# Connections

District Newsletter for the Hudson County Schools of Technology



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## HCST Students Shine

AT THE ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

# Celebrating Excellence: Highlights from the 35th Annual Academic Achievement Awards Dinner



On Wednesday, May 29, 2024, Hudson County came alive with pride and celebration as it hosted the 35th Annual Academic Achievement Awards Dinner. This prestigious event shone a spotlight on the stellar academic accomplishments of our brightest stars.

From CPHS/ATD, we proudly recognized Hemadharshinii Sendhilvel and Valerie Ortiz for their unwavering dedication and outstanding achievements. From HTHS/ACTE, Marissa Losconczy and Jorge Wellesley-Bourke Hernandez III stood tall, celebrated for their academic excellence and commitment to their educational journey.

A hearty congratulations to all our awardees! Your hard work, determination, and commitment have not only made your schools proud but have also set a shining example for your peers. Keep reaching for the stars!



### County Prep Students Shine in the '24 NJ Science League!

County Prep High School proudly congratulates our stellar students who represented us in the 2024 New Jersey Science League! Competing against sixty-six schools from across the state in this intense four-month competition, our students made us immensely proud with their outstanding performances.

A special round of applause goes to Sabrina Francis, who was awarded a plaque for winning First Place in Biology, and Alex Gao, who received a plaque for placing 18th in AP Biology. Additionally, our Biology team earned a special plaque for placing 5th overall. All other participants received Certificates of Achievement for their commendable efforts.

#### The members of our Science teams are as follows:

**Biology** Brandon Rodriguez, Khadija Adnan, Sabrina Francis, Vinson Guo, Xavier Osorio **AP Biology** Alex Gao, Fadila ElMahdaoui, Lisa Patel

**Physics** Aidan Rosario, Cristan Damian, Florence Ria Villa, Marina Morcos, Oscar De Leon

AP Physics 1 Eane Bulatao, Leoncio Matthew Echavez, Tiffany Kate Esteban

Chemistry Danna Penuela, Denissa Rosario, Jaslyn Amaya

AP Chemistry Allison Valite, Krisha Patel, Miguel Vargas, Victor Santana

Congratulations to all our talented Science League participants! Your hard work, dedication, and passion for science have truly paid off, and you have made County Prep High School proud. Keep reaching for the stars!



# Explore Middle School Shines at Student Government Day in Guttenberg Town Hall

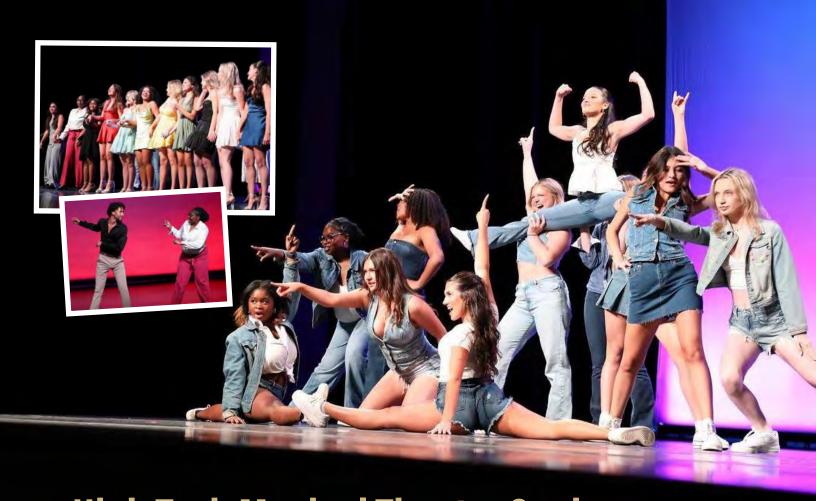


Explore Middle School's Student Council took a deep dive into the world of local governance on Student Government Day at Guttenberg Town Hall. This hands-on experience allowed our students to step into the shoes of town council members

and city staff, as they conducted a portion of a town council meeting themselves.

Through this engaging activity, students gained invaluable insights into the mechanics of self-governance and the inner workings of their local government. It was an eye-opening experience that not only educated but also inspired our future leaders.

Congratulations to our Student Council for representing Explore Middle School with pride and enthusiasm. You've made us all proud!



# High Tech Musical Theater Seniors Shine Bright in Their Senior Showcase

The High Tech High School Musical Theater seniors recently took their final bow on May 29th during a captivating Senior Showcase. This unforgettable evening was filled with breathtaking singing and dazzling dancing, showcasing the incredible talents of our graduating seniors within the familiar walls of our school.

As these talented performers move forward, we look forward with great anticipation

to the remarkable achievements they will undoubtedly accomplish in the future. We extend heartfelt thanks to Mr. Zisa for his profound impact and guidance throughout their high school journey.

Congratulations to our Musical Theater seniors on a spectacular showcase! Your passion and dedication have left an indelible mark on High Tech High School, and we can't wait to see your stars continue to rise!



## County Prep's STEM Club Visits STS Aerospace

County Prep's STEM Club recently embarked on an exciting visit to STS Aerospace, a company renowned for designing and producing aerospace parts. This enriching experience allowed students to interact with various types of engineers and tour the factory, witnessing firsthand the processes of welding, bending, x-ray, pressure tests, product inspection, 3D printing, hydroforming, and more.

A heartfelt thank you to STS Aerospace by Kreisler Industrial Corporation for hosting our students and providing such an informative and inspiring tour.

Special thanks to our STEM Club Advisors, C. Velazquez and R. Rosario, for organizing this incredible opportunity.



On Thursday, May 23rd, Explore Middle School was brimming with excitement and emotion as it hosted its much-anticipated Spring Showcase. This year, the event held a special surprise farewell celebration in honor of Principal Krone, who is stepping into her new role as the HCST Director of Student Support Services.

The evening was a spectacular display of student talent. Our young stars captivated the audience with performances that included singing, dancing, and impressive piano and violin playing, among many other talents. The dedication and hard work of the students

shone brightly, making the night unforgettable.

A special thank you goes to Ms. Belle and Ms. Cirillo for their incredible effort in organizing the showcase. Their passion and commitment made the event a resounding success.

We also extend our heartfelt gratitude to Principal Krone for her outstanding leadership and unwavering support. Under her guidance, the Wolfpack has thrived, and we look forward to her continued impact in her new role. Thank you, Principal Krone, for everything—you've truly made a difference!











### **CPHS's Biomes-Inspired Fashion Extravaganza**

County Prep High School's Fashion students dazzled audiences on Friday, May 31, 2024, during their highly anticipated Annual Fashion Show. This year's theme, 'Biomes,' took center stage as students unveiled stunning designs inspired by Tundra Meadows, Tropical Beaches, Rainforests, Deserts, and Caves, showcasing their creativity and craftsmanship.

We extend our sincere gratitude to everyone who made this spectacular event possible. From the administrators and alumni to the dedicated volunteers, and the invaluable support of departments such as MAT Audio Visual, Culinary, Graphic Arts, Photography,

Cosmetology, Maintenance, and Security—your contributions were instrumental in bringing this captivating show to life.

Special thanks also go to our exceptional Fashion instructor, J. Patten, whose guidance and expertise inspired our students to shine on the runway. Your commitment to nurturing talent has truly made a difference.

Congratulations to our talented Fashion students for a truly remarkable showcase! Your passion for design and dedication to excellence have left us in awe. We eagerly anticipate your future successes in the world of fashion and beyond!











# High Tech High School Celebrates First Ever PowderPuff Event

High Tech High School recently hosted its inaugural PowderPuff event, marking an exciting moment for our senior and junior classes. The competition heated up as seniors and juniors clashed in an exhilarating flag football showdown to claim the title of superior upperclassmen. With swift maneuvers and strategic flag grabs, players dashed towards touchdowns, thrilling the crowd with their athleticism and determination.

Adding to the excitement, our cheerleaders captivated spectators with spirited cheers,

impressive stunts, and a dazzling halftime show that lit up the field.

A heartfelt thank you goes out to everyone who contributed to the success of this memorable event, including our dedicated staff members, teachers, administration, and the senior and junior student councils. Your support and enthusiasm made this first-ever PowderPuff a resounding success, creating lasting memories for all involved.

Here's to many more spirited competitions and community events at High Tech High School!



# Music and Audio Technology Department Presents Summerfest 2024

On Wednesday, June 5, 2024, the Music and Audio Technology Department orchestrated yet another spectacular Summerfest. We extend our heartfelt congratulations on the resounding success of this annual event. The stage was ablaze with the creativity and talent of MAT students, who captivated the audience with their original compositions and performances. From the enchanting melodies to the pulsating

rhythms, each piece was a testament to the dedication and artistry thriving within our schools.

A special thank you to all the staff and students who made this event possible, including administration, food services, and security. Your collective efforts created an unforgettable experience for everyone involved.



On Thursday, May 30th, the future of craftsmanship was on full display as Zach Bolich, Wood Technology Instructor at HTHS DFab Academy, led an eager group of students to the Eastern

Atlantic Carpenters Union Open House in Edison, NJ. Accompanied by Denise Hanford and Amy DeGise, the students delved into the inner workings of the

union and discovered the numerous benefits of their esteemed apprenticeship program.

Current apprentices showcased their skills in various competitions, providing a glimpse into the practical and rewarding journey of

becoming a skilled carpenter. Union and state labor leaders emphasized a powerful message: the importance of supporting and nurturing the next generation of craftspeople. Echoing the values of HCST, they highlighted how apprenticeships create a robust pipeline of talent for high-demand, secure careers.

This field trip was not just a day out; it was an inspiring insight into the promising futures awaiting our students in the world of skilled trades.



High Tech High School's LEGO Build It Club and Architecture students recently embarked on a memorable and educational journey to LEGOLAND! This exciting trip was made possible thanks to the generous support of the HCST Foundation, which covered half of the costs. The adventure not only provided a fun day out but also offered invaluable insights and inspiration that will guide the students in their career and technical goals, especially their senior projects.

"It incorporates sustainability by working with the landscape and nature instead of fighting against it," said 11th grade DFab student Nicholas Solaro, sharing his perspective on the experience. "The whole park is designed on a hill, descending as you go farther into the park. This design provides a stunning view of the entire park right from the entrance and maximizes space and efficiency

with winding paths and stair shortcuts."

Meanwhile, 9th grade DFab student Julian Alvarez Cedeno was captivated by Miniland: "Miniland is a wonder and a jewel in the Legoland New York Resort park. It beautifully recreates recognizable monuments from around the world, organized by sections, locations, and themes. We can apply this concept to our project by building each section of the school separately and then assembling it all together at the end."

LEGOLAND's emphasis on creativity, inclusivity, hands-on learning, and sustainability mirrors the values of Hudson County Schools of Technology. This trip was a fantastic reminder that learning can be incredibly FUN and inspiring!

Here's to many more adventures that blend education with excitement!



### **Celebrating Sam's 23 Years of Dedication**



We are thrilled to shine our spotlight on Sam, an exceptional individual who, at 80 years old, continues to exemplify dedication and commitment. With an incredible 23 years of service as a school bus driver, Sam's unwavering commitment to the safety and well-being of our students has made a lasting impact on our community.

Through all kinds of weather and challenging situations, Sam's steadfastness and reliability have been truly admirable. His exemplary

work ethic and consistent professionalism have earned him the trust and gratitude of students, parents, and staff alike.

Sam's contribution to our school district goes beyond just driving; he has been a constant, caring presence, ensuring that every student arrives safely and feels valued. His dedication serves as a shining example for us all, and it is an absolute privilege to have him as a cherished member of our team.

Please join us in extending our deepest appreciation to Sam for his outstanding service and remarkable commitment to our school district. Thank you, Sam, for all that you do!

# Celebrating Excellence: Ms. Raluca Shields Receives Prestigious Jo Ann Fox Veteran Theatre Educator Award



We are thrilled to announce that High Tech High School Theatre Arts instructor, Ms. Raluca Shields, has been honored with the Montclair State University Jo Ann Fox Veteran Theatre Educator Award. This prestigious accolade, awarded annually for the past five years, recognizes theatre teachers who inspire their students, radiate passion for the arts, and foster a sense of community and family within their school through high-quality productions.

Ms. Shields has truly embodied these qualities, creating an

environment where her students not only learn but thrive. Her infectious enthusiasm for theatre arts has touched the hearts of many, and her ability to cultivate a loving, extended family through her productions is remarkable.

Ms. Justine Franco, Supervisor of the Arts Academy, shared heartfelt congratulations: "Congratulations, Ms. Shields! It is abundantly clear that you love what you do. Your passion for theatre arts is infectious. Witnessing the joy you experience as you watch your students perform is a true testament to your profound impact on their lives -- it's my favorite part of seeing the productions! Your enthusiasm is evident in your teaching and the genuine happiness you derive from seeing your students flourish in their creative endeavors."

Join us in celebrating Ms. Shields for this well-deserved recognition. Her dedication and passion continue to inspire us all, and we are incredibly proud to have her as part of our High Tech High School community. Congratulations, Ms. Shields!



## High Tech High School Dance Senior Chloe Cerreto Shines as State Level Winner for Artistic Merit, Leadership, and Academic Achievement

We are thrilled to announce that Chloe Cerreto, a senior in the High Tech High School Dance - Performance Division, has been selected as a State Level Winner for the Dance New Jersey National Honor Society for Dance Arts Artistic Merit, Leadership, and Academic Achievement Award. This prestigious award recognizes students who excel in artistic and technical excellence in dance, demonstrate outstanding leadership within and beyond the field of dance, and achieve academic excellence with a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher.

Chloe's achievements in dance and leadership have not gone unnoticed. In February 2024, she also received the NJ Governor's Student Award in Arts Education for Exceptional Artistry & Community Leadership in Dance. Chloe's dedication to her craft, her community, and her academics sets her apart as a remarkable student and dancer.

We are proud to share that Chloe will be attending Ohio State University this fall, where she was recruited to join their dance team. This next step in her journey promises to be filled with continued success and growth.

Congratulations, Chloe, on your incredible accomplishments! Your talent, hard work, and leadership inspire us all. We look forward to seeing your continued success at Ohio State University and beyond.



# TECH-SAVVY FOR SENIORS

**INSTRUCTOR: MICHELLE LEWIS** 

### SATURDAYS

10:00 AM-2:00 PM

#### FREE FOR AGES 50+

FREE PARKING-

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION:

- (201) 662-6791
- hudsontechnical@hcstonline.org
- ttps://hudson-technical.hcstonline.us/

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Groups of 5 or more may be eligible for transportation at an assigned location!

#### COURSE INCLUDES:

- -Email Set-Up
- -Video Calling
- -Zoom Platform Set-Up
- -Use Of Mobile Devices
- -Internet Usage & Safety
- -Computer Basics & Components
- -Access To Government Accounts





FOR SESSION DATES





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#### FACILITY LOCATION:

Bayonne High School 669 Avenue A, Bayonne, NJ 07002 -Entrance between 29th & 30th Street -

DOOR #12



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#### https://hudson-technical.hcstonline.us/

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2023-2024
FALL SEMESTER
SPRING SEMESTER

REGISTRATION OPENS THE SECOND WEEK OF JULY

#### **COURSE INCLUDES:**

Anatomy & Physiology

Physical Examination & Minor Procedures

Patient Care Coordination & Education

Electronic Health Records (EHR)

Medical Office Administration

Medical Law & Ethics

Medication Administration

🔗 Injections, Venipuncture & Lab Procedures

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON COURSE LOCATION, SCHEDULE & TUITION PLEASE VISIT:

hudson-technical.hcstonline.us

#### CREDENTIAL EARNED:

Certified Clinical Medical Assistant (CCMA) Certification

#### **PROVIDED BY:**

National Healthcareer Association (NHA)



\*Students will need to purchase their own medical scrubs and sphygmomanometers.

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