



October Newsletter

78 years of encouraging students to grow to their potential, respect different learning styles, solve problems, think analytically, and communicate effectively.

Our Heritage and Our Future



HVRHS named the Most Beautiful Public High School in Connecticut by Architectural Digest, September 12, 2017

To see all of the selected schools visit:
www.architecturaldigest.com/gallery/most-beautiful-public-high-schools-in-america

THE CORNWALL & DAVID M. HUNT LIBRARIES & THE CIVIC LIFE PROJECT

Invite you to a

community discussion of the challenges shrinking enrollment presents to Region One.

The event will center around **Dawn of Decline**, a short documentary created by seven high school students during a summer workshop at HVRHS. Two of the student producers, Mitch Kosciusko and Trevor Hampson from Cornwall, will be available for questions.

Cornwall Library

Sunday, October 15th at 3:00 PM (refreshments will be served)
30 Pine Street, Cornwall 860-672-6874



All That's New

October is here and fall is upon us; it's hard to believe that the end of Marking Period One is just a month away: November 1st. If you or your student have any questions about their schedule, please contact their Counselor; if you have any questions about grading, please contact their teacher. While it appears the term has settled into a smooth rhythm, we want to make sure everyone's questions and concerns have been addressed. As an administration and faculty, our current focus is on helping students maximize their use of the new Flex Block.

At our most recent Faculty Meeting, teachers shared their experiences in using the Flex Block, as well as some of their innovations in how to use it effectively. While we are still working with some students to maximize their use of the time, teachers see most students using time well and using the Enriching Students software to schedule themselves for a range of activities, including extra help, enrichment, targeted instruction in skills, writing conferences, one-on-one help, debate preparation, musical exploration, counseling, college essay help, and club meetings. Some schools call this "Whatever I Need" period, and it is certainly working that way so far. Ask your student to show you how they are using the time!

School Community Partnership Meetings

School Community Partnership meetings are a forum to provide stakeholder input in the development of the School Improvement Plan. Involvement from parents and community members can help to assess school needs and set educational goals and is critical in assisting in the development of our long and short range planning. The HVRHS administration, faculty and staff are united in their commitment to meeting the needs of the community, but we also know it "takes a village" to raise productive and responsible citizens. Open and constructive dialogue is the best way to help Housatonic Valley Regional High School meet the needs of its constituents and to avoid misinformation and misconceptions. Your participation in the dialogue is vital.

School Community Partnership meetings are open to all Region One students, parents, and community members. Refreshments are served and **November 13** will be the next meeting date.

The September 25th meeting on grading and requirements for athletic participation was well attended, with 25 participants contributing to the conversation. Dr. Martinez extends a thank you to all that came and participated in this productive exchange. If you missed the meeting, notes and handouts are available on the *Latest News* page of the school website.



Meet Our School Counseling Department

First term is the best time to lead (or prod) our students toward a happy and productive year. Be it finding the right after-school program, developing strategies for utilizing flex time, getting extra help or counseling, this is the time to help them learn how to make better choices.

The school website is a good resource but we encourage you to familiarize yourself with the pages under the Counseling Department (www.hvrhs.org/departments/schoolcounseling.) If you haven't already met your child's counselor, please introduce yourself. The more the school and parents work together, the more successful our students educational experience at HVRHS will be.

Don't forget to check out their Calendar of Events; on November first, the Counseling Department is hosting an evening on financial aid. Come find out how you can make your child's dreams possible.

Announcements:

Kimberly Durley has accepted a full-time teaching position on Cape Cod. We wish her well and will miss her. We are actively looking for a suitable replacement or long term substitute.

Please join our HVRHS Alumni Association to celebrate the induction of the inaugural class of the **Housatonic Valley Regional High School Wall of Honor**. This program was developed to recognize the outstanding accomplishments of our graduates in non-athletic fields. Nine individuals will be honored on Sunday, October 29 at noon. The ceremony will include the induction and a brief reception.

Reminder from the Athletic Director - All parking for athletic events should be in front of the school (not by the gym and not by the ag/art garage area). If anyone needs assistance getting to any of the fields, please contact her at amacneil@hvrhs.org or 860-824-5123 X164.

PSATs are being given to juniors on October 11th; sophomores interested in taking them should speak with their guidance counselor

Drivers Ed classes start October 2nd and November 27th, if interested contact The Next Street, www.thenextstreet.com, at 800-732-8090 and November

The HVRHS Experience



Learning how to pilot a drone,
Preparing for Yale debate,
Discussing Current Events

Calendar

- 10/4 Artist Reception for Laura Victore in Library 3:30 PM -6:30 PM
- 10/9 Columbus Day – School is Closed
- 10/11 PSATs for Juniors in Cafeteria at 7:50AM
- Parent Meeting for Band Trip to Disney Trip, Auditorium at 6:30 PM
- 10/16 Picture Day
- 10/20 Bonfire
- 10/21 Homecoming Dance, Cafeteria at 7:30PM
- 10/23 Photo Retakes
- 10/26 Late Opening, Faculty Meetings in AM
- 10/28 Mattress Sale, Fund Raiser for HVRHS Music Program, Gym
- Haunted House
- 10/29 Alumni Wall of Honor Inductions, Cafeteria and Auditorium at 12PM

Save the Dates

- 11/1 Financial Aid Night Room 133
- 11/4 SATs at HVRHS
- 11/13 School Community Partnership Meeting
- 11/16 Auditions for Spring Musical
- 11/17 Turkey Olympics
- FFA Banquet
- 12/1 Ag Ed Holiday Sale Starts
- Tech Fair sponsored by the 21st Century Fund for HVRHS
- 12/15 Winter Concert