

CHECK OUT THIS
WINTER'S HIGHLIGHTS!



WINTER 2023
Volume 27, No. 2

WILDCAT NEWS

HANCOCK CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

WILDCAT PLEDGE

We nurture and empower each learner's unlimited capacity
to become a responsible citizen with a promising future.

Celebrating Students and Their Families Throughout Winter!



THESE GREAT STUDENTS MAKE THE HOLIDAYS!



SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE



Hello Friends and the Wildcat Nation!

Happy New Year to all! We have a number of exciting things going on at the Hancock Central School District.

As superintendent of schools I'm extremely grateful for the ongoing support we receive from so many committed community members. Please do not ever hesitate to contact me, at any time, to discuss your child's education's needs.

Best wishes always,

Terrance P. Dougherty, Ph.D.
HCS D Superintendent of Schools
tdougherty@hancock.stier.org
Phone: 607-637-1301
Twitter: @SLUDAD2017

REMAINING BOE MEETINGS

All meetings will start at 7 p.m. in the Hancock Central School District Office, unless otherwise noted.

2023

- 3/13Regular Meeting
- 3/27Regular Meeting
- 4/10Regular Meeting
- 4/24Regular Meeting/DCMO BOCES Budget Vote and Board Election
- 5/8Regular Meeting/Annual District Meeting
- 5/16School Budget Vote and Board Election, 2-8 p.m.
**Voting at MS/HS Auditorium will be followed by special meeting to adopt budget results*
- 5/22Regular Meeting
- 6/12Regular Meeting
- 6/26Regular Meeting

VISIT US ONLINE!

Website: www.hancock.stier.org/
Facebook: www.facebook.com/HancockCSD/
Twitter: [@HCS DWildcats](https://twitter.com/HCS DWildcats)
Sports Twitter: [@HCS AthDept](https://twitter.com/HCS AthDept)

HONOR SOCIETY INDUCTIONS



The Hancock Chapter of the National Honor Society held its annual induction ceremony of new members on Tuesday, November 8, 2022.

New members that joined the Honor Society this year are **Kelsie Newman, Isabella Petriella, Lola White, Zaida Whitaker, Chiara Wormuth, and Hailey Wormuth**. Dinner was held for the inductees at the Hancock House Hotel. President **Wynter Stanton** led the induction ceremony with Ms. Ann Mangefrida speaking on Character, Mrs. Gloria White spoke on Leadership, Ms. Kristy White spoke on Scholarship and Mrs. Kim Makowski spoke on Service.

New members signed the scroll which members have signed since 1951! Wynter Stanton and Ms. White pinned the new members and Caroline and handed out the certificates of membership. Congratulations on this achievement!

Hancock Winter Concerts



Valentine's Day Celebration!

The students at our elementary school enjoyed a Valentine's Day celebration with cookies, lemonade, and good times.

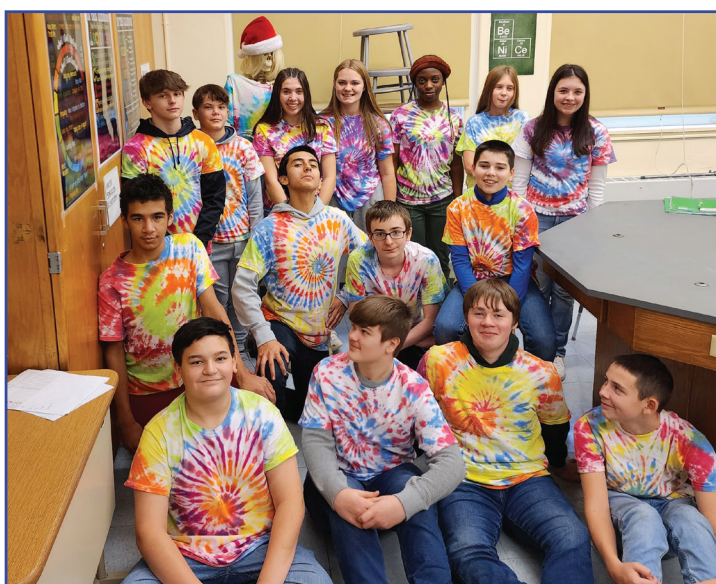


BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

On December 7 Hancock Elementary School students were able to enjoy breakfast with Santa Claus.



TIEDYE DAY



AWARD-WINNING AUTHOR AND ILLUSTRATOR VISITS HANCOCK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Illustrator and author Lee Harper visited Hancock Elementary School on Thursday, February 9, and spoke to students in grades pre-k through 6th about the inspirations for his work, and how they too could become illustrators or authors.

Harper is best known for his illustrations for Wendi Sivano in the best-selling *Turkey Trouble Series*, Walter Dean Myers in *Looking for The Easy Life*, and Leslie Helakoski in *Woolbur* and *Ready or Not*, along with *Woolbur Goes To School*. He has also written and illustrated books including *Snow! Snow! Snow!*, *Coyote*, and *The Emperor's Cool Clothes*.

When Harper was asked about his background and what he hopes students get from his presentations, he said, "In my presentations, I animate a talk with a PowerPoint about how my childhood love for animals, books, and art became the foundation of my grown-up career as an author and illustrator."

"I also show how my farm and animals give me ideas for my illustrations and stories," he added. "With the older children I go into more of the details of the actual process of making a book."

The PowerPoint talk was followed by several interactive drawing activities, one of which involves the children trying to guess what is being drawn based on the clues he gives them.

Those who are interested in learning more about what is going on in the Hancock Central School District may visit its Facebook page at facebook.com/HancockCSD or its website at hancock.stier.org for additional information.



CAMPBELL VISITS HANCOCK!

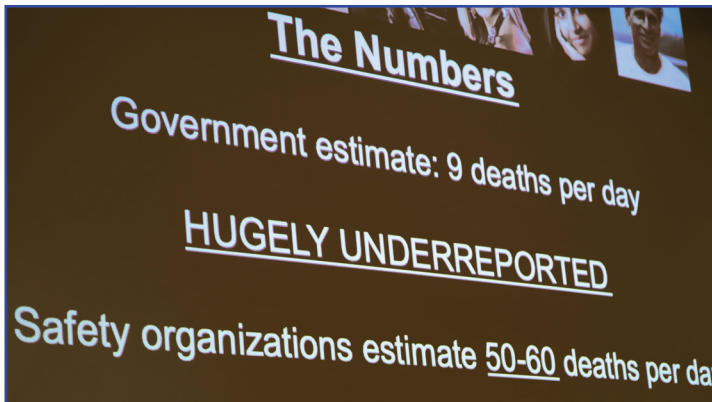
Award winning artist and performer Jared Campbell visited Hancock and performed for students of all grades. Students heard personalized presentations that reflected their age and some of the troubles they may be facing at that point in their lives.



HANG UP AND DRIVE!

Thank you Jacy Good and Steve Johnson for sharing your heartbreaking story about the dangers of distracted driving. Jacy's powerful story stemmed from a car crash in 2008 that claimed the lives of both of her parents and left her partially paralyzed due to a driver who was talking on the phone while driving.

Students were able to hear her story in-person and ask the pair questions—it was an experience for everyone and the message was clear, "Hang up and drive!"



STUDENTS RECEIVE STATE CHAMPIONSHIP RINGS FOLLOWING 2022 BASEBALL SUCCESS

The Deposit-Hancock (DH) Baseball Team won the class D state championship last year, and earlier this month the team celebrated with ceremonial rings for all of the players involved.

According to Hancock Athletics Director Devon Bedient, the rings were presented to students at the school's basketball game against Sidney on January 9.

"Our student-athletes in both districts have a great group of kids who are passionate and love baseball," said Bedient. "As soon as the New Year comes around, they are ready for open gym, and many, if not all, play baseball in the summer extending their seasons."

"The baseball players, and softball players for that matter, all put in a ton of time to their respective sports and their craft, whether it be fielding, hitting or their pitching. The hard work that they have put in is not only a product of them, but the culture that has been created from the players that have donned the uniform before them too."

Bedient said the state championship win against Chapel Field was on June 12, 2022. He added that DH won 14-5, and that he is immensely proud of the entire team and everyone who helped support them throughout the season.

When asked about the upcoming season and the team's future prospects Bedient said, "I think we have a great core of kids coming back that are eager to continue the success from last year.

"Small goals will hopefully lead us to our goals as a team," he added.

Those who are interested in learning more about the team, and what the Hancock Central School District is working on my visit its website at <https://www.hancockstier.org/> and its Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/HancockCSD> for additional information.

congratulations!



HCS D Emergency Closing Procedures and FAQs



WHEN SEVERE WINTER WEATHER STRIKES



Introduction

Winter weather in the Catskill Mountain Region and Northeastern Pennsylvania can be very unpredictable. When severe weather strikes our area, our number one concern is the safety of all Hancock Central School District students. Specific plans and protocols are in place to ensure that all students and staff members arrive at school safely.

Decision-Making Process

The decision to close school is made by the Superintendent of Schools working in consultation with the District Transportation Supervisor and representatives from New York State, Delaware County, DCMO BOCES, and the Town and Village of Hancock. Information provided by various weather-service reports, newscasts, and computer simulations also factor into the decision-making process. The Superintendent of Schools and Transportation Supervisor will drive on primary and secondary roads in the District to evaluate travel safety as needed. Variables that factor into the decision include, but are not limited to, amount and type of snow or freezing rain, timing of first snowfall and anticipated end, ability to clear primary and secondary roads and District parking lots, building conditions, temperature, wind and wind chill.

Depending on a host of circumstances and factors, the District may elect to delay the start of school by two hours (until 10 a.m.); close for the day; dismiss early at 12:30 p.m.; or cancel all afterschool events at the end of the day.

Communications Plan

In general, the decision to delay the start of school or to close for the day is made no later than 5:30 a.m. and is subsequently communicated to all stakeholders no later than 6:00 a.m. using the following communication methods:

Cell phone/telephone: Global Connect Call from 607-637-8000

HCS D website: www.hancock.stier.org

HCS D Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/HancockCSD>

HCS D Twitter: <https://twitter.com/HCS DWildcats>

Radio: WAAL, WDNH, WENE, WHWK, WINR, WNBF, WWYL, Magic 101.7, STAR 105.7

Television: WBNG, WBRE, WICZ, WNEP, WYOU, YNN

The same methods will be used to communicate early dismissals and afterschool cancellations.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

When is the decision made to close or delay school?

In general, the following timeline is used to frame school closing and delay decisions:

- 5:30 a.m.—Preliminary decision is made to close or delay school
- 5:45 a.m.—Media outlets are notified of closing/delay
- 6:00 a.m.—Decision to close/delay is communicated to all district stakeholders
- 10:00 a.m.—If school has started and weather conditions deteriorate, the decision to dismiss early is communicated at this time
- 12:30 p.m.—Early dismissal time when school has started and weather conditions have deteriorated
- 1:00 p.m.—If school has started and weather conditions deteriorate, the decision to cancel afterschool activities is communicated at this time

Who makes the decision to delay or close school?

The Superintendent of Schools makes the decision to close school in concert with the District Transportation Supervisor, NYS and county officials, and Village and Town of Hancock officials. In addition, select television and weather forecasts factor into the decision-making process.

If school is closed, are evening and weekend activities canceled?

If HCS D is closed due to inclement weather, all evening activities are also canceled. If school has started and weather conditions deteriorate, a decision to continue afterschool activities will be made no later than 1 p.m.

As a parent/caretaker, can I keep my child home on inclement weather days?

Parents/caretakers are encouraged to use their best judgment to determine what is best for their children. Parents/caretakers must notify the District when their children will be absent.

Are we going to have to make up snow days?

HCSD builds additional days into the school calendar each year to account for time lost to inclement weather. In the event this additional time is exhausted due to extraordinary weather conditions, HCSD's Board of Education retains the right to extend the school year by scheduling school during vacation holidays (such as the mid-winter break in February or the annual spring recess).

What are some states of winter weather declared by the National Weather Service?

The National Weather Service may make the following declarations when severe winter weather is forecast to present a potential risk to travelers:

- **Winter Storm Watch:** Conditions are favorable for heavy sleet, heavy snow, ice storm, heavy snow and blowing snow, or any combination to meet or exceed local winter storm warning criteria in the next 24-72 hours. Criteria for snow is 7 inches or more in 12 hours or less; or 9 inches or more in 24 hours covering at least 50 percent of the zone or encompassing most of the population. Use "mid-point" of snowfall range to trigger a watch (i.e., 5-8 inches of snow = watch).
- **Winter Storm Warning:** Heavy sleet, heavy snow, ice storm, heavy snow and blowing snow, or any combination is expected to meet or exceed local winter storm warning criteria in the next 12-36 hours. Criteria for snow is 7 inches or more in 12 hours or less; or 9 inches or more in 24 hours covering at least 50 percent of the zone or encompassing most of the population. Use "mid-point" of snowfall range to trigger warning (i.e., 5-8 inches of snow = warning).
- **Winter Weather Advisory:** Sleet, snow, freezing rain, snow and blowing snow, or any combination is expected to meet or exceed local winter weather advisory criteria in the next 12-36 hours but stay below warning criteria. Criteria for snow is 4 inches or more in 12 hours or less covering at least 50 percent of the zone or encompassing most of the population. Use "mid-point" of snowfall range to trigger advisory (i.e., 2-5 inches of snow = advisory).

What are some states of winter weather declared by Delaware County?

Delaware County may make the following declarations when severe winter weather is forecast:

- **State of Emergency:** This declaration may be made by the County Chief Executive in the event that conditions are so severe as to require additional resources by the county. Included in the declaration of a state of emergency may be various "orders," which could include road closures for the entire county or for specific roads within the county. Road-closure orders are meant to keep non-essential persons off the roads and to help keep the roads clear of motorists so that highway departments can more effectively clear them. The Superintendent of Schools is charged with determining which district personnel are considered essential and thus authorized to travel on roads that have been ordered closed.
- **Travel Advisory:** Delaware County also may issue a travel advisory in conjunction with the State of Emergency declaration or as a standalone "order." A travel advisory is just that – an advisory to motorists to alert them that road conditions may be deteriorated and that travelers should use caution.

Unless otherwise stated by Delaware County, the decision to delay or close school remains at the discretion of the Superintendent of Schools.

For More Information

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact:

Terrance P. Dougherty

Hancock Central School District Superintendent of Schools

tdougherty@hancock.stier.org | 607-637-1301



HANCOCK
CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

67 Education Lane, Hancock, New York 13783

www.hancock.stier.org • HS/MS office: 607 637-1305

HANCOCK CENTRAL SCHOOL

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Twitter: [@HCSDWildcats](https://twitter.com/HCSDWildcats)
Sports Twitter: [@HCSAthDept](https://twitter.com/HCSAthDept)

ECRWSS

BOXHOLDER

Call Me!

With Facebook, Twitter, texting and countless other communication tools at our fingertips, we certainly have embraced all of the advantages of new technology. Nonetheless, the best way to communicate within the Hancock Central School District is to call us.

When you need clarification, additional information, an answer to a pressing question, etc., or have any recommendations or concerns, the best practice is to call the Main Office of your child’s school. Classroom or course-specific questions can be directed to your child’s teacher via a call to the Main Office.

Email can be effective when reaching out to school officials. In most cases, though, it is best to use email to schedule a phone call or a face-to-face meeting. The dialogue that can be established with a phone call cannot be duplicated via text or email.

Parents should consult and follow this Communications Chart when attempting to contact the District about the following issues.

For Questions About	1st Contact	2nd Contact	3rd Contact	4th Contact
Academics	Teacher	Guidance Counselor	PK-12 Principal	Superintendent
Athletics	Coach	Athletic Director	PK-12 Principal	Superintendent
Behavior	Teacher	Director of Pupil Personnel/ PK-12 Principal	Superintendent	
BOE Policies	District Clerk	Superintendent	Board of Education	
Budget	Business Administrator	Business Manager	Superintendent	Board of Ed.
Building Use	PK-12 Principal	Supt. Buildings & Grounds	Supt. Secretary	Superintendent
Cafeteria	Café Manager	PK-12 Principal	Superintendent	
Classroom Procedures	Teacher	PK-12 Principal	Superintendent	
Co-Curricular	Advisor	PK-12 Principal	Superintendent	
Facilities	Supt. Buildings & Grounds	Superintendent		
Health Office	Building Nurse	PK-12 Principal	Superintendent	
Scheduling	Teacher	Guidance Counselor	PK-12 Principal	Superintendent
Special Education	Teacher	Director of Pupil Personnel	PK-12 Principal	Superintendent
Transportation	Bus Driver	Transportation Director	Superintendent	

Contact Information

Elementary School Office.....607-637-1219	Elementary School Health Office.....607-637-1220
Middle/High School Office.....607-637-1305	Middle/High School Health Office.....607-637-1310
CSE Office.....607-637-1374	Transportation Department.....607-637-5322
Food Service Office.....607-637-1320	Buildings and Grounds.....607-637-1313
Superintendent’s Office.....607-637-1301	