



# UXBRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL

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Association of  
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Mrs. Tara B. Bennett  
*Principal*

Mr. Erik Arnold  
*Assistant Principal*

Operational Report – April 2010  
Tara Bennett, Principal

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

## UHS Activities/Recognition

- Thank you senior Jackie Gianetti, junior Tara Feeley and sophomore Dan Penza for their participation as actors and to the Uxbridge Police Department and Fire Departments for their cooperation in and participation of a reenactment of a mock car crash scene sponsored by SADD.
- The following freshman students attended a Freshman Leadership Workshop sponsored by Jostens: Emily Cahill, Caitlin Francis, Chris Mannka, Wade O'Neil, Andrew Reardon, David Roxo, Nicole Venditti and Abigail White. They were chaperoned by English teacher and Class of 2013 Advisor Amy Desilets and Social Studies teacher Lauren Bouchard.
- Seniors Katelyn Dionne and Dana Renault attended the Mass Forum Training in Taunton with Adjustment Counselor Alison Dwyer. This training is in support of The Coalition for a Community of Caring (formerly known as The Blackstone Valley Youth Coalition)
- Congratulations to Walter Berkowicz for being named the Central Mass Girls Indoor Track Coach of the year awarded by the Mass State Track Coaches Association.
- Advanced Placement Tests are scheduled for May 3 – 12<sup>th</sup>. 94 students will take exams in the following AP Courses: Government, French, Spanish, Calculus, English Literature, US History, Biology, Chemistry and English Language. Good luck to all of our students. Thank you to guidance counselor Brian Burke for organizing the exams.
- Congratulations to Jen Rosa and Stephen Shenouda on being recognized as the *April* Senior of the Month.

## Subject Overview:

### Technology

- **Intro to Physics/Technology:** Students working on Electricity Unit, Waves, and Communications
- **Photo/Video:** Students are working on videos related to alcohol awareness month.
- **Robotics:** Learning basic programming and basic electricity.

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- **Computer Applications:** Students continue working on the Microsoft Office Excel.
- **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. Also continue work on designing and building new picnic tables for Pout Pond.

#### Science

- **Pre-Engineering:** Using the Engineering Design Method to produce a working trebuchet.
- **Horticulture:** Students working on grafting various tresses and shrubs. Propagation and lawns pruning project.
- **AP Biology:** Evolution lab. Population genetics and survey classes for genetic traits.
- **Forensics:** Arson and fingerprint lab.
- **Honors Biology:** Energy/Energy pyramids. Food chain food web.
- **Environmental Science:** *Communities and population and comparing floodplains.*
- **AP Chemistry:** Equilibriums and Acids and bases. Ph calculations and titrations.
- **Biology:** fossil organisms.
- **Going green:** Continue collecting plastic bottles so that a donation can be made to Haiti.

#### Family and Consumer Science

- Mrs. Jane Archibald of Unibank for Savings visited the Mrs. Plasse's Independent Living classes to talk about banking, the importance of maintaining good credit and general financial literacy
- Interior Design classes have appreciated the beautiful design of homes close to the high school by taking walking tours to identify various architectural features
- Mrs. Priore's Foods classes participated in a community service learning opportunity by preparing soup and cookies for the Empty Bowl fundraiser which aided the People First Food Pantry
- Mr. Douglas Priore visited the Foods classes to explain and demonstrate the Passover Seder and how food is central to the celebration of this holiday and how it relates to the Christian observance of Easter. He shared a power point based on the two years he lived in this land of culture, history and controversy

#### History

- On April 9<sup>th</sup>, Mrs. Puckett took two of her students to Student Government Day at the State House in Boston. Peter Mannka, a senior, was elected by the UHS student body to serve as delegate and Andie Hession, also a senior, was alternate. The keynote speaker for the event was Attorney General Martha Coakley. The students debate two bills: cell phone use while driving, and earlier starting time for high school students. The debate was vigorous and demonstrated a serious interest on the part of the student delegates. Schools from all over the state participated in this event
- The History and Social Studies Department offers two AP level courses: U.S. History and U.S. Government and Politics. The AP tests are scheduled for the first two weeks of April with AP Government being the first test- May 3<sup>rd</sup>; AP U.S. History test is scheduled for May 14<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Silbor who teaches AP U.S. History and Mrs. Puckett, who teaches the

AP U.S. Government and Politics course, have begun their review sessions with the AP students.

### Prevocational Life Skills Program

- Spring is here! Our class has been outside for fresh air and exercise as often as the good weather permits. We are planning some local walking field trips into the community and in house at UHS. We intend to get out into the community at least once weekly. We will use these community field trips to assess students' growth this year in the areas of comparison shopping, making purchases, counting bills and coins, ordering from menus, improving social etiquette, tipping, and to practice community safety. We are scheduling some in house field trips which will take place on the UHS campus where progress in such areas as meal preparation, cafe' maintenance and kitchen safety will be assessed. We also plan to utilize the outdoors to further develop, practice, and reinforce physical skills.
- In Social Studies, we have been focusing on major events occurring during the 20th Century. Mr. Sweeney recently lectured as a guest speaker on his experience in the Vietnam War. As always, his presentation was very informative and riveting. In addition to the historical aspects of Mr. Sweeney's experiences, the students learned much about the climate and landscape of Southeast Asia.
- Ms. Hamelin and the students continue to work hard with recycling efforts. The students are dedicated to the job and even some of our students who are less social are really enjoying the work and are benefitting from the interaction with staff and students throughout UHS. Thank you teachers and staff for your continued patience as the students learn.
- The next Peer Group meeting will take place on April 14th from 1:45-2:45.

### SADD (Students Against Destructive Decisions)

- In recognition of Alcohol Awareness month, SADD coordinated with the Uxbridge Police Department and Fire Department to have a mock car crash on April 28<sup>th</sup>.
- Robert Hackenson presented his one-person interactive assembly, Sober Thoughts, to our students and faculty April 28<sup>th</sup>. His message of making positive decisions and mindful-choices received a great response from all

### **Interscholastic Sports:**

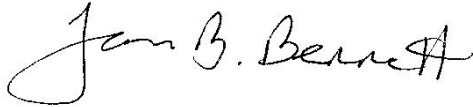
Spring sports began March 15<sup>th</sup>. We have 141 student-athletes participating this season in baseball, softball, tennis and track at the varsity and junior varsity level. Good luck to all of our student-athletes this spring.

### **Upcoming Monthly Events**

- SAT testing at UHS May 1
- Staff Appreciation Week May 3 - 7
- Faculty Meeting May 3
- Student Council meeting May 6
- Half-curriculum Day May 7

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- Class Officer Elections May 11
- District Crisis Meeting May 12
- School Building Committee May 12
- Community of Caring Coalition Bus Tour May 13
- Spring Concert May 13
- Community of Caring Coalition Meeting May 14
- Student Recognition Assembly May 14
- Class of 2012 Car Wash May 15
- Parents for Safe Graduation Golf Tournament May 16
- MCAS Math Testing May 17 - 18
- Class of 2011 Murder Mystery May 17
- NHS induction May 18
- Senior Class Trip May 20-23
- Athletic Awards Dinner May 24
- Kathi Mayer/Bill Phillips Presentation for community at UHS 7:00 PM May 26
- Senior Exams May 25-27
- Student Council Meeting May 26
- Flying Squadron Presentation May 28
- Class of 2012 Car Wash May 29
- Memorial Day May 31




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Tara B. Bennett, UHS Principal