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HURLEY E - NEWSLETTER



GRADUATION

The Hurley Class of 2021 had their official graduation ceremony on Thursday, May 29th. It was held inside the high school gymnasium, and over a hundred tables were brought in to seat families and friends of the graduates. Both the valedictorian (Shanaya Fleig) and salutatorian (Olivia Harma) gave inspiring speeches to the graduating class, and Mrs. Peterson recited a poem that she had written for the seniors.

After the ceremony, graduates and their families went outside to the front of the school for pictures. They posed in front of the 'Congrats Grads' banner, and got personalized lawn signs to display in front of their houses. Some are staying to attend school at Gogebic Community College, while some are going as far as the Navy. Good luck to all the graduates, no matter where they're headed!



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BOOSTER CLUB

INTERVIEW

Flash Interview with President, Tim France

Q: What led you to become part of the Booster Club?

A: I have always loved high school sports and enjoy watching the kids play the sports. This was one way to give back to the kids and help get things for the programs that the school district could not provide.

Q: Do you enjoy your position?

A: I enjoy the position for one reason, the board that is with me is amazing! They are all very supportive of the kids and programs and go above and beyond to make sure we do all we can for the kids.

Q: What's your favorite part?

A: My favorite part is simply being able to be a part of this wonderful board.

The Hurley Booster Club is the heart of our school's athletic program. For years on end, the club has consistently supported our athletes in every possible way and we, student-athletes, are extremely grateful for them. The 2020-2021 Booster Club is led by President, Tim France while Maria Sokol serves as the Vice-President, Dawn Vogel rests as Treasurer, and Kris Croci stands as the Secretary. This school year has been a challenge for everyone, including the Booster Club. Covid has made it extremely difficult for the club to raise money. This year, there have been no concession stands or game entrance fees at any events, which are usually a tremendous help for the club. Another huge gain for the club is the annual gun raffle but along with many other things, the raffle was called off. Despite the struggles, the Booster Club members found their way around the issue by getting creative with clothing sales all year to raise money.

Currently, the Booster Club is selling clothing at the White Cross Pharmacy on Silver Street, so people can have easier access to purchase the attire. Support the club by checking out the Northstar apparel! The generosity of the Booster Club often remains silent, but the club has assisted our athletes in numerous ways throughout the year. One of the first things the club paid for was Northstar logo masks for the athletes. With a list that goes on, some of the things the club paid for were basketball warmups for both teams; Hudl videoing for both hockey teams; golf team shirts and transportation fees; baseball pitching screens, a swing machine, and a new scoreboard; junior high track shirts; and for pictures to be taken at athletic events.

The Booster Club has gone way past extremes. They cannot be thanked enough for all of the incredible things that they do and for the time spent doing those things. If you'd like to be involved with the Booster Club, they are in need of more members to help the Kids programs at Hurley.

MUSIC

The Hurley Elementary School Singers, under the direction of Ms. Lydia Mattson, had a successful debut performance.

Even with measures to protect against Covid-19, the fourth- and fifth-graders making up the group put on a spectacular show in the high school gym on Sunday, May 20th. The kids had to wear special masks designed for singing, but they didn't let that stop them from performing amazing renditions of “*Sucker*”, by the Jonas Brothers, as well as a medley from the movie “*Sing*”. No one would ever have known that it was their first concert since Christmas of 2019.

SILVER EXPRESS SPECTACULAR

The Silver Express Spectacular! performance was held on the 28th-30th of April. The Express performed renditions of We Can Work it Out by the Beatles, Breakup Song by the Greg Kihn Band, Driving my Life Away by Eddie Rabbitt, Brass in Pocket by The Pretenders, and much more. Great job Silver Express!

CEREMONIES

HONORS AND AWARDS PROGRAM

The Hurley School District Honors, Awards, and Scholarship Program was held on May 28th in the high school gymnasium. The entire high school, as well as part of the middle school, sat in the bleachers to watch the seniors get awarded the scholarships that they'd worked hard all year for.

The program began by honoring students in High School Quiz Bowl, High School Student Council, Yearbook, Silver Express, E-Newsletter, and gave Three Year Choral Recognition. The students involved in these activities were awarded certificates of recognition for their hard work.

SCHOOL SINGERS CONCERT

6TH GRADE SINGERS CONCERT

The sixth grade also had their concert in May 20th. They sang “*Be a Light*” by Thomas Rhett, “*My Shot*” from Hamilton, and “*You will be Found*” from Dear Evan Hansen. Just like the younger group, you would never have been able to tell that they hadn't performed since their Christmas concert in 2019.

“They were all so excited to finally perform. Everyone did such a great job.” Said Ms. Mattson about the concert.

Like the fourth and fifth graders, this show also took place in the high school gym, and with special singing masks. Even with all of these precautions, the choir still sounded as good as always. Great job, choir!

Students were also recognized for their academic achievements and participation in the National Honor Society. Students got pins and letters to put on Letterman jackets to show their achievement in academics.

Seniors were then called up to the stage to receive their scholarships. The wide variety of scholarships given included those for students involved in band, like the US Marine Corps Semper Fidelis Musical Excellence Award, the John Phillips Sousa Award, and the American Legion Music Medal. There were scholarships for those involved in athletics, like the US Marine Corps Distinguished Athlete Award and American Legion Athletic Award. There were also scholarships for academics, like the US Marine Corps Scholastic Excellence Award, and the American Legion Scholastic Award.

ATHLETIC AWARDS BANQUET

This school year has been nowhere near a “normal” school year. The majority of events that usually take place have either been changed or canceled in order to follow the Covid safety guidelines. In the past, there have always been two annual athletic banquets with dinner and awards. This year there was only one athletic gathering and a meal wasn’t able to be served.

The 2021 athletic award ceremony took place on May 26th in the school’s gym rather than the auditorium.

Mr. Lombardo and our amazing coaches sat on the stage, initially set up for graduation, the student-athletes were seated in chairs on the floor, and parents/guests took their place in the bleachers. The awards ceremony began with the Pledge of Allegiance and was followed by the announcement of Hurley’s 2021 WIAA Scholar-Athletes.

The male WIAA Scholar-Athlete award was presented to Mack Eder, who during his senior year participated in football, basketball, and track & field. Then, the female WIAA Scholar-Athlete award was handed to Shanaya Fleig, who was a member of the volleyball team as well as the golf team her senior year. Their dedication to their athletic careers played a role in their selection for this award, but their academic success was the key factor. Shanaya held a cumulative 4.00 GPA and Mack held a cumulative 3.57 GPA while remaining devoted athletes. Both athletically and academically driven, these two graduates fairly earned this award as they deserved.

The night continued and the coach of each sport gave a speech on their season. After each speech, the coaches presented conference awards and individual awards along the lines of MVP, leadership, coach’s choice, and more. After all the coaches had spoken, Mr. Lombardo took back the microphone to recognize team GPA awards and hand out senior recognition awards. Next, he introduced the 2021 Danielle Ladwig Memorial Outstanding Female Senior Athlete Award as well as the 2021 Mickey Brown Memorial Outstanding Male Senior Athlete Award.

CEREMONIES

The Danielle Ladwig award was presented to Mackenzie Backman. Over her high school career, she participated in cross country and softball for four years, basketball for one, and also played travel league softball each summer. Mackenzie has been a committed athlete and has received several conference awards over the past few years. Soon, she will proudly be headed to Madison Area Technical College to continue her softball career while studying to become a traveling radiologist.

Ty Manzanares was named the recipient of the Mickey Brown award. Throughout high school, he was a member of the basketball and baseball teams for four years and also ran cross country for two years. Ty has been a loyal athlete since he was little, but he decided that he’ll wrap up his athletic career when his final baseball season soon ends. When that door closes, Ty will begin his next chapter at Gogebic Community College to obtain his generals, then plans on transferring to UW-Eau Claire to become a teacher.

After those stellar awards were announced, the cheerleading squad led the school song while everyone clapped along in a moment of proudness. Mr. Lombardo then gave his closing remarks and the gym cleared and pictures were taken to close the night. The 2021 athletic awards ceremony was a success despite the Covid odds. A special thank you goes to our Booster Club, Mr. Lombardo, and all of Hurley’s wonderful coaches. Also, a congratulations to all of the award winners and their teammates.

FORMALS

PROM

8TH GRADE BANQUET

The 8th Grade Banquet was held at the school on Thursday, June 3rd. The theme was , and it proved a great way for the newly high schoolers to have fun and be together as a class right before summer vacation. Lexi Haeger played music for everyone to dance to, and Aly Kukowski and Anne Curty took pictures of all of the attendees. They served raviolis, potatoes, chicken, breadsticks, and salad. For desert there was a sundae bar with toppings and giant cookies. Sounds like the dance was a great time!



A group picture of the 8th graders

“A Night Under The Stars” was the theme of this year’s prom that was held May 1st at the Hurley Memorial Building. Last school year, the class of 2021 had their junior prom canceled because of Covid. To make up for their loss, this year’s prom was dedicated to both the classes of 2021 and 2022. Since prom was a two-class collision, there was a royalty court for both grades. The senior court consisted of Cayden Corullo & Kodey Henning, Brooke Ofstad & Ezra Manzer, Mackenzie Backman & Ty Manzanares, Amelia Harma & Joe Cane, Morgan Nasi & Seth Osterman, and Piper Symons & Kazden Ofstad. For the juniors, Darian Bender & Ryder Colassaco, Camryn Down & Kole Joustra, Racheal Kenney & Tony Cummings, Cas Bordner & Tanner Vogel, Natalia Gonzalez & Nate Krone, and Haley Nyquist & Ty Gilbertson, made up their court.

With thirty-three couples and a few people who came solo in attendance, the night under the stars began with the Grand March held outside. The kings and queens were announced; Ty Manzanares and Tony Cummings were named kings and Camryn Down and Cayden Corullo were crowned queens. Pictures followed and the night proceeded with a wonderful dinner catered by Elk & Hound Restaurant. After everyone cleared their plates and set down their forks, the party shifted to the dance floor. To ensure safety against the virus, the students were only able to dance for an hour, but the short time span didn’t affect the turnout as everyone who attended still had a great time. With masks, stunning dresses, and dashing tuxedos, prom 2021 was one of a kind and most definitely one that will be remembered!

SCIENCE FAIR

35 6th graders participated in a science fair headed by Mr. Swartz on May 27th in the commons. Students were tasked with asking or testing a question related to science. Then the 6th graders researched the scientific method and conducted an experiment related to their questions. The 6th graders really did a fantastic job!

KINDERGARTEN GRADUATION

The Kindergarten Graduation was held on Thursday, June 3rd in the high school gymnasium. The kids taking part in this fun yearly tradition go up on stage to share what they want to be when they grow up. Some wanted to be in the Army, one a soccer player, and another a scuba diver, just to name a few. The children also drew their own graduation pictures with the help of teachers Mrs. Swetkovich and Ms. Giancola. The ceremony looked a little different than usual, with everyone wearing masks inside and staying distanced in small pods with their families, but it was still a fun time for the kids and their families. Mr. Genisot, the district administrator, and Mr. Lombardo, the elementary principal, shared remarks while Ms. Kolesar handed out diplomas to the graduating class of 2033. Good luck to all the grads!

ELEMENTARY



Ms. Giancola's kindergarten class



Some of the pictures the graduates drew



Mrs. Swetkovich's kindergarten class

ATHLETICS

SOFTBALL

Last year, Covid struck out both the softball and baseball season. But this year the team came back with six seniors, five juniors, three sophomores, and four freshmen. Coach Jim Kivisto and the girls had their first game on April 30th at Mellen. After winning that game, the team has gone on to a current record of (8-0) in the conference and (18-3) overall. With no losses in the conference, the Hurley softball team currently stands as the number one team. The Northstars have three more regular-season games left to play excluding tournament play which begins with regionals on June 9th. We wish our girls great luck as they continue their season!

BASEBALL

The first pitch of the season was thrown on April 29th at a home game against Ashland. The team including two seniors, five juniors, four sophomores, and seven freshmen have been doing exceptionally well under Aaron Bender's coaching. Presently, the baseball team has a record of (7-1) in the conference, ranking them first as of now. Overall, the Northstars are (8-7) and with the subtraction of tournament play, the boys have five games left. After the last five regular-season games are played, regionals are set to begin on June 10th. To our baseball team: good luck with the remainder of your season!

TRACK (H.S)

From Track Coach Amanda Corullo: The kids have had a great season so far. We have one regular meet left, on Thursday in Ashland and on the 14th we go to the regional meet in Chequamegon. Both teams have been consistently improving at each meet, with most of them placing in all of their events. We have been setting little goals after meets, giving them a time to try to beat or a distance on their jumps or throws to aim for and they are reaching these. We have a lot of talent and potential to advance to the sectional meet, which is on June 17th, with hopes to take a few more to the state meet on June 24th-26th.

TRACK (M.S)

A few weeks ago, the junior high gym classes began going outside to practice for their track season. Head coach, Paul Jurokovich, and the junior high track team officially began their season on May 5th with a meet in Wakefield. This meet was followed by three more meets at Bessemer, Ironwood, and Hurley. Offered for the first time at Hurley, there was also an after-school junior high track team. This team consisted of students who really enjoy the sport and plan on pursuing it in high school. Any student could join, though, only eighteen students did, which after-school coach, Valerie Aijala, said, "Honestly, eighteen is a really good number." The after-school program was a bit more competitive and only consisted of two meets, one in Ashland and one in South Shore. The athletes really enjoyed the competition though and overall, both track teams succeeded and the majority of the students had a lot of fun.

GOLF

The golf team got restarted this year with the help of coaches Paul and Michelle Harma. Since this was their first year, they couldn't advance past regionals due to them not having a conference, but that didn't stop the team from competing well in every meet they went to. With only three seniors and three juniors, the golf team is still young and shows promise for years to come.