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## **Jericho High School**

Parent Newsletter

April 2010

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### **Mr. P's Corner**

A movement in education is firmly underway. The idea? Stop *teaching* students. Instead, guide them to become masters in their fields. To do so, we must change our focus from simply reading the textbook and answering a few questions to a vision where students do as professionals do. Let's take what might at first seem like a ho-hum example. In the 11<sup>th</sup> grade, across our nation, we consistently extol the patriotic virtues of the men and women who fought for our rights during the American Revolution. We have read about George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Betsy Ross, and Patrick Henry. We have learned to view these men and women as heroes who fought tyranny and in its place laid the foundation for a great society. If this is what *we* believe as Americans, could there possibly be an alternative view?

Imagine for a second that, due to the new health care law's possible increased taxation to support fuller medical coverage for all, the members of the newly revitalized Tea Party of Massachusetts and its newly minted U.S. Senator decided to throw vials of Tamiflu and boxes of syringes into Boston Harbor and take up arms to secede. Surely, we would not believe their actions were those of a just revolution. So it was when I happened to come across a British textbook where the American Revolution was not viewed as a revolution at all. Rather, it was referred to as the *Insurrection*. By bringing such contradictory world views to our students, we teach them to become historians. After all, history is a

story. It makes assertions. It takes sides. And, sometimes, it plainly disagrees. As do global thinkers... our challenge to this new generation.

Along these lines, here in Jericho, we are constantly on the lookout for ways to engage students in innovative work where they are the professionals. We have had wonderfully strong established programs in Science Research, Social Science Research, and Debate where students take the lead as researchers in discovering and questioning important findings about our world. Four years ago, we added our Interdisciplinary program to the 9<sup>th</sup> grade where students grapple as ethicists and historians with serious issues, including "What is the value of human life?" We continued this march with our Senior Experience where students enter the professional arena, in their own chosen field, and bring back actual data to discuss and explore the interplay between societal expectations, personal values, and governmental control. Two years ago, we added engineering to the mix in our Project Lead the Way program, thus introducing our students to true engineering and architectural projects, such as drawing plans for homes and businesses. This past year, we have BOLTEd, by offering for the first time direct leadership training through our innovative Building the Outstanding Leaders of Tomorrow program. Up next, we are looking to revolutionize our business department through the Virtual Enterprise, a globally interconnected system in which students trade virtual products throughout the world and attempt to replicate a free market economy where profits are the key to survival.

All told, we do our best to practice what we preach. Over the past five years, we have made tremendous strides to bring the real world inside our walls and push our students outside these same walls. That said, we are not nearly finished! We promise to continue to evolve our system to best meet the needs of our students. Why? Well, because that's what professional educators do.

Happy Spring!  
-“Mr. P”

### **Induction Ceremonies**

Throughout the months of April and May, we will be inducting many of our fine students into numerous Honor Societies, including:

- **Art Honor Society Induction & Exhibit** on April 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in the Auditorium Lobby
- **Tri M Honor Society** on April 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in the Little Theater
- **National Honor Society** on April 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m. in the Auditorium
- **World Language Honor Society** on May 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m. in the Auditorium

## **Mandatory Driving Meeting: Choices and Consequences Program (for 11<sup>th</sup> graders and their parents)**

Driving and parking on campus is a privilege that is available to students in their senior year. As we are concerned with a safe and orderly high school environment, it is important that we all work together to ensure that driving on campus is done in a responsible manner.

In order to achieve this objective, District Attorney Kathleen Rice will be bringing a powerful message about driving safety to the Jericho School District on **Thursday, April 15<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 p.m. in the MS/HS Auditorium.**

This evening is the **mandatory first step** in the process of registering your child to drive to school **as a senior**. Please note that this meeting is in lieu of the traditional driving meeting in August. **This meeting is a requirement for students to secure driving and parking privileges for the 2010-2011 school year.**

## **Senior Auction**

Manicures, pizzas, gift baskets, dinners with your favorite faculty members, and the ultimate prizes, parking spots can be won at our annual **Senior Auction on Thursday, April 15<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00pm.** Mr. P will serve as the auctioneer as the senior class looks to raise much needed money for the Prom. Come on out for a fun night of fabulous prizes!

## **Advanced Placement Exam Schedule**

The schedule for the upcoming AP examinations is on our website at:

[http://www.jerichoschools.org/hs/docs/2010-AP\\_Exam\\_Schedule.pdf](http://www.jerichoschools.org/hs/docs/2010-AP_Exam_Schedule.pdf)

## **Project Heal**

Come on out to support young people in need of treatment for eating disorders at this once in a lifetime event to benefit Project Heal. Ex-Yankee and Met greats will be on hand to support the cause on Sunday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>. For more information, click:

<http://www.jerichoschools.org/hs/docs/publicity/ProjectHeal.pdf>

## **Kudos and Congratulations to...**

... **Yvette Leung** who won the Long Island Brain Bee and went on to compete in the National Brain Bee in Baltimore, Maryland held on March 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> also taking 1<sup>st</sup> place. She is now planning to attend the International Brain Bee Championship in San Diego from August 12-15<sup>th</sup>, 2010. Fantastic!

... **Ryan Silber, Myles Novick** and **Brandon Dorman** for their website about Nikolai Tesla and alternating current and also to **Matt Marber, Ilana Porges** and **Samantha Sokol** for their exhibit about the telegraph on March 14<sup>th</sup> at Long Island History Day. These six students have been invited to compete at the New York State History Day on April 30<sup>th</sup> in Cooperstown. Congratulations also to **Diana Bai, Amber Beaumont** and **Christine Kim** who were awarded honorable mention medals for their exhibit about Braille. We love our historians!

... **Brandon Li** and **Pooja Rambhia** who were selected as regional finalists in the Long Island Junior Science and Humanities Symposium held at Stony Brook University on March 5<sup>th</sup>.

... **Caroline Motschwiler** who was selected as a News 12 Scholar Athlete. (See the video here: <http://www.news12.com/news/article.jsp?articleId=236592>)

... the following winners of the **New York State Science and Engineering Fair:**

#### Intel Division

- Best in Fair (Individual) – **Nuvid Bhuiyan**
- Best in Category/Lightning Round
  - **Nuvid Bhuiyan** (Engineering) – ISEF Finalist
  - **DaeYoup Kim** (Chemistry)
- 1<sup>st</sup> Place – **Nuvid Bhuiyan** (ENG), **Brittany Hsu** (ENV), **DaeYoup Kim** (CHEM), **Sahir Raof** (PHY)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place – **Yvette Leung** (ANS), **Brandon Li** (ENV)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place – **Pooja Rambhia** (MED)

#### Special Awards:

- Ricoh, ISWEEP Finalist, Army Award – **Sahir Raof**
- Society for In vitro Biology Award – **Yvette Leung**
- Association for Public Health Award – **Pragya Kakani**
- Material Science Award – **Brittany Hsu**

#### Andromeda Division

- Best in Fair – Top 10 – **Helena Wang, Lindsey Lam/Sagar Rambhia, Hyeon Soo Jung**
- 1<sup>st</sup> Place – **Helena Wang** (BEH), **Lindsey Lam/Sagar Rambhia** (Cell & Mol. Bio)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place – **Hyeon Soo Jung** (MED), **Courtney Wong** (PS)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place – **Manleen Singh** (MED)
- Honorable Mention – **Matthew Lam** (BEH)

... the winners of the **LISEF Competition**:

- Best in Category – **Brandon Li, Pooja Rambhia**
- 1<sup>st</sup> Place (Grand Awards) – **Bandon Li (ENV), Pragya Kakani (MED), Pooja Rambhia (BIC)**
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place – **Rohit Basavaraju**
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place – **Brittany Hsu (EVM), Michael Zhou**
- Honorable Mention – **Zachary Porges (BEH), DaeYoup Kim (CH)**

**Special Awards:**

- American Meteorological Society, Ricoh, Stockholm Junior Water Prize, U.S. Army – **Brittany Hsu**
- National Society for Professional Engineers, U.S. Army, U. S. Metric Assoc., U.S. Air Force – **Nuvid Bhuiyan**
- American Psychological Society – **Zachary Porges**
- ASM International Foundation – **Brandon Li**
- U.S. Army – **Rohit Basavaraju**

... **Brandon Li, Pragya Kakani** and **Pooja Rambhia** who are ISEF Finalists and will be competing in the Intel International Science & Engineering Fair in San Jose, California from May 8 – 15, 2010. We wish them all the best of luck in their future endeavors.

... **Matthew Lam** who was selected as a Regional Finalist in the 2009-10 Young Epidemiology Scholars (YES) Competition. YES is a scholarship and education program designed to expose high school students to the critical field of epidemiology-the branch of medicine that explores health problems in groups of people with the goal of developing methods for preventing or controlling the spread of disease.

... the following students who were selected as Long Island's Best Young Artists 2010: **Madison Sanders, Wendy Ginsberg** and **Selena Kim**. Their artwork will be exhibited at The Heckscher Museum of Art from April 17<sup>th</sup> – May 2<sup>nd</sup>. There will be an open reception from 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, April 18<sup>th</sup> to which all are invited.

## **Calendar of Upcoming High School Events**

Please visit the new Jericho High School web site: <http://www.jerichoschools.org/hs/> for the latest information on our upcoming high school events.