

The Hawks Eye

Volume 1, Issue 1

December 2007

Guidance News

Freshman Exploratory Career Selection Night

VINAL TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2008

6:00 P.M. TO 8:00 P.M.

SNOW DATE

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2008

6:00 P.M. TO 8:00 P.M.

COLLEGE PLANNING NIGHT
FOR JUNIOR PARENTS/GUARDIANS
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2008

6:30 P.M.

SNOW DATE

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2008

6:30 P.M.

ASVAB TEST

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2008

SNOW DATE

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2008



On behalf of the Vinal administration, faculty and staff, I would like to wish Happy Holidays to our entire school community. To date, we have had many successes this year and we look forward to many more in the new year. Many thanks for your support because we all need to be working together to ensure the best possible education for your students. Many of our students have been working hard this year and we are proud of their achievements. Students, enjoy the break and be ready to work diligently when you return. Let's make sure that we all make smart decisions over the holidays and return to school in the new year safe and sound. Happy New Year to all!

Our school newsletter will be published on our website monthly or bimonthly for the remainder of the school year. In so doing, we hope to create yet another enduring link between our students, their parents, and our staff. Please check the Vinal website for updated notices and events throughout the year.

Sheila Fredson, *Principal*

Please visit our school
website at:

www.cttech.org/vinal

For more information on
activities and events!



PFO NEWS

The Vinal Parent Faculty Organization (PFO) meets the first Wednesday of every month at 6:30 p.m. in the Media Center. Please join us and bring your ideas!

Scrip (gift cards) are available throughout the year. You pay face value and the PFO earns a percentage. What could be easier than that? Order forms can be downloaded from the Vinal Website on the PFO page.

Keep a look out for details on the next Butterbraid fundraiser in February and a trip to Mohegan Sun on 4/4/08 (must be over 21).

TECHNOLOGY UPDATES

Electrical and HVAC – 11th and 12th grade students in both technologies are busy are working on a newly constructed log cabin home located in Higganum. The project is a unique experience for the students involved. Mr. William Zisk, Electrical Department Head and Kurt Paskiewicz, HVAC Department Head are working with students. The building contractor for the home project is a graduate of E.C. Goodwin Technical High School. Our technically talented students are hard at work!

CADD and Manufacturing - Twenty-five students in both technologies are taking part in an Engineering Challenge made possible by Connecticut Business & Industry Association's (CBIA) Technology and Engineering Program at Manchester Community College. Mr. Dave Herrington, CADD Department Head and Mr. Michael Hood, Manufacturing Department Head, selected the students who are participating. The students attend four consecutive Saturdays to work on fine-tuning their team building skills, participate in leadership workshops and brush up on their technical writing skills. If students attend all four sessions they receive a \$300 stipend. The program is designed and run by the Birch Group LLC and funding is provided by the National Science Foundation.

ACADEMIC NEWS

CAPT Prep - Students in 9th and 10th grade are donning their CAPT thinking caps! Math and Science packets are distributed to all students at the end of

every academic cycle to help students prepare for testing. Students are expected to complete the packets before they return to their next academic cycle.

Pathway to the Stars – Science instructor, Paul Leonowich, is busy working with students in science classes building a telescope. After receiving a \$500 grant from the Middletown Board of Education, Mr. Leonowich got busy securing assistance for the project. Chris Reilly, Electro-mechanical Department Head, provided Mr. Leonowich with a contact at Zygo Corporation. Mr. John Filhaber of Zygo was interested in assisting with the project. He donated two 10.5 inch pyrex blanks which will eventually become the primary mirror. Mr. Filhaber also brings a wealth of technical expertise in building a telescope. With Mr. Filhaber's assistance, the students are busy grinding the mirror and will hopefully reach the required depth by January. The project completion of the mirror is slated for June 2008 and the overall completion of the telescope should be by the end of the 2009 school year. Stay tuned for more updates on this project.

NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY NEWS

NHS is hosting a school-wide food drive until the end of January. Non-perishable food items will be donated to local food banks. A collection box will be placed in the Business Office and NHS members will pick up items from homerooms once a week. Please help NHS and send in a non-perishable food item with your son or daughter! Mrs. Lee and Mrs. Casey are the advisors for NHS.

ATHLETIC UPDATE

Hats off to our boy's soccer team for making it to the conference finals!

The winter athletic season is well underway. Boys and girls basketball, wrestling and rifle have full schedules for the season. Teams can always use the support of enthusiastic fans at their games. Please support our athletes! For a complete list of our winter sports schedules visit our school website at:

www.cttech.org/vinal You may also visit the CIAC website for a complete list of directions to away games and matches at www.casciac.org

CALENDAR UPDATES

JANUARY

JANUARY 1, 2008 – NEW YEAR'S DAY – NO SCHOOL .

JANUARY 9, 2008 – FINANCIAL AID NIGHT – 7:00 P.M.

JANUARY 10, 2008 – FINANCIAL AID NIGHT (SNOW DATE) – 7:00 P.M

JANUARY 21, 2008 – MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY – NO SCHOOL

JANUARY 30, 2008 – SHORTENED DAY – 12:11 P.M. DISMISSAL FOR STUDENTS

LOOKING AHEAD TO FEBRUARY

FEBRUARY 6 & 7, 2008 – TRIMESTER 2 BENCHMARK EXAM (GRADE 11)
CAPT WILL COUNT FOR GRADE 10 ASSESSMENT

FEBRUARY 12, 2008 – LINCOLN'S BIRTHDAY – NO SCHOOL

FEBRUARY 13, 2008 – CAREER SELECTION NIGHT – 5:30 P.M.

FEBRUARY 13 & 14, 2008 – TRIMESTER 2 BENCHMARK EXAM (GRADE 9 & 12)

FEBRUARY 15, 2008 – SHORTENED DAY – 12:11 P.M. DISMISSAL FOR STUDENTS

FEBRUARY 18, 2008 – PRESIDENT'S DAY – NO SCHOOL

FEBRUARY 19TH TO 22ND, 2008 – FEBRUARY VACATION

PHOTO HIGHLIGHTS



Log cabin in Higganum



The mirror grinding process begins!



Mr. Filhaber and Mr Leonowich getting ready to grind the telescope mirror



Mr. John Birch of the Birch Group LLC



CADD & Manufacturing students at the Engineering Challenge

SKILLSUSA NEWS

The SkillsUSA organization is well underway with many activities planned for the 2007/2008 school year. Mrs. Leahy and Mr. Balch would like to remind all students that they are welcome to become involved with SkillsUSA.

For more information about Vinal Tech's chapter of SkillsUSA, check out the school web page at www.cttech.org/vinal. Click on the link for **Student Activities** and then the link for **SkillsUSA**. You may also check out the national SkillsUSA website at www.skillsusa.org.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday – 12/21/07 – Holiday Movie Time - \$3.00 per person

Wednesday – 1/9/08 – Bowl-A-Thon - \$15.00 per person –

Proceeds will be used to purchase Build-A-Bears for patients at the CT Children's Medical Center

Sunday – 1/20/08 – Laser Tag Lockin – 12 midnight to 7 a.m.- price includes laser tag all night, pizza, refreshments and breakfast in the morning - \$40.00 per person

Friday – 1/18/08 – Blood Drive in the Gym – Students 17 years of age and over are encouraged to sign up and donate...Help save a life!!!

1/28/08 to 2/7/08 – Nutmeg Fundraiser – All students are encouraged to participate in this school-wide fundraiser to support the activities of SkillsUSA

2/4/08 to 2/28/08 – Pre-Qualification Exam Testing Window – All 10th, 11th, and 12th grade students who are interested in competing in trade areas for the CT SkillsUSA Leadership and Skills Conference must take a pre-qualification exam to be eligible. The exam is free to all Vinal Tech students. For more information, please contact one of the advisors.

To contact the SkillsUSA advisors for questions or for more information about our upcoming events please email at:

Michele Leahy – michele.leahy@ct.gov

William Balch – william.balch@ct.gov



Our Accomplishments



Soccer Team Makes it All the Way to the Conference Finals

The Vinal Tech Soccer Team made it all the way to the Constitution State Conference Finals. The team played very well losing 5-1 to last year's Champions Sports Science. Congratulations to all of the players and Coach Lawrence for a great season!.



TEAM STATS

Most Improved - Mike Lawrence
Coaches Award - Brandon Chabot
Defender Award - Dylan Cruz
Goal Keeper Award - Jeff Roy

1st Team All Conference - Matt Santangelo
2nd Team - Fred Jones
Honorable Mention - Dylan Cruz and Jeff Roy

