



HILLCREST HIGH SCHOOL

Academics & Activities

Bremen High School District 228's Communication Arts and Technology program recently competed in the Eighth Annual Video Competition at South Suburban College and came home with plenty of hardware. The Regional Award of Distinction was awarded to the following students: Nylle Graham, First Place, Music Video; Christian Hammond and Nylle Graham, Third Place, News Program; and Justin Barksdale, Nylle Graham, and Christina Hammond, Third Place, Short Subject.

For the fifth consecutive year, the Choir scored a Division One Superior Rating at the IHSA Organizational Contest held at Rich East High School. Students Devon Bridges and Jessie Craig were recognized for their outstanding work and will receive assistance in applying for future musical scholarships.

DECA recently completed their annual community service project for the Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA). DECA students raised over \$550 selling "paper MDA shamrocks." The money raised went to support research, services, and summer camp activities for those afflicted with muscular dystrophy-related issues.

Thank you to the Professional Young Women's Network (PYWN) which held mock interviews during their April meeting to assist the development of our students. Each attending student had the opportunity to meet with a current Professional Women's Network member to practice their interview skills. All of the young women came prepared for their interviews by dressing professionally and completing a resume. The young ladies received great advice for the future.

FCCLA students hosted a charity bake sale for the "No Kid Hungry" Foundation during the week of April 20. The students made the baked goods from scratch. Share Our Strength's "No Kid Hungry" campaign is ending child hunger in America by ensuring all children get the healthy food they need each day. The baked goods sold out in only one day. The FCCLA students did a fabulous job promoting and selling the goods for the event.

Congratulations to Nylle Graham from District 228's Communication Arts & Technology program for recently being selected to be a "teen correspondent" for a pilot television show. The aspiring actress was selected from a group of students who auditioned last month for Paws for People TV. Sponsored by the All Pets Wellness Foundation and the Human Animal Bond, the pilot will explore and accentuate the "human animal bond" through a format that not only engages viewers but also entertains, inspires, informs, educates, and delivers a positive experience and message. Nylle will be responsible for hosting and producing segments, creating a social media campaign, and attending major events and expos.

Students from the DECA organization, with the assistance of NHS volunteers, worked closely with the "Yolobe" organization to build and facilitate a fully teen-based exposition held on April 18 at the Tinley Park Convention Center. Yolobe, "your life only better," is a Chicago-based digital start-up company with a mission

to become the standard platform for connecting teens everywhere with community, resources, and services that make their lives better. The event was organized by teenagers and drew national and local organizations. Students from seven area high schools recruited 100 organizations including Coca-Cola, Exelon, Chase Bank, the U.S. Army and Navy, volunteers, school administrators, and community leaders to participate. The overall goal of the expo was to bridge the gap between teens and the community. Through their planning, the teens have learned about marketing, social media, and event planning. They've also worked together to devise creative ways to boost interaction during the event. Teacher Mr. Mike Cicirale was the Mayor of "Prestige Boulevard."

Our Career and Alumni week was held the week of April 20. Special presentations were held in the IMC and ranged from local professionals to technical schools. Students were able to network with the professionals to gain key information on possible employment or academic fields of study. The following industries were present: Country Club Hills Police and Fire Department, Elite Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) School, United States Marines, Pace Bus Company, CISCO (Union jobs), U.S. Bank, Environmental Technical Institute (ETI), John Amico School of Hair Design, Paul Mitchell Cosmetology School of Hair, Capri Beauty School, Highway Construction, University of St. Francis Nursing Program, and a Personal Trainer. In addition, South Suburban College was well represented with numerous options for the students to visit: School of Criminal Justice, Court Reporting, Paralegal, Pharmacy Technician program, and the Manufacturing program. The goal of the week was to expose the Hillcrest students to a diversity of career choices.

Our bi-annual Family Reading Night, held April 29, was titled "Read with the Hillcrest Sports Stars." Community elementary school children and Hillcrest staff children were invited to attend this free reading event. The high school library was abuzz with activity. The Hillcrest Student Athlete Leadership Team and National Honor Society members read and provided activities for the elementary school children. Nine different reading stations were available along with a cookie decorating station. Media Specialist Mrs. Lisa Walsh organized this event.

Athletics

Congratulations to Taylor Adway for winning the Hillcrest Outstanding Male Athlete Award. Taylor is four-year basketball player and track athlete. We also are congratulating Tanzania Sherrill who won the Outstanding Female Athlete Award. Tanzania is a four year basketball and volleyball player.

The United States Marine Corps recently awarded two students with their Distinguished Athlete Award. This was awarded to the students based upon their achievements this year. The awards were given to Richard Smith (Wrestling) and Taja Sloss (Basketball and Volleyball).

Class of 2005 Alum Jerel McNeal has been signed by the Phoenix Suns Basketball Team.