc.). **Therefore, their choices are CRITICAL not only for their learning but in the development of our master schedule and course offerings.** Choosing a course signals not only interest but also commitment to complete the work to the best of a student's ability. The course option sheets, **the paperwork signifying a student's requests, are due on or before Wednesday, February 14, at the end of mentorship.**

While that completes the class selections by current students, staff continues the registration process. By February 28, all secondary students will have chosen a high school. By the end of March, we know which 8th graders will join us. They register in their middle schools at the beginning of April. Meanwhile, our budget and transformation team will look at our student numbers, course requests, and financial numbers while preparing the 2007-2008 budget, due March 15.

PTSA NEWS AND INFORMATION

Letter from the PTSA President

Melissa Larson, Hale PTSA President

Each school year zips by so fast, it's astonishing! I think the years seem faster in high school because long before the year ends, we focus on the next year— students need to register for classes they want and need while still wrapped up in this year's studies and activities. That period approaches and it's a good time for thoughtful discussion at home around signing up for classes.



Every student is different with his/her unique set of values and goals and, of course, most of our students are still developing those principles so there isn't a single approach for making the best course selections: those that maximize the value each student receives from each day at school.

At our house, we strive for a balance between guiding our son to challenge himself and encouraging him to make choices that work best for him. We take advantage of odd moments (long car trips, family chores) all year to talk casually about his thoughts for his future and the kinds of things he would like to do and to study. We also "check in" several times a week to see how things are going at school (we have him check *The Source* and then let us know if there is anything he needs to follow up on or get our help with).

As registration time nears we do some "targeted" things to help our son make the best choices to meet his goals. We review everything sent home from school and check on-line for more information. Since he plans to go to college, we do "homework" focused on that goal. We found it fun and informative to check enrollment requirements of some famous schools, even though our son wasn't particularly interested in attending them. The college websites had great information about what they required AND good advice to students and parents about the kinds of classes and activities helpful for students preparing to attend college. (Such as: relax and do things that genuinely interest you; don't do things just because they'll look good on a college application.) By checking into several schools, our son has a good idea of the classes generally needed for college (and yes, they match the lists the school publishes but it's nice to get outside validation). We also had him look up special requirements for the specific schools he is interested in attending — this is great information to have on hand.

College-bound or looking into other post-high-school opportunities, planning for registration is a great opportunity to talk about long-term goals and how to get the most out of what Nathan Hale has to offer. Of course, like most families, we are busy with the current year — classes, sports, school events, etc., and are not spending hours and hours doing this investigation. We are coming together for a couple of evenings to check things out, discuss what we've found, and have our son make his selections. It can be fun and is time well spent!

Hale Student Directory Update

Nina Wolsk, PTSA Directory

The 2006-2008 yellow Student Directory was given to ALL students during mentorship on January 10. In the case of siblings, the youngest received the Directory. Please keep this directory for two years. Nina Wolsk, greenlake7@comcast.net.



Hale Families and Friends!

Patricia D'Alessandro, PTSA Staff Appreciation

Staff Appreciation will host a light breakfast for our teachers and staff on Valentine's Day. If you would like to help out or get involved with other Staff Appreciation activities, contact Patricia D'Alessandro at 206-523-4005 or pmdalessandro@msn.com, or Pam Ferguson at pjfergiee@yahoo.com. Thanks!

Deadline for the March *Raider Reader* is one week earlier than usual: Tuesday, **February 13**. E-mail items to Leanne at Hawkins1022@msn.com. You can also find this newsletter on-line, in full color, at Hale's website.

SCHOOL NEWS AND INFORMATION

Senior Project—Critical Info

Debo Tolentino, Hale Staff

Attention Seniors and Parents of Seniors! Completion of a senior project is a mandatory graduation requirement. Senior project proposals were due in November. They were reviewed by the senior project committee and returned to students in mentorship. The research portion was due January 24. This part was reviewed and approved by the mentorship teacher and should be kept in the student's senior project notebook. Completed notebooks are due **March 28** and should include journal entries/documentation of at least 50 hours of work. To date, 165 seniors have had proposals approved and are on track for project completion. Another 28 students need to return their rewritten proposals. Sixty-five seniors have not turned in a proposal and are not on track for June graduation.

Detailed project information is on the Hale website under the *Senior Project* heading. Other questions may be answered by Senior Project Coordinator, Debo Tolentino, at 206-252-3714.



Homework Help Center

Hoover Hopkins, Hale Staff

Just a reminder: The Homework Help Center is open every day after school until 4:15 in the library. Teachers and tutors are ready to assist in most core subject areas. Contact Hoover Hopkins if you have questions or would like to make tutoring arrangements: hlhopkins@seattleschools.org or 206-368-0285.

Vote February 6!

On February 6, voters have the opportunity to consider **Propositions 1 and 2** to replace expiring levies previously passed by Seattle voters in 2001 and 2004. Average tax rates would remain unchanged if both levies pass.

Proposition 1 is a Capital Bond 6-year measure to replace and renovate deteriorating city schools. **Proposition 2**, a 3-year Operations Levy, provides nearly 1/4 of every school's daily operating expenses.

Both the Local Voters' Pamphlet and the *Schoolsfirst!* website (www.schools-first.com) contain more information.

Electronic File Sharing Strategies

Nicole Winard, Hale Staff

Attention, parents and guardians: Did you know that all Hale students have an account on the school server that is part of the Seattle schools domain? They have space on this server in which to save files. However, students cannot access the server from home, so they need a reliable and efficient way to share files. Please encourage your child to get a **USB stick** (aka external storage device, thumb drive, etc.). These devices are superior to floppy disks.



Please also be aware that most **e-mail programs are blocked by the district filter**. While students often e-mail their assignments to teachers, they should not expect to be able to access their e-mail to get the assignment themselves.

Important Information About the Yearbook

Hannah LaCroix, Business Manager

Grad Ads for Seniors: Advertising sales for Grad Ads is in full swing. Don't be late — space is limited! Guarantee your spot in the *Yearbook* by sending in your packet today. Don't forget: photo(s), message, and payment. A complete information packet was mailed home (to the addresses of all seniors) before Winter Break. **We hope you received your mailing.** Our packet included: Rate sheet/ Order form/ Letter with pertinent information and deadline date. We have negotiated a new deadline with our printer and extended the deadline date. Please note the new deadline is very important and your Grad Ads must be submitted as soon as possible because we cannot give extensions beyond February 26. Do not be late! Send your packet back today!

Deadline: Monday, February 26, 2007.

Notice: We are concerned that families did NOT receive their packet in the mail. If you did not, contact Ms. Tertocha, advisor, at any time: hal_yearbook@seattleschools.org (preferred e-mail for Grad Ads) or catertocha@seattleschools.org or 206-252-3711.

SCHOOL NEWS AND INFORMATION



It's Fun For The Whole Family: "The Beatles" Are Coming To Nathan Hale

Everyone is invited to come sing along to their favorite Beatles songs when *The Nowhere Men* perform their first reunion concert at the Nathan Hale Performing Arts Center on Saturday, **February 10**, 8 pm. *The Nowhere Men* have delighted northwest audiences for twelve years with their uncannily evocative renditions of the Beatles' classic tunes. It's guaranteed not to be a "hard day's night," but rather an evening to "twist and shout" for the entire family.

Ticket sales benefit the Nathan Hale High School Annual Campaign, whose goal this year is to raise \$120,000. So why not have a good time and support Hale students and teachers at the same time? Cost: \$20 for adults and \$5 for students. Some tickets will be available at the door but advance reservations are recommended. Reserve tickets by sending a check to Michele Cavanaugh, 7756—36th Ave. NE, Seattle, WA 98115. Make checks payable to: AFE/ Nathan Hale Foundation. Pre-ordered, pre-paid tickets will be mailed prior to the concert. For more information please contact Michele Cavanaugh at 206-650-3053 or m_cavs@comcast.net, or go to the Foundation website, nathanhale.org, to download an order form.

Look In Your Mailbox: It's Time For The Annual Campaign

It's that time again: watch your mail for an appeal from the 2007-2008 Annual Campaign. **This fund-raising event happens only once a year and is the only campaign that exclusively supports academics at Nathan Hale High School.** After analyzing budget predictions from the school district and other funding sources, Principal Hechtman and Nathan Hale Annual Campaign committee members set the campaign goal for money to be spent in the 2007-2008 school year at \$120,000. Because the Hale community has a tradition of generosity towards the students and teachers that's truly amazing, we know that, together, we can do it!

If you would like more information on any issue about the campaign, please contact the Annual Campaign committee, through Chris Rylko, at crylko@msn.com.

2007-2008 Annual Campaign Goal: \$120,000
Spending Priorities For The Academic Year:

- \$100,000 to support teacher salaries and educational supplies
- \$ 10,000 for classroom technology upgrades
- \$ 10,000 to the Homework Help Center

Participation Goal

From \$10 to \$5,000, every size gift is appreciated. Let's increase the percentage of contributing Hale families from last year's 53% to 100% this year.

How Do I Contribute?



Forms will be sent to your home via the US Mail by the middle of February. Donations can also be made on-line at the Foundation website at www.nathanhale.org. Just click on "donations." Big or small, your gift adds up to a large amount. And don't forget the monthly giving option: a pledge of \$10 or \$20 a month from every family would achieve our goal immediately! Thank you very much!

SCHOOL NEWS AND INFORMATION

Your Gift By March 15 Means The Most

Donations to the Annual Campaign by **March 15** will mean the most to your student. Principal Hechtman must show the school district she has funding for all her staff by that time in order to guarantee no teacher lay-offs for the 2007-2008 school year. Thank you in advance for your quick response to this vital educational need that supports every Nathan Hale student and teacher. *Your gift to the Annual Campaign keeps "the A" in Academics!*



Searching for: NHHS Foundation Volunteers

Steve Reynolds, Hale Foundation

The Annual Campaign committee is our most visible group of volunteers. Perhaps one of these opportunities appeals to you:

- Coordinate parent/family outreach for our engraving project in front of the school and in the entry foyer.
- Contact grad-years and build databases for alumni outreach.
- The Foundation Board welcomes members who want to play a large role in one of our committees.
- Fall Reception is months away but planning begins soon. We need auction and facilities help.

If interested, please call 206-784-0625 or e-mail stever@u.washington.edu. Thanks.



SPREE 2007 News

Lynn Wolf and Nina Wolsk, SPREE '07

Tickets We've had a great response to our early ticket sales. By January 15 we had sold about 100 tickets! That is wonderful, but it means we have fewer tickets to sell between now and SPREE. A maximum of 175 students can attend. The ticket prices have gone up, and will again increase for the final tickets we sell, based upon our contract language. Here is the new pricing information:

\$85—We can sell about 30 tickets at this price; \$100—The rest of the tickets will sell at this price.

Because tickets are limited, be sure to get yours early. If we reach our maximum, we will have to turn students away. Scholarships available if paying for a ticket is a problem. Applications in the counseling office re handled on a first come, first served basis. For ticket information, contact Barbara Brotherton at copperandd@aol.com or 206-522-7040.

Prizes We are looking for donations of prizes from local businesses. They should be things high school students like — food, entertainment, gift cards, etc. If you know of possibilities, contact Bev Sagen at o4thesun@hotmail.com.

Coupons Class of '07 Families: Please save the Sunday newspaper coupon magazines. Have your child put them in the Main Office in the NHP/2007 box on the table across from the teacher mailboxes. This is a joint effort of the two groups. NHP—Nathan Hale Productions— produces the Hale musical. They attach coupons in February; SPREE '07 follows in March and benefits from "leftover" coupons in the store. We like to get the coupons weekly so we can deal with them all at once. Please do NOT cut the coupons — we do that in stacks of 15.

Our final coupon fundraiser is at Safeway in March. Our SPREE ticket prices are at a record low due to your efforts collecting and attaching coupons the last two years. The SPREE budget depends on this final fundraiser: we can't relax yet even though you have already bought your SPREE ticket! We need this money!! We will attach coupons at the Safeway on Roosevelt and 75th every Tuesday and Thursday, 7-9 pm, and Sunday, 9-11 am during March. We need many volunteers to help with this easy fundraiser. Just come to the store and look for the Nathan Hale cart in the frozen food aisle.

BULLETIN BOARD: ANNOUNCEMENTS, EVENTS, RECOGNITION

Notes from the Nathan Hale Music Department

Teresa Rich-Mackenzie, Hale Music Boosters

- Thanks for a successful **Pancakes & Performances** — we raised over \$3,000 for the music department.
- The New Year brings new **musical opportunities**: *Bellevue Jazz Festival* (January 26); *Lionel Hampton Jazz Festival* in Moscow, ID (February 22-25); *Metro Solo/Ensemble Competition* (March 3); *Metro Strings Festival* (March 8); *Metro Band Festival* (March 28).
- Catch the **Pep Band** once more February 6 at the women's varsity basketball game. Senior Shawn Hansen has conducted our enthusiastic band more than once — great job, Shawn!
- More good news: Mr. Nolet has resurrected the **Ladies First choir**. For more information contact him at 206-252-3748 or stop by his room after school. Many thanks to the *Experience Music Project* and Brian Podgorny for donating 12 electric guitars to be used in Mr. Jackson's guitar class.
- **Save March 17 for our spring Swing Dance fundraiser with lesson and live music by the West Seattle Big Band.**
- **Next Music Boosters meeting**: February 7, 7 pm in the Band Room.



Save the Dates

Bingo! Bingo! Bingo!

Ric Wraspir, Hale All Sport Boosters

March 2, 6:30-9:30 pm— Hale Cafeteria

The NH All Sport Boosters hosts a fun-filled night of Bingo. Food and beverages are offered by SPREE '08 for this annual event. Bring a friend; bring your family. Watch your favorite coaches and staffers call out the numbers. Bingo cards will be only \$1 per game! Cash prizes of \$25 and \$50 to the winners. Competitions between the classes will be held, with money going to the winning class SPREE committee. If interested in volunteering (community service credits offered), contact Maureen Munn: munn@u.washington.edu.

Cabaret Night

Gabi McCarthy, Nathan Hale Productions

Please reserve Saturday, March 31, for Cabaret Night

Enjoy an evening of musical theater and desserts with your friends in the Hale PAC. Look for more information about this event and our talented performers at www.nathanhale.org/musical and in the next *Raider Reader*.

Fiber Arts Club Says “Thanks”

April Lindner, Hale Staff

An anonymous donor left a bag of fabulous eyelash and ribbon yarn for the Knitting Club. Thank you! I wish you could have seen the expressions on the faces of the many knitters who could not normally afford such fun stuff! (Also, if anyone has knitting needles lying around they would like to donate, we are always in short supply.)



Raider Gear — Going, Going...

Deanna Matsen, Hale Sports Boosters

Raider Gear is still available in limited supply. Specific sizes are dwindling. However, it is worth a try if you really want a HALE sweatshirt or t-shirt as we will not order more until someone takes over for next year. Other items remain and would be glad to find a home: cozy NH blankets, baseball caps, a few mugs and odds & ends of older sale items. Raider Bags may still be ordered. Call 206-523-7051 or e-mail marc.matsen@comcast.net to order.

Host families for February 10 dinners (see page 8 for more information)

Amy and David Breiger 10032 Ravenna NE 523-1788
 Caroline Becker/Mike Pierson 4019 NE 82nd 527-3253
 Caryn and Chuck Hopkins 11340 20th Ave. NE 361-0473

Maria and Stuart Kahn 7013 56th Ave. NE 524-0214
 Bill and Nanette Zook 11316 20th Ave. NE 367-4491

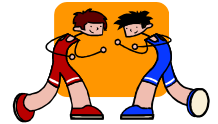
BULLETIN BOARD: ANNOUNCEMENTS, EVENTS, RECOGNITION

Nathan Hale Sporting News

Are You Ready to Rumble?

Dave Manahan, Hale Wrestling

Hale hosts this year's Metro League AAA Wrestling Tournament Friday, **February 2** and Saturday, **February 3**. Wrestling begins at 3:30 Friday afternoon and continues until around 7:30 pm. Doors open Saturday at 11:30 am; the finals start at approximately 6 pm. Come support the Raider Wrestlers coached by Ricky Richards, who is in his fifth year as head coach and is also a Nathan Hale alumni.



Hale Wrestling Status Report

Kevin Larson, Hale Wrestling

Wrestling is mid-season. Our team is young but determined: keep your eye on them! Our coaching staff, led by Coach Ricky Richards, is top-notch. We returned from *The Island Invitational* at Bainbridge High School on January 13 with one 3rd, one 7th, and three 8th place finishes. On January 9 we had a home match with Lakeside School: despite forfeiting four weight classes, Hale defeated Lakeside 40-27. It was a great match. We hope more Hale students and parents can come watch your team at work.

Men's Lacrosse Program

Kelly Malone, Hale Lacrosse

2007 represents a new era for Nathan Hale Men's Lacrosse. Recent changes in coaching and in Division will provide the team with a new focus. This club team recently signed Bobby Laudig as Head Coach for the Raider Lacrosse Team. Coach Laudig played at the University of Oregon and brings Duck teammate Mike Christensen as Assistant Coach. Offense Coordinator Rashaan Lex rounds out the coaching staff. Coach Laudig wants the team to develop dependable stick skills, solidify its defensive understanding, and strengthen the running game on the field. His major coaching theme is respect: for the game, for the opponent, for the team, for one's self.

This year Hale will meet opponents from Overlake, Franklin, Blanchet, Sammamish and Stadium. The team has a number of returning veterans with substantial experience, propelled by their summer-camp-honed skills. Hale will also field a Junior Varsity squad with a full season of games. Registration for Men's Lacrosse kicks off Wednesday, January 24 at 7 pm in the Cafeteria. The first practice is February 26. Come check out the fastest game on two feet — lacrosse. Hale, yes!



Women's Lacrosse Team

Doug Carmichael, Hale Lacrosse

The Nathan Hale Girls' Lacrosse team starts its sixth season this spring. Although a club team, we are a part of the Hale sports family. We have 21 returning players and a number of new players who played in middle school, as well as some who will experience this fast-moving sport for the first time. The game combines moves and strategy of basketball, soccer and hockey. This year we have a new coach, Toniann Panetta. She recently relocated to the Greater Seattle area from Florida by way of Auburn, Alabama, where she played on Auburn University's club team for four years and was Defensive Player of the Year in 2005. She was team co-captain for her junior and senior years.

We will be playing teams from Roosevelt, Garfield, Eastside Catholic, Tacoma, Tahoma, Curtis, Snohomish, Bainbridge, and Lakeside High schools. We would like to field a JV as well as Varsity team. The only way to do that is have Hale students turn out and play. We are signing up new players through the end of January. Anyone interested in playing should contact the team manager, Doug Carmichael, at dcarm1@comcast.net.

Nathan Hale PTSA
10750—30th Avenue NE
Seattle, WA 98125

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

PERMIT NO. 9984

Nathan Hale High School

PTSA®

everychild. onevoice.

**Time-sensitive material—
please deliver promptly**

*The Nowhere Men—
coming soon to your
favorite Performing Arts
Center!*



They've opened for the American Music Awards — now they're "twisting and shouting" their way to Nathan Hale to sing for you and your family. Don't miss *The Nowhere Men* concert at Nathan Hale's Performing Arts Center, Saturday, February 10, 8 pm. Details on ordering tickets are on page 4.

Come to Dinner, Hale Parents and Guardians!

Mike Pierson, Hale Foundation

Nathan Hale parents and guardians are invited to an informal dinner with other Hale adults on Saturday, February 10, the night of *The Nowhere Men* concert. Dinners will be timed so you can go to the concert afterwards, if you wish. *The Nowhere Men* were a huge hit last year and surely will be again. Whether you're attending the concert or not, consider joining a group for dinner from 6-7:30 pm. Several Hale families will host dinners in their homes. Pick one in your neighborhood, near the school, or for whatever other reason. It's a chance to share a meal and experiences with other Nathan Hale families, and we expect someone from the Hale staff at each of the dinners to provide up-to-date news about the school.

The host families are listed on page 6. Please call ahead so we know you're coming and can plan accordingly. If you have other questions, call Mike Pierson at 206-527-3253, or Claire Powers at 206-527-0898 or clairepowers@comcast.net.