

## A PUBLICATION OF HAMBURG AREA HIGH SCHOOL

### Needs and changes at the Hamburg Area school district

Grace Cromyak - 9

There are challenges that need to be addressed at HASD by the administration that may have been discussed before but they have never come to an agreement on providing support for these challenges. Most of the challenges experienced in school are bullying, family factors, fighting, technology, and students' attitudes and behaviors. These are fairly common at HASD and many high schools across the county and state. Some of these challenges students cannot control such as if someone is being bullied all they can do is try to defend themselves or tell the principal about it same goes for family factors.

Risks for students that do not have these problems or do not have any of these problems can be a risk for them because others who deal with these problems are more likely to take it out on those students. Which then can lead to bullying and harassment.

School traffic is another concern. I usually arrive at school at about 7:25 which is about when the doors open, but I never get to be on time due to the long line of traffic. So then I approximately get into my homeroom at 7:29, it should not really take a long period of time to drop other students off. Understanding that parents wait for students to cross. A lot of parents usually just stop at a random spot and just drop their child off which then backs everything up. A solution to this problem could be to have the parents drive all the way up to the end of the drop-off area and drop their child off there so then everyone can be neatly lined up and students will be on time for school. An additional solution is for students and parents to arrive earlier as opposed to right before the 7:25-7:30 arrival window.

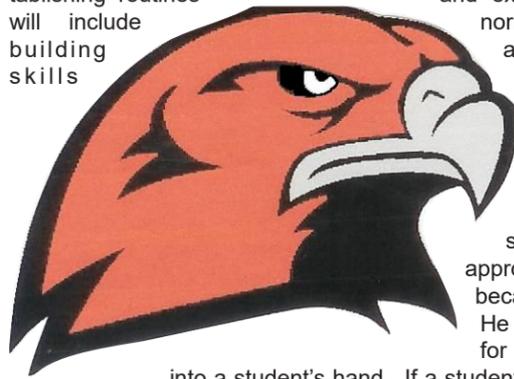
Dr. Beissel, the principal at HASD stated, "Students respond well to routines and boundaries and because of COVID, some of those boundaries have disappeared. Students should have established boundaries for cell phone use, especially relative to when they should not be texting or posting on social media during class time. This also leads to peer conflict when students post unkind, antagonistic, or cruel things about each other. Unfortunately a lot of kids are having a hard time dealing with these changes and expectations."

While sitting down and discussing with Dr. Beissel ideas on how to resolve some of these challenges, he mentioned that he started to work on something called, "A Ninth Grade Academy." Basically the first cycle of the year for next year, all the incoming ninth-graders would work on specific skills related to not only academics but also establishing routines and expectations. Topics of this academy will include building skills, normed expectations, skills for success, a positive school community, and coping and strategies.

Also adding to this, Dr. Beissel and I discussed social media platforms and how they have changed kids' lives. Social media can be very destructive and can change others personalities, kids do not know how to appropriately communicate with each other because of social media and texting too. He stated, "Cell phones can be dangerous for teens because it puts the entire world

into a student's hand. If a student struggles with conflict resolution skills or decision-making, it can become a problem when they don't have self control over when and how they are using their phones. Digital citizenship is an important skill that we need to reinforce in our school. We need to help students understand that life is much better when it is lived drama-free."

Ultimately, HASD is still trying to work on how they can make students' lives easier and so far they have done such a great job. Changes will occur for the next year to start a brand new year in an easier and healthier environment for not only students, but staff included.



### Isabella Chaundy interns at Perry Elementary

Hannah Kristiniak - 9

Isabella Chaundy is a senior at Hamburg Area High school and she is currently interning at Perry Elementary School through the PFE program.

PFE (Professional Field Experience) allows students to intern in a career field they are considering going into. Isabella has always been interested in teaching. When she was younger, she would read and teach lessons to her dog for fun. Isabella has also been interested in art and considered being an art teacher. PFE has been greatly beneficial for Isabella's future, and she has already been offered great opportunities for college. She interviewed for a scholarship and she got it, but the main reason was because she is getting experience teaching while she is still in high school.

Isabella explains that not many people her age get to have the experience with working in a classroom everyday. She feels she has a better understanding of what teaching is like and many opportunities have opened up because of this experience. By observing and interning, Isabella feels that she now knows how to handle certain situations and behavioral issues with the students in a professional way. When she becomes a teacher, she will already have an idea of what to expect because she is able to work with elementary students now.

Isabella is interning with Mrs. Parent who is a first grade teacher at Perry Elementary School. She leaves after 5th period during the school day and spends two hours at Perry Monday through Friday. Her expectation was to observe and help with small things, but Mrs. Parent has given her multiple opportunities to work with students individually, in small groups, and as a whole class. She mainly works with students who are struggling with certain areas. Some days she will be in charge of a reading lesson and other days she might take a student into a separate room to test different reading and math skills. Some days Isabella is able to stay after the students have left for the day, and when she does, she is able to do tasks such as grading papers, mailing papers, setting up new lessons, or helping to make projects.

Ultimately Isabella wants to become an elementary school teacher and also get her masters degree for additional opportunities. She was also considering minoring in art during college in case she ever considers becoming an art teacher.

Students who are interested in exploring PFE opportunities should schedule a time to meet with our career specialist Mrs. Benz in the library.

### Talent show returns with May Day

Mia Kalbach - 11

From Covid-19 cutting the 2019-2020 school year short, to a year of tight restrictions in 2020-2021, May Day has yet to be held for quite a few years at the high school. Luckily however, due to lightened Covid restrictions, May Day will officially go down on May 26. This also means the return of another event, the talent show, which will be streamed to classrooms that morning from 7:30-8:30 while being performed in front of a small select live audience.

The talent show will give students the chance to show off their unique skills to the whole school. Freshman Lucas Smith, a student in Video Communications, worked hard putting together a silent film comedy with his cats that he will submit to the show. "I'm looking forward to having everyone see the film I worked so hard on, and I hope they enjoy the cats. I am not nervous because I shall not be up on stage to reenact the film or whatnot."

Anyone who wishes to sign up can do so on the talent show sign up sheets in the hallway, one near Cafeteria 1 and the other near the library. Talents that can be entertaining when performed live on stage are welcome, as well as videos that can be streamed. This will be most of the school's first May Day experience, so it should be something to look forward to as the year winds down.

### Track and Field at HASD

Carol Cegarra - 9

Track and Field is a very fun sport to play at HASD. This is because it involves a lot of activities for students at HASD to believe in themselves and have self respect. Like in my opinion there is a spot for everyone on the track and field team. The athletes just have to be very determined and passionate with what they are doing. There are multiple opportunities offered for Track and Field. These could consist of throwing events, jumping events like long, high jump, or pole vault. These activities would be perfect for students that do not enjoy running as much as others. Some events that other athletes would enjoy could be the 200 M dash, 400 M dash, 800 M dash, etc. There are multiple other options but truly athletes just have to see what fits best for them.

Isabella Reader is a freshman and on the HASD track team and mentioned how track and field can have its upsides, but it also has good moments. Like for example the feeling after winning a race or after improving athletes individual's time or personal record. She says that all the hard work pays off after those feelings because athletes not only make themselves proud but athletes also make the coaches proud.

Tyler Chase is a sophomore on the HASD Track and Field team. He mentions how at the beginning of the season there are things that all athletes need to improve, so they set personal goals because it is what track and field is all about. He also said that Track and Field is mostly about meeting new people and just working towards an athlete's personal goals.

Track and Field can also help athletes deal with stress and it can even be a physical outlet, or it could be a way to socialize with new people which gives it a good environment for athletes to learn new things and new techniques. Track and Field is also a good way to get ready for summer or fall sports, and just be in shape for the future.



# Arianna Barata is a dedicated student and performer

Emily Smith - 11

Arianna Barata is currently a junior at the high school and is actively involved in the drama and music departments. From a young age, Barata has enjoyed performing in various forms, whether that be singing or acting. "I started singing in front of people in seventh grade, but I joined drama and the musical in tenth grade," says Arianna. Her love for performing has sparked her interest in joining many of Hamburg's musical groups: choir, Aerial Boundaries, drama club, and the musical. Arianna's interest in joining the drama club is not only because of her love of performing, but also because she gets to spend quality time with her friends who share her passion.

Arianna's most notable performance in her acting career was as Jovie in the holiday musical Elf. When asked about her overall performance in the musical, Barata says, "I honestly think I did very well. By opening night, I was very well-prepared and barely had any nerves. I was confident that I knew my lines and notes and I was only nervous about portraying Jovie in a way that people would enjoy. Especially because people know her so well from the movie." Performing a lead role in a classic musical has sparked Arianna's passion for drama even more and has shown her why she loves what she does. "It's so awesome to hear people laugh at your jokes or cry at your sad scenes or smile at the happy ones. I also love the claps at the end. It makes me so emotional because I know we put on an amazing show and all of our hard work paid off."

Barata is just as excited to participate in the upcoming show, Beauty and the Beast. She will be auditioning during the last week of this school year. This classic is Arianna's favorite Disney movie, making her even more eager for the show season to begin. "Belle has been my favorite princess ever since I was able to talk. Just having the privilege to do that show while I'm in high school is enough for me!" says this talented junior. Not only does show practice require lots of time and effort, but also balancing her interests with her academics, sports, and a job. "I balance all of my extracurriculars by always making time for school. I like to have a schedule for myself. I'm a very independent person and when I make a list in my head or in my phone of what I want to accomplish that day I almost always get it done! I also like to use my study halls wisely." Barata's dedication to her studies and interests is evident because of how successful she has been in her high school career so far.

Arianna encourages more people to join the drama club or any other musical ensemble, as it has given her many new friendships and various performing opportunities on and off the stage. "I didn't join as a freshman because I thought I wouldn't know anyone, and deprived myself from another year doing what I love with my best friends. We are a giant family in the drama club, and no one is alone! Everyone is welcome. If you enjoy singing, dancing, or acting (or all of them), join! There is nothing better than being with people that enjoy the same things as you. If you aren't into performing, join the stage crew! Just join us. Trust me, we're pretty great."

For more information about joining the musical, contact Mrs. Jackson.



**JavaJam Coffee House**  
Acoustic Guitar Club  
Coffee House  
Thursday, April 28th, 2022  
6:30 - 8:00 pm  
HS Courtyard (library if rain)  
Coffee - Hot Chocolate -  
Water - Baked Goods  
available for purchase  
donations appreciated

# Spotlight: Abraham Rogers



Isabella Forte -9

Freshman Abraham Rogers excels in his learning and in his athletics. He is well known for his good grades and even better running ability. He is a very kind and considerate student and he draws others in with his calm behavior and his charismatic attitude.

Freshman Ashley Moyer says, "Abe is a really kind and considerate student. He and I work together extremely well. He's always so nice to me, checking up on me whenever possible."

Abraham cares deeply about his academics. He spends hours outside of school studying and working ahead.

Abraham is very educated in math and sciences, and he says his overall grades are astounding. He has a very funny and charming persona, knows how to keep everyone's spirits high, and the school atmosphere lighthearted. Abraham does track whenever possible. His advice to others starting track is to take care of yourself, ice after practices, and eat a healthy diet. Always persevere and end the day with a positive attitude. He trains after school to grow in his athletics. He runs daily after school, while doing light muscle training, so he doesn't strain himself. Other than running, Abe does pole vaulting. Overall, Abraham keeps our spirits high with his good attitude, and academic motivation.

# New addition to our woodshop

Carol Cegarra - 9

The CNC router machine is a new addition to the HASD program. This machine can do many different things like carve into raw material such as metal, plastic and wood. This machine does not only cut on multiple types of materials but is also designed to cut and carve custom shapes, letters and designs. Mr. King explained that the way the machine makes these custom designs is by having specific software that can be used carving designs, shapes, letters and many different things. Mr. King said the machine can take designs from many different applications, and it has many different mechanisms.

The CNC machine can be used or programmed to cut designs from 3D files, and many different art files. It can also cut out fine and small detailed material. The different kinds of projects that have been done have small details. For example, a student created an American Flag. The CNC machine's job was to cut out the 50 small detailed stars from the flag. Another example was a drawing of a football. All the details from this project were created by the machine. These two projects are just two of the many things that the CNC machine can do. Mr. Borger said that the machine is mostly going to be used for expanding projects for students and will give them more flexibility with the designs and materials used and more opportunities for the kind of technology and blueprints used. Most of the students like Gavin Kauffman said that the machine was very fun and interesting to use. According to Mr. Boger many of the students that have used the machine have enjoyed the process and like the way the machine functions.

The woodshop and technology program was able to obtain this machine by getting a grant from the Hamburg Area Educational Foundation. This new machine helps students in the shop with what they can do. The CNC machine was a great addition to the woodshop and technology program.



# HAHS holds first Java Jam

Wayne Wolfe - 9

What is JavaJam? JavaJam is a celebration of music and art at the Hamburg Area High School. That gives the students an opportunity to play the guitar and a chance to sing. This can be a good opportunity for students to really show their musical talent and to finally show what they have created and what they could be good at. The JavaJam will be out in the courtyard. This will give students a chance to play their music loudly, and if it is raining it will be held in the library. This will be a great way for students to also hang out. There will also be snacks and coffee and other beverages for the students to enjoy and take. This will be HAHS first JavaJam so the school is going to see if students enjoy it and that will indicate if the school should continue to do it in the future. 8th graders coming up to the high school will definitely appreciate an activity like this. Especially students who do like to play and sing or even listen to music.

Teachers hope there will be a decent amount of students that will show up to this. Especially if they want to show off their music and instrument skills. It will give students a chance to live up to their music career if that is the path they want to take. Students will get a chance to play in front of other students and their friends, even possibly make new friends which is a good thing for people to have. Students can also help with the JavaJam, like help set it up, and the biggest thing to do is talk to other students about it to get them to join the JavaJam by either texting them or talking to them about it in the halls or at lunch. People can also encourage other students to play an instrument. It is always nice to help people in some situations because that one person that helps could always change the whole situation.

These are some of the reasons why students should definitely attend the 2022 HAHS JavaJam. Teachers and other students would be thrilled that students would attend this. This would give students who are having a tough time be more out there and happy and excited for some type of activity like this. Students can also talk to either Mr. Laughlin or Mr. Haegle about updates on the 2022 JavaJam.