



You're Invited to the Innovation in Action Open House

A Message from Superintendent Dr. John A. Scola



The Hanover Public School District is proud to invite members of our greater community to an evening that celebrates innovation, creativity, and student achievement.

Please join us for our **Open House: Innovation in Action on Tuesday, March 24, 2026, from 6 to 8 PM** at Hanover High School.

This dynamic event will showcase the forward-thinking programs and learning experiences that prepare our students for success in a rapidly evolving world. Guests will have the opportunity to explore hands-on exhibits, demonstrations, and interactive displays that highlight learning from the elementary level through high school.

Throughout the evening, visitors will experience our STEAM programs in action, including robotics, coding, mechatronics, non-destructive welding, precision machining, sound technology, entertainment technology, and drone technology. Our drone program provides students with real-world applications of engineering and aviation concepts, including pathways toward FAA drone licensing, giving students a unique and valuable credential while still in school.

At the elementary level, families will learn about innovative opportunities such as Code to the Future for students in grades 2-6, along with our integrative

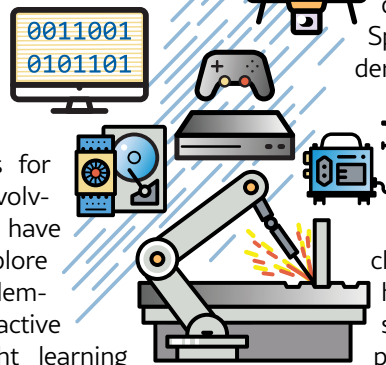
learning centers that utilize tools like Ozobots, Dash & Dot, and other emerging technologies that foster creativity, collaboration, and problem-solving from an early age.

We are equally proud of our strong academic foundation. Hanover begins Spanish instruction in kindergarten and continues through grade 7, offers an impressive selection of 20 Advanced Placement courses, and integrates artificial intelligence into classroom instruction to enhance learning, personalize student experiences, and prepare students to think

critically about the technologies shaping their future. In addition, guests will have the opportunity to visit our eSports arena and learn more about our competitive eSports program housed at Hanover High School.

Innovation in Action is more than an open house—it is a celebration of how our district brings learning to life and prepares students for college, careers, and beyond. We invite families, community members, and partners to share in this experience and see firsthand the innovative work happening every day in the Hanover Public School District.

We look forward to welcoming you on **March 24**.



**Inside:
Meet
Honorary
Hawks**

Our Mission

The Hanover Public School District is committed to excellence in education by nurturing, challenging, and inspiring all students to achieve their full potential and to become productive citizens in a global community.

Team Vortex Takes on STEM Racing Regionals



This year, six students proudly represented Hanover Public School District at the STEM Racing Regional Competition as Team Vortex, competing in the United States Professional Class: Eastern Region. Facing a highly competitive field of teams from across the region, Team Vortex finished 11th overall, marking an important milestone for both the students and the district's growing STEM Racing program.

STEM Racing is a rigorous, project-based competition that challenges students to operate like a professional motorsports team. Students are responsible not only for designing and building a miniature Formula-style race car, but also for managing branding, marketing, portfolio documentation, and formal presentations. Throughout the season, Team Vortex collaborated closely, balancing technical problem-solving with creativity, communication, and teamwork.

Preparing for regionals required students to apply real-world engineering and design principles while meeting strict deadlines and competition specifications. Team members worked through design decisions, testing, and revisions, learning how small changes can have a major impact on performance. At the same time, students developed enterprise materials and practiced presenting their work, building confidence and professionalism.

The regional competition provided a valuable, hands-on learning experience. Students received detailed feedback across multiple categories and observed the level of skill and collaboration required at a competitive level. Participating pushed students out of their comfort zones and gave them firsthand insight into the expectations of careers in engineering, technology, and business.

Team Vortex represented our district with enthusiasm, determination, and pride throughout the event. Their 11th-place finish reflects both their hard work and their willingness to take on a challenging, real-world STEM experience. Most importantly, the students gained valuable skills in collaboration, critical thinking, communication, and resilience - skills that will benefit them well beyond the competition.

Participation in STEM Racing continues to provide students with authentic, hands-on learning opportunities that connect classroom concepts to real-world applications. Team Vortex's journey to regionals highlights the strength of our district's STEM programs and the dedication of students who are willing to challenge themselves and grow through experience.

Hanover Foundation for Excellence

TAX CREDIT DONATIONS WELCOMED

The goal of the Hanover Foundation for Excellence in Education, Inc., is to develop a partnership between local business leaders and the Hanover Public School District. This partnership allows our students to participate in innovative learning opportunities that align with and support current and future district initiatives that may not be able to be implemented through local tax dollar revenue.

"Innovative educational programs" are creative initiatives that are not part of the regular academic curriculum, but that are designed to enhance and extend the public school curriculum. These initiatives are always coupled with the regular education curriculum, yet they provide new avenues for change and experimentation.

Educational Improvement Tax Credits

Act 4 of 201 amends the Public School Code to provide for the establishment of the Educational Improvement Tax Credit to be administered by the Department of Community and Economic Development. Act 4 authorizes the award of tax credits to businesses that make contributions to scholarship organizations or educational improvement organizations, which are included on the list of organizations published by the Department.

+ For more information please contact Allyson Newbold at 717-637-9000 extension 6025 or email at anewbold@hanoverpublic.org.

CTE and Technical Education



National Technical Honor Society Members

Sixteen students were recently inducted into the National Technical Honor Society. Technology Education, Family and Career Development, and Diversified Occupations programs provide students with strong career and workforce preparation. Students are actively engaged in hands-on learning and credentials opportunities, including participation in SkillsUSA welding competitions and earning OSHA-10 certifications in Diversified Occupations, Welding, and Machining.

Students also participate in Junior Achievement programs, including the Real-Life Program for 11th grade and the upcoming STEM Summit for 9th grade students. Career and college planning lessons for grades 9 to 12 are delivered through Naviance, and select students are participating in manufacturing and automotive pre-apprenticeship programs, as well as completing the Drone Aeronautical Knowledge Exam.

Hanover High School offers an extensive range of career pathways. PDE-approved Career and Technical Education programs include Welding Technology, Diversified Occupations, and Education (General). Additional opportunities include pre-apprenticeships in NIMS Precision Machining and automotive technology, along with programs in wood technology, internships and career shadowing, drone flying with FAA certification, mechatronics, esports, robotics and artificial intelligence, STEM racing, music technology, AP Computer Science, and culinary arts. These pathways provide students with real-world skills, industry credentials, and multiple post-secondary options, ensuring they are well prepared for college, careers, and the workforce.

Big things are happening at Hanover Street!



We have officially launched our Kid Council, a dedicated team of young leaders who meet monthly to shape our school's future. From hand-reviewing every student suggestion in the Lobby Box to dreaming up our next big school-wide event, these students are the heartbeat of our school community.

We can't wait to see the positive changes they'll bring!

Honorary Participate in

As the winter sports season concludes, selected fourth-grade students from all three elementary schools in the Hanover Public School District were chosen to participate in varsity sporting events as Honorary Hawks. These students, recognized for their outstanding academic performance, unwavering work ethic, and exemplary S.O.A.R./H.O.P.E. behaviors, had the unique opportunity to join the HPSD Wrestling, Men's Basketball, and Women's Basketball Teams. As Honorary Hawks, the students were celebrated for their achievements, had the opportunity to sit with the team, participated during time-outs, and gained valuable insights from district coaches.

These young leaders display immense pride and serve as motivators for all stakeholders to remain committed to excellence.

Exploring Artificial Intelligence in 8th Grade STEAM

Students in Mr. Myers's 8th grade STEAM class at the middle school are exploring the world of artificial intelligence with a focus on understanding how the technology works and its impact on the world around them. Through hands-on activities, discussions, and creative projects, students are building knowledge, confidence, and critical thinking skills related to AI.

Students begin by learning what artificial intelligence is and how it works. They take a deeper look at machine learning by using Google's Teachable Machine. In this activity, students collect their own data, such as images of hand gestures, objects, or facial expressions, and use it to train a computer model. As they test their models, students quickly learn an important lesson: AI is only as accurate and fair as the data it is given. When models do not work as expected, students problem-solve and discuss bias, accuracy, and responsibility in technology.

Learning extends beyond hands-on technology use. Students explore AI through articles, videos, and literature that focus on thoughtful questions surrounding ar-

Hawks Winter Sports



Washington Elementary's Annual Career Days Program

This dynamic program, launched by school counselor Casey Dierdorff, transforms the school into a gateway of professional exploration, allowing third and fourth graders to interact with a diverse array of career professionals. At its core, the Career Days program is designed to ignite curiosity and provide tangible insights into the world of work. Held over two days, the event brings together an impressive lineup of local professionals who share their expertise through presentations and interactive activities. Students rotate through sessions featuring a police officer, lawyers, a veterinarian, firefighters, local businessmen, and politicians, to name just a few. These presenters don't merely lecture; they offer firsthand glimpses into their fields, demonstrating tools of the trade and answering questions from students. Adding a unique layer, teachers and students from Hanover High School join in, showcasing career-



tificial intelligence. They discuss topics such as data privacy, automation, and the role of AI in society. These conversations encourage students to think beyond the "wow factor" of new technology and consider its effects beyond the classroom. The experience culminates in a classroom debate where students examine the benefits and challenges of AI from multiple perspectives.

To conclude this work, students explore generative AI tools and learn how the wording of a prompt can greatly change the outcome. They experiment

with different tools to better understand how AI creates images and text, while also learning that humans remain responsible for creativity, intent, and responsible use. For a final project, students create a children's picture book using AI as a supportive tool. Using platforms such as Google Gemini and Canva Magic Media, students write and illustrate original stories while maintaining full creative control over their final product.

Overall, this work is helping students develop the skills needed to navigate artificial intelligence thoughtfully and responsibly. By combining technical knowledge, classroom discussions, and creativity, students are building confidence and critical thinking skills when using AI tools.



related offerings such as culinary arts and STEAM programs. A highlight is the drone program demonstration, where high schoolers illustrate how technology intersects with real-world applications, sparking imaginations about future innovations.

Under Casey Dierdorff's leadership, Career Days supports the district's broader initiative to prepare students for post-secondary success, integrating seamlessly with interdisciplinary courses and community partnerships.

In an era where educational excellence means preparing students for an unpredictable future, Washington Element-



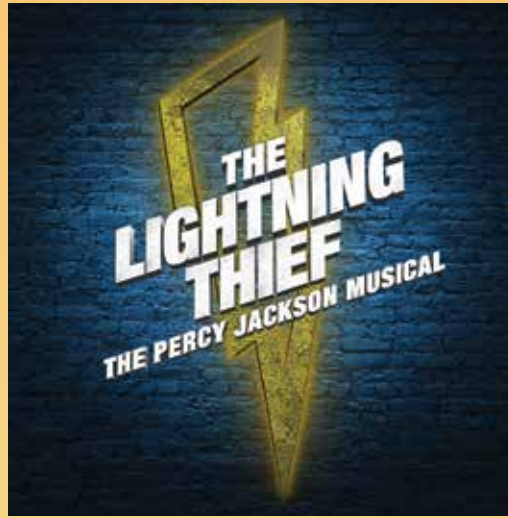
ary's Career Days program shines as a model of innovation. By bridging the gap between classroom learning and real-world professions, it empowers young learners to dream big and pursue those dreams with purpose. After all, investing in early career awareness isn't just about jobs - it's about nurturing the next generation of leaders, innovators, and community contributors.

Coming Soon... The Lightning Thief (The Percy Jackson Musical)

We hope you can join us at Hanover High School for another exciting production this spring! On **April 17, 18, & 19, 2026** students will be performing the high-energy rock adaptation of Rick Riordan's bestselling book, *The Lightning Thief*, the first book in the Percy Jackson and the Olympians series. This musical originally opened on Broadway in 2019, and is currently on national tour in the UK.

With music and lyrics by Rob Rokicki and script by Joe Tracz, the show tells the story of teenager Percy Jackson, who discovers he's a demigod son of Poseidon. Percy is accused of stealing Zeus's lightning bolt, so he and his friends, Annabeth and Grover, embark on an epic quest across the United States to clear Percy's name, find the true thief, return the bolt to Zeus, and prevent a catastrophic war among the gods. The three friends encounter myths and monsters as they tell a story with lots of humor and heart, making this PG-rated show both appropriate and enjoyable for audiences of most ages.

Friday, April 17th and Saturday, April 18th shows start at 7 PM. The **Sunday, April 19th** matinee starts at 2 PM. The High School Drama Program cordially invites you to attend this spectacular LIVE theatrical event. Tickets will go



on sale the week of March 9th in the High School office as well as online. Look for information on the district website prior to **March 9th** for online ticket purchase instructions. As always, we hope to see many HPSD friends and theatre patrons in the audience!

+ Ticket pricing is as follows:

- **Students in advance (online or in-person): \$7**
- **Adults in advance (online or in person): \$8**
- **Students at-the-door: \$9**
- **Adults at-the-door: \$10**



Online Payments

Hanover Public School District now offers a convenient way to make online payments! This service is available for purchasing musical tickets. Please visit <https://hanover.revtrak.net/> to purchase tickets.

Hanover High School Alumni Association

The Alumni Association is comprised of representatives from each graduated Hanover High School and Eichelberger High School class. The primary purpose of the Alumni Association is to provide scholarships to graduating seniors each year.

Currently, the Association grants thousands of dollars in scholarships annually to individuals in the Hanover High School graduating class through our endowment, the Golden Scholarship Fund.

To learn about the Golden Scholarship Endowment, as well as annual and estate contributions, contact **William "Bill" Markle** at **717.880.4455**. Send contributions to: **PO Box 620, Hanover, PA 17331**. Checks should be made out to Hanover High School Alumni Association, Golden Scholarship Fund.



Strike Gold With This Card!

The district offers a Gold Key Club to all district residents aged 60 years and older. This card will allow the Gold Key person free admission to district-sponsored events, including sporting events, as well as one free pass to one performance of both the fall and spring musicals. The pass is also honored by the South Western School District. It is a lifetime pass as long as you are a resident of Hanover Borough. Please contact **Tiffany Bethas** at **717.637.9000** for more information.



+ FOR MORE USEFUL INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT HANOVERPUBLIC.ORG

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DATES TO REMEMBER

March 23
End of 3rd Marking Period

March 30
Report Cards

April 2
Spring Vacation - No School

April 3
Spring Vacation - No School

April 7
2-Hour Delay

April 7, 6PM
School Board Meeting

April 17-18
Spring Musical,
THE LIGHTNING THIEF, THE
PERCY JACKSON MUSICAL

April 27, 6PM
School Board Meeting

May 1, 6PM
High School Prom

May 25
District Closed

May 27, 28
Early Dismissal

May 28
End of 4th Marking Period

May 28, 6:30PM
High School Campus Night

May 29, 7PM
High School Graduation
(Sheppard & Myers
Stadium)

Very Proud Of Our Educators



Pictured (L to R): Danielle Mathie (ESL Teacher at Hanover Street), Ethan Grove (Technology Education Teacher, High School), and Katie Collins (English Teacher, High School). Ethan Grove was recognized as Chamber Educator of the Year. Danielle Mathie and Katie Collins were recognized as Shippensburg Outstanding Teachers.



The Hanover Public School District prohibits discrimination, including sexual harassment, on the basis of race, color, age, creed, religion, sex, sexual orientation, ancestry, national origin, marital status, parenting status, pregnancy, or handicap/disability in its activities, programs, and employment practices. For more information regarding the complaint process and complaint forms, please contact Title IX Coordinators **Mrs. Kathy Forbes**, kforbes@hanoverpublic.org, or **Dr. Susan Seiple**, sseiple@hanoverpublic.org, or via phone at: **717.637.9000**.