

October 2009



NEW CASTLE COUNTY VO-TECH SCHOOL DISTRICT

# Hodgson Vo-Tech

## Principal's Greeting

Greetings Parents and Students,

We have gotten off to a great start of this school year. We are looking forward to all of the exciting events at school starting with Spirit Week and Homecoming. I am proud to inform you that Hodgson, along with the other three schools in our district, is part of the Vision 2015 network. The network's vision is to have world class schools for all Delaware students by 2015. We have established an instructional leadership team to do the work for Vision 2015. We were pleasantly surprised to find that we are well on our way with our instructional focus on literacy, our collaborative culture and our SAM Project. Our teachers meet frequently to discuss student data, student work and lesson plans. We have focused on literacy since last school year. We define literacy as the ability to read, write, communicate and comprehend in all content areas.

As you may know, we are also involved in a national study of administrator's time called the SAM Project. The administrative team has a goal of spending 50% of their day on instruction either observing classes, attending content meetings or discussing modeling lessons. You can help us keep our focus on instruction by making appropriate contacts when calling the school with concerns or questions. A list of contact information can be found below.

With the impending flu season, we are aware that students will need to miss school. Please check the HAC system and contact your child's teachers so that we can ensure your student can get any make-up assignments they need. **Please keep sick children home.** See the Nurses Corner for more information.

Due to the recession, we are having difficulty finding co-op jobs for our seniors. If you know of anyone who could help, please contact Bryan Moxley at 832-7740.

Sincerely,

Annemarie Linden  
Principal



## Supervisory Chart 2009-2010

**Annemarie Linden**  
**(834-0100)**

Special Education  
Student Activities  
Extra Help Program  
Math Department  
Early Childhood  
Business Tech  
Health Information Tech

**Chuck Haney**  
**(834-0990)**

Athletics  
Discipline  
Bus Transportation  
Drivers Education  
English Department  
National Honor Society  
Phys Ed/Health  
Carpentry  
Indus. Mech/Millwright  
Plumbing  
Masonry  
Electrical Trades  
HVAC

**Paul Rabinovitch**  
**(834-7233)**

Guidance Department  
Graduation  
9th Grade Exploratory  
School Nurses  
Science Department  
Testing (DSTP, SAT)  
Dental Assisting  
Dental Lab  
Environmental/Landscape

**Adrienne Quarles**  
**(838-4096)**

Child Study  
Library  
Parent Advisory  
Related Instructors  
Social Studies Department  
Auto Body  
Auto Tech  
Academy Mfg./Pre-Eng.  
Cosmetology  
Nurse Tech  
Technical Drafting  
Culinary Arts



## Homecoming Dance

This year's "On the Boardwalk," Homecoming dance is Saturday, October 17th from 8:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. The cost per ticket is \$20, which includes slushies, snacks, airbrush tattoos, virtual reality games, cootroom and dancing. Tickets for this semi-formal dance were sold in the Student Activities office during all lunches October 5th-9th. Students are to review the dress code for a semi-formal event by reviewing the sample pictures posted on the main office window. If a student had a financial obligation, he/she must have cleared the

obligation before purchasing a ticket. Also, if a Hodgson student plans to bring an outside guest to the dance, he/she had to complete a guest pass for the guest and attach either a school ID or a school schedule from the guest's school before purchasing the ticket.

Homecoming Court - Freshmen, Emily Reshetar/Zach Williams; Sophomores, Nathalie Miller/Rangi Knight; Juniors, Michele Gregorcyk/Billy White. Senior candidates for King & Queen - Jh'Rael Johnson, Bryan Vasquez, Mark Young, Jamaal Jackson, Arian Hitchens, Kara Bellizone, Nicole Payes and Precious Spicer.

## Skills USA

Congratulations to Hodgson's two gold medal winners from the National Skills USA championships held in Kansas City, Missouri. They are Ryan Spinden, Plumbing and Jay Huhn, Class of 2009, HVAC. Both medal winners received thousands of dollars worth of equipment and tools.

# Nurses Corner (834-0655)

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Welcome to all new students and families of Hodgson Vo-Tech!

Parents/guardians please be advised that all 9<sup>th</sup> graders will have hearing and vision, as well as, postural and gait screenings performed this year. If you do NOT want your child screened, please notify the nurse's office in writing.

If your child has had any major changes in his or her health status such as injuries, surgeries, major illnesses, or medication changes, please contact the nurse's office. If your child will be taking any prescription medications in school, please contact our office. All over-the-counter and prescription medications (excluding asthma inhalers and epipen) must be stored and dispensed in our office. Medications **MUST** be sent in a correctly-labeled prescription bottle and accompanied by a parent note. Failure to transport or carry a prescription in a properly-labeled container could result in disciplinary action.

Thank you to all those who turned in their pink emergency cards! If you are in need of additional cards, or have any contact changes during the year, please call us.

## Athletics

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Silvereaglessports.com is up and running. It is a work in progress, but please check this site for schedules, rosters and coaches information.

Hodgson won the Sportsmanship Banner for the 4th year in a row! This is not just about our athletes but also our staff, parents, students and coaches. We need to continue to respect the calls of the officials as well the coaches decisions.

The Hodgson Athletic Boosters are looking for volunteers to assist at different activities. You do

Please contact us if your child has diabetes, seizures, asthma or food/insect allergies. These students are required to have an Emergency Action Plan. Emergency plans require us to have on hand a 3-day supply of medication for a serious medical condition such as diabetes, seizures or asthma. A physician and a parent/guardian must sign these written orders.

The cold and flu season is approaching quickly. The CDC recommends these steps to decrease the spread of the flu virus. We encourage you to reinforce these strategies with your child to keep them healthy this year. The CDC recommends:

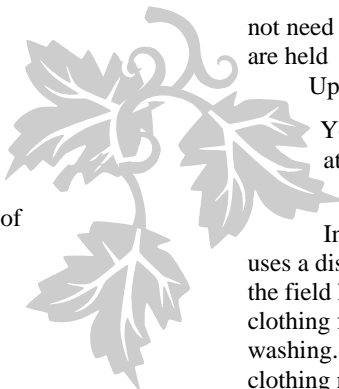
- WASH YOUR HANDS with soap and water!! If soap and water is not available, use alcohol sanitizers.
- Use a tissue when you cough or sneeze and dispose of it properly. If tissues are not available, sneeze or cough into your elbow or sleeve.
- Avoid touching your nose, mouth and eyes. This is how germs are spread.
- Clean surfaces such as computers, phones and doorknobs.

- Do NOT share personal items such as phones, cups, lipsticks, utensils, calculators, rulers, etc.

- **STAY HOME if you are ill or are experiencing flu-like symptoms (aches, cough, fatigue and/or fever over 100° F). A student may NOT return to school until they are fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medicine.**

- Keep tissues, juices, fever-reducing medications, etc. at home in case of illness.
- Develop a contingency plan for pick up, if your child is ill and you are not available for transportation.
- If you pick your child up from school with a fever, they will NOT be permitted to return to school the next day.
- Practice good health habits such as getting enough rest, eating a well balanced diet, exercise and stress reduction techniques.

STAY INFORMED: visit [www.flu.gov](http://www.flu.gov), [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov) or call 1-800-CDC-INFO for the most up to date flu information.



not need to be an athlete's parent to become involved. Meetings are held the first Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m.

Upcoming meetings will be November 4 and December 2.

You can show your school spirit by purchasing Fan Gear at home games or on the "Fan Gear" link on the Hodgson website.

In order to protect your athletes, our maintenance staff uses a disinfecting sprayer and spray bombs in locker rooms and the field house. Please encourage your athlete to bring home clothing from their lockers particularly on the weekends for washing. In order for the spray and bombs to be most effective, clothing needs to be out of the way.

## Guidance Corner

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The PSAT test is scheduled for Wednesday, October 14th and will be given at Hodgson. This test helps students prepare for the SAT college admissions test. It targets 11th grade students who are considering college, although an increasing number of 10th grade students are also taking this test. Students can register for the PSAT in the Guidance Office. The registration deadline is Friday, October 9th. Please call your students' guidance counselor (834-7233) if you have any questions or would like more information.

Hodgson will also be offering an SAT Math Prep course at the school. This five-session course costs \$25 and includes a Barron's SAT Prep Book with CD for the student to keep. Sessions will be held on Tuesdays starting October 6th. The registration deadline is October 5th. Seating is limited and preference will be given to those students registered for the November 7th SAT.

The ASVAB Career Exploration Program is a free service for high school students. Hodgson will be giving the ASVAB on Thursday, October 22. When the students receive their test results, they will also receive a career exploration booklet. They will be able to match their results to careers. To sign up for the test or if you have any questions, contact Mrs. Gregory or your student's counselor in the Guidance Office (834-7233).

Ninth and tenth grade students in all four schools in our school district will be taking a reading assessment called the Scholastic Reading Inventory (SRI). The inventory will be given three times throughout the year (September, February and May). The purpose of the test is to track the literacy progress of students. With the results of each inventory, teachers will be able to work with students to improve their literacy skills, which will help to improve their DSTP reading scores. Hodgson ninth and tenth grade students took the baseline inventory the second and third weeks in September. Parents, take the time to ask your students about their experience taking the SRI.



## BUS INFORMATION

Just a reminder - if a student needs a bus pass to ride a different bus, we do need permission in writing. The note must include the student's name, bus number, stop location and duration of time the pass is needed, as well as a written signature of a parent/guardian and phone number to confirm the note. We can only give passes for existing bus stops - we cannot set up anything new. Also, for your information, our district Transportation Department's phone number is 994-8544, if you have any problems or concerns relating to buses. We use two bus companies - Advanced Student (998-6726) for buses 49, 50, 83, 84 & 137; and First Student (998-2848) for all other bus numbers. If you have a student who has not been picked up in the morning, please call these numbers directly to expedite the process.

### *Deliveries/Phone Calls*

Please remind your students that it is their responsibility to check in the main office for items they may be expecting to be delivered during school hours. We cannot interrupt classes each time something is dropped off for a student - it is very disruptive to the learning process. Also, in an attempt to eliminate interruptions to classes, please refrain from calling in messages for students unless it is urgent.

### *Yearbook*

*The 2010 Benchmark* (Hodgson's yearbook) is now on sale. A limited number of copies will be available. *The Benchmark* is on sale for \$60.00 each. You can get your student's name imprinted on the cover for an additional \$5.00. Check should be made payable to 'Hodgson Yearbook.' Order forms are available on the counter in the main office. All seniors will get a copy of *The Benchmark* as part of their senior dues.

## National Honor Society

The new National Honor Society Advisor is Mrs. Kelly Bench, 9th/10th grade social studies teacher. Working with Student Council members, NHS will be participating in the following events:

- 1) Treats for Troops (beginning after Homecoming until November 15th). We are asking for candy, gum, fruit roll-ups/gushers, Cracker Jack, slim jims, pretzels, lemonade/flavored drink mixes, trail mix, granola, canned fruit, DVD movies, CDs, current magazines, disposable cameras, lip balm, socks, hand/foot warmers or monetary donations (no Tasty Cakes, chocolate, hardcover books).
- 2) Ribbons for Soldiers. NHS is selling "Support Our Troops" yellow car magnets. Students are taking pre-orders now and then after October 26th, we will have them to distribute. Cost: 1 for \$3.00 or 2 for \$5.00.
- 3) Current on-line magazines. Visit <http://currentfun.com/> click on "Start Shopping Now" and purchase items. Continue to shopping cart, proceed to check out, then select organization state (Delaware), select organization (Hodgson Vo-Tech Student Council and NHS (no need for a participant number). Items are shipped directly to you.

We are also planning our induction ceremony for April and a 5K Run for Cancer Awareness in May. Any questions, please contact Mrs. Kelly Bench at [kelly.bench@nccvt.k12.de.us](mailto:kelly.bench@nccvt.k12.de.us) or at (302) 834-0990, extension 214.

## Calendar of Events and Important Dates

October 12-October 16	Spirit Week
October 17	Homecoming
October 23	End of First Marking Period
November 11	Veterans Day (no school)
November 15	Open House (1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.)
November 23-27	Thanksgiving Break (no school)
December 9	Early Release Day (12:50 p.m.-dismissal)
December 21-January 3, 2010	Winter Vacation
January 4, 2010	School Reopens
January 13 & January 14	Exam Days
January 14	End of Second Marking Period
January 15	Professional Development (no school)
January 18	Martin Luther King Day (no school)