



UXBRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL

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Principal

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Operational Report – February 2010
Tara Bennett, Principal

Community of Caring
Respect ~ Caring ~ Responsibility ~ Trust ~ Family

UHS Activities/Recognition

- Juniors JP McGrath and Libbi Richardson attended a leadership workshop in athletics sponsored by the MIAA on January 28th.
- Jessica Rogers and Rebecca Larrivee accompanied by our Cheerleading coach and English teacher, Ms. Jenn Pond, attended the MIAA *Women in Sport Day* on February 5th at Faneuil Hall in Boston. Following the program, the ladies were invited to meet and have lunch with Representative Jennifer Callahan at the State House. The girls received a citation from Rep. Callahan for their leadership and service at Uxbridge High School.
- The Go Green club continues to recycle plastic bottles to support the needs in Haiti.
- Wayne Tanson has been invited to participate in the MCAS development committee and the Science and Technology Engineering Standards revision committee which will meet in the spring, summer and fall of 2010.
- Drama Club is excited about the presentation of Grease on March 19 and 20, as well as a cameo appearance at the Superintendent's Gala March 13.
- Congratulations to the Girls' Indoor Track Team and to coaches Walter Berkowicz and Kenny Horan on their SWCL Championship!

Subject Overview:

Science and Technology

- *Intro to Physics/Technology:* Students working on Electricity Unit.
- *CAD class:* Students have started working on AutoDesk and will be using the software to begin designing various objects.
- *Computer Applications:* Students continue their work on Microsoft Office software.
- *Wood Technology:* Students are working on their individual wood projects.
- *Construction:* Students continue building various desks, tables, bookshelves, and wall units for the new Video Production room. They are building sets designs for the production *Grease*. Work will begin on designing and building new picnic tables for Pout Pond.
- *Honors Physics:* Students are working on series and parallel circuits.

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- *Landscape Design*: Beginning full scale drawings.
- *AP Biology*: Striating Genetics experiments and Molecular Genetic experiments, as well as individual experiments.
- *Honors Biology*: DNA Model lab.
- *Anatomy and Physiology*: Muscular system on cat.
- *AP Chemistry*: Equilibriums and Acids and bases. Ph calculations and titrations.
- Biology: fossil organisms.

Social Studies

- Selectman Michael Potaski offered to do a presentation for the History and Social Studies Department classes. Three teachers, Mrs. Bouchard, Mrs. Puckett, and Mr. Hutchings, will take their classes to the UHS library for this presentation which is scheduled for Tuesday, February 23rd. Mr. Potaski has been doing extensive research on the African American History in Uxbridge back to the colonial period. Next month's report will feature a synopsis of his presentation.
- Mr. Barbuto's U.S. History classes are presently working on research projects. Each student chooses a president to study and research. The students may choose a president from the 1860's to the present.
- Mrs. Puckett's Current Events class just completed a unit on the Healthcare Debate. The concluding activity, The M&M Health Insurance Game, was well received by the students. They used the M&M candies to purchase, or not purchase, health insurance. This was an excellent activity for students to experience how health insurance works.
- The U.S. Government teachers, Mrs. Puckett and Mr. Hutchings, were happy to see how many seniors at UHS voted in the special election to fill the late Senator Kennedy's seat. This was the first time that these students had voted in a statewide election.
- The Social Studies Department Bulletin Board, in recognition of Black History Month, reflects the changes in America since the early days of the Civil Rights Movement to the election of President Barack Obama.

Foreign Language

- The syllabus for the AP Spanish Language course was submitted by Carol Brooks and approved by the College Board.
- Sarah Gaudet applied and was accepted into the Performance Review Program for Initial Licensure with Class Measures, the sole provider in Massachusetts for the alternative portfolio route to Initial Teacher Licensure.
- Carol Brooks' Spanish 1 class started an email exchange program with a high school in Mexico. The objectives of the project are to discover the commonalities teenagers share in both countries and to help the students in Mexico learn English.

Family and Consumer Science

- Mrs. Plasse and Mrs. Priore attended the class to become ServSafe certified. This enables the FCS students to continue to prepare food for the Uxbridge Food Pantry and Uxbridge Senior Center.

Fine Arts

- It's almost March and the combined Music and Art Departments have been compiling student work for our *Third Annual Celebration of the Arts Night* at the Whitin School. We look forward to another wonderful celebration. The celebration was founded by Former Superintendent Daniel Stefanilo to showcase the talents of our children. It is an amazing evening filled with beautiful art, music and great food. Hope to see you on March 9, 2010 at the Whitin School.
- The Uxbridge High Art Students are continuing their program of studies in the arts. They are working on their *Empty Bowls Project* which is a fundraiser for the Uxbridge food bank. High School and Middle School students are making beautiful ceramic bowls to sell with soup and bread to raise money for this important cause. Its success last year was a great source of pride for the students. *Empty Bowls* is April 14th at UHS.

English

- Ms. Pond's senior English class partook in an English tea party, complete with china and cucumber sandwiches as part of a cultural exploration into British society.
- Mrs. Guilmette's class, associated with the medieval travel in *The Canterbury Tales*, as well as getting some practical life experience is doing a research project on travel. Students are assigned a destination and a budget and must plan a trip, determining destination information on a variety of aspects, travel itinerary and cost, and a sightseeing/activity agenda.

Prevocational Skills

- Students continue to collect recycling bins throughout the school
- Significant growth is evident in the skills of our students as well as with the peer tutors in terms of self-reliance and job performance.
- Students continue to work on increasing life skills and basic skills including the importance of healthy relationships and bullying.
- Students are exploring the website www.mywonderfulworld.org sponsored by National Geographic.
- Mrs. Jones-Barbosa has organized an informal exercise group for interested staff and students. People meet in room 125 two days a week to exercise – Zhumba has been the offering for the past couple of weeks.

Student Council

- The council raised over \$200 for Steve Scott and his family through a hat day fundraiser.
- The council raised over \$200 for Haiti Earthquake relief through lunchroom collections.
- During the week of February 1 – February 5th the council organized the annual Snowball Week. We had the themed days of Heinous Dress day, Twin Day, Class Color Day, Occupation Day, and Favorite Superhero day. The week ended with a very successful dance on the Friday.
- The council submitted its Excellence Award to the Massachusetts Association of Student Councils.


- The council is hosting a food drive where students bring in food cans and nonperishable food items to the main lobby and place them in a teacher's box. The teacher with the most cans in his/her box will be "pied" in the face during the student faculty basketball game in March. The donations will go to the local food pantry.
- The council will be selling MD shamrocks during the month of March.
- The council sent over 19 members to the annual Taft ABC Fair on February 12, 2010.
- The council sold "crush cans" to students the week of February 8-12th.

Interscholastic Sports:

- Boys Varsity Basketball 14-5; participated in The Clark Tournament; Qualified for District Tournament, first round game at UHS on Feb.26th at 7:00 PM
- Girls Varsity basketball 2-17
- Boys Indoor Track and Field 10-5
- Girls Indoor Track and Field 15-0; SWCL Champions

Upcoming Monthly Events

- Student Council sponsored Blood Drive March 1
- Monthly faculty meeting March 1
- Monthly UHS Crisis Team meeting March 1
- APTAP (Mass Insight) presentation to staff March 2
- School Council Meeting Monthly March 3
- Student-Faculty Basketball Game March 4
- Youth Risk Behavior Survey Presentation Town Hall March 8
- Celebration of the Arts March 9
- 8th Grade Parent night presentation March 10
- Trimester 2 Final Exams March 9 - 11
- Administrative meeting March 9
- Monthly District Crisis Team meeting March 10
- Half-curriculum day March 12 – End of Trimester 2
- Blackstone Valley Coalition Meeting on March 12
- Arena Scheduling March 15
- *Grease* production March 19 and 20
- Report Cards issued March 22
- MCAS ELA testing March 23- 25



Tara B. Bennett, UHS Principal