

From Your Superintendent Pomp and Circumstance

It is customary that we often hear ‘Pomp and Circumstance’ played at graduation ceremonies. Pomp is defined as a show of magnificence, ceremony and splendid display.

There is some irony to be found in that, as this school year ended abruptly, due to the world-wide Covid-19 pandemic, and lacked the pomp you, as seniors, so richly deserved.

The culmination of 13 years of school merely ended without fanfare, without formal good-byes, and without celebratory events that are the hallmark and highlights of every senior year. It ended in hushed tones and abandoned classrooms. In some cases, we felt grief rather than joy at the end of the final year of high school.

Students will look back at this time in the years to come and tell colleagues, friends, and their own children about the year 2020. They will recount how they were born at a time of great upheaval and sadness when terrorists attacked the Twin Towers. They will be able to recount graduating during a pandemic while social distancing. They will recount people in the stands at graduation wearing masks or wearing one themselves. They will recount stay-at-home orders and restricted movement, so uncommon at this stage of their lives. They will also be able to recount a time of great civil unrest and a paradigm shift in society. This will be the history that future students will read about, but that our Class of 2020 graduates lived.

We were all forced to pause, to take stock, to rest. John Ruskin said, “There is no music in a “rest” that I know of, but there's the making of music in it.” During this rest, we had opportunities to reconnect as families. We witnessed tremendous acts of love, recognition and celebration:

- Car parades to let others know they’re missed
- People ordering take-out or buying gift cards to support small, local businesses
- Countless volunteers donating food, time, and resources to their neighbors and those in need

There has been incredible creativity in how we have extended ourselves to one another, to show compassion and remind others that they matter. We rest because we’re forced to, but those rests are important to the whole. There is comfort in knowing that, collectively, the human spirit rises above challenges and continues to find ways to sound the importance of human connection.

When our kids were little, we’d ask, “What did you learn today?” I hope as our graduates look back, they will be able to say that they learned resilience. They learned to face adversity with optimism. They learned that unexpected endings aren’t necessarily bad, but rather, help to build our character.

Most importantly, my hope for our graduates is that know they have the ability to make things better than they found them. They have the intellect and heart to change the world. They have the empathy to embrace differences and know that they are necessary to the whole. They have enriched our lives, and have the opportunity to teach all those they come in contact with in the days and years ahead that our world is better because they are in it. Our world is in great hands, hands that have ‘rested’ and hands that have learned so very much.

Mary Tracy-MacAulay
Superintendent of Hanover Schools



Valedictorian, Dominic Amadio and Salutatorian, Angelina Burroughs wave goodbye to Hanover Central High School

It goes without saying that the Class of 2020 will be one for the history books. One thing that remained constant, however, is how well our students performed and the memories they made.

Hanover Central High School graduated a total of 157 students, including three juniors; Austin Gineris, Cheyenne Parker, and Bryce Stalter .

While it has become a tradition to report annually on scholarship dollars earned by our seniors, the self reporting normally done throughout the spring was absent. We can report that a survey was sent to graduating seniors. Responses to the survey, though not indicative of the full scholarship total, did reveal seniors earned more than \$981, 620. in scholarships. Congratulations Class of 2020!

There were some moments to celebrate and others that gave us pause and urged us to reflect on this group of graduates as a class. We celebrated that after a seven year dry spell, and for the second year in a row, a Hanover student was selected to receive the Lilly Endowment Scholarship. Angelina Burroughs received the honor and will be attending Indiana University Bloomington. We celebrated, though virtually, our top ten graduates; Dominick Amadio, Angelina Burroughs, Elise Kratkoczki, Brianna Nirtaut, Luke Maurer, Marissa Metcalfe, Kayla Denklau, Tiffany Lange, Brooke McCune and Reilly Parker We paused as we remembered that the Class of 2020 should have included Jeffery Bellinger, a 13 year old 7th grader at the time of his tragic passing in 2015. A one time scholarship was awarded in memory of Jeffrey. Christina DeLange received the award. We miss you Jeffrey.

HANOVER RECEIVES TECHNOLOGY GRANT



**Director of Technology Services
John Flanagin**

While news of the first cases of the new novel coronavirus began hitting the shores of the United States in January, it seemed a distant and unrelatable event in our quiet community. Just as headlines began appearing on evening news shows, our Technology Department was knee deep in preparing a State of Indiana Digital Learning Community Advisory Grant under the direction of Director of Technology, John Flanagin. The \$50,000 grant is a very competitive one. “The grant requirements included producing a video, something we weren’t used to doing,” said Mr. Flanagin with a chuckle. “We did it and I was pleased with the Result.

Mr. Flanagin’s pleasure was well founded as the Hanover Community School District was one of only 52 school systems statewide to receive the coveted award on February 27, 2020. “I’m honored we were awarded the 2020 Digital Learning Grant. It will go a very long way in growing the digital culture within our corporation,” said Mr. Flanagin.

Just a few short days after receiving the amazing news that the 2020-2021 school year would be a time of great technology excitement, the technology team had to pivot and in a matter of moments and hours design and develop the Hanover eLearning platform. In the blink of an eye eLearning was up and operating. While not without a bump or two, the staff remained on hand working virtually around the clock to provide essential assistance to Hanover families, students and staff. The collaboration between students and educators is something that Mr. Flanagin has stressed every day in his role as Technology Director. “This kind of collaboration is essential to our students, and it is why we exist. Providing the skills that our students will need for the future is really our primary mission and we’re committed to that,” he said. Participating in the video grant application were: Technology Coach, Dan Grunewald, Educational Technology Specialist, Melissa Walley, Hanover Central Middle School Teacher, Sandra Kessler, Jane Ball Elementary School Principal, Ryan Eckart and 5th Grade Student, Megan McCloskey.

Big Win for Hanover Central High School Wrestling Team

Just before the 4th of July the Hanover Central High School Wrestling Team set out under tough conditions to raise funds for new wrestling singlets and future projects. The threat of storms, an unknown response from the community seemed daunting, but with the help of wrestling support parent, Indy Gonzalez, the young men and women of the team donned their masks, set up an umbrella canopy and began to sell bake goods outside of Strack & Van Til.

“We raised four times what we were hoping to,” said Coach Donovan. By lunchtime, Indy Gonzalez, exclaimed, “We have met our goal and are still selling!” The team was very excited when three former Hanover wrestlers, including one from the 1960’s, stopped by to support the fundraiser.

Coach Donovan sees big things ahead for wrestlers in the upcoming year. “This season we have a strong group of incoming freshmen to add to our already strong nucleus of young talent. I see this group competing for a Conference Championship and many wrestlers going deep into the state finals. The sky is the limit for this team,” he said.”



Hanover Schools Education Foundation
Hand in Hand for Education

The Hanover Schools Education Foundation (HSEF) had a great reason to rejoice as they closed out the 2019-2020 school year. In 2019, the Foundation presented its first scholarships to four deserving seniors. After a very successful year of growth, HSEF was able to more than double the number of scholarships presented to the Class of 2020. Ten graduates received scholarships totaling \$7500. Those who received awards are: Elise Kratkoczki, Brianna Nirtaut, Kayla Denklau, Austin Gineris, Sophia Horne, Amanda Schreiber, Cecelia Philipp, Ashley Owen, Cole Cameron, and James Erickson. Members of the Scholarship Committee who presented the full Foundation Board with recipient recommendations were: Shannon Remaly, Kim Splant and Mary Joan Dickson.

One of the most unusual parts of the 2019-2020 school year was that it quickly became difficult to tell when the school year ended and summer began. All Jane Ball Elementary School student Drew Miller knew was that he missed his teacher, Dawn Kepshire, but enjoyed time with his father. In early June, Drew spent time playing games with his Dad, and writing an email to Mrs. Kepshire. “Drew is such a kind boy and caring classmate,” explained Mrs. Kepshire. “Every time we did a Zoom meeting, he was always greeting his friends and asking how they were doing. In his emails, he always told me he missed school,” she added. Drew is just one of nearly 2500 students in the Hanover system, but he clearly defines how special our students are and what a fine family we have become.



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