

Handprints

Making a Joyful Noise!

By Janelle Cunalata, Music Director

It is not unusual to see children arriving and departing HMS with odd shaped cases, from the small, rectangular-shaped cases holding a flute, to the long, bell-shaped cases holding a trombone.

The other day I opened a flute case during a Pre-K music class and began to question the students on how they thought the flute might make a sound. After the children suggested I blow into the hole in the headjoint and it wasn't successful, the children commented that perhaps the flute was broken, or maybe it needed batteries! After further investigation they finally discovered that sound is produced by blowing across the hole instead of into it.

One of the favorite things about my job is watching children go from knowing nothing about an instrument to playing basic notes and rhythms, to making music together with classmates as prayer and praise to God, our Creator, and Creator of music. Learning a musical instrument also supports brain development and discipline in children and helps them learn to persevere when the going gets tough (and it always gets tough)!

Thanks to the generosity of donors and music grants, Hinkletown now has a class set of violins, violas and cellos for every second grader each year. Students spend the first half of the year getting



an introduction to the instrument after which parents can opt to continue strings instruction for their child in private lessons with one of our professional string educators, Johanna Levi and Jennifer Petry. This year, eleven new string students continued with lessons and joined the Beginner String Ensemble that will perform at Fine Arts Night this spring.

Additionally, all 4th and 5th grade students at HMS participate in our exploratory band program and select a school-owned flute, clarinet, trumpet, or trombone to learn. Through this 5-month unit, brass specialist, Rich Arment, and myself help students continue to expand their musical skills and horizons. It is truly a joy to encourage the students to persevere as they learn, grow, and help each other on their chosen instrument. Each year more students opt to continue learning through private lessons during

their school week. The 4th and 5th graders will perform as the Exploratory Band at Fine Arts Night in May.

I am grateful for the privilege of teaching and overseeing the music department at HMS. We are blessed with quality instructors and families who support the musical interest and skill development of our students. I also enjoy seeing our students making music with classmates and creating their own music as prayers and praise to God... for no matter what the skill level, music making can be "joyful noise unto the Lord!"



When God Sets the Vision...

By Dawn Landes
Administrator/Principal



I've learned over the years that when we seek God's vision for things, He will light our path and provide what is needed to make it happen. It is a joyful experience, but requires faith to step forward.

In early 2016 the HMS Board approved a three-year Strategic Plan that was quite rigorous. I wondered at the time how we would ever accomplish all the "dreams" we had for HMS. Yet we did! At the January 2019 board meeting we approved one of the last major initiatives in that plan and I sat in awe of what we all had accomplished together, but mostly **what God did** as we tuned into His vision.

We can celebrate:

- Improved technology infrastructure
- Over \$420,000 of building/property improvements
- Our high school Venture Program
- Our hands-on general music program
- Expanded Student Services and gifted programming
- Revised teacher compensation structure

We still have work to do to be more financially sustainable, but our school continues to grow! We need more classrooms space, so we trust a God who opens doors in amazing ways!

May we continue to see clearly God's vision for us at HMS
& celebrate the amazing things God has done!

Handprints is published two times yearly and distributed to friends of Hinkletown Mennonite School.

Editors: Melissa Beidler & Dawn Landes

Design/Printing: DavCo Advertising

Hinkletown Mennonite School

272 Wanner Road, Ephrata, PA 17522

Email: office@hinkletownschool.org

Website: www.hinkletownschool.org

Administrator/Principal: Dawn Landes

Director of Advancement: Jody Fausnight

Director of Enrollment: Melissa Beidler

School Board:

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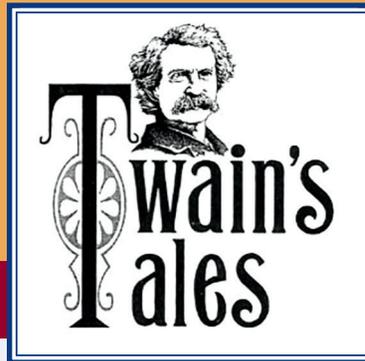
Kornel Kurtz

Keith Weaver

Vince Youndt



Middle School Performing Arts Presents



By David Taylor London

Produced by special arrangement with Pioneer Drama Services, Inc., Denver, Colorado

Friday Dinner Theater March 1, 2019

5:30 pm – dinner & show

Adult Price: \$15.00

Child Price: \$10.00
(ages 4 – grade 8)

Reservations Recommended

Doors open at 4:45 pm

Saturday Showings March 2, 2019

2 pm & 7 pm

General Admission: \$6.00

HMS Students: \$5.00

Tickets are available at the door.

Doors open 45 minutes before show time.

For reservations or more information, call the HMS office or visit www.hinkletownschool.org/events/drama

(717) 354-7100 • 272 Wanner Road, Ephrata, PA 17522

Voices Behind the Strings

by Karen Burkholder, Grade 2 Teacher

While music education is being cut from many school programs around the country, we are blessed at HMS to offer all students a variety of musical educational experiences and opportunities. Second grade students share their excitement about getting to learn a violin, viola or cello:



Luke Smucker: "I learned what the different string instruments are called during music class. I felt happy and excited because my grandma wanted to know about the instrument that I was learning to play."



Stephy Sensenig: "When I went to music class the first time and got to actually hold a violin, I was excited! It made me want to learn and play more."



Rae Good: "I chose the viola because I can play high and low notes on it. At first it was difficult to play. I then got the hang of it. I just went with it! I want to continue learning how to play an instrument."



"Music is about communication, creativity and cooperation. By studying music in school, students have the opportunity to build on these skills, enrich their lives and experience the world from a new perspective."
President Bill Clinton

A Place that Brings Us Together

by Justin Weaver, Athletic Director

Growing up at Hinkletown as a student, I remember lots of school activities in the gym such as movie nights, home basketball games, science fairs, and spring concerts. Many years later, I have the privilege of spending hours each day in the gym as a teacher and to see this space continue to bring people together and make many lasting memories.

The current gym floor is the original tile floor that was installed over 30 years ago. Many of the tiles have started to peel at the corners, and some have completely come up. We continue to pray and ask God to provide the funds needed for a new floor because we are thankful for this space and the blessing it continues to be to our HMS community.

Score the Floor 2019 Challenge

Our school's gym floor has been waiting a long time—34 years— for



an update to current safety and sports standards. If we can raise \$105,000 by March 5, we can replace the floor this summer with a safer, rubber-based, sports-grade finish, for just \$15 per square foot! Visit our new website, www.hinkletownschool.org, and participate in the effort to update the gymnasium floor.



Thanks to a generous HMS friend, \$15,000 will be matched dollar for dollar!



Hinkletown
Mennonite School

272 Wanner Road, Ephrata, PA 17522-9314

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HMS Online

Last summer we rolled out a new website and domain name for HMS's online presence! Thanks to members of our school community and a great design team from WebTek, we were able to build a new site that reflects our school community and values. WebTek is an Ephrata-based internet marketing firm founded by HMS parent & alumnus Kornel Kurtz.

You can visit our new site at
www.hinkletownschool.org.



A Non-traditional Approach to High School

By Brian Denlinger, Venture Program Bible and History Teacher



Behind the main building you will find this new addition that houses our high school Venture Program. Inside you may find students sitting on sofas engaging in group discussions or working independently at tables on their coursework. Learning also extends beyond the classroom through trips to local businesses such as Bomberger's Store or WJTL Radio and a fall retreat at Camp Andrews. Opportunities for job shadowing and internships also make the Venture Program a unique experience for students.