



**Putnam Valley High School
Newsletter
March 2008**

Summary of areas of Progress, Events, Programs, Successes

Community Service—

The HS Building Steering Committee continues to meet monthly. The subcommittee is continuing their work and discussion regarding a community service-learning requirement for HS graduation proposal.

Events—

On March 6, the PVHS Music Department presented their “**Great Works Concert**”. The concert was a wonderful evening of student (and staff) talent and entertainment. For the first time, an afternoon assembly provided the opportunity for some of our students to see a portion of the concert.

Students from the **music department** treated students and staff with “**traveling performances**” for St. Patrick’s Day. The student musicians along with Mr. Ryan Odell played in the main hall between classes and visited the library to entertain students and staff.

A **dance** was held on Friday, March 14 with over 60 students participating. The theme for the evening was “decades’ dress”. Each student came dressed in his or her grade’s designated decade.

The **senior seminars** continue. The next seminar is scheduled for March 20. This is a repeat of a seminar held previously. It is being offered again to those seniors who were not able to attend in February.

Opportunity Knocks: Exploring Career Options--Where can students take their interests and skills? Opportunities are everywhere. This stimulating presentation provides an overview of the hottest career opportunities over the next ten years, including those in accounting, technology, business management, entertainment, marketing and fashion. Students will leave with an eye opening view of the possibilities ahead and a positive feeling about their future.

Time Management--Effective time management is critical when attempting to achieve educational, professional and personal goals. This presentation explores the benefits of being organized and managing time against priorities. Students will be engaged through a ‘time analysis’ activity and empowered with six time management tips, 10 practices to avoid and six tips for reducing interruptions, all which will be provided in a take-home sheet that can be easily affixed to notebooks, planners and folders for ready access!

Seminars are repeated several times on scheduled dates and seniors are encouraged to attend during a free period.

Our new extra-curricular activity, **Mock Trial**, participated in their first competition on Tuesday, March 11, and defeated Mahopac High School in the county courthouse in Carmel. The team competed against Carmel High School on Tuesday, March 18 and won their case. The team moves on to the county finals next week.

The members of the **HS Model Congress** successfully participated in their recent trip to UPenn under the direction of their advisors, Ms. Angela Capodanno and Mr. Frankie Gutierrez.

Academic Updates

Hannah Schmidt and Shannon Brown have been named the **valedictorian** and **salutatorian** for the Class of 2008.

The **HS Academic Challenge Team** comprised of Seniors—Jackson Gilman-Forlini, Hannah Schmidt and Tom Ricci; Juniors—Kristen Macher and Nick O’Neill (Mr. Ed Schmitt is the advisor to the team)— competed once again in NYC. They competed against Croton High School. While the team was not the “winner” at this taping (which aired the weekend of March 15), the team proudly represented Putnam Valley High School and we congratulate them for their effort.

Mu Alpha Theta (Math Honor Society) inducted its newest members on Monday, March 3.

Guidance Department Activities

Counselors have done classroom presentations to all grades on the course selection process. We are now meeting individually with all of the students in our caseload to select courses and work on future planning.

The counselors did college-planning presentations in all English 11 classes.

The counselors will begin meetings with juniors and their families beginning April 1st.

Progress Update on Major Initiatives/Technology

We have started staff development in software utilization focused on specific curriculum areas led by our technology teacher, Keith Fiore.

Additional laptops were ordered for seniors in combined classes such as Earth Science.

Upcoming Events-

Students who participate in **Theatreworks** are hard at work rehearsing for their upcoming spring musical, “West Side Story”, on April 11, 12 and 13. Over 40 students are in the cast and 30 additional students are participating in the stage crew.

March 2008

Class of 2008 College Acceptances as of March 19, 2008

Adelphi University [2]	John Jay College	SUNY Geneseo [3]
Albertus Magnus College	Johnson & Wales	SUNY New Paltz [2]
Albright College	Juniata College	SUNY Institute of Tech.
Alfred University	Lehman College	SUNY Oneonta [2]
Allegheny College	Lynchburgh College	SUNY Oswego
Art Institute of Pittsburgh	Lynn University	SUNY Plattsburgh [2]
Castleton State College	Manhattan College [5]	SUNY Potsdam [2]
Christopher Newport College	Mercy College	SUNY StonyBrook [2]
Clarkson University	Merrimack College	SUNY University at Buffalo
College of Mount St. Vincent	Mt. Saint Mary College [4]	The College of New Rochelle
College of St. Catherine	Nascar Technical Institute	Tompkins Cortland CC
College of St. Rose [6]	Norwich University	Towson University
College of Westchester	Pace University [3]	Univ. of Colorado-Boulder
Culinary Institute of America	Paul Smith's College	Univ. of Delaware
Curry College	Quinnipiac University	Univ. of Hartford [9]
CW Post [2]	Rider University	Univ. of Maine
Dominican College	Rochester Institute of Technology	Univ. of Mary Washington
East Carolina University	Sacred Heart University [5]	Univ. of Massachusetts Amherst
Emmanuel College	Salisbury University	Univ. of Massachusetts Lowell
Fairfield University	Siena College [3]	Univ. of New Haven [4]
Fairleigh Dickenson University	Springfield College	Univ. of Pittsburgh-Titusville
Florida Institute of Technology	St. Catherine's	Univ. of Vermont
Fordham University [2]	St. John's University [6]	Valparaiso University
FullSail College	St. Joseph's College	Washington College [2]
Goucher College	St. Thomas Aquinas [2]	Wentworth Institute
Hartwick College [2]	Suffolk University	Western Conn. State College [2]
Hofstra University [2]	SUNY Albany [4]	Western New England College [3]
Iona College	SUNY Binghamton	Wilkes University
Ithaca College	SUNY Delhi [2]	