

# ALEXANDER HAMILTON HIGH SCHOOL

JANUARY NEWSLETTER



## STUDENT HIGHLIGHTS

### Mathematics:

- The midpoint of the academic year brought with it the administration of our midterm and Regents exams. We appreciate the hard work and dedication our students exhibited during this period.
- As we prepare for the second half of the academic year, we would like to remind students to carefully consider their course selections for next year. Our department is committed to providing a challenging and supportive learning environment. If students have any questions or concerns about course recommendations, they are encouraged to reach out to their teachers or the guidance office.



- We understand that the second half of the year can be demanding, and we want to assure students that the department is here to support them. Whether it's additional tutoring, study resources, or guidance on course selections, we encourage students to utilize the resources available to them. Our priority is to help each student succeed and excel in their mathematical journey.

#### English:

- As we celebrate the life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. this month, it is important to consider the role that the English classroom can take in engaging students in real life issues. This month, many of our middle school students participated in activities that served to connect them with relevant historical and contemporary social issues. In Mr. Vergara's English 7-8, students completed a written response and held a discussion on the 1967 NBC interview with Dr. Martin Luther King. Students examined not only the challenges of that turbulent time period, but also reflected on the continual efforts to honor Dr. King's legacy today.
- In Ms. Spargo's English 8 sections, students used their reading of Jason Reynold's verse novel *Long Way Down* to bring attention to statistics of gun violence in the United States today.

#### Social Studies:

- Seniors are transitioning into their second half of the year required courses for graduation
- AP exams begin on May 6. It's never too early to begin preparing.
- The Social Studies department will be welcoming Mr. Sawyer's replacement in early February. looking forward to welcoming Mr. Lynch to our school community.

#### Science:

- As the 2nd half of the year progresses the Science Department would like to remind students in Regents Courses of the 1200 minute rule. According to the Department of Education all students in a Regents course (Living Environment, Chemistry or Physics) must complete 1200 minutes of hands-on labs in order to qualify for the Regents Exam in June. If students are completing the labs during the course they will meet this requirement.
- The 8th graders this year will take the NY State Intermediate Level Science Assessment this Spring. Students and parents should look for more details over the next few months. This Assessment covers science content from grades 6-8.
- Hamilton's science electives continue to give students an opportunity to explore various branches of science.
- This month's photos are from Mr. Henepp's Anatomy course where students had the opportunity to dissect brains and make comparisons to other mammals and themselves.
- Students in the forensics class are preparing for their end of year Mock-crime scene. This provides students the chance to apply their academic learning to a simulated real life event.

#### Guidance:

- On January 5th, The Guidance Department had their annual Alumni Panel. Eight former AHHS students returned to speak to the Juniors and Seniors about their college experience. Current students had a chance to ask questions and seek advice on the transition for high school to college.
- On January 25th. 8th grade students engaged in the Road to Success, a presentation regarding the middle to high school transition. Topics such as, self advocating, where to find help, New York State graduation requirements, and the college admission process were discussed. The Road to Success will be presented to 8th grade parents on April 18th at 6:30 in the AHHS Library.

- 7th grade artists learned the procedures and techniques when it comes to painting in the Art Room. They followed a guided lesson and completed stunning winter tree landscapes.
- In high school, Studio Art students are working on self-portraits inspired by the contemporary black artist Bisa Butler and her colorful quilted works of Art. We look forward to displaying them for Black History Month.
- Studio II students are challenging themselves and sharpening their realistic painting skills by working on super-sized gem paintings.

### **Music:**

- The music department at AHHS are currently working on music units that celebrate the accomplishments of African American musicians throughout history and across multiple genres.
- In 7th grade music, students just finished up their “Jazz Legends” project where students researched the lives and influences of Duke Ellington, Louis Armstrong and Ella Fitzgerald in Jazz.
- World Music Students are diving into the historical importance of the Harlem Renaissance while the Chorus is preparing to perform in the annual Black History Month Assembly next month.

### **Health:**

Health students have been working hard during their Mental Health units, building healthy techniques to cope with all of life’s stressors!



## ***Upcoming Events***

- February 7th will be a Community Budget Forum beginning at 6:30pm in the AHHS Auditorium
- February 13th will be our BOE Meeting beginning at 7:00 pm in the AHHS Auditorium
- 19th - 23 School Closed for Winter Recess
- Student Government is planning a dance for our students in the month of February







**Joseph Engelhardt**

Joseph is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters