

# JOHN HERSEY HOMEFRONT



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

January 2024

## From the Principal's Desk

A warm welcome back to our entire John Hersey High School community. I hope the holiday break provided an opportunity to enjoy time with family and friends, as well as to recharge your batteries for the semester ahead. If you think the first semester went by fast, buckle up - the 2nd Semester always seems to go by at the blink of an eye. Although there's so much to look forward to in our 2nd semester, this edition of Homefront is a Semester Snapshot, a special look into the achievements and progress within each of our academic areas. This includes some engaging features that spotlight the distinctive accomplishments of our students!

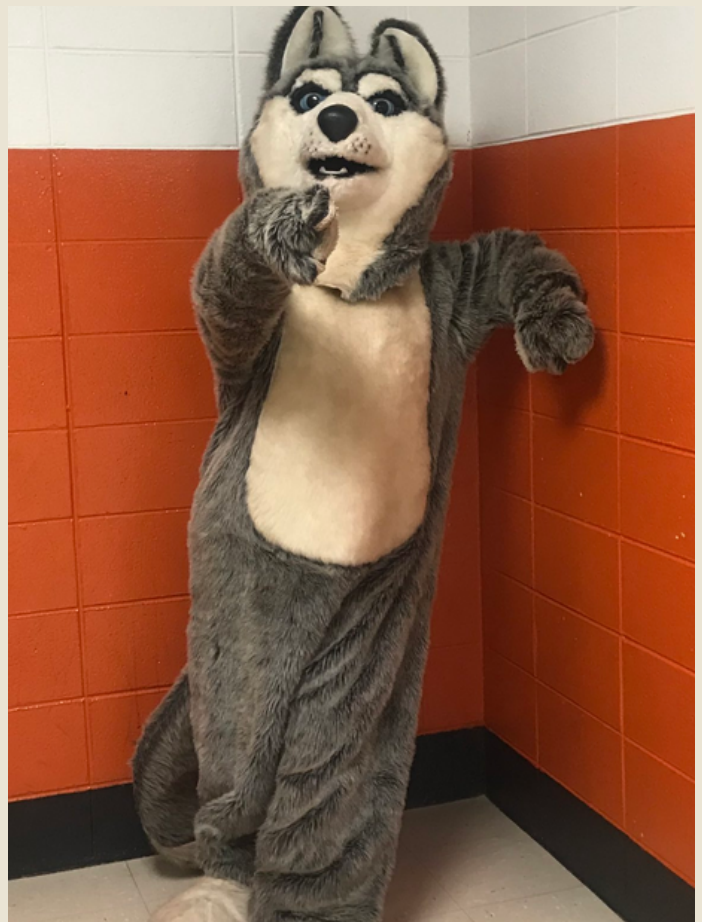
*H. McFaul*

## HERSEY TRIVIA

1. What is the name of the Hersey Huskies mascot?
2. What year did Hersey win the IHSA State Championship in football?
3. Which First Lady spoke at a Hersey Graduation Ceremony?



Think you know the answers? Scan or select the link - prizes awarded to 10 random participants with correct answers! Due by January 30th



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## Snapshot: Fine Arts



**Marching Band:**  
Band Director, Spencer Hile lead another successful Marching Band season, culminating in a top rating in Class 4A



**Fall Musical:**  
Sarah Wade made her Hersey Musical Directorial debut with Tuck Everlasting

### Upcoming Events:

- January 20 - Debate @ Highland Park High School
- January 20 - Symphonic Band Competition @ U of I
- January 26 - Jazz Band I @ ILMEA Conference in Peoria
- January 27 - MSL Speech Conference @ Harper

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## Snapshot: **ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS**



**Andrea  
Arana**



**Miguel  
Aenlle**



**Lillian  
Alcauter**



**Abigail  
Beck**



**Timothy  
Boldt**



**Lucia  
Downing**



**Ernest  
Dubowski**



**Lucie  
Eisenhardt**



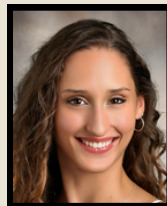
**Adam  
Cubas**



**Madilyn  
Ernst**



**Arely  
Garcia**



**Kailan  
Gogerty**



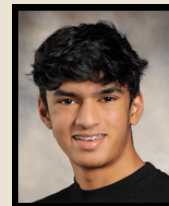
**Hailey  
Habeeb**



**Catherine  
Hany**



**Monika  
Juscinska**



**Nikhil  
Koka**



**Evan Lewis**



**Jordan  
Leyva**



**Andy Loh**



**Charles  
Marks**



**Diana  
Mihaylova**



**Vera  
Mikhail**



**Lucien  
Perez**



**Andrew  
Pignataro**



**Emily  
Polson**



**Rachel  
Rafik**



**Amanda  
Reyes**



**Naveen  
Samuel**



**Kailee See**



**Addison  
Solvsberg**



**Alex  
Strugacz**



**Aiden  
Temple**

## National Merit

*The National Merit Scholarship Program (NMSC) is a scholarship competition in the United States that recognizes and rewards academically talented high school students. The program was established in 1955 and is conducted by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation, a not-for-profit organization.*



**Sofia  
Villasenor**



**Ria Thomas**





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## Snapshot: **ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS**



**Andrea Arana**  
NHRA



**Arely Garcia**  
NHRA



**Lillian Alcauter**  
NHRA



**Lucia Downing**  
NHRA



**Lucien Perez** NHRA



**Rachel Rafik**  
NAARA, NHRA



**Vera Mikhail**  
NAARA



**Sofia Villasenor**  
NHRA

***And also...***

**Rani Saoudi** NAARA

## **College Board National Recognition**

*National African American Recognition Award (NAARA)*  
*National Hispanic Recognition Award (NHRA)*  
*National Rural and Small Town Award (NRSTA)*  
*National Indigenous Award (NIA)*





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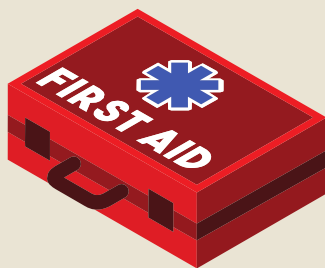
## Snapshot: CTE & PHYSICAL EDUCATION



# DECA

*Congratulations to the DECA Business Club for their dominant performance at the District 214 Rookie competition that was held in November here at Hersey.*

**Semester 1  
Foundation  
for Learning  
students  
earned a 2  
year First Aid  
Certification**



*The 19 DECA rookies that competed brought home a total of 30 medals!*



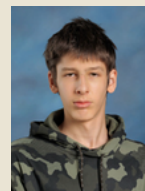
**US CyberPatriot  
1 Team Advancing to the National Semi-Finals**



**Ester Rascon-Benito**  
Earned her CompTIA  
A+ certification this  
summer



**Jan Lojewski**  
Passed Core 2 exam  
(1st half of A+  
Certification)



**Nazar Kochylo**  
Passed Core 2 exam  
(1st half of A+  
Certification)

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Snapshot: **ENGLISH**

## AP Seminar

Congratulations to the following students from the class of 2026 who scored a 3 or higher on their AP Seminar exam as Freshmen last year!

✓ % SCORES 3 OR HIGHER

YOUR GROUP	SCHOOL	IL	GLOBAL
96.7%	92.0%	78.5%	84.6%

*Isabella Berry-Alldredge*

*Michael Boguszewski*

*Lois Cambouris*

*William Corley*

*Vivienne DeRosa*

*Nikhil Devarapalli*

*Richard Fetyko*

*Ryan Flight*

*Evan Gross*

*Jeo Koreth*

*Vincent Kray*

*Timothy Laskiewicz*

*Conner Martin*

*William Meinhardt*

*Sandra Mihaylova*

*Olivia Nieroda*

*Christian O'Dell*

*Giovan Roura*

*Rohan Singh*

*Shyla Sood*

*Owen Spokas*

*Eva Szwajka*

*Caiden Tricoci*

*Alaiza Venice Valera*

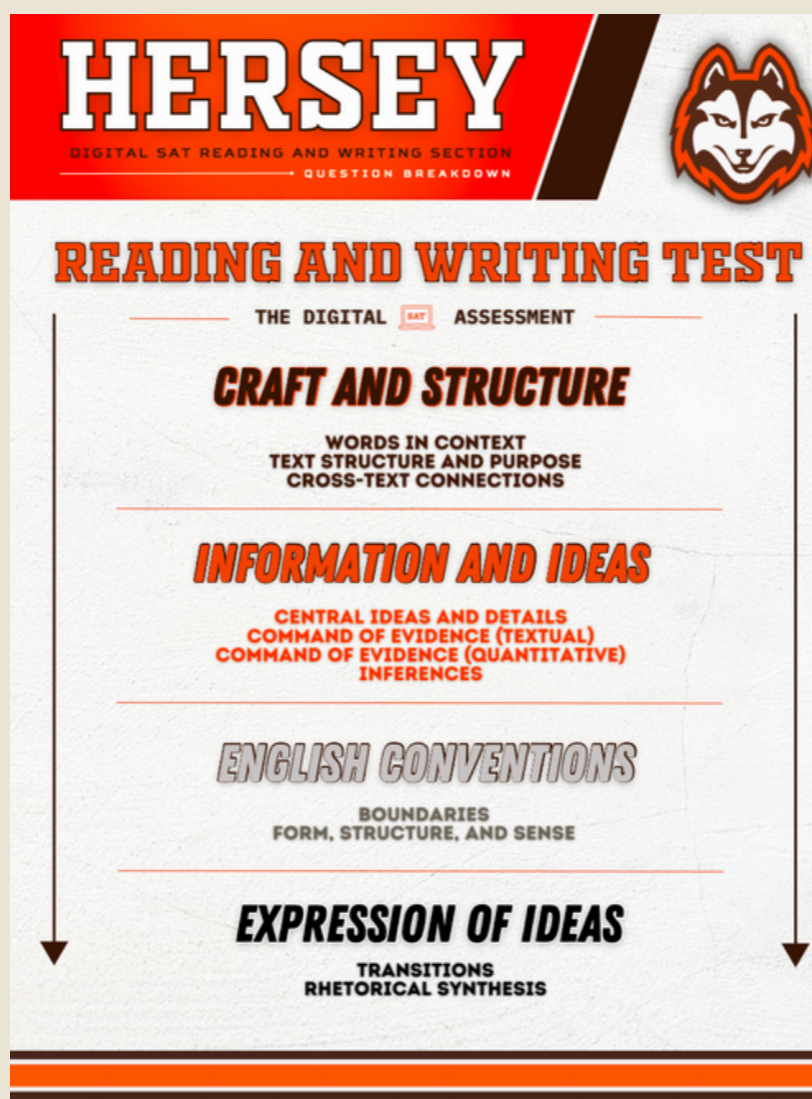
*Gabrielle Venegas*

*Helena Vincent*

*Henry Wendle*

*Natalie Zuber*

Our JHHS English Department has been hard at work integrating new Digital SAT skills into our rigorous and extensive curriculum. The new Digital SAT will include the skills below.



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## Snapshot: **MATH & SCIENCE**



**Congratulations to Connor Cambria on his perfect score on the Illinois Science Assessment!**

**All students take the ISA in the Spring of Junior Year.**

The **Math Team** is currently in first place in the North Suburban Math League division! The team is preparing for the NSML meet on 2/1 and the ICTM regional competition on 2/24 where they hope to qualify for State!



The **Science Olympiad** season is off to a successful start. This year we have two full teams (and 40+ students) competing to make a return trip to the state tournament in the spring.



**The AIM program is new to Hersey this year. We have 111 Algebra students participating. Mr. Silver, Mr. Stack, Ms. Yalda & Mr. Pihl are the instructors.**

**Ms. Ohrt, Arlington Heights Educator Heart of Gold 2023 Recipient, coordinates the program. Congratulations to Ms. Ohrt on this prestigious community recognition!**



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## Snapshot: **SOCIAL SCIENCE & WORLD LANGUAGES**



**Seal of  
Biliteracy  
55**

**55 Hersey students took the Illinois  
Seal of Biliteracy Exam  
Students demonstrated  
proficiency in the following  
languages:**

**Mandarin  
Japanese  
Korean  
Polish  
Portuguese  
Russian  
Spanish**



**Also, Congratulations to...**

**Congratulations,  
Señorita Bravo!**

**2023 ICTFL Award for New  
Teachers from the Illinois Council  
on the Teaching of Foreign  
Languages**



**Congratulations,  
Madame Justeau!**

**On October 18, Hersey French  
Teacher, Anne-Laure Justeau  
earned her United States  
Citizenship**



### **1st Semester Dual Credit Success**

**63** Hersey Spanish  
Students Earned **252**  
College Credits in Spanish

**55** Hersey Economics  
Students Earned **165**  
College Credits in  
Macroeconomics



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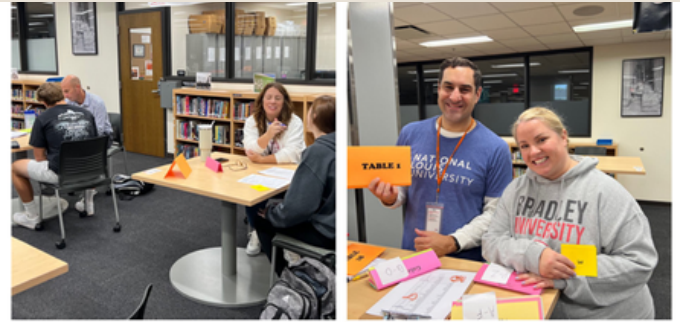
## Snapshot: **STUDENT SERVICES**

### Post Secondary

Thanks to 82 amazing JHHS staff members we broke the **College Essay-palooza** record with 245 college essays sessions completed!

The **Class of 2024** has been busy applying to college, and through Common App alone, seniors submitted 2,183 applications by the end of the day on November 1st – including 222 On November 1st (10%!). To compare, the Class of 2023 submitted 1,764 through November 1st.

We hosted **116 college rep visits** this fall with 228 unique students attending! This spring we will introduce themed “mini panels” for college rep visits to give students an opportunity to hear from three different schools at once on a variety of topics.



### Student Services Groups

- 15 Student Services Groups were run during 1st semester (*with a projected 2-3 more groups to run 2nd semester*).
- 22 Student Service staff ran groups.
- 39 Students were referred by JHHS staff and 5 students were self referred.
- 163 Students were serviced in groups total during 1st semester.
- Groups were: Career Search & Investigation, Check & Connect, Coping Skills, Executive Functioning, Healthy Decision Making, Managing Anxiety, Physical and Mental Wellness, Remembrance with Honor (Grief), Trailblazers (1st Generation) & Voces.



Congratulations to **Angela Ferrazza** on earning ISCA Impact Awards! She is only one of three individuals earning the Key Contributor Award.

### **Student Success Coach**

- 31 interns successfully completed the fall internship program.
- Over 200 students applied to be a part of the Spring cohort.