



HACKETT HAPPENINGS

HACKETT CATHOLIC PREP

381-2646

December 2015/January 2016

We Invite You to be Involved with the Annual Shamrock Auction

We are pleased to announce that plans for the 2016 Shamrock Auction are under way. As you may know, The Shamrock Auction is an essential part of Hackett Catholic Prep's annual fundraising activities and will be held this year on **Saturday, March 5th**. In addition to silent and live auctions, the event includes dinner and dancing to live music. **Please save the date and plan to attend this exciting event.**

The success of this fundraiser depends largely on the generosity of individuals and businesses in our community making donations to the silent and live auctions. Please take some time to consider if you, your family or friends are able to help by donating items for our Silent or Live Auctions! Past donations have included:

- Hand crafted furniture
- Week/weekend stays at vacation properties
- Tickets to sporting/concert events
- Dinner parties and barbeques
- Fine jewelry
- Signed sports jerseys
- A variety of services



Please consider making a donation to the Shamrock Auction 2016 and being a part of this important fundraiser. Nothing is too big or too small. Note that Hackett Catholic Prep has 501(c)3 status. If you have items to donate or a connection to share, please contact **Sarah Harding at sharding@csbk.org or 269-217-8289.**

If you have any questions about the auction or would like to join the event committee please contact co-chairs **Jane and Steve Clark at ud89jtc@chartermi.net or Kate Willard in the Advancement Office at kwillard@csbk.org.**

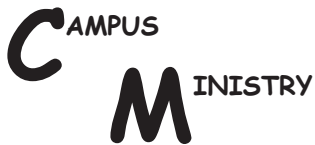
Thank You!



Important Dates

Dec. 2	MSU Jazz Orchestra see flyer - page 10
Dec. 5	Winter Formal
Dec. 9	CSGK Band Concert 7PM
Dec. 10	HCP Choir Concert 7:00 PM
Dec. 12	Fire Up Irish @5:30
Dec. 12	Placement Test*
Dec. 15	Exam 1-2 11:00 Dismissal
Dec. 16	Exam 3-4 11:00 Dismissal
Dec. 17	Exam 5-6 11:00 Dismissal
Dec. 18	Exam 7 and locker cleanout
Dec. 21- Jan 3	Christmas Break
Jan.4	School Resumes
Jan. 30	Placement Test*
Jan. 31 to Feb. 5	Catholic Schools Week
Feb. 4	All Schools Mass
Feb. 10	Conferences 6-8 PM
Feb 11	Conferences 9am to 1pm
Feb. 11-12	No School- Conferences
Feb. 22	Sophomore Ring Ceremony 7 PM
All Retreats are required	
Feb. 22	Sophomore Retreat
Feb. 23	Freshman Retreat
Feb. 24	Junior Retreat
Feb. 25	Senior Retreat

*See page 7 for explanation



Hackett's Respect Life Group Annual Washington D.C. Trip March and Rally for Life 2016

Hackett's Respect Life Group will be participating in their nineteenth trip to Washington D.C. for the annual March and Rally for Life in January in support of life and to pray for an end to abortion. We will participate in the Mass and youth activities sponsored by the Archdiocese of Washington D.C. We will learn ways to respond to the Pope's call to be a more effective witness for the gospel of life.

Our group will depart Hackett Tuesday, January 19th and return Saturday morning, January 23rd. Please pray for a safe trip and for our students.

Service Hours Due

December 4th is the deadline for the 1st 10 hours of service

see page 4 for details

Alternative Spring Break 2016

Hackett students will be traveling south once again this year to help those in need during spring break. Tentative dates are April 2nd to April 9th. The cost of the trip will depend on where we will travel as it largely depends on the cost of the bus. Three options to date are Tampa, Florida, South Carolina and Biloxi, Mississippi.

Talk to any student or adult that has been on this trip and they will tell you that it is very fun and rewarding! Please consider sending your student. A check for \$50 made out to HCP will hold your spot!!! E-mail Pat Byrne at pbyrne@hackettcp.org with questions.

Weather or Not!

When inclement weather strikes, the major concern of school officials is the safety and well being of the students.

Please be advised that there is an abundance of media coverage whenever adverse winter weather strikes. It is helpful to remember that if Kalamazoo or Portage schools close for snow, then Hackett is closed also. It is not always easy to get through to the radio and TV stations, so be advised that we will be closed whenever our major transportation carriers, Kalamazoo or Portage are not in session.

In the event that a weather situation will necessitate a school cancellation or delay, either prior to or during the school day, Hackett will be connecting with WWMT, channel 3 TV, WQLR 106.5 FM Radio, and WKZO 590 AM Radio. Closings and other pertinent information will also be sent via our twitter feed @HackettCatholic.

It is not advisable to call the school for weather-related closing information, because it is important that we keep our lines of communication open.

A Change for 2015-2016

We have a slight change to our school closing practice this year. As many of you know, Hackett Catholic Prep is dependent on both Kalamazoo Public Schools (KPS) and Portage Public Schools (PPS) for busing transportation. In the event either school system is closed for snow, HCP will also be closed. However, with cold days, we will make our own decision (in cooperation with St. Augustine Cathedral and St. Monica schools). You may see a 2-hour delay due to cold weather, or we may be in session all day (in spite of the cold weather). Please watch WWMT or WOOD TV for school closings, or sign up with WWMT or WOOD TV to alert you with a text message when HCP is closed. You can also check our website for weather closings or delays.

Office Hours

- Dec. 15-17 7:00AM - 11:30AM
Exams (2 each day)
- Dec. 18 7:00AM - Office will close following the
7th hour Exam
- Dec. 19 Christmas break begins

During Christmas break,(December 21st through January 3rd) the school office will be closed. Regular office hours will begin on January 4th at 7:00 AM

Normal Office hours are:

Monday - Friday 7:00 AM to 3:30 PM



We are rapidly approaching the time of year when deadlines are due for the submission of college applications. It is essential seniors observe the application timelines.

It is important to be aware of the following guidelines when completing your college applications:

- Allow at least two weeks for processing the college applications through the Guidance Office. You should be cognizant of the college's deadlines and remember as the holidays rapidly approach, mailing will take longer. Ask for letters of recommendation well in advance! Be sure to include a "resume" of your activities, to assist with the development of the recommendation. This information should include: leadership positions you have held, volunteer work you have performed, any significant accomplishments you have had, awards you have received, sports you have been involved in, etc. To ensure processing & mailing before Christmas break, all applications must be turned in by Friday, December 4th. (If your college application deadline is between January 1st and January 15 we must receive your application by December 4th as well.)

- The Guidance Office will be closed during Christmas break.

- FAFSA (Financial Aid Forms) help call 1-800-4-FED-AID or go to their web site at www.fafsa.gov. FAFSA information should be submitted between January 1 and March 1, 2016.

The ACT and SAT websites are:
www.act.org
www.collegeboard.com.

We strongly recommend you take the writing portion of the ACT. You cannot just take the writing portion of the test alone. Most college admissions offices require that your ACT/ SAT score results be sent directly to them from the testing agency. Remember to order your test scores!

Internet

Applying online to a college is quite common. Some schools will waive the registration fee if you apply online. Even when students apply on line, the Guidance Office needs a printed copy of your online application before you submit/"send" it; print the Counselor recommendation section and give it to Mrs. Byrne, in the Guidance Office. We will then send your official transcript, paper letters of recommendation, etc. all in one mailing. We keep a copy of all information Hackett has sent to your colleges.

Transcripts

All students must register with Parchment at www.parchment.com, in order to have their transcripts electronically sent to the colleges in which they are applying. Once registered, students will need to "order" their transcripts and a request will be sent to the Guidance Office. Once the request is approved, students will be able track and see when their transcript has been downloaded by the institution.

Tips for College

- Personal visits are the best method to see if you would like the college or university of your choice.

- Each college has its strengths. If you know what area you would like to study, look for the school which has the area of expertise you are seeking. We have several books in the library/ media center and the Guidance Office to assist you.

- Take the ACT with writing or SAT with writing twice. The second test score generally shows improvement.

- Never pay for a financial aid search. Your College Financial Aid Office Representatives are available to talk with you about financial aid. Contact them to ask your questions!

More News:

Each spring, juniors throughout the State of Michigan are required to take the Michigan Merit Examination. This year it will be given over a three day period, on Tuesday, April 12, Wednesday, April 13 and Thursday, April 14, 2016. More information will follow.

Attention

Junior Parents and Students

Junior Information Night will take place on Wednesday, January 13, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. in Hackett's Cafeteria. Junior year is a critical time in high school. Our goal is to make each of you feel comfortable, prepared, and less anxious about the next year. We strongly encourage your attendance at this important informational meeting.

GRAD BASH NEWS!

Grad Bash 2016 will be June 5th.
Upcoming fundraisers to support
Grad Bash:

Wine tasting at St. Julian's on January 30th. Tickets are \$25 & are available online through the Pay Portal or at the home basketball games on Dec 11th, Dec 15th & Jan 15th.

Ample Pantry dinners will be available for pick up at the Feb 10th conferences. Dinner packs are \$20 & must be purchased in advance through the Pay Portal or by sending a check to the office.

Details for both fundraisers can be found on the HCP web site.

ACT, SAT AND NEW SAT PRACTICE

Hackett Catholic Prep students are very fortunate to be the recipient of a generous donation for all our students to have access to Method Test Prep (MTP). MTP is used by over 1,000 schools across the country and globe. This online test prep program breaks down the ACT and SAT into short digestible sections to help students easily prepare for the exams at their own pace. Just 15 minutes per day can help students increase scores by 120 points on the SAT and 3 or more points on the ACT.

This April, our juniors will be taking the Michigan Merit Exam (MME) which includes the NEW SAT. Juniors should be using MTP to prepare for this exam. High assessment scores open doors to more college, university and scholarship opportunities for your student. A practice SAT exam will be given on Saturday, February 20th at 8 A.M. in the cafeteria. The cost is \$25.00. Further information to follow after the first of the year.

Students are allowed to access MTP from the website >Guidance & Counseling (under Academics). Scroll to the bottom and click on the Method Test Prep button. Most students have already created an account. If your student has not, please feel free to create one. If your student has forgotten their log in information please contact Mrs. Byrne at pbyrne@hackettcp.org

CAREER CRUISING

During Parent-Teacher Conferences, information was made available to parents about their student's participation in a new web-based program called Career Cruising (CC), a comprehensive tool to aid your child in searching careers, colleges and universities, scholarships, scheduling their schedules and more! So far, students has assessed their learning style, they've found careers that match their current interests, and they've learned to see if they have the skills to match their interested careers! We encourage parents to sign up for their own CC account so you can also watch your student's portfolio grow and evolve, and help them prepare for their future! If you would like your parent access information, please contact Mrs. Hargarther at bhargarther@hackettcp.org or Pat Byrne at pbyrne@hackettcp.org so you can log on today! You may ask your student to show you their account by logging onto the Hackett website > Guidance & Counseling (under Academics) scroll to the bottom and click on the Career Cruising button. Most students in grades 9 – 11 have created accounts and changed their passwords. If they have forgotten their password, please call the Guidance office.

*Merry Christmas
and
Happy New Year*

Service Hours Due

Just a reminder that December 4th is the deadline for the first 10 of your student's 20 minimum hours of community service to be completed, submitted, and approved on www.x2vol.com. Please encourage your student to stay current with their community service record, and log their hours on x2vol as soon as possible after they've completed them.

Please also check the x2vol Dashboard periodically for reminders and updated information about your student's community service requirements.

For Junior/Senior students: If your student is interested in volunteering at a different non-profit agency than what is listed on the x2vol Dashboard, please have them stop by the Guidance Office to let us know what organization they are considering BEFORE THEY PROVIDE SERVICE FOR THAT AGENCY. We will have them complete a "Non-Profit Agency Approval" form, and verify that the agency qualifies for the requirement. Without this form, hours completed at an agency not on the approved list may not be counted towards their "Required Non-Profit" goal.

Please be aware that fundraising for the benefit of any school clubs/groups/teams that a student is a member of cannot be counted towards yearly service requirements. Fundraisers that benefit the entire school (such as the Shamrock Auction) can be used, however, towards their "Required" goal.

If you have any questions about community service requirements, please contact Barb Hargarther in the Guidance Office at bhargarther@hackettcp.org or (269)381-2646 Ext. 122."

Bittersweet Ski Passes

Does your family or student like to ski? Well, we have the deal for you! Bittersweet is offering reduced rates with a ski pass for students ages 7 and up, including high school students and adults. The passes can be sold to anyone, even friends and relatives that are not part of the Hackett community. **Student passes are \$16.00 and adult passes are \$16.00 each** which allows you to receive reduced rates when you want to ski. Hackett does not provide transportation to Bittersweet.

Students: If you are interested, please fill out a Bittersweet Ski Club form available in the main office, include a check made payable to Bittersweet for \$16.00. No picture needed for student passes.

Adults: Please fill out the form for an adult ski pass and enclose a check for \$16.00. No picture is necessary for adult passes.

Any questions can be directed to **Linda Pickornik at 381-2646 ext. 108 or 269-501-7714**. The deadline to get your pass before Christmas break is **December 12, 2015**.

Welcome to the Bittersweet Adult Ski Club Program

Adult ski club cards offer discounted lift tickets & rental equipment during the following times:

Monday-Friday 10AM to 10PM

Weekends-Holidays 3 PM to 10:30 P.M

Please fill out this form and return to school with \$16.00 (checks made out to Bittersweet)

Adult Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Sex _____ Age _____

***Student ski forms are available in the main office**

Please Note:

When presenting a pass purchased from HCP to Bittersweet, the cost of a lift ticket for Student is \$16.00. The cost for Adult Lift tickets are \$20.00. The passes are valid after 3PM on weekends and holidays.

Without the pass, it would cost \$32.00 to ski on weekdays and \$40.00 on weekends and holidays.

Theatre Save the Date



Coming to the Hackett Stage

March 20, 21, 27 & 28, 2015

Upcoming Events for the Hackett Band

December:

- Dec 9: CSGK Christmas Band Concert, Hackett Auditorium, 7pm

January:

- Jan 16: VanderCook College of Music All-Catholic Honor Band, 8am-5pm

Choir Concert

Hackett Catholic Prep Choir has prepared a feast of wonderful Christmas music - everything from Bach and Handel to Pentatonix with some classic old favorites like **It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year** and **Do you Hear What I Hear** added to the mix. There will also be a visit from someone who kids young and old just love! We will also have an old-fashioned carol sing. The concert begins at **7 pm** in the Hackett auditorium on **Thursday, December 10, 2015**.

ATHLETIC DIRECTOR'S CORNER

Irish Athletic Highlights Spring and Fall 2015

The Women's Track team won the Regional Championship. Maggie Smith '15 set two new school records for shot put (36'5") and discus (127'2").

The Men's Golf team were District Champions and Regional Runners-Up, ending the season as 4th in the state.

Women's Tennis player Natalie Moyer '18 finished with a record of 16-3 and was named All-State.

The Women's Golf team were Conference, Regional and State Champions for the second year in a row. Lizzie Stull '16 and Naomi Keyte '17 were named First Team All-State. Becca Radomsky '16 was named to the Academic All-State First Team.

The Men's Soccer team were Divisional, District, and Regional Champions and played for the state championship, where they were Runners-Up.

Women's Cross Country finished their season as Regional Champions and Team State Qualifiers. Mary Ankenbauer '18 was third place in the state.

Men's Cross Country was second in the region and 16th in the state. Mitch Yelton '16 was named First Team All-Conference.

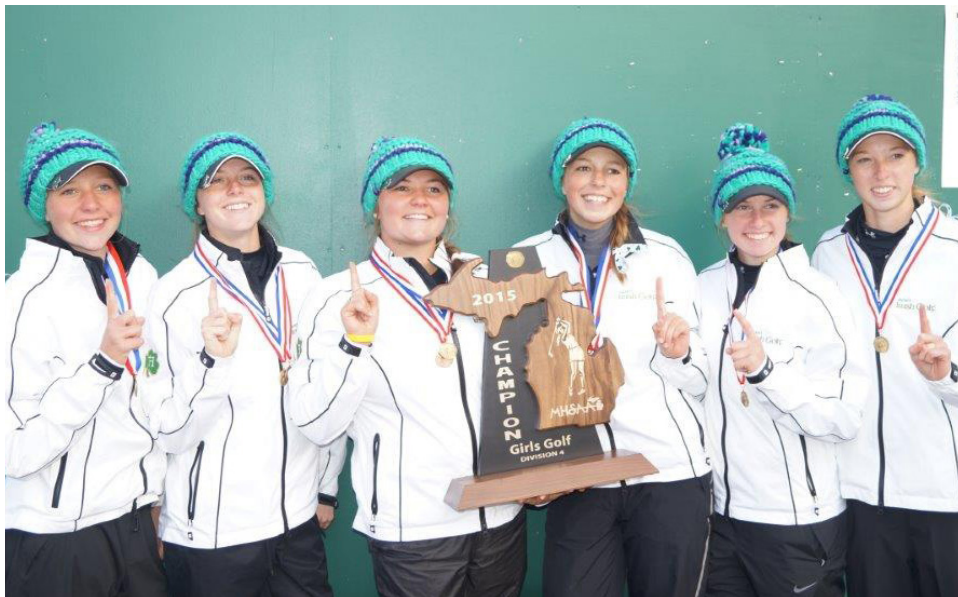
Football player Jacob Buchmann '16 was named First Team All-Conference.

Men's Tennis finished second in the conference and 16th in the state, Henry Hedeman '17 was named First Team All-State.

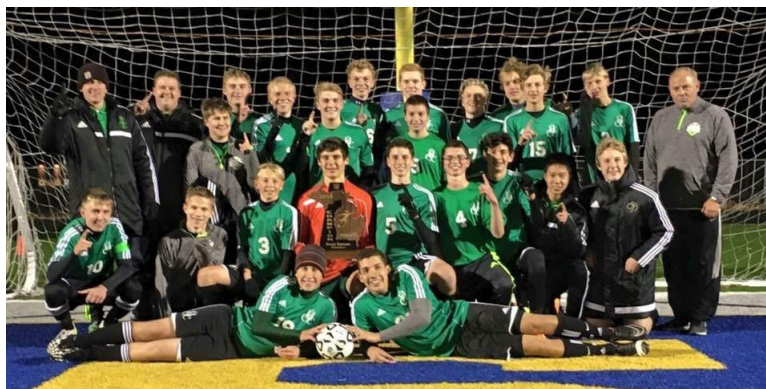
Volleyball took third place in their division. Rachel Harding '17 was named First Team All-Conference.

Our Students
Shine!

Congratulations!



Women's Golf team wins State Title



Soccer Regional Winners
Fall of 2015



The 2015-16 CSGK Annual Fund

The **2015-16 CSGK Annual Fund** mailing will arrive in your mailbox very soon. We ask you to partner with our faculty and staff in support of the mission of our schools—to provide an education that develops our students in mind, body and spirit and enables them to succeed now and in the future.

Why the Annual Fund?

Tuition alone does not entirely cover the cost of educating a student in our schools. In fact, total tuition covers approximately 65% of the cost with an additional 29% covered by our eight partner parishes. The Annual Fund, then, provides the critical dollars that fill the gap and also allows our schools to maintain tuition rates that are as affordable as possible for our CSGK families.

Our largest and most important fundraising effort, the Annual Fund is made up of thousands of individual gifts—each and every one of them needed and appreciated! These gifts come from our teachers, parents, grandparents, alumni, parents of alumni, parishioners and friends who join together to sustain the exceptional education of the CSGK.

Your gift—of any size—to the Annual Fund will allow CSGK to:

- Deliver strong educational programming to our students
- Support the ongoing professional development of our faculty
- Improve our buildings and facilities
- Provide tools and technology necessary for the advancement of 21st century learning

Through the Annual Fund, gifts of all sizes combine to make a big difference. Thank you for considering an endorsement of our mission and an investment in our schools through the 2015-2016 Annual Fund. We are truly grateful for your support.

Kate Willard
CSGK Advancement Director

Placement Test December 12 January 30

This year, we are offering a High School Placement Test on two dates: December 12 and January 30. This is a test for all incoming freshmen including our 8th grade students at St. Augustine Cathedral School and St. Monica Catholic School.

Test begins at 8am, registration is 7:45 am. We are offering coffee, donuts and tours for interested parents during the test.



We wish you a
safe and
blessed
Christmas

Sophomore Ring Ceremony

February 22nd
7 PM in the
Auditorium
More Information to Follow

LUNCH INFORMATION** 2015-2016

****This is the correct information for lunch prices that were effective January of 2015. The last issue of The Happenings had the wrong prices.**

To accommodate for the rising cost of food and supplies, we will be raising some of the food prices at Hackett beginning on January 5, 2015

The price for the Combo Lunch will be \$3.00.

Ala Carte Fries are \$1.00.

Little Caesars Pizza will be offered every Tuesday and Domino's Pizza will be offered every Thursday, for the \$3.00 Combo Lunch.

Extra Entrees with a Combo Lunch will be \$1.50.
All Ala Carte lunch entrees without a Combo Lunch will be \$2.00.

COMBO MEAL \$3.00

1. Entrée
2. Vegetable and/or Fruit
3. Milk

Students are encouraged to pre-pay for lunch by sending a check/cash to HCP in an envelope with the student's name, to the attention of Mary Hudson.

Pre-paying for lunches helps to move the kids through the line more efficiently.

All the new prices will be posted in the cafeteria for the students to see.

Monthly menus are posted on the HCP web site, and the lunch lines.

Call Rhonda Clark at 381-2646 ext. 124 if you have any questions.

Looking for a perfect Christmas Gift? Give a Brick



Please engrave my brick
as follows:

Brick Sizes and Rates

\$125 Contribution
4" x 8" brick
3 lines with 14 characters

\$250 Contribution
8" x 8" brick
6 lines with 14 characters

\$500 Contribution
8" x 8" stamped brass brick
6 lines with 14 characters



Your Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip : _____

Phone: _____

Amount Enlosed: _____

Questions? Call Linda Pickornik in the Advancement Office