

The Viking Voice

Reminders

- Jan 9~No classes. Professional Day.
- Jan 16~No classes MLK, Jr. Day
- Feb 2~ Parent Teacher Conferences
- Feb 15~ Science Fair
- Feb 20~No classes. President's Day
- March~19-26 Spring Break

HLC High School Programs Collaborate with CSCC!

By Morten Haugland, PhD.

There is some exciting news and some changes that will take place here at HLC Columbus in January for both our PLAN and ASPIRE programs.

First of all we are excited to announce that Stacey Howell has been promoted to our PLAN Assistant Director. She has been with HLC for almost 4 years, is especially experienced in vocational education, and has helped the program through various changes. Ms. Howell will receive assistance and mentoring from Michele Craft, a former Special Education coordinator for Westerville Schools. I believe that PLAN is in good hands and that we can continue offering quality services to all our students. Stacey will dedicate her time to supervision of Dublin PLAN teachers and curriculum improvements. While she will no longer have her own classroom, CBI will continue with its previous schedule.

On January 24th, the PLAN program will add another

component for its high school students. Students who qualify will be attending Columbus State Community College (CSCC) two days per week in their Orientation to Trade and Apprenticeship Program (OTAP). The OTAP program will run Tuesdays and Thursdays on the main campus of CSCC. Transportation is provided by HLC. Students will receive instruction in all the skilled trades and learn many basic vocational skills that could allow them to work in the building industry. After a long (and slow) process of putting this together, we can finally realize the dream of having our students attend this workforce development program. This is just the beginning of many new and exciting opportunities for our students.

The program is financially sponsored by the Autism Spectrum Disorder Foundation. (See a related article on the ASDF on page 6)

They have generously committed to fund this so parents would not have to pay the extra tuition for their student to participate. The foundation will also assist us with scholarships for future programs at CSCC following the OTAP program.

As a result of 8-10 students being at CSCC campus two days per week, there is a need to change the schedule for our PLAN program. Starting January 24th, all students will receive a more individualized schedule with some different grouping of students. More emphasis will be placed on a more

traditional academic skill building in core areas, and students who have strong reading skills will also receive more Social Studies and Science instruction. We are trying to make sure that the students are challenged academically, while still receiving Daily Living Skills, (continued on next page)



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Collaboration continued

Recreation and Leisure Skills, Vocational and Community Based Instruction. After January 3rd, two of our ASPIRE High School students will attend CSCC through the Dual and Underage Student Enrollment program. They will attend the Dublin campus in a regular college class with all neuro-typical students, gaining both high school and college credit for courses in some cases. In order to enroll in this program, each student had to

complete the COMPASS Test, which gauges the student's skills in Mathematics, Reading and Writing and recommends appropriate courses to take. One student is currently registered to begin Chemistry in the Winter quarter while the other plans to register for Pre-Algebra. Mr. Buck will continue to assist the students with their academic work the times when they are not at CSCC. We want to expand this program with the ulti-

mate goal of having our high school students complete 2 years of college while still in high school. This is a very ambitious goal, but I believe this can be done. Further information about these programs will be sent home with those students selected to participate. We anticipate extended collaboration with CSCC as Haugland Learning Center continues to provide exceptional education opportunities for its students.

PAKing It In For HLC



PAK is a non-profit organization that works to benefit the students at HLC. This fall they raised funds, bought items, and planned events, helping to enrich the lives of students and staff here in Columbus as well as in Sandusky, Portsmouth, and Lancaster. Following is a list of their activities:

- Popcorn Palace Fundraiser
- Yankee Candle Fundraiser
- Pizza Day (every other week)
- Hot Dog Day
- Gym supplies for both Cols & Dublin
- Items for Reward

- Store at Dublin
- Practice Halloween activities
- Books for High School ASPIRE
- Wii for Columbus
- Wii Fit and Fit Board for Dublin
- Board games
- Catered staff meal for P/T conference
- Friendship Feast for Dublin
- Secret Store
- Book Fair
- Winter Party Activities
- Crafts for younger grades
- Holiday Food

Drive

- Bagels for teachers at Columbus
- Thanksgiving at Golden Corral in Portsmouth (see article on page 4)

PAK welcomes all HLC parents, teachers, and friends to participate in their events. They meet the first Wednesday of every month at 9:15 AM and 6:30 PM. (Branch location meeting times vary.) For more information, contact PAK President, Stefanie Stinchcomb, at pak4hlckids@gmail.com

After School Music Program!



HLC Columbus is launching an After School Music Program in January 2012. ASPIRE teacher Jason Weier will

be teaching both individual and group lessons. Mr Weier has his Bachelor's degree in Music Education from Berklee College of Music and his Master's from the Boston Conservatory. One on one lessons are available on piano, bass and guitar at a cost of \$18 per

30 minute session. Group chorus lessons are \$25 per 1 hour session. Lessons are grouped into 5 week blocks of \$90 (individual) and/or \$125 (group). Fees must be paid before lessons begin. If interested, please contact Carol Jackson at 614-602-6482.

Staff Close Up—Kathy Fox, Assistant Director

Kathy Fox, is the Assistant Director of Branches at HLC, overseeing our programming in Lancaster, Necco, Portsmouth, and Sandusky. Ms. Fox has 10 years of experience working with children on the autism spectrum. She's provided home programming, served as both a private and public school aide, conducted social skills groups, and more recently, taught in the ASPIRE program here in Columbus.

Kathy earned her bache-

lor's in psychology from Ohio State University in 2003 and is about to complete her Master's in Child and Adolescent Psychology from the Chicago School of Professional Psychology. After obtaining her Master's, Kathy will begin work on her BCBA under the supervision of Dr. Haugland. In her spare time, Kathy enjoys Buckeye Football, reading and shopping.



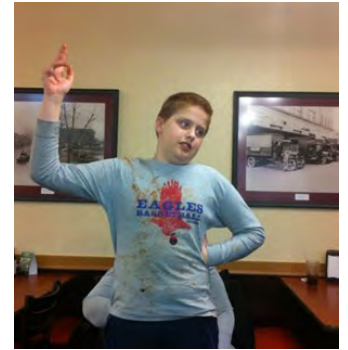
Portsmouth Party! By Christina Miller, HLC teacher



Thanksgiving came early in the Portsmouth branch, when students and staff went to their local Golden Corral for a wonderful Thanksgiving lunch. The staff and students enjoyed their break from school work while eating delicious foods, such as the student's favorite—pizza! The trip was paid for through fundraising such as Scentsy sales and popcorn sales from the Portsmouth PAK branch. Student, Paris said, "It was nice to

have a break from school work and eat at an all you can eat buffet." Students and staff alike enjoyed the last day of class before the Thanksgiving break. Aaron, pictured right, asks for more pizza Chase, left, smiles while drinking his favorite drink, Pepsi – caffeine free of course. Portsmouth student, Brooke, reached a milestone birthday over Thanksgiving break—18!. Another student, Todd, is recovering from surgery,

this event being his last until after the new year. Finally, Portsmouth HLC is happy to welcome back teacher, Jessica Collins!



HLC Scholar! By Andy Buck, HLC Teacher

Last quarter, one of our ASPIRE High School Freshmen in Columbus accomplished a stupendous feat by earning straight A's: Cullen Baer.



The success of this scholar is only partly due to his intelligence, as his determined work ethic drove him to excel. Cullen could be found diligently working on homework after eating

lunch, even at the cost of fifteen free minutes. Rather than use his extra time to socialize and play games, he made sure to ask questions to eliminate confusion en route to completing and turning his homework in on-time. In the everyday classroom, he models behavior that we expect from all of our students, and his presence helps to solidify our high expectations. Cullen's homeroom teacher, Mrs. Cait Dufresne, mentioned, "The thing I most remember is Cullen telling me that he strives to be a model student. I wasn't sure exactly what he meant at the time, but he has certainly proven to be just that. I am glad to

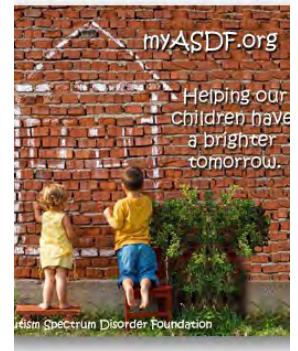
have him in my classes acting as such a positive academic role model for his peers." Beyond this, Cullen's effort outside of the classroom walls could be seen in the achievement of high assessment scores. We are very proud of his accomplishment and recognize his continual efforts to aspire for excellence while inspiring those in his presence to follow his lead! Congratulations, Cullen!

Foundation Benefits Children with Autism

The Autism Spectrum Disorder Foundation (ASDF) is a small organization helping to meet big needs in the lives of children and their families affected by autism. The cost of providing services and treatment for a child with autism can be taxing to a family's budget. Families make significant sacrifices to get their children into therapies and schools that address their child's needs. In spite of these efforts, they often must compromise and prioritize basic family needs to help the individual with autism. These financial challenges can be especially glaring during the end-of-the-year holiday season. While the Autism Spectrum Disorder Foundation works with families and autism-specific organiza-

tions throughout the year, they make a point to provide an extra boost this time of year with their Holiday Gift Card Program! This week 10 families in Ohio benefitted by receiving a \$500 gift card to a local department/grocery store to help them provide a special holiday for their children. All of the beneficiaries live in rural communities where resources are often less available. Three of the families live near the Portsmouth area, three in the Sandusky area, and the remaining four live in the southern central area of Circleville/Chillicothe. Mr. William Davidson, of Bloomingville, Ohio, remarked how the unexpected funds blessed his family. He is a single parent of three children. The youngest, an adolescent, is deeply impacted by au-

tism. "All my children have been through so much with the loss of their mother in recent years," he remarked, "but it's been especially difficult for Trenton who struggles to understand and communicate. This generous gift from the Foundation not only helps us financially, but lets us know that we are not alone in our effort to provide for Trenton's needs. I'm so glad there are people out there who care." Companies and individuals interested in helping the Autism Spectrum Disorder Foundation continue their efforts to assist families affected by autism can contact them at: MyASDF@yahoo.com or at Autism Spectrum Disorder Foundation, 228 W. Lincoln Hwy. #301, Schererville, IN 46375



Winter Family Fun Night

Winter Family Fun Night included short performances by students, a bake sale to benefit our new music program, raffles and games. We had a great turn out; even Santa Clause came to visit! Zach Campbell, right, made it clear what he's hoping to get from Santa this year.



3400 Snouffer Rd.
Columbus, OH 43235

Phone: 614-602-6473
Fax: 614-602-6493
www.hauglandlearningcenter.com



Serving the autism community

HLC provides educational services to students on the autism spectrum in both center-based and home-based environments. Center-based all-day programming (6 hrs.) is available in Sandusky, Columbus, Lancaster, and Portsmouth. Programming is based on ABA principles of positive reinforcement and incorporates scientifically proven teaching methods to maximize the potential of students. Home-based programming may include oversight of IEP implementation at a private school or in the home. The Autism Scholarship Program covers all educational expenses at HLC. Students eligible for the scholarship will qualify for special education services due to an autism spectrum diagnosis and have a current IEP with their district of residence. For more information contact: carol.jackson@hauglandlearningcenter.com

Varsity Bowling Team by Andy Buck, HLC teacher

With three returning letter winners, whose average score is above a hundred points, the Haugland Vikings are a fearsome opponent for any other varsity bowling squad in the central Ohio region. Those returning for the second year in a row are Jared Davis, Garrett Hardin, and Kody Wilson. New student-athletes participating are Zach Brancato, Brendan Hall, and Ethan Rabideau. The Vikings are a member of the Central Conference and compete against Columbus High Schools, such as Centennial, Mifflin and West, and Catholic High Schools, including Bishop Hartley, St. Francis De-Sales, and St. Charles.

The implementation of our second consecutive bowling team was due in large part to a corporate sponsor: The Superior Group, an electrical services firm based in Columbus, Ohio. Part owner, Suzanne Stewart, made a significant personal donation to ensure the team's existence. We are extremely grateful for the donation, which was used to cover individual and team dues, and we are proud to wear their name on the sleeve of our uniforms. Also, we could not fully function without the unwavering support of our dedicated parent association, PAK. Both Mrs. Stephanie Stinchcomb and Mrs. Summer Rosen are due many thanks for their continued

effort to ensure the availability of a varsity sport for our high school students. To date, HLC has sponsored nine student athletes, who have each been given personal bowling balls and team jerseys due to our outstanding fund raising efforts! Thanks to all involved and please continue to support PAK in all their efforts! The team plays its home matches at Thompson's Capri Lanes, located at the intersection of I-71 and 161. Everyone is invited to witness the epic clash between the Haugland Vikings and the Columbus Academy Vikings on Friday, January 6th at Capri Lanes. For a complete schedule, as well as individual and team statistics, please visit the Central Ohio High School Bowling Conference's website at www.cohsbc.com.