

NATHAN HALE NEWS

Hard Hat Tour Revealing Great Progress

by Chris Rylko

Almost a hundred Nathan Hale community members donned hard hats this past June to tour the progress of the new construction at school. The architects revealed amazing plans for Nathan Hale students, including fabulous new green technology that will be used throughout the renovation. However, far and away the most inspirational location to the tour-goers seemed to be the new library, which will have its grand opening October 3rd.

"This is just incredible," enthused Roberta Hollowell, mother of a tenth grader. "The new library will be a fabulous space that will definitely attract many more kids to study and read."

Tour-goers also had a chance to inscribe lovely new books that were purchased with the help of our donors and supporters-- books that will be ready for students in their new home this fall.

"I hope everyone in our extended Nathan Hale community will come and see the finished library be dedicated the weekend of October

THE PURPOSE OF
NATHAN HALE HIGH
SCHOOL IS TO
ENSURE THAT ALL
STUDENTS WILL
BECOME HONOR-
ABLE, THINKING,
SKILLFUL
CITIZENS

3rd," reminded Principal Marni. "That's homecoming weekend and we'll have lots of gala activities planned for our community to enjoy and celebrate our new learning spaces."



If you would like to follow the Nathan Hale construction project, go to our website at NathanHale.org and the link at the bottom left.



Note from the Principal Marni Campbell on Graduation 2009

June 12th 2009 was one of the most beautiful Seattle late spring days in my memory. It was warm but not too hot, breezy but not too windy, and as we began our procession onto Raider Field for our commencement exercises, the afternoon light was rich and golden, igniting the trees with deep glow. The trees, the light, Raider Field, and the cheerful celebratory honks of car horns from passers by combined to create a moment that was quintessentially Nathan Hale: we are deeply rooted in and indebted to our community. From the creek that runs through our back yard to the field where our neighbors play late night soccer to the trees we all cherish with our happy and supportive neighbors, we share a common present filled with precious resources and, more crucially, a future that relies on our thoughtful care of those resources.

In the speech I gave at commencement I spoke of the bright and hopeful futures of our recent Nathan Hale graduates:

"The students who sit before you are embarking on many pathways, to Evergreen College, Oregon

State University, Harvard University, Seattle Central Community College, Berklee College of Music, MIT, University of San Francisco, Western Washington University and the University of Washington, Cornish College, Shoreline Community College, South Seattle Community College, Pacific Lutheran University, Colby College, Renton Technical College, Grinnell College, Willamette University, Chapman University, US Naval Academy, Concordia University, Indiana University in Bloomington, NYU and Humboldt State University. This is not a complete list, but it conveys the great breadth of the lifelong learning our students will be pursuing. As a class, they have raised more than half a million dollars in scholarship and grant monies, and have

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"LEARN AS IF YOU WERE TO LIVE FOREVER, LIVE AS IF YOU WERE TO DIE TOMORROW."

MAHATMA GANDHI



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documented an astonishing 29,052 hours of service learning. That is more than three total years of service given to our community. Seated in this class are “ultimate” athletes, writers, musicians, painters, actors, linguists, and committed social activists.

Their futures are built on a solid foundation of shared honorable, thinking, skillful citizenship. The theme our students chose for graduation was taken from the words of Gandhi: "Live as if you were to die tomorrow. Learn as if you were to live forever." How do we learn as if we were to live forever? I reminded students that Gandhi spent many years preparing for his life’s work in India, and that they have many years of learning ahead of them, Gandhi himself described the learning process with “mouth shut” and “ears open.” Wherever they go, our students will continue to learn in communities, hopefully with

their ears wide open so that they can exercise their rights as true citizens to not only speak freely but also to listen without fear or discrimination

To live as if you were to “die tomorrow” reminded me of the importance, paradoxically, of forgetting the future at times, of being fully present in the moment. I reminded students of the nature of “flow state,” where the learner is “completely involved in an activity for its own sake. The ego falls away. Time flies. Every action, movement, and thought follows inevitably from the previous one, like playing jazz. Your whole being is involved, and you’re using your skills to the utmost.” (from the writing of Mihaly Csikszentmihalyi).

Schools are some of the only places where we see this delicate balance between an urgent awareness of the future and the celebratory joy of the

present. It has been a pleasure to learn each day with Nathan Hale students and staff, and our learning has been dramatically enhanced by your support in so many ways.

I leave you with a final quote from Gandhi which speaks to the critical importance of your support of public schools, and Nathan Hale in particular: “In a democratic scheme, money invested in the promotion of learning gives a ten-fold return to the people, even as a seed sown in good soil returns a luxuriant crop.” (Gandhi)

Thank you for helping Nathan Hale to thrive!

Marni Campbell

FOLLOW MARNI’S BLOG AT:
[HTTP://NATHANHALEDAILY.BLOGSPOT.COM](http://NATHANHALEDAILY.BLOGSPOT.COM)



Events & Calender



NATHAN HALE'S
"Heart of the Community"

DINNER AND AUCTION

NILE COUNTRY CLUB, NOVEMBER 7TH, 2009, 5-10 PM

Want a fabulous night out celebrating the Nathan Hale community? Want to help raise needed funding for library and classroom books and equipment? Then SAVE THE DATE, Nov 7, 2009, for an evening with alumni, staff, families and friends at the Nile Country Club in Mountlake Terrace. We have so much to celebrate: new library and classroom spaces, a supportive community and Gary Case, retiring after four decades making a difference in the lives of Nathan Hale students. And there is such a great need. The support we are providing for the library is the first new

infusion of cash in decades; fulfilling teachers classroom book wishes makes a huge difference for students every day in the classroom. Make your reservations now by visiting nathanhale.org and clicking the link to the Dinner/Auction website.

Want to help?

- * Procure auction items,
- * Volunteer your time
- * Donate items/services,
- * Help night of, & more.

Call 206-784-0625
See you Nov. 7th and THANK YOU!

CONGRATULATIONS!

POONAM VASDEV IS THE 2009 BENSON SCHOLAR, PROVIDED BY BOARD MEMBER AND FORMER PRINCIPAL ERIC BENSON.

Another year of statewide athletic and scholastic prowess in the WIAA Scholastic Cup by our scholar athletes:

- * Girls Track & Field, 1st
- * Girls Softball, 2nd
- * Girls Volleyball, 2nd
- * Girls Tennis, 3rd
- * Boys Soccer, 4th
- * Boys Tennis, 5th
- * Girls Soccer, 8th



CALENDAR

Through SEPT: 2009 Annual Campaign finale. Help put us over our goal of \$100K for school this year

SEPT. 8: Raider Day
Welcome!

SEPT 9: 1st day of school

SEPT. 21: Fall Foundation Board meeting:

OCT. 3rd OPEN HOUSE: Celebrate Library and phase 1 grand openings; kick-off phase 2.

OCT. Annual Campaign kick-off

NOV. 7th Autumn Dinner and Auction, Nile CC

REUNIONS

CLASS OF 1969
Held June 27th. Updates
NHClassof69@aol.com

CLASS OF 1979
Sept. 18,19, contact
ddpagett@q.com

CLASS OF 1989
No news

CLASS OF 1999
October 3rd.
halereunion99@gmail.com

FROM THE PRESIDENT

As many of you know, the District has asked Marni Campbell to be the Executive Director of Special Education. We will miss Marni's stewardship, and steady hand at Nathan Hale. While changing administrative positions, we will continue having Marni as an active parent.

This July, we welcome Jill Hudson as our principal. Nathan Hale is well known to Dr. Hudson through her involvement with the Coalition of Essential Schools. She comes to us from Madison Middle School. Welcome!

Looking at the Calendar, I look forward to seeing you at the Open House in October and please join us on Nov. 7th for our Autumn gathering at the Nile.

Have a wonderful late summer and Fall.
Steve Reynolds



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Volunteers are every organizations life-blood. If you have time/talent and would like to join one of our committees: Annual Campaign, Dinner/Auction, Alumni, Engravings, Newsletter, help with Foundation events or be part of leadership, please call Steve Reynolds, 206-784-0625. Join us!

Reunions: Raiders Unite! Please send reunion/alumni news to foundation@nathanhale.org for posting on our web site.

Calendar:

Raider Day September 9th.

Foundation Board meeting: September 21st. Contact foundation@nathanhale.org

School Open House October 3rd.

"Heart of the Community" Dinner and Auction, November 7th. We can use your help!

- Procure, publicize, work night-of,
- ATTEND. Visit nathanhale.org

Please support our Dinner/Auction involved neighbor, Wedgewood branch of **HomeStreet Bank**.

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