



THE BEAR FACTS

HCHS web design classes preparing students for the workforce

In our ever changing world, the Internet has become an extremely important means of communication and advertisement for businesses and organizations. The Career and Technical Education Department at HCHS has responded to this need by offering a class known as Advanced Website Design. Students utilize the skills and techniques learned in their web design course to create websites for local businesses, schools, churches, and other organizations. The students are participating in a “real world situation” while in high school. Scott Pace, the class instructor, said, “We want our students to realize the value of their education and understand how it can impact their lives as they transition into college and the workforce.”

Each student communicates on a regular basis with the business owner or organization to create a website that meets their specific criteria. Once the website has been completed, the owner has the option to hire the student to maintain and update the site as needed. Braxton Fields, an advanced web design student, said “This class has given me a sense of what it's like to have a job and have to maintain something everyday. It gives you a great feeling of accomplishment when you see the website that you've been working on posted on the Internet and you can show everybody and say that you created that site.”



The advanced website design classes have published 29 websites. Mr. Pace said those websites include the Harlan County Animal Shelter, Harlan Animal Hospital, Manderley Healthcare Center, Matt's Feed & Seed, and Pam Holcomb, Professional Appalachian Storyteller. Please take time to visit these websites to see our students' accomplishments. Anyone who would like a website created or needs an existing site “tuned up” can contact Mr. Pace at scott.pace@harlan.kyschools.us or 574-2020 ext. 3597.

Art students' abilities spark creativity, awards

Artistic students have ample opportunity to express their creative talents through six unique classes taught by two gifted teachers at HCHS. Rhonda Robinson and Pam Hoskin's art classes have been working vigorously on improving their drawing, painting, photography, and design skills, while displaying their talents in countless art contests throughout the county and state.



The first event of the year was the Tri-City Women's Club Art Contest. Each student displayed their best work, but only one student piece in each category was chosen for competition. Three HCHS students placed in four different categories. Ashley Farley placed 2nd in drawing, Megan Grubbs placed 3rd in photography and 3rd in painting, and Tabitha Taylor placed 3rd in watercolor. From there they moved to the Swappin' Meetin' Art contest where Anna Jo Creech placed 3rd in painting and Megan Grubbs placed 2nd in the photography category.

The HCHS art program received the Kingdom Come Swappin' Meetin' Best of Show Art Award in 2008 and 2009.

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Other individual awards include: Emily Wills, 2009 Regional and State Young American Patriotic Art Contest Winner; Tom Crusenberry, 2009 SKCTC High School Senior Art Scholarship Recipient, Cody Lewis, 2010 SKCTC High School Senior Art Scholarship Recipient, Breanna Dunson, Honorable Mention in Morehead State University's Annual High School Art Contest and Honorable Mention in the Regional CEDAR Coal Fair. Classes have been recognized for their participation in the "Adopt-A-Highway" poster contest, along with building, designing, and operating the Harlan County High School float in the Harlan Christmas parade. The photography class is currently gathering photographs and information for an interactive website of a map of Harlan County. Visitors will be able to click on a particular community on the website map to access information on the history, recreational opportunities and natural beauty of the area.

Art Classes Offered

Stage Design
Drawing and Painting
Drama
Creative Art
Art Portfolio
Photography (dual credit)

"I am so proud of my student's hard work this year. They are very talented, and judging by the fantastic work displayed by these art students so far, I am excited and expect greater things this spring," said Mrs. Hoskins.

School store supplies lessons in marketing

The Black Bear Bookstore isn't just a convenient place to buy HCHS apparel and products – it is also a classroom in action. Juniors and seniors in Mr. Jonathan Wireman's Advanced Marketing class are learning marketing principles and business practices by managing the school bookstore.

The Advanced Marketing students are responsible for all operations of the store, including ordering, inventory, advertising, displays, pricing, and staffing. Teams consisting of a leader, cashier, and inventory control and creative design/visual display positions are formed after students complete a job application and interview. The teams work in shifts during the Advanced Marketing class and are also responsible for opening the store before school and during ball games. In return, they earn Bear Bucks redeemable in the store.

This experience changes marketing lessons into real-world applications. For many students, it has sparked interests in marketing as a possible college major and in working at other retail outlets. Senior Katie Watts said, "Working in the school store improved my self-determination and my ability to work well with others, while promoting successful future career plans."

The store is popular with students and faculty alike, conducting 50-75 transactions a day. Products available include apparel, school supplies, spirit items, senior items, and crafts made by the Friendly Village Greenhouse, all at very reasonable prices. Some products even feature logos designed by HCHS students.

Originally started with a loan from HCHS, the Black Bear Book Store repaid the loan and is now self-sustaining. The Black Bear Bookstore is open on weekdays from 7:20 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and during select ball games.



Governor's Cup Future Problem Solving Team wins district and region, advances to state

The Harlan County High School Future Problem Solving Team won first place in the District and Regional Governor's Cup, advancing to the state competition to be held in March. Team members are Olivia Marsee, Jordan Smith, Brent Roy and Danielle Middleton. Overall teams finishing in the region were: Corbin, first; Clay County, second; Middlesboro, third; Bell County, fourth; Harlan County, fifth; Knox Central, sixth; Whitley County, seventh; Leslie County, eighth; Williamsburg, ninth; Barbourville, 10th, and three-way tie for 11th, Harlan Independent, Lynn Camp and Pineville.