

Community Partnerships Add Value to Education at HMS

A core value at Hinkletown Mennonite School is for students to discover their unique interests and talents, and a key component we have to work at this is partnerships within our local community. In this issue of *Handprints* you will read about ways our students connect with the broader community.

HMS's Venture Program is a non-traditional high school program that combines online, in-class, and hands-on learning that caters to both the career-bound and college-bound student.

Venture Program students have the opportunity to job shadow at local businesses. Emily Zimmerman, a junior, has completed shadow experiences at Esbenshade's Garden Centers, Eurofins Lancaster Laboratories, and Lancaster Water Authority. She loved the science behind each experience, but her favorite location was with the Lancaster Water Authority where the lab techs do both lab testing and environment and stream samples. Emily shared this interest with fourth grade by accompanying them on their stream study trips.

As a result of her experiences, Emily has decided that she would like to enroll in Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology's 2-year Water and Environmental Technology program.



Lexi Hoover spent time with a physical therapist for her freshman job shadowing day.

She will be able to complete her first year of college during her senior year at HMS. "Those experiences helped guide my decisions for schooling after HMS," said Emily. Parents Loren and Wendy Zimmerman commented, "We are so grateful for the opportunity that HMS gave to Emily to shadow at different businesses. It was neat watching her get excited about learning about different careers and also learning about herself along the way."

Evan Morales is interested in history and computers. As a ninth grader, Evan had the opportunity to shadow at Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society and at Goodville Mutual Casualty Company in New Holland. Jen Morales, Evan's mom, said, "Evan has not stopped talking about it. I truly think this experience has helped Evan narrow down what he would like to do in the future."

HMS has been blessed by individuals and businesses in our community who

Samuel Coronado explored TV newswriting and production at 69 News in Reading.



have opened their doors to our Venture Program students for shadowing and internships. This type of learning takes students beyond the classroom to places where real life and learning intersect. We also are happy to see our students beginning to build networks of people who care about the contributions they make to our community through their jobs and vocations.

Recent business connections include:

- Lancaster Bible College
- WebTek, Akron
- Akron Elementary School
- Upper Dauphin School District
- Jim Martin, Interior Designer
- S. June Smith Center
- ZooAmerica
- Lancaster Stroopies Company
- Whitaker Motors in Adamstown

When the Community Comes Together

There isn't much unused space left at HMS; we are bursting at the seams with wonderful students and programs! This past fall Les Denlinger, grandfather to HMS students, contacted me with a vision of setting up a woodshop for our students. He asked if we had any space available. I knew our students would love it, but where could it fit?

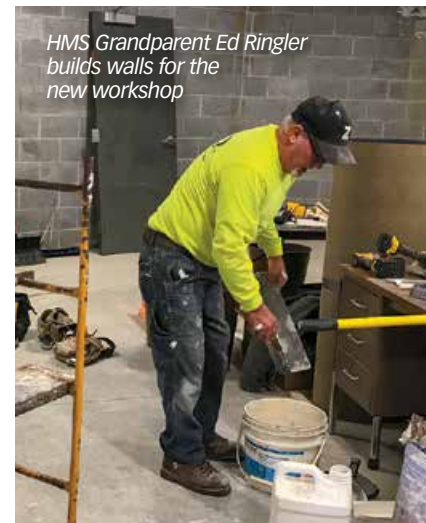
Parents and teachers do woodworking projects with middle school clubs and home economics classes but they have to bring their own tools and do the construction outside, in lobbies or in classrooms where being noisy and messy is not ideal. We've also had high school students interested in a wood project or working on a small engine together, but we haven't had an ideal spot.

Then someone mentioned the basement. Most people don't even know we have a small basement. But thanks to Les' vision, the encouragement of HMS parent Josh Fravel, and construction support of another HMS grandfather, Ed Ringler, this vision was funded by special giving at our 2019 benefit auction! Our high school students have been working together to clean out the space and are excited to help Les and Ed build the shop. This will be a fun winter project!

Lots of thought has gone into designing the space and choosing tools and equipment that are safe and suited for both new and more experienced students. Mr. Sable, our facility manager and woodworking instructor, is looking forward to having a well-designed and

safe location for hands-on learning for our students. Special thanks to all who gave input and funds to help make this shop a reality!

By Dawn Landes, Administrator



HMS Grandparent Ed Ringler builds walls for the new workshop

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Middle School Performing Arts Presents



The Lion, The Witch & The Wardrobe

Friday Dinner Theater
February 28, 2020
5:30 pm—Dinner & Show
Reservations Recommended

Saturday Showings —
February 29, 2020
2 pm & 7 pm

*Tickets available
at the door*

hinkletownschool.org/events/drama • 717.354.7100

GrandPals: A 20-Year Relationship with Landis Homes

Who would have thought twenty years ago when Harriet Douple, former fourth grade teacher, had the idea to create a cyber program with residents of Landis Homes, that it would turn into a visitation program and still be going strong today. The HMS-Landis Homes GrandPals program continues to be an intergenerational collaboration of mutual love between student and resident. Fourth and fifth grade students eagerly anticipate each of the eight visits throughout the year, gaining knowledge about their GrandPal's interests, families, hobbies and careers, but most of all, gaining a friend. GrandPals demonstrate the value of contributing to community and pouring into the lives of others throughout life.



Fifth-grader Evan Horning and Mrs. Blanche Horst who has been a GrandPal for 6 years.



Students around the quilt are (clockwise from left) Lydia Lefever (seated), Tina Weaver, Cora Shreiner, Christian Vincent, Virginia Weaver, Bob Bosley, Joshua Zimmerman, Gabriel, Kasey Brown, and (front) Kehl Good.

HMS students created a feedsack quilt with their GrandPals in 2002. Pictured around the quilt are (clockwise from left): Lydia Lefever (seated), Tina Weaver, Elsie Gehman, Cora Shreiner, Rachel Fisher, Christian Vincent, Virginia Weaver, Bob Bosley, Joshua Zimmerman, Tyler Eckman with Gabriel the dog, and Kasey Brown.



Hands-On Career Exploration for Middle School Students

Six eighth-graders from HMS went to ABC Keystone's (Associated Builders and Contractors) training facility in Manheim, PA, for an interactive career exploration event. Students worked with tools, reviewed safety requirements, and learned more about skilled trades. Each student built a wooden bench and bent sheet metal to make their own tool box. "The instructors showed us how to do many things. We were connecting two light switches together to make them both able to turn the light bulb on and off. We learned what the different colored wires mean and how to connect a circuit." Students had the opportunity to learn about a variety of careers in the construction industry.

HMS Students Succeed in District & County-Level Music Festivals

Congratulations to HMS Sophomore Maddie Hurst for competing in PMEA's District 7 competition and earning seat 15 out of 55 flautists. Congratulations also to Hannah Jacke and Caeley Zimmerman for representing HMS at the LLMEA Middle School orchestra festival on cello and violin respectively.

These associations (Pennsylvania and Lancaster-Lebanon) are comprised of music educators from public and private school districts and are dedicated to supporting the musical arts and establishing relationships between music educators, schools, and the community.



Hannah Jacke and Caeley Zimmerman



Maddie Hurst

Look what HMS alumni are up to!



This fall several HMS alumni at Garden Spot High School approached the Garden Spot Performing Arts leadership about utilizing their fall production of *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever* to support CrossNet Ministries in New Holland. GSPA agreed and they collected over 1,400 pounds of food for the local agency! Seven HMS alumni participated in the play and food drive. We are encouraged that former HMS students aren't waiting for adulthood to serve our community in the name of Christ. They are doing it now.

Pictured l-r: Connie Snader, Savannah Martin, Yoshi Allen, Tomo Allen, Ceili Marquis, Ian Marquis and Cassidy Hoover