



# What's Happening?

## Oh the Humanities! American Studies

On Friday, November 8<sup>th</sup>, students from Mr. Kelly and Mrs. Guanci's American Studies class welcomed Mr. Hathaway's 3rd grade Hampstead Central School class for a nature discovery and Native American culture learning experience. This service learning partnership between the two classes started in mid-October, when students began writing letters to each other. The TRHS students then met their Hampstead Central buddies for the first time in November. Students at both schools have been studying how nature plays an integral role in our lives, both past and present.

On November 8<sup>th</sup>, students met to embark on an adventure quest to learn more about nature, Native American culture, and to apply and share the knowledge they had already gained.

Students worked in teams to cycle through eight different learning stations. Teams had to work together to accomplish a specific learning task at each station. They then had to solve a riddle to progress to the next location.

At the library station, students discussed how Native Americans created stories about animals and elements in nature in order to make sense of the world around them. Students then read the illustrated story, *The Lost Children*, together and collaborated to write their own nature story. Other stations required students to collaborate to write poetry, to consider how the landscape was impacted by the arrival of settlers and tribes stemming from the Abenaki, and to consider how Native Americans used games to help chil-



dren to develop the skills necessary to become successful adults.

It was wonderful to see students of different ages working together to problem solve and engage in this learning experience. These relationships will continue throughout the year with a spring culminating event, a Read-A-Thon at Hampstead Central School to raise awareness of literacy and raise funds for a local non-profit group. Congratulations to Mrs. Guanci, Mr. Kelly, and Mr. Hathaway on their hard work in organizing this valuable service learning experience for Timberlane and Hampstead students!

## World Languages: Café and Conversation



On Thursday, November 14, we will begin hosting language immersion lunches in room 215 at the high school. These lunches will run from 10:20 to 1:00 during all high school lunch periods. The ticket to entry is a willingness to speak

only in the target language. Interested students must get a pass out of their lunch period from their language teacher, Mrs. Allaire, or Ms. Widman the morning of the luncheon. We are excited to offer this enrichment opportunity to our

students.

We will kick off this exciting venture with our "table française" and will alternate weeks with a "mesa de español."



# Stick Your Nose In Our Business

## National Business Honor Society

Did you know Timberlane is the only school in the state to have a National Business Honor Society? We are proud to be inducting our second group of students into this organization which centers on excellence in business.

To be considered for membership in NBHS, students must be a Junior or Senior, create a professional resume and essay as well as participate in three or more business classes, with a GPA of 3.0 or better overall, and a

GPA of 3.5 or better in all business classes.

Any student interested in applying next year should talk to Ms. Takesian, Mrs. Bibeau, or Mr. Laird. With a focus on involvement, leadership, and achievement, this honor society is a great way to enhance any college, scholarship, and employment application.

The Timberlane Chapter consists of the following students.



President – Sophia Rendo

Vice President – Matt Duhamel

Treasurer – Colby McCay

Secretary – Christina Nye

Taylor Cook, Abby Goldfarb, Nora Magliocchetti, Louise Schafer, Aaron Sickel, Tyler Weir, and Casey Matthews

## Child Development

Exciting things are going on in Mrs. Cerne's Child Development classes. Students are nearing the end of the prenatal unit. Students have learned about all of the stages of pregnancy; how the baby grows and what changes the mother experiences. They have learned proper nutrition and ways to stay healthy during pregnancy and have also had class discussions on the pros and cons of breastfeeding vs. formula feeding.

Students will be moving towards learning the baby's first year of development. During this unit the students will have the opportunity to become a parent of an infant for an entire weekend. The students are sent home with electronic babies on a Friday afternoon and spend the entire weekend with them, returning them on Monday morning. Students need to keep a running journal of their ex-

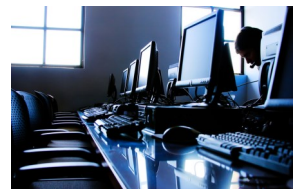
periences during the weekend. This project allows them to gain a real life experience of what their weekends would be like if they were a teen parent. These babies are the real deal, they wake up every two hours, need to be fed, and of course changed! This project has been a great experience for our teenagers here at Timberlane High School.

## Microsoft Office Essentials

Students this year have using new web based software called Skills Assessment Manager (SAM). The software is designed to help restate main topics of a lesson and help students to gain a better understanding of the practical applications that were taught. Students log in and complete a training exercise that involves all of the main concepts for each unit. Once they have

completed the training they take an exam and are tested to make sure they know how to use what they have learned in the Microsoft Office software correctly. Projects are scheduled as well to give students an opportunity to show their work and knowledge of the material. Students who are currently using the program

like that their grade appears instantaneously after each section is completed. The program has many benefits including giving students the opportunity to be certified as a Microsoft Office Specialist.



## What's Happening?

# Ions, Geigers, and Squares...Oh My!!

## Debating in the 21st Century Health Class

A healthy guided debate is a crucial learning experience for many students and has transferrable skills to college or career. Communicating, rationalizing, justifying and evaluating are just some of these skills that students have learned in Katie Strey's Evening Division health class. The debates took place not in a classroom, but in the virtual world of 'Voicethread'. Katie liked this asynchronous approach to debating as she felt that the students were more successful since they spoke less on emotion and more on prepared statements and research. The students had time to prepare their thoughtful statements, and take time to really think about the other side of the debate. The students appreciated this debate venue as they felt more comfortable to voice their opinion without the fear of direct retribution or censure.



The student's big grins, which were splashed in a blue glow from a computer screen, was not due from any YouTube video, or Facebook post, it was due to a PhET simulator in their Physical Science class. The simulator that was generating this excitement was one in which students could build, test and evaluate series and parallel circuits. The advantage of these simulators is that the circuits can be built and evaluated with relative ease and with carefully controlled variables. Because of this, the students could focus on learning the concepts of the circuits and quickly manipulate the variables, to get to the heart of the learning. Many other PhET simulators are

used in science classes so that students can visualize scientific principles (such as atomic bonding), and manipulate variables in systems that are too complex for direct observation (such as nuclear decay, or the movement of glaciers and tectonic plates). These then allow students to conduct inquiry based investigations in ways never before thought imaginable.

## PhUN, PhaNTASTIC, PhETs

## The Colors of Mathematics

Go into any math classroom and one may think that they have stumbled into an art room based upon the array of colors displayed on the board. Many of the math teachers have taken to using many different colors to work on problems so that students can visualize the steps and

see where numbers and operations move throughout a problem. The success of this as a method to display problems is evident by two pieces of anecdotal evidence. The first is the fact that some students take their math notes or do their work with multiple colors in much the same style as the teachers. And two, because some

conversations in the hall have switched from weekend plans, to a discussion of how the multiple colors of math notes has helped to make the process more understandable.

