

# ER Hughes PTA Reporter

Volume 1 No 4

December 2008

I pledge to be a person of character. My conscience will guide me through the day to have self-control while I work and play. I will be fair, tolerant and kind, and show empathy and respect, always keeping the seven virtues in mind.

## A NOTE FROM YOUR PRESIDENTS

As we look toward drawing 2008 to a close, we want to thank all the amazing parents who support our children through PTA. We are pleased, always, to welcome new faces to our meetings and activities. In fact, we even had first timers at our December meeting. Thank you for your time during such a busy season. Due to your kind donations for children in Iraq, we have 11 huge boxes to mail. (We are still seeking postage donations.) Now, as we continue our virtue, Conscience, we ask you to recycle your used sneakers. Boxes are in the lobby to collect your donations. (Please make sure sneakers are free of caked-on dirt.) We are always humbled by the generosity of our school population. Thank you, in advance, for making this drive successful. On behalf of ourselves, and the entire Executive Board, we wish you a joyous holiday season with much laughter and love. See you at our meeting in the New Year!

Susan Nackley Mojave and Missy Love  
Co-Presidents, ER Hughes PTA

## IRAQI TOY DRIVE

The toy drive was a huge success! We were able to box up 11 large boxes for the Iraqi children. Anyone who wishes to give more and has a desire to help with the last endeavor towards sending these wonderful donations to Iraq, please write a check for any amount of money payable to ER Hughes PTA with "donation for children in Iraq" in the memo and put in an envelope marked PTA. We cannot thank you enough for your continued generosity.

## HEALTH AND SAFETY

The school district will be purchasing a computer-based program called Student Messenger. This program is capable to making all the calls that are currently being made by the parents in our emergency phone tree. More details will be provided as we get closer to having the program up and running. We anticipate having this system in place by the start of the next school year.

As always it is imperative that everyone update their personal information. We have developed a New Updated Information Form for parents. They are available in the main office. If anyone has changes to their personal information or wants to change the order in which their contacts are called, now is the time to do it. With the installation of the new Student Messenger system on the horizon, we want to make sure we get off to an accurate start.

At WKTV's website, parents can sign-up for their text message service for free. WKTV will send a text message to your cell phone (standard text messaging rates apply) when school will be closed or if there is going to be an early release.

If anyone would like to help with volunteering their time at the upcoming events at school, please email Marlene Biernat at [m.biernat@roadrunner.com](mailto:m.biernat@roadrunner.com) or Denise Powers at [7yankees@roadrunner.com](mailto:7yankees@roadrunner.com). We could always use the help with monitoring all the entrances and exits of school at events.

## SPIRIT WEAR

Our spirit wear sale was a huge success! The profit made from this fundraiser was \$1424.95. The money will be allocated to the classroom libraries. Thank you again for your support!

## ECOLOGY CLUB

Team Climoze competed at SUNY IT on 11/16 and won Best Overall Project Presentation. The team also competed on 12/6 with 18 teams at Clarkson University. Team Climoze was awarded this year's Champion Award. This award was presented to Team Climoze for its robot design, robot performance, project presentation and teamwork. The team's innovative use of sensor technology actuators and attachments stood out along with their creative combination of programming. Above all, their team spirit, team participation and unobtrusive advisor support rounded out the team's accomplishments. Winning this award qualifies the team for an invitation to the World Festival in Atlanta, GA in April 2009! Congratulations, Team Climoze!

Ecology club will meet on Monday, December 15 from after school until 4:15 in the school library.

## GRADE 6<sup>th</sup> GRADUATION

The 6<sup>th</sup> grade t-shirts are being finalized and the students will have them after the winter break. Sixth grade parents with questions should contact Lorey Zaman-Allard at [loreyzaman@yahoo.com](mailto:loreyzaman@yahoo.com) or 724-[REDACTED]

## YEARBOOK

Continue to send your photos to [lzaman@nhart.org](mailto:lzaman@nhart.org).

## [WWW.hughespta.com](http://www.hughespta.com)

Our website has been revamped with what we hope will be a user friendly format. Check it out! If you want something posted on the site, all you have to do is email [editor@hughespta.com](mailto:editor@hughespta.com) and Voila! It is done!



CONSCIENCE: KNOWING  
THE RIGHT AND DECENT WAY  
TO ACT AND ACTING THAT WAY

## RoboSpartans WIN AT RPI

The NH RoboSpartans earned top honors at the 2008 First LEGO League Tech Valley Challenge at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute on 12/6. The RoboSpartans received 1<sup>st</sup> place for robot design and 3<sup>rd</sup> place for single round performance. They were one of two teams to receive dual trophies in the three categories of judging. This is the second first place trophy for the RoboSpartans who won the SUNY IT LegoBot Tournament in November. At RPI, the team was interviewed and shadowed by a PBS film crew for an upcoming robotics television special. The RoboSpartans next tournament will be at Marist College on January 17, 2009. Congratulations RoboSpartans!

## PTA COUNCIL

Here are some highlights from the November Council meeting:

The technology department is reviewing the New Student Information Services before implementing the Emergency Notification System.

The field carpet is down at the HS.

A subcommittee is looking at the Athletic Code of Conduct.

The Make a Difference breakfast raised \$700 for the NH Senior Center.

The Leatherstocking Region is having a winter workshop on 1/28 to offer officer training and nomination/election workshops for PTA members.

## IMPORTANT DATES

December 15: K-6 Assembly, 9:15 am  
December 18: Classroom Parties, 2 pm  
December 22-January 2: Winter Recess  
January 6 & 20: Board of Education, 7 pm  
January 8: Hughes PTA meeting, 1:30 pm