

H.B. WHITEHORNE

SCA Newsletter

SCA Co-Presidents: Pam Priscoe and Kelli Strlekar

Spring/Summer 2015

SCA President's Message

The end of the 2014-2015 school year is upon us, and in a few days, so will summer vacation! The HBW SCA had a great year and the school and community have been an important part of it all. Thank you for your cooperation and support. The encouragement of the HBW families is essential for the success of the SCA and is greatly appreciated. A sincere thank you to all the parents who attended meetings, volunteered on committees and donated time and or money to different fundraisers and activities.

Through your generosity and the various SCA fundraisers we were able to help support many events this past school year. This included:

School assembly programs.... Author visits and Battle of the Books... Class trips including the 5th grade trip to Fairview Lake and the 8th grade Pocono trip... Refreshments for Jump Rope for Heart... Halloween Window Painting... 8th grade t-shirts and farewell dance... and the teacher luncheon.

We also supported the HBW Music Department, HBW School Play, VMAC, VSEAA, HBW Yearbook, VHS Project Graduation and two Scholarships to Graduating VHS Seniors.

In a continued effort from last year, the SCA has funded the installation of fans in many of the classrooms. Students will now be more comfortable in their classrooms which will add to the learning environment (teachers are happy about it as well!). So now HBW is absolutely the coolest school!

For the first time this year, the Verona Conference of SCAs hosted a Harlem Wizard's night. The Harlem Wizards basketball team took on the Verona Victory which was made up of teachers, staff and administrators from all six of the Verona schools. The team included HBW's own Mr. Rossi and Mr. Corrado. The SCAs from all six of the Verona schools joined forces to make this a very successful and fun night. The proceeds from the night will go toward technology needed in the district. A big thank you to Mr. Rossi, Mr. Corrado and the other HBW staff, teachers and parents that helped make this a very successful event.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the HBW SCA Executive Board as well as the countless committee chairs and volunteers. Your hard work and dedication contributes to our success. We wish all of our families that are leaving us this year, the best of luck with all of their future endeavors.

Thank you to the HBW teachers, administration, staff and custodians for their help throughout the school year. We could not have done it without all of you.

We wish you and your families a safe, happy, fun filled summer!

Pam and Kelli

SCA Newsletter Issue No. 2

- SCA Message
- Principal's Message
- Around the "Horne..."
Classes & Clubs
- SCA Pet Causes
- SCA Slate
2015/16
- Congrats, Grads!

Did you know?

*The Verona **SCA** stands for
Verona
School Community Association, a partnership of home
and school that
enriches your child's
educational experience.*

See you in September!

*Key Date:
**Thursday
September 3, 2015***

*1st day of 2015/16
School Year*

Have a great summer!

Dear HBW Family,

Our long, cold winter is finally behind us, and with this beautiful, warm weather comes a host of exciting things going on at HBW. Our end-of-year concert, Music in the Parks, and Eighth Grade Dance and trip to the Poconos are some of the annual events on our upcoming schedule.

On the academic front, three of our eighth grade students, Gracie Cleaver, Molly Ligon, and Maeve McGinley earned top honors for their National History Day Project on Eleanor Roosevelt, and will be headed to Washington, D.C. to compete nationally! Congratulations to all students who participated in the History Day Class and competitions. Your work was impressive!

With an eye to September, H.B.W. will see some big changes. We send best wishes to Mrs. Clayton, Mr. Green, Mrs. Kistner, Mrs. Ogden, and Mrs. Larissa Smith as they leave us for a "life after Verona". It is a great loss to the staff to see so many gifted educators departing. Mrs. Podolak, Mrs. Kelly and Mrs. Lagan are extending their maternity leaves, and Mrs. Catalano and Mrs. Donahue will also be taking leaves, so we will have a lot of new faces in our classrooms. Our search for these excellent educators has already begun, and I'm happy to report that I'm thrilled with our candidates so far.

One of the most exciting things headed for HBW in the fall is that we will be following a House Model structure for all grade levels next year grade. With support from Mr. Dionisio and the Verona Board of Education, the school will be divided into two Houses. Each House will have four teams (one team per grade level). Each House will have its own guidance counselor and administrator working to support his/her students and teachers. Each grade level will be separated into one of the Houses. All students will "cross houses" for physical education and foreign language. This will create a "school within a school model" and smaller learning environments for our students. Our primary goal is to create a learning environment where each student will reach their full potential.

By creating these smaller learning communities, we maximize our ability to support every child. For example, next year's seventh grade class has 206 students. In the House model, we create two smaller schools of approximately 100 students. Core teachers will share these students, have common planning time and team meetings to discuss student achievement and address student issues, and work much more collaboratively to meet our students' needs. The faculty and administration are excited about this new way of working together for our students. There will be public Board and parent presentations through May and June that will review the model in full detail, and the presentation will also be available on the district website.

I wish you a happy and healthy rest of the school year and a relaxing summer.

Sincerely,

Mrs. McNeal

Mrs. McNeal



5 Cool Q's for...

Mr. Dionisio

1. Three dinner guests, past or present?

*My father Armando Dionisio
Nelson Mandela
Marianne Williamson*

2. Your first thought when you woke up this morning?

"Where's my coffee?"

3. Your favorite word? Least favorite?

*Favorite - trust
Least favorite - can't*

4. Last book you read?

*Recently read - "David and Goliath" by Malcom Gladwell
Currently reading - "Creating Innovators" by Tony Wagner*

5. Your perfect pizza?

Vegetable and balsamic



Spreading School Spirit Around the "Home..."

Student Council

The Student Council has been very busy holding School Spirit Days over the past months. Students have really enjoyed the following Spirit Days: Twin Day Pajama Day, Crazy Sock Day, and Verona Spirit Day. Even the teachers have joined in the school spirit.



The 8th Grade Dance was held on Friday, May 15th. The Dance Committee worked hard creating the decorations for "A Night in Paris". The gym was beautifully decorated and lit by white lights. Students enjoyed dancing and interacting together for their farewell dance. Thank you to the Dance Committee for all of your hard work and dedication.

The Student Council will be taking their annual trip to Philadelphia on Tuesday, June 9th. This is a great trip to the historic city of Philadelphia. All of our Student Council members are excited and are looking forward to learning about our government's history.

The PRIDE in EDUCATION Essay Writing Contest

Julie French, a 5th grader in Mrs. Albano's Literacy class earned first place in the ECEA (Essex County Education Association) *Pride in Education Essay Writing Contest*. Julie wrote about her neighbor and retired Verona School's employee Bob Indegrund.

Olivia Vasalani, a sixth grader in Ms Rusignuolo's Literacy class won 3rd prize in the ECEA (Essex County Education Association) *Pride in Education Essay Writing Contest*.

The awards ceremony was held at the Livingston Mall on Wednesday evening May 20, 2015. Both girls received their awards at the ceremony.

Congratulations to Julie and Olivia!



Singing Around the "Home..."

Music News



On Thursday, May 28th, HBW Music Students performed the Spring Concert for the school. This performance marks the hard work and dedication that the music students have put in all year.

On Friday, May 29th, Music Students also competed in the annual Music in the Parks Competition. Students were eager to go to this annual competition to show off their magnificent talent. Stay tuned to hear the results from the competition!!!!

Speech News

Patrick McCann, a VHS senior (and HBW alum), and Ms. Wrobel, HBW/VHS speech-language pathologist, volunteer a few times a month at the Alaris Nursing Home in Cedar Grove, NJ.

Patrick and Ms. Wrobel have been doing this for two years now after school. They began this project so that Patrick could complete his junior community service hours. They volunteer within the recreation department at Alaris by providing company and conversation to Alaris residents. Patrick feels that he has improved his own conversational skills while making an effort to be a companion to the seniors and other residents living at Alaris. He has enjoyed talking to many different residents but he particularly has enjoyed his periodic chats with a man named Sebastian. The nursing home organized a volunteer appreciation lunch. Patrick enjoyed the food but was anxious to go say hello to his senior friends. Patrick will be graduating in June but he plans to return to the nursing home to continue volunteering next year.



Patrick and Ms. Wrobel are pictured here with Recreation Director, Olga Schneiderman, and Hiram Gonzalez on Volunteers Day at the Alaris Nursing Home.

H.B. WHITEHORNE

Class & Club News

By: Marisa Albano and MaryAnne Halbert

Around the World with the "Horne..."



National History Day

Congratulations to Gracie Cleaver, Molly Ligon, and Maeve McGinley whose project on Eleanor Roosevelt received the highest honors in the state competition. They are headed to Washington, D.C. in June to compete nationally!



Sixth Grade Trip



The sixth grade visited the American Museum of Natural History in New York City on Tuesday, May 26th. The trip enhanced the sixth graded science and social studies curriculum.

During the course of the day, students enjoyed the many exhibits in the Ross Hall of Meteorites, the Guggenheim Hall of Minerals, the Hall of Biodiversity, the Hall of Planet Earth, the Fossil Hall, and the Theodore Roosevelt Memorial, just to name a few! The teachers also reserved time to watch a 3-D film entitled, "Tiny Giants," at the LeFrak Theater in the museum. This was a memorable and informative day for the students and teachers.

Seventh/Eighth Grade News



Ms. Scherr's English classes just finished writing letters to soldiers. Students learned about tone and mood in poetry. They also learned that our tone as writers has an effect on the reader's mood. Students analyzed several poems to see if that was true. Then the class applied it to real life by creating a blackout poem using the lyrics to "The Ballad of a Green Beret". The class will be sending out poems and letters to soldiers so that way their tone as authors may affect the soldier's mood. Ms. Scherr's class wanted to apply their learning to have it go beyond the walls of our classroom.

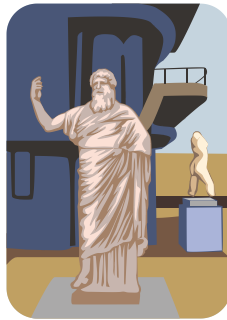


Around the Ancient World of the "Horne..."

8th Grade News - Ancient History Museum

The 8th grade Museum of Ancient History will be open on June 8 through June 11th in the HBW auditorium.

H.B.W. Museum of Ancient History



"Come One, Come All"

When: June 8-11, 2014

Hours: 8:45am-3:30pm

Exhibits on:

Mesopotamia

Egypt

Greece

Rome

Ancient Africa

The Middle Ages

Aztec, Maya, Inca

H.B. WHITEHORNE

Verona Conference of SCAs Pet Cause is a Hit!

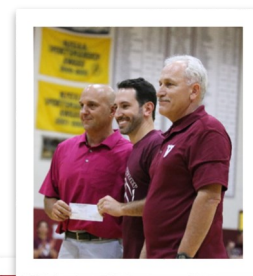
Best. Fundraiser. Ever! Harlem Wizards Take On Verona!



Sr. Pet Reporter
Roger Emanuilidis 

Harlem Wizard, Leon "SpaceJam" Sewell, came to Verona with his signature red headband and entire team on May 3, 2015 to take on the Verona Victory (Verona teachers and administrators). Star players included HBW's own, Mr. Mark "Rescue" Rossi and Mr. Dan "Danimal" Corrado!

The night was made possible by many sponsors including the Villani Family from Verona Spine & Wellness Center.



One of Verona's favorite sons, Scott Chesney, served as a referee for the game.



Mr. Rui Dionisio, School Superintendent, shows he works as hard on the court as he does for our students.



HBW Middle School students joined in on the fun by reaching for prizes, watching the action, and Harlem Shaking with the Wizards. A great time was had by everyone who helped raise over \$10,000 for the technology needs of the six Verona Schools.

HBW SCA Officers & Committee Chairpersons

Co-Presidents	Kelli Strlekar Jen Ghingo	Halloween Window Painting	Courtney Gaccione* Jen Camp Carol Randall Regina French Andreas Yanniotis
VP Program	Pam Priscoe	T-Shirt Sale	Daniela Triggiano* Tina Ying
VP Membership	Barbara Yeates	8th Grade T-Shirts	Daniela Triggiano Tina Ying
VP Communication	Ann Jocelyn	Board of Ed Liaison	Joanna Breitenbach
Recording Sec.	Lucille Hahula	Library Coordinator	Jeannie Caggiano
Corresponding Sec.	Susan Robinson	HBW Music Parents Liaison	Melissa Collucci
Treasurer	Jen Matarazzo	VMAC	Laurel Brolly
Beautification	Gloria Machnowksi	VSEAA	Ann Gault
Class Baskets	Lisa Spinelli* Lisa Freedman Joanna Breitenbach Karen Lonergan Aimee Boutcher Shannon Palmer	Webmaster	Venus So
Environmental Trip	Ana Liggio Rebecca McClain Sophia Merti-Yanniotis	Half Day Snacks	Donna Holland* Dawn Mulligan Kathleen Keating Amy Dunphy Sandra Farro
Social Events - 5th	Michele Cerle Lorraine LoCurto Chantal Matta Mindy Frey Donna Krusznis Ana Liggio Rebecca McClain	Newsletter	Kathy Emanuilidis
Social Events - 6th	Diane Egan-Griffin Linette Mathewson Cheryl Mizia Maria Saj Raiza Czupak	Kids Stuff/Coupon Books	Jen Trupia
Social Events - 7th	Jodi Brown Treesh Ramsthaler	Teacher Liaison	Carol Thomas
		Hospitality/Teacher Luncheon	Susan Robinson* Jen Ghingo Karen Jandoli
		VCG Times Coordinator	Aimee Boutcher

*Denotes Committee Chair

HBW MIDDLE SCHOOL

2015 Graduating Families

Aldiero ♦ Ambrosio ♦ Ashley ♦ Benfante
Ben-Israel ♦ Bostrom ♦ Boub ♦ Buneo ♦ Burke ♦ Byrne
Campos ♦ Cariani ♦ Carlucci ♦ Celentano ♦ Colglazier
Cooney ♦ Coppa ♦ Costa ♦ Cuevas ♦ DiPaolo
Ednie ♦ Eriksson ♦ Esposito ♦ Esposito
Evans ♦ Farley ♦ Farro ♦ Francullo ♦ Frungillo
Gabriele ♦ Gagliano ♦ Gangl ♦ Gautieri ♦ Gibson
Giuliano ♦ Goulard ♦ Grillias ♦ Hughes ♦ Jacobsen ♦ Jennings
Karpinski ♦ Kiernan ♦ Knapp ♦ Kosko ♦ Lamb ♦ Lavery
Lawson ♦ Ligon ♦ Macancela ♦ Maglione ♦ Marino ♦ Mattia
McEvoy ♦ McGinley ♦ McMurtrie ♦ Meyer ♦ Montick
Morisseau ♦ Motley ♦ Neumann ♦ Niler ♦ Nochimson
Ortiz ♦ Parent ♦ Patel ♦ Paterno ♦ Pego ♦ Pelfree
Puerari ♦ Quagliato ♦ Quattrocchi ♦ Remekie
Richinelli ♦ Ricks ♦ Rigney ♦ Rosenzweig ♦ Ryan
Salierno ♦ Sarett ♦ Sharkey ♦ Short ♦ Sidali ♦ Spinelli ♦ Stoloff
Symczak ♦ Tole ♦ Torikian ♦ Wagner ♦ Walsh ♦ Weiss
Whelan ♦ Wynn ♦ Yee ♦ Yung ♦ Zamloot

The Officers and Members of the HBW School Community Association would like to thank our graduating parents' for their many years of outstanding and dedicated service and we extend our heartfelt thanks and sincere best wishes for continued success and much happiness.

Contact Us:

Have an HBW-related story, announcement or just some fun pictures you would like to submit for consideration? Email to Kathy Emanuilidis at hbwnewsletter@gmail.com.

Note: The H.B. Whitehorne SCA Newsletter is an e-publication intended exclusively for the H.B. Whitehorne/Verona Public Schools Family, Staff and Administrators.