Volume 4, Issue 2

Winter 2008

# The Hornet Buzz

# From the Desk of Mr. O'Connor

I would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year and a prosperous 2008!

During the past few months, I received many questions from community members, staff and students regarding the building project planning. A project of this proportion is extremely detailed and requires many steps. These steps include finalizing specific design plans, receiving State Education approval, and bidding and awarding contracts. I am excited to say that we are getting closer to actual construction as we continue to define the specific scope of the project. We are currently holding meetings with staff members to identify the final details of each area. Our discussions include: what types of lighting will be included, what types of flooring will we be using, where windows and doors should be located, etc. We anticipate completing the design phase meetings and plan to submit documents to the State Education Department in February. A chart of the most recent time estimates appears below:

Phase	Tentative Completion Date		
Voter Approval From Public	April 24, 2007		
Final Design Phase: This includes defining the final scope of the project and developing the construction documents	February 2008		
State Education Department Approval	September 2008		
Advertising for bids	September 2008		
Award Contracts	October 2008		
Construction begins	October 2008		
Construction is Finalized	April 2010		

One of our goals is to limit the disruptions to our school environment during construction; however, due to the magnitude of the project, we are anticipating that we will have to modify our educational environment for at least the next school year. Due to code regulations, we may lose access to a large number of classrooms at the middle school/high school during construction. This will require us to make accommodations for teaching spaces that may include teachers sharing classroom space, moving some services to the elementary school and creating temporary classrooms in our cafeteria, library and gymnasium. Once more information is available concerning the specific needs, a public meeting will be scheduled to share the information. At this meeting, comments and suggestions are welcomed prior to finalizing a construction education plan. We will also continue to provide the community with informational updates during the entire building process.

Should you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to e-mail me at <a href="mailto:joconnor@forestville.wnyric.org">joconnor@forestville.wnyric.org</a>. I would also be happy to schedule a personal conference if requested. To arrange an appointment, feel free to call me at 965-2742.

# From the Desk of Mr. Leichner

**Halfway**... it's a word we've all used from time to time indicating we are at the mid-point of whatever we may be doing. We often use the term halfway in reference to a trip we are taking or some other kind of long journey. Well, the long journey of the 2007-2008 school year is halfway done! We've made it to the end of the second quarter. It seems as if this year has just begun, but here we are – it's the end of January and twenty weeks of the forty week school year have been completed.

So, what does that mean for us as parents? It means that it may be time to congratulate your child on a job well done. Take a close look at the second quarter report card and consider all the hard work those grades represent. A little celebration may be in order! Even high school kids appreciate a pat on the back once in a while and the encouragement will help to give them a jump start on the second half of the year.

If, on the other hand, your careful report card consideration leaves something to be desired it may still be time to provide some positive feedback. Find something good - even if it's an outstanding attendance record and praise your child for that accomplishment. As a parent of three, I know how easy it is to be tough and demanding when it comes to the grades our kids get in school. So, I'm advising myself too when I say "a little encouragement can go a long way."

Of course there is still the possibility that your son or daughter may not being working up to their potential. If that is the case, and you've tried every trick in the book, then it may be time to schedule a meeting with someone here at school. You may want to meet with a specific teacher to find out what is actually going on in that classroom. What you hear at the dinner table may not be totally accurate! You may want to meet with a guidance counselor to see if this is a common problem for other students the same age as your child. Our guidance counselors are very helpful people to become acquainted with and they can be a valuable resource to you as a parent. Finally, you may want to set up a meeting with several teachers at once. This will allow you to get a look at the "big picture" and consider several different perspectives at the same time. If you are not sure which route to take, just give me a call in the high school office. I'll be glad to steer you in the direction that I think will be most helpful to your and your child.

We really are here to help and we love what we do. It's a privilege to work with your children and although the journey through a school year can seem long and arduous at times, it is important to remember – we're **halfway** there!

~ Mr. Charles Leichner
MS/HS Principal

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# From the Desk of Mr. Grande

It's hard to imagine that the school year is better than halfway through. Well, as the old saying goes... time flies when you're having fun! Well, I don't know if all the kids would agree that EVERYTHING they're doing is fun, but they should all agree that a lot of it is fun and that they are learning like never before!

In December, we finished up our fifth round of after school tutoring with Fredonia State College. Three years ago, we started this program concentrating on Reading skills with a handful of tutors and about a dozen or so students. This spring we anticipate the college sending approximately 20-25 tutors who will assist about 50 elementary students in Reading and Math. Last spring we added the Math piece and have reported substantial growth in numeracy skills for a large number of our participants. In addition to the after school help, some college students will be scheduled to work with Mr. Worosz in the Reading Lab during the school day.

If you have a child who has participated in the program in the past, you know first hand how much these kids love to stay after school to participate. This excitement to take part in this program is directly attributed to the fun and challenging activities designed by these college students and the support they receive from our homeroom teachers. Letters will be sent out in late February to the families of students recommended for the program.

Activities such as PARP, Make-A-Difference Day, Field Day, etc. are other opportunities that have the excitement level at the elementary school at an all-time high! Some of these activities are faculty sponsored with parental assistance. We feel that parental support and participation is a critical component to student success. Do not underestimate the value of volunteering at the school; we need and welcome your help!

Parents As Reading Partners (PARP) is right around the corner! The committee has vowed to make this year's PARP more exciting and better than ever! I'm sure you remember last year's Superintendent and Principal's Challenge where Mr. O'Connor and I had to eat bugs - Yummy! I don't know how they plan to top that one, but we're sure they will!

So, don't sit back and watch the excitement... Give us a call to find out how you can be part of it!!!

~ Mr. Daniel Grande

Elementary School Principal

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# Honor Society Induction Held

On November 20, 2007, six high school students were inducted into the Belle F. Campbell Chapter of the National Honor Society at Forestville Central School. Membership in the National Honor Society is one of the highest honors that can be awarded to a high school student. The NHS has worked hard to bring the accomplishments of outstanding students to the attention of parents, teachers, peers, and the community. Chapters in more than 12,500 high schools across the nation strive to give practical meaning to the Society's goals of scholarship, leadership, service, and character.



2007 Inductees



**Forestville Central School Honor Society** 

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# Guidance News

# Important Dates to Remember....

**SAT Test Dates** 

**SAT Registration Deadline** 

May 3<sup>rd</sup>

June 7<sup>th</sup>

April 1st

May 6<sup>th</sup>

#### **ACT Test Dates**

# **ACT Registration Deadline**

April 12<sup>th</sup>

June 14<sup>th</sup>

March 7<sup>th</sup>

May 9<sup>th</sup>

<sup>\*</sup>Register online at www.actstudent.org or stop by the HS guidance office



# Cafeteria News



This is a reminder to parents who have children with food allergies or other food related intolerances. The café may make substitutions to your child's meals only with an up-to-date doctor's note. You need to send in a new note every school year. We cannot carry the same doctor's excuse over from year to year in case there have been any changes to your child's condition. Thank you for your cooperation.

Also, don't forget to check out the menus, Nutrition Nuggets and other informational links on our webpage.

Anytime you need to check on your children's accounts, feel free to call 965-2711 x 530.

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<sup>\*</sup>Register online at www.collegeboard.com or stop by the HS guidance office

# A Prescription for Parents on Preventing Prescription & Over-the-Counter Drug Abuse Among Teens

#### #1 Educate yourself and your teen about the risks.

Prescription drugs can be just as dangerous and as addictive as "street drugs," and can be lethal. Talk to your teen about the dangers of these drugs.

#### #2 Keep track of quantities.

Take note of how many pills are in a bottle or pill packet and ask other households your teen visits to do the same, such as grandparents or other friends. Don't forget about refills. If you find you have to refill medication for a chronic condition more often than recommended, there could be a real problem—as someone may be knowingly stealing your medication.

#### #3 Talk to friends, relatives and school administration.

Make sure your friends and relatives know about the risks, too, and encourage them to regularly monitor their own medicine cabinets. If you don't know the parents of your child's circle of friends, then make an effort to get to know them, and get on the same page about rules and expectations. Follow up with your teen's school administration to find out what they are doing to address issues of Rx and OTC drug abuse on campus.

#### #4 Follow directions carefully.

Make sure you and your teen use Rx drugs only as prescribed by a medical doctor and take only the recommended dosages as indicated for both Rx and OTC drugs. If you are directed to finish the prescription, then do so as advised. If you have any questions about how to take a prescription drug, call your family physician or pharmacist.

#### #5 Discard old or unused medications.

Unused prescription drugs should be disposed of in the trash. It is best to add an undesirable substance (like used coffee grounds or kitty litter) and put the mixture in an impermeable, non-descript container like an empty can or bag. Unless the directions say otherwise, do NOT flush medications down the drain or toilet because the chemicals can taint the water supply. Also, remove any personal, identifiable information from prescription bottles or pill packages before you throw them away.

#### #6 Monitor your teen's time online.

Check browser histories and set a time limit for how long your teen can be online. For more information on how to monitor your child's online activities, visit TheAntiDrug.com's online tutorial.

#### #7 Be observant.

If you find your teen is quickly going through cough syrup, or you find empty bottles and pill packages among your child's personal effects, talk with her, listen carefully, and determine if there is a problem. If there is a problem, call your family physician immediately.

#### #8 Find other ways to relieve stress and have fun.

Many teens point to personal and family stress, as well as boredom, as reasons they abuse Rx and OTC drugs. Help your teen find other ways to relieve pressures, for example through positive activities that interest your child, positive friendships, or by simply listening and offering guidance. Also, help your teen find constructive ways to pass time and set a good example yourself.

To learn more about Rx & OTC health risks, visit TheAntiDrug.com.

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# The 4<sup>th</sup> Annual "Fight it with Fashion" Dress Sale to be held on March 29<sup>th</sup>

Last year, through the generosity of students and community members like yourselves, the sale was a huge success and helped over 100 young women in our area offset the cost of formal dances. Many different school districts from both Chautauqua and Erie Counties attended and helped us to raise close to \$3000 for breast cancer research, which brings our three-year total to almost \$7,000. After listening to feedback from our customers, we decided to move the sale away from the holiday season and closer to Prom season. On March 29, 2008, we will hold our 4<sup>th</sup> annual "Fight it with Fashion" sale from 11am-3pm in the SUNY Fredonia William Center. However, we need your help to increase our dress inventory! We are once again asking for donations of formal and semi-formal gowns and/or dresses. The gowns will be sold for \$25.00 at the sale, and the money will go to the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Research Foundation. This will give students an opportunity to purchase a dress at an affordable price. Our goal is to not only raise money for cancer research, but to also make formal dances more affordable for all families.

We will be accepting donations in the Forestville High School Guidance Office from now until the time of the sale. If you do plan on dropping them off to the guidance office, please call ahead @ 965-2711 or email us at the addresses below so we can make sure there is someone to accept your donation. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Sincerely,

Amanda Oddo-Tonelli

aoddo@forestville.wnyric.org

**Brianne Prince** 

bprince@forestville.wnyric.org



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# FCS Foreign Language Department News

# Holiday Celebrations in the Spanish Department

The Spanish department celebrated the holidays in authentic Hispanic style. To prepare for Navidad, middle school students created piñatas and brought them to school to be shared. High school students made bilingual Christmas cards, cartoons, and decorated the halls with hand made papel picado banners. The Spanish Club also joined in the fun by making Mexican ornaments.

On January 4<sup>th</sup> the Spanish department celebrated the 3 Kings Day. Students participated in the annual tradition of sharing Rosca de Reyes in class. Rosca de Reyes is the traditional crown shaped sweet bread decorated with fruits, nuts, and candy. Hidden inside the bread you will find a surprise. The lucky student who finds the trinket has the honor of hosting the next celebration.





# **French Club News**



The Forestville French Club recently went out to dinner and ice skating for their winter activity. In February the club will be going out for a Mardi Gras lunch on the 5th. To continue the celebration, students will also have traditional King Cake and crown their king/queen for this year's Mardi Gras.

On February 28th the Club is going to Toronto to see a special matinée at Medieval Times. Jousting was very popular in France and in fact, one of the knights at Medieval Times is a French knight. After that the group will finish off the day at Niagara Falls, Canada where they can choose to go to Tussaud's Wax Museum, Ripley's Believe It or Not or the Skylon Tower. The idea of wax sculptures was originated by Marie Tussaud, a French woman in the 18th century. The wax museum in Niagara Falls is, in fact still in the Tussaud family.



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# 2007 Make A Difference Day Wrap-up







Forestville Elementary presented checks to, clockwise from upper left, the Rev. Bruce Ellis, representing the Forestville Neighbor to Neighbor program, \$1,139.80; Robin Hace of the Roswell Park Cancer Institute, \$500.00; James Thies, representing the Bulati School in Tanzania, \$500.00; and Matt Flanigan of the American Cancer Society, \$500.00. Through a variety of projects, FCS Elementary raised \$2,719.00 in six weeks.

One of this year's recipients, Mr. James Thies (FCS Class of 1965 and Cancer survivor), will be climbing Mount Kilimanjaro in March of 2008. Mr. Thies will be bringing along a banner and stuffed Hornet on the trip. He plans to take a picture at the summit to represent the district and the community's connection to the project. Follow Mr. Thies' journey by checking our FCS website this Spring.

Over the 16 year campaign, FCS Elementary has raised a total of \$31,280.47 and Roswell Pediatric Cancer Unit has received \$12,345.66 of that amount. This is a great accomplishment for FCS !!!









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# FCS News Bulletin





# Forestville School Health Advisory Council Mission Statement

Forestville Central SHAC is committed to implementing programs and policies that address the social, physical and emotional concerns of our students, parents, staff and community providing them with the knowledge and skills to make life-long healthy choices.

\* For the date of the next meeting or anyone interested in joining, please contact Mrs. Becky Weaver at 716-965-2492 for further information.

## 2008-2009 Kindergarten Round Up

Kindergarten Round Up is scheduled for the 1<sup>st</sup> week in April. Enrollment packets will be sent out by the 1<sup>st</sup> of March. Listed below are the names of the children we have on our Kindergarten list. If you have a child who will be five years old on Dec. 1, 2008 and who is not listed below please call the Elementary Office at 965-2742.

Adrienne Grubb Jewel Aguglia Deven Robinson Lia Gunther Pierce Smith Alexis Alguire Carly Barrett Haley Halverson Lee Stanton Gabriel Benedict **Brittany Jock** Katelyn Steward Shelia Bock Hannah Johnson Cole Szumigala Lili Botticelli Gavin Kaminski Samuel Taggert Nathan Merrill Sierra Thoreson Logan Coia Emma Cole Madison VanZile Michael Palmer Javier Figueroa Dylan Pierce Cassidy Vincent Ashley Gilman Rachel Pryll Lyric Westlund

Alice Vigue Keller Wade

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## FORESTVILLE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT CENSUS

The Forestville CSD updates annually school census information and identifies children with disabilities from birth through age 21. The information required on the form below will aid the District in numerous ways, including planning for transportation routes, school attendance areas, and future enrollment projections. Please return the census form if you meet any of the following conditions:

You are a new District resident with young children NOT currently attending school You have recently had a baby or adopted a child Your children attend school in another district, attend a private school, or are home taught

Please return the census form to Elenor Hebner at 12 Water St., Forestville, NY 14062 no later than February 20, 2008. If you have any questions please call Ms Hebner at 965-2742 ext. 539.

#### SCHOOL DISTRICT CENSUS FORM

Parent/Guardian Nan	ne:				
	Last	First			
Spouse/Other:					
	Last	First			
Residence Location:					
	Number	Street Name	City	Zip	
Mailing Address (if o	different from above):				
Telephone Number:					
Children in household	d:			/	
	Last Name	First Name		Date of Birth	
				/	
	Last Name	First Name		Date of Birth	
Does a child with a	handicapping condi	tion or suspected disa	ıbility li	ive in your househo	
YesN	*If Yes, please state nature of disability or suspected disability:				
Child's Information:				1 1	
Cima s information.	Last Name	First Name		Date of Birth	

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Forestville Central District Newsletter

Published By: Scott Hazelton

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# SHAC Committee Plans Event

