



# HINSDALE CENTRAL

## January Updates

### ACTIVITIES

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#### UPCOMING EVENTS

##### **Singing Valentines**

Members of the choir classes are gearing up for their yearly tradition of delivering Singing Valentines to students and staff members. Students and staff can purchase these Singing Valentines for classmates or co-workers, which the choir members will deliver throughout the day on Feb. 14.



##### **State Competitions**

The chess, forensics and swim teams are all getting ready for their state tournaments. The chess team's state meet is scheduled to begin in Peoria on Feb. 13, while the forensics team will head to Peoria the following weekend for its tournament. The swim team will compete for the state title in its sport the weekend of Feb. 28.



##### **Pack the Place Week**

Pack the Place week was a great success. There was an All-School Rock Paper Scissors tournament during the school day, which resulted in junior Jeremiah Adams being crowned the Rock Paper Scissors champion. There were also several events and activities that took place outside of the school day, including Senior Bingo and Mr. Hinsdale, that enabled students to participate in the various Pack the Place festivities.

##### **Mr. Hinsdale**

Hinsdale Central held its male beauty pageant on Jan. 23 to raise money for our all-school fundraiser. The competition featured dance numbers and a display of unique talents by each of the competitors. At the end of the night, the judges crowned Scott Pitts the 2020 Mr. Hinsdale.



##### **Chess**

Hinsdale Central hosted one of five state qualifier sectional chess tournaments on Feb. 1. Our team punched its ticket to state by winning the tournament and taking home the Sectional championship.

##### **Forensics**

The Hinsdale Central forensics team has been putting in some serious work this season. It has placed first at eight invitational tournaments and second at five others. The team is currently getting ready for its state series, which began with the regional tournament on Feb. 8.

##### **Kindness Week**

The Breaking Down the Walls Club partnered with a number of other clubs from Central to organize Kindness week, which took place Feb. 3-7. The school held kindness challenges throughout the week, including complement clothes pins that you could put on somebody's clothes to brighten their day and an all-school reflection activity to raise awareness for how we treat others.

## More Upcoming

### Forensics Showcase

The members of the forensics team will be showcasing their oratorical skills during an event for the student body on Feb. 14.

### Black History Month Celebrations

The Hinsdale Central Black History Month celebrations will take place throughout the month of February. These celebrations will conclude with our Annual Town Hall Meeting on Feb. 27. During this event, students will share their lived experiences in the classroom and community based on the theme #ISeeMe.

### The Winter Play

This year's Winter Play at Hinsdale Central will feature two one-act plays directed by students Brody Melia and Sarah Lotsoff. They will be performed the weekend of Feb. 22.

### Questions?

If you have any questions about other events at HCHS, please contact me at [820316@hinsdale86.org](mailto:820316@hinsdale86.org). Also, reserved seating can be arranged at almost every event with enough notice.

## SPORTS

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### Basketball

The boys, girls and Special Olympics basketball teams have been working and playing hard this season, and are putting their best foot forward to represent Hinsdale Central.



### Boys Swimming

There were a number of new hairstyles on display in the halls of Hinsdale Central on Feb. 3 as the members of the boys swimming team continued their tradition of dying their hair the week before they cut it off for their state meet.



## CONCERNS OF STUDENTS

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### Social Emotional Learning Issues

It has been brought to my attention by students who participate in the social emotional learning (SEL) programs that the objectives of SEL are not always clear. During the most recent Flex Learning Day, students in some gym classes were asked to fill out a four-page assignment on their sleep habits, which took a significant amount of time. Students have voiced their confusion about such assignments, and are wondering what they are supposed to take away from doing them.

### Problems with Overcrowding in the Locker Rooms

Since I am exempt from taking gym class due to my participation in the band program, I did not know about the overcrowding problem that students face in the locker rooms when I raised a similar issue about the cafeteria.

Through my conversations with students, I have learned that there is not enough room for people to change their clothes during some gym periods. This makes it difficult for students to be prepared for class on time.