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DARIEN HIGH SCHOOL

PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER

Darien High School, 80 High School Lane, Darien, Connecticut 06820 • (203) 655-3981

GIRLS BASKETBALL PROGRAM HONORED FOR SPORTSMANSHIP



Congratulations to the DHS Girls Basketball team, recipients of the 2006 Harold Swallfield Sportsmanship Award for Region 3. This award is presented annually by the Fairfield County Approved Basketball Officials to the programs that have demonstrated the most consistent level of good sportsmanship on the court throughout the basketball season. This includes players, coaches and fans. Two designees are invited to receive the award at the annual banquet which will be held on Wednes-

day, April 5th in Stratford.

“This is a very positive reflection on everyone associated with our Girls Basketball Program and the kind of award of which we should all feel very proud. As a spectator at games, I also noticed how great our sportsmanship was this year, even when officials made what I perceived to be poor calls. It is important for spectators to realize that officials are human and make mistakes, but that they try their best to be fair and consistent. They do an important and necessary job and deserve our support.”

Dr. Jerry Auclair

April, 2006

From the Principal's Desk

Dr. Jerry Auclair

TOP TEN REASONS TO BE PRINCIPAL OF DARIEN HIGH SCHOOL

This newsletter allows me the opportunity to talk, some might say pontificate, about conditions that I perceive could be improved at Darien High School. In doing so, I worry that parents will think that I have mostly negative feelings about the school and about my position. Nothing could be farther from the truth. Darien High School is one of the best schools I have ever seen. I am thrilled to have the opportunity to work in this amazing place. The following are my top ten reasons, in no particular order, for feeling this way:

1. *SUCCESS IS AN EXPECTATION AT DARIEN HIGH SCHOOL* – Nearly everyone associated with Darien High School expects the school to be successful at fulfilling its mission to educate students. This expectation creates an atmosphere that is serious and productive. Students are expected to excel academically, in competitions, on standardized tests, at getting into excellent colleges and in nearly all that they do. Almost all students fulfill these expectations. This is not a typical public high school atmosphere.
2. *STUDENTS ARE RESPECTFUL AND CARING* – With very few exceptions, students consistently show respect for each other, for faculty and staff, for the building and facilities, and for the process of education. Excellent teachers are highly respected and even revered by students and parents alike. Rather than act entitled, most students are aware of how fortunate they are to live in this community and to attend Darien High School. These students also have a strong social conscience and genuine desire to help less fortunate people.
3. *DIRECTION AND SUPPORT ARE EXCEPTIONAL* – The administrative leadership team at the central office and the Darien Board of Education provide clear direction and support for decisions made at the building level. The message to principals is clear that the business of education has the highest priority for the superintendent, his staff and the members of the board. Legitimate pressure exists for the building administration to be accountable, but upper level management and the policy making board carefully consider input, support sound new ideas and appreciate good work.
4. *TECHNOLOGY IN THE NEW DHS IS EXCITING* – The technology put into classrooms and in work areas of the new building presents an exciting challenge for the faculty and administration to take full advantage of it in helping students to learn. The way students learn becomes increasingly different in a technological world. It is comforting to know that our school is one of very few to have the technology necessary to deal with changes in the way students perceive their world and process information. We are at the leading edge of instructional technology today and have the capacity to keep pace in the immediate future.

Principal's Newsletter

5. *PARENT INVOLVEMENT IS OUTSTANDING* – When I came to Darien High School, the warning that I heard most from others was, “Wait until you have to deal with the Fairfield County parent.” Parents here have high expectations and can be demanding, but I see that to be a logical consequence of their high level of interest in their children. Parents here are generally more involved with their teenagers than in other communities. Parents are also generally more reasonable and rational than in other places I have worked; they usually listen. Parents also work diligently to support school improvement initiatives at Darien High School. The involvement and demands of the parents are a significant reason for the success of the school.
6. *THE NEW FACILITY IS MAGNIFICENT* – Our new building is the most attractive high school building I have seen. It is equipped and furnished as well as any I have seen. It is very well planned and laid out to meet the needs of our educational program. It functions as well as it looks - despite some frustrations with getting some systems operating flawlessly, the school has almost every feature a principal could want. It is the show-place school building in Connecticut and even in the country. It would be difficult not to be very proud to be principal of this building. It is exhilarating to walk through the corridors of Darien High School.
7. *DARIEN HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS ARE HIGHLY MOTIVATED* – One of my great frustrations working in other high schools was trying to increase the percentage of students who wanted to learn. In most high schools the percentage is less than 25%. At Darien High School it is likely greater than 75%. Teachers new to our school are surprised to find that most students don't whine about being given assignments, will come in for extra help when they need it and are serious about getting their work done. DHS students understand that to be successful at anything requires work and effort. This is true of learning, winning in athletics, performing on a stage, or in any endeavor. This is the greatest asset our students have and will bring into their futures. They understand the concept of hard work.
8. *THE ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM WORKS WELL TOGETHER* – The three assistant principals and the entire staff of the main office at Darien High School have meshed into a cohesive and productive team. This group has a range of skills, abilities and experience. Every member of the team is cooperative and willing to pick up the slack when necessary. The intangible factor of camaraderie that has developed among the office team makes the environment a very pleasant place to work. Not needing to address problems within the group also allows more time to deal with other issues that enable the team to provide appropriate service to students, staff and parents.
9. *THE FACULTY IS EXCEPTIONAL* – Every school I have seen has some truly exceptional teachers. Like the motivated students, Darien High School has a very disproportionately high share. High school faculties should have teachers with a variety of teaching styles and approaches. Our faculty has the breadth and depth of instructional approach and philosophy that enable nearly every student to relate to at least one teacher. Our teachers are very dedicated and committed to challenging students to think and

learn. They express great love for their students, take a great interest in them as people and take great pride in their school. It is exciting and stimulating for a principal to get to work with such an exceptional and dedicated faculty.

10. *STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS ARE REMARKABLE* – I am regularly amazed by the accomplishments of the students of Darien High School. The hydrogen fuel cell car, the projects in the Authentic Science Research program, the work of our young composers, the quality of our drama productions, our superior school newspaper, winning the first FCIAC Pepsi Cup, winning the Michaels Cup, our outstanding musical groups, our debate team, our test scores, the countless community service projects that our students do, and many more successes are the result of having a really remarkable group of students. Darien High School students do not think in limited terms. They believe that success is possible and set lofty goals for themselves. They are great to be around and fun to watch. Their many successes validate the decision of the faculty and staff members to work in education and provide great rewards for our efforts.

For all of these reasons, most of which are interrelated, it is a joy and an honor to be principal of Darien High School. I have been coming to work in public high schools each day since 1967. It has never been more enjoyable.

Father's Forum

Saturday April 22, 2006
Darien High School Auxiliary Cafeteria—8 to 9:30 a.m.

“Teen Inhalant Abuse is on the Rise: Common Household Products that can Kill”

Marlene McGann—Executive Director Meridan & Wallingford Substance Abuse Council

Freshman Class Fundraiser



Blue Wave Flip Flops:

Sizes 2 – 13 Blue Straps/White Block Letters
Unisex Sizes
\$20

Contact: MTrifone@Darienps.org

News from the Music Department

Pops Cabaret



The Darien High School Music Department will be presenting their "Pops Cabaret" concert on Friday, April 21 at 7:30 p.m. in the Middlesex Middle School cafeteria. The performance will feature the Pops String Ensemble, Jazz Ensemble, Jazz Lab Band, the Nutmeg Express and a variety of a cappella vocal ensembles performing an evening of jazz and popular musical selections.

There is no admission charge for the Pops Cabaret performance, but because of limited seating, a ticket is required for admission. Tickets are available from ensemble members or by calling the district Music Office at: 655-3981 ext: 2250. Refreshments will be served.

Orchestra Students to Participate in Festival

Four DHS Orchestra students were selected to participate in the Fairfield County String Teacher Association's annual Festival Concert on April 8th. Violinists **Richard Dean** and **Elizabeth Ropp**, violist **Priscilla Lee** and cellist **Maarten Eenkema van Dijk** will be performing as members of the 8th and 9th Grade Orchestra. The concert will take place at Bedford Middle School in Westport.



Young Composers Concert



The Music Department of the Darien Public Schools would like to announce the sixth annual Darien Young Composers Concert. This special concert program will be held on Wednesday, April 12 at 7:30 p.m. in the Middlesex Middle School auditorium and will feature the works of student composers in the Darien Public Schools from the Elementary, Middle School and High School levels.

The 26 student composers selected to perform their compositions will also have the opportunity to meet with professional composer Nick Hubbell and have him review their compositions. Mr. Hubbell is an award winning composer who has composed and produced music for film, television, radio and the concert stage for over 20 years. He graduated summa cum laude from Oberlin Conservatory of Music and his award winning credits include network TV spots, Disney and a Dr. Seuss animated series. There is no admission charge for this concert

News From the DHSPA

We would like to take this opportunity to thank many of our parent volunteers for their outstanding and extra efforts now and throughout this year. Special thanks to **Hospitality** and our **Budget Representatives** for all they have done on our behalf. We also want to thank the **Nominating Committee** for their many hours and phone calls as they put together another terrific slate for the parent association. The **slate** is available on the DHSPA website.

We also want to thank the **JOBS Office** team of Mary Lou Sullivan and Carrie Taufic for their patience and now fast action in getting the office up and running soon! The office will be “open” starting in April for the spring/summer job market and will be located in the Community Council room at DHS. Watch the email blast for details.

Thanks go to our **DHS students**, too, for their fantastic programs at our DHSPA meetings. This year we had the phenomenal opportunity to hear from several of our students and their accomplishments. Thank you to the **China Exchange** team, the **Harmonic Experience** quartet, Mr. Brennan and the **Art Department** students, the **Authentic Science Research** program participants, and the student club for **Katrina Relief**. We are **SO** proud of our students and seeing their accomplishments has been a highlight of this year for all members of the DHSPA. Our congratulations to each of you, and your faculty advisers, for jobs done extraordinarily well. You make us all proud!

Also, please note the very exciting **College & Career Programs** that will be happening at DHS for our students in April. Details about **iZone** are outlined in this newsletter. A big thanks to Lois Schneider and Bohdana Puzyk, along with Linda Kahn, Karen Doying, and Stacey Sauerberg for their sensational efforts. Remind your student(s) about “College Tuesdays” and “Careers Thursdays” during the month of April at lunchtime! These programs will be terrific!

Our last DHSPA meeting will be on Tuesday, April 11th at 9:15 in the Auditorium. The program will be "Prom" and will address questions and policies on this event. We hope to see you there!

Respectfully,
Olof Preston and Barb Simms
DHSPA C-Chairs

Have You Heard?

That approximately **500** concerned parents attended “The Party Scene” at DHS on March 8th to learn what they could do to help stop underage drinking.

Brought to you by DCAARB The Darien Coalition to Address At Risk Behavior

Look for information and upcoming DCAARB events to be posted at our new website:
www.liberationprograms.org/dcaarb

The Depot

April 2006

Sun	Mos	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>"SLOW CHILDREN AT PLAY" <i>April 28</i></p>						<p>BAND NIGHT CASEY \$5.00</p>
2 DEPOT CLOSED	3 DEPOT CLOSED	4 KIDS IN CRISIS YOUTH CORPS 6-7:30 pm SGB	5 \$1.00 MENU 5-7 pm	6 FUNBUSTERS AROUND THE TABLE w/SOOZ 4-5:30 pm	7 4th GRADE PARTY CHILL NIGHT	8 MOVIE & PIZZA "KING KONG" 8:30 pm
9 DEPOT CLOSED	10 DEPOT CLOSED	11 SGB	12 \$1.00 MENU 5-7 pm	13 FUNBUSTERS 3-5 pm DEPOT OPEN TILL 11 pm	14 KARAOKE 8-11 pm \$5.00	15 CHILL NIGHT
16 DEPOT CLOSED	17 DEPOT CLOSED	18 SGB	19 \$1.00 MENU 5-7 pm	20 FUNBUSTERS AROUND THE TABLE w/SOOZ 4-5:30 pm	21 5th GRADE PARTY CHILL NIGHT	22 DEPOT CAR/PET WASH 9:00-2:00
23 DEPOT CLOSED	24 DEPOT CLOSED	25 SGB	26 \$1.00 MENU 5-7 pm	27 FUNBUSTERS AROUND THE TABLE w/SOOZ 4-5:30 pm	28 IMPROV 8 pm \$5.00	29 CHILL NIGHT
30 DEPOT CLOSED	<p>KARAOKE w/JIMMY JAMS! CONTEST/PRIZES</p>					

ALP Community Service



Students from the Alternate Learning Program (ALP) continued a 25 year tradition of community service on Friday, lending a hand to the Kiwanis Club Citrus Drive.

SPRING PARENT COFFEES

Join the Administration and Guidance
For Coffee and Conversation
9:30 a.m.

Wednesday, April 19— Freshman Coffee
Wednesday, April 26— Sophomore Coffee
Wednesday, May 3— Junior Coffee
Wednesday, May 10— Senior Coffee

Invitations with locations will be mailed home

English 10 Honors Appeals:

Students who were notified in early April that they were not admitted into the English 10 Honors program, may pick up an appeals form in the English Office, A202, if they wish to appeal the placement decision. Appeals forms must be returned to the English Office by Thursday, April 13th. The appeals test will be given Tuesday, April 18th at 2:30 p.m. in room A203. No appeals will be accepted after this test date.

Benefit Concert for “The Buddy System”

On Friday, March 24th, the Depot hosted a benefit concert for The Buddy System, a DHS club created last year to foster relationships between students in the mainstream population and students with special needs. The event, organized by club member Kenyon Colli and featuring local bands Whiskey Tree, Nostalgic and others, raised over one thousand dollars for the Buddy System. The club members and their advisors, Mr. Pavia and Mrs. Bosma, wish to extend their deepest thanks and admiration to the Depot staff -- Janice, Tim and John -- for all of their help and generosity.

The club plans to use the money raised to plan a series of after-school and weekend trips.

SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

The following scholarship materials are available in the Guidance Department:

- The Scholarship Information sheet which details how to apply for scholarships and lists community based scholarships
- The Scholarship Application form
- Application for the DCA Honor Award, a merit award based on scholarship and community service
- Application for the Kiwanis Henry Keil Grant for study of Nursing and Allied Health Services
- Application for the Darien Board of Education Book Award presented to a current **junior** interested in the field of education
- Application for the Darien Arts Center Ginny Wright Scholarship presented to a senior who will continue their study of the visual arts or design in college.

All applications are to be completed and returned to Mrs. Schoknecht. Applications are due **April 10, 2006** except for the following:

Darien Arts Center Ginny Wright Scholarship - Due April 7, 2006

Board of Education Book Award application - Due April 8, 2006

For students who wish to apply for the Darien Education Association (DEA) Scholarship, priority will be given to applicants entering the field of education. If you are interested in this scholarship, please submit an essay of 150 words or less on the following topic: What persuaded you to enter the field of education? This essay should be written on a separate piece of paper and submitted with the general scholarship application form.

If you have any questions, please see Mrs. Schoknecht or contact her at 655-3981, extension 2353 or pschoknecht@darienps.org

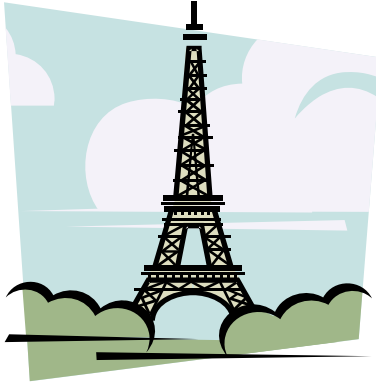
DHS Awards and Scholarship Ceremonies

Darien High School will recognize students for academic excellence and community service at our annual awards and scholarship ceremonies.

The **Awards Assembly** will take place Friday, May 19, 2006 at 9:00 a.m. in the auditorium. The Senior Scholarship Ceremony will take place on Monday, May 22, 2006 at 7:30 p.m. in the auditorium. Following the **Scholarship Ceremony** there will be a reception in the lobby for the scholarship recipients, their families and the school and community donors.

Families of students receiving an award will be contacted by letter prior to the ceremonies.

DHS Families Host French Students



On April 17, the **Foreign Language Department** will be welcoming 15 high school students from **Orléans, France**, who will spend the next 10 days visiting with DHS French students. Among the many generous families who expressed an interest in hosting these students, fifteen families were selected and have agreed to host the youngsters for the 10 days that they will be with us. Other interested families who would like to get to know one of these French students will have the opportunity to extend a dinner invitation during their stay. In addition, there will be many opportunities for all DHS students to interact with these young French people in and outside of class. An evening reception at

DHS will be held on April 24 in the DHS auxiliary cafeteria. Details about all of these events will be available to all French students through their French classes. Please contact Susan Mason smason@darienps.org or Charlene Riordan criordan@darienps.org for more information about the French visit.

The China Exchange



The DHS delegation to China received a warm welcome to the Shanghai #3 Girls' School. They spent two weeks with Shanghai host families attending school, seeing the city, and experiencing Chinese culture. The group left Shanghai and traveled to Hang Zhou and Beijing before returning to Darien on March 17.

PLEASE SAVE THE DATE: April 25th—Join Exchange participants to hear about their travels and to learn about the future plans for Darien High School-China Exchanges.

Washington DC Program

The Republican Club of Darien and The Darien Republican Town Committee are sponsoring students for a one-week Washington DC program this summer. The session will be June 25th to June 30th. It is open to all Darien students who complete their Junior year in June 2006. Applications are available from Mrs. Shortliffe in the Social Studies office. Completed applications must be returned by April 14th.

INTRODUCING THE

iZone

**Darien High's program for
College and career information**



Download this:

iZone Sessions

> In April

> During each
Lunch period

> Tuesdays
and Thursdays

And more...



> **"Athletics and the College Application Process"**

Thursday April 20th DHS Auditorium, evening session for parents and students, 7:30 PM

> **Parent to Parent: "College Application Survival Skills"**

Daytime and evening sessions in May, watch for dates

> **"Campus Life" for Seniors only**

in May, watch for date

Coordinated by: The DHSPA College and Career Program Committee
Co-chairs: Bohdana Puzyk 329-3713, Lois Schneider 655-3026

JOIN US AND GET INTO THE ZONE -

iZone

From the Guidance Office

Pre-registration for 2006-2007

Pre-registration for the 2006-2007 school year is complete. Please be sure to discuss your child's chosen curriculum for next year. Once the schedule is created, requests for course changes will NOT be considered.

AP Testing

Advanced Placement Testing will take place during the school day between May 1 and May 12. Students sitting for AP exams are not required to attend classes on the day of their exam. There are no make-up dates for AP exams. Students absent or sick on the date of an AP exam forfeit the opportunity to take the exam this year.

SAT Registration

The LATE registration deadline for the May SAT I/II administration is April 12. For the June administration the deadline is April 28.

Junior College Conferences

If you and your junior son or daughter have not had a formal College Conference with his/her guidance counselor, your son/daughter must sign up for a mutually convenient time as soon as possible. The Junior College Conference forms (<http://www.darienps.org/dhs/guidance/juniorforms.htm>) MUST be submitted to the counselor no later than FIVE SCHOOL DAYS prior to the meeting.

Scholarship Applications for Seniors

Each year various organizations in the Darien community offer financial assistance for DHS graduates to defer college expenses. Details and applications are now available in the guidance office. For further information, please contact Patti Schoknecht at 655-3981 x2353 or pschoknecht@darienps.org.

8th Grade Academic Workshop

A reminder to 8th Grade parents, the Four Year Plan workshop will be held in the Auditorium at Darien High School on Wednesday, April 19 at 7:30 PM.

QUESTIONS FOR THE GUIDANCE COUNSELOR?

If you have questions about anything you have read or heard, feel free to call your counselor. Better yet, send an email. The following are general breakdowns of counselor caseloads. Some students may not fall exactly within the alphabetical listing below.

Mike Caro	Last names A – C	mcaro@darienps.org
Joan Flaherty	Last names D – G	jflaherty@darienps.org
Jessica Larit	Last names H – Ma	jelarit@darienps.org
Kim Taylor	Last names Mc – R	kitaylor@darienps.org
Barbara Thorne	Last names S – W	bthorne@darienps.org
Bob Pomer	Last names W – Z	rpomer@darienps.org



News About The Message Center and Jobs Office

The **Message Center** and the **Jobs Office** will both be up and running in the next couple of weeks. Please look for dates and details in "The Blast."

ATTENTION DHS SENIOR PARENTS!!!!!! ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT GRADUATION PARTY NIGHT

For all of the Senior Parents including veterans and novices to this great day—here's a summary of the fun evening that is fast approaching! It has long been a tradition that a committee of senior parents organizes and hosts a Graduation Party from 10 PM-2 AM which continues with a Weed Beach Party from 2-4 AM. The party, this year to be held at the DCA, includes music, dancing, photo booths, games and the highly anticipated PRIZE RAFFLE! Throughout the night great prizes (like iPods, TV/DVDs, mini-refrigerators, college survival gift packs etc.) are raffled off to the lucky winners. This is a fully chaperoned evening!

*** We rely on donations from the senior parents to create this special night for the kids and provide the funds for the purchase of prizes. We do not solicit from town merchants. A donation of any amount is appreciated! Also if you have any items that would make a good gift (e.g. sporting or concert tickets, electronics etc.) please feel free to contact Julie Parker: park-erj1@optonline.net or Debbie Lee: Chateaulee@aol.com.

I WANT TO MAKE A GRADUATION PARTY DONATION!

\$ 15 ___ \$25 ___ \$40 ___ \$50 ___ \$100 ___ Any \$ ___

Please detach and mail to Mary Nelson, 5 Knollwood Lane, Darien CT
Checks payable to DHS Parents Post Graduation Party

FROM THE HEALTH OFFICE

The following is reprinted from the new Darien Public Schools High School Health Curriculum, Health Wave.

Tips for Teens

The Truth about Tobacco

GET THE FACTS...

Tobacco damages your health. Smoking is the most common cause of lung cancer. Smoking is also a leading cause of cancer of the mouth, throat, bladder, pancreas, and kidney. Smokeless tobacco can cause mouth cancer, tooth loss, and other health problems.

Tobacco affects your body's development. Smoking is particularly harmful for teens because your body is still growing and changing. The 200 known poisons in cigarette smoke affect your normal development and can cause life-threatening diseases, such as chronic bronchitis, heart disease, and stroke.

Tobacco can kill you. Smoking is the leading preventable cause of death in this country. More than 400,000 Americans die from tobacco-related causes each year, and most of them began using tobacco before the age of 18.

BEFORE YOU RISK IT...

Know the law. It is illegal for anyone under 18 to buy cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, or tobacco-related products.

Stay informed. Addiction to tobacco is hard to control. More than 90 percent of teens who use tobacco daily experience at least one symptom of withdrawal when they try to quit.

Keep your edge. The poisons in cigarettes can affect your appearance. Smoking can dry your skin out and cause wrinkles. Some research even relates smoking to premature gray hair and hair loss.

Be aware. It can be hard to play sports if you use tobacco. Smoking causes shortness of breath and dizziness, and chewing tobacco causes dehydration.

Think of others. Smoking puts the health of your friends and family at risk. Approximately 3,000 nonsmokers die of lung cancer each year from breathing other peoples' smoke.

Get the facts. Each day more than 3,000 people under age 18 become regular smokers. That's more than one million teens per year. Roughly one-third of them will eventually die from a tobacco-related disease.

Look around you. Even though a lot of teens use tobacco, most don't. According to a 1998 study, less than 20 percent of teens are regular smokers. In fact, 64 percent of 12 to 17 year-olds have never even tried a cigarette.

Math Team to Compete at State Competition



Practice and pizza add up for the DHS Math Team!

Congratulations to the **DHS Math Team**. In the year long competition with 18 other schools in the Fairfield County Math League, DHS has earned the opportunity to compete at States in the Connecticut Mathematics League State Competition which will be held at Danbury High School on April 4, 2006.

If you see the team members, please congratulate them: Jie Zhao, Zach Saffa, Kate Farley, Melinda Siew, Sreya Radhakrishna, Jonathan Salmans, Kelly Buch, Paul Nelson, Nick Montaperto.

Darien Science “Stars” Shine at State Competitions

Kate Farley, Tim Grejtak, Silvia Puma, and Katie Gambir were selected as finalists and presented their individual science research projects at the Junior Science and Humanities Symposium state competition held at UConn on March 6 and 7th.

During the spring break, **Kate, Tim, and Silvia** also competed at the Connecticut State Science Fair at Quinnipiac University. All three were selected as senior finalists and were awarded a variety of individual trophies, cash prizes and scholarships! Congratulations!

The Darien community will have an opportunity to see presentations by all of the students in the science research program at the Darien High School **Science Symposium** to be held on **Wednesday, May 24** in the auditorium.

Students Invited to National Jr. Science & Humanities Symposium

Seniors **Kate Farley** and **Tim Grejtak** placed 2nd and 3rd respectively in the Junior Science and Humanities Symposium state competition held at UConn. In addition to winning cash prizes and scholarships, they have been invited to represent Connecticut at the National JSHS competition in Albuquerque, New Mexico at the end of April.

IMPORTANT DATES

April 11	DHSPA—9 a.m. Auditorium
April 11	End of 3rd Quarter
April 11	Tri M Recital—time & location TBA
April 12	Darien Young Composers Concert 7:30 p.m.— MMS
April 14	Good Friday: NO SCHOOL
April 17	Staff Development: NO SCHOOL for students
April 19	Freshman Parent Coffee—9:30 a.m. location TBA
April 19	Academic Planning Session for 8th grade parents 7:30 p.m. DHS Auditorium
April 21	DHS Pops 7:30 p.m.—MMS Cafeteria
April 22	Father's Forum 8-9:30 a.m.—DHS Auxiliary Cafeteria
April 26	Sophomore Parent Coffee—9:30 a.m. location TBA
April 28	Ring Dance 8-10:30 p.m.—Woodway Country Club
May 3	Junior Parent Coffee—9:30 a.m. location TBA
May 6	SAT
May 10	Senior Parent Coffee—9:30 a.m. location TBA
May 12	Junior/Senior Prom
May 13	Father's Forum 8:00-9:30 a.m.—DHS Auxiliary Cafeteria
May 16	Tri M Recital 7:30 p.m.—location TBA
May 16	Achiever's Night—DHS Auditorium
May 19	DHS All School Awards Ceremony 9:00 a.m.—DHS Auditorium
May 22	DHS Senior Scholarship Ceremony 7:30 p.m. DHS Auditorium
May 24	Science Symposium—location TBA
May 25	Talent Show 7:00 p.m.—DHS Auditorium

Graduation

The last day of school and Graduation will be:

Tuesday, June 20, 2006.*

(barring additional school day cancellations due to weather)

