

National Honor Society Inductees

By Dr. Ellin Booras, Principal – Sandwich High School

May 12, 2015

Abigail Bates

One of the most versatile young women to attend Sandwich High School, Abby excels at academics, athletics, and performing arts. One of my strongest memories is seeing Abby on stage performing in a Sandwich Soul concert wearing wind-pants having just run from the gym at Martha's Vineyard where she competed as a member of the Blue Knights varsity basketball team to catch the boat to get back in time for the concert. Abby's high school years have been a whirlwind of intersecting pockets of excellence. A multi season athlete, she plays a key role on our highly successful varsity girl's volleyball and basketball teams. She is active in International Studies, serves as a member of the student leadership team, and has been selected as a senior mentor for the fall of 2015. She should be very proud of her strong background in a myriad of community service activities. Abby has earned the rank of gold scholar since her freshman year and has recently earned the role of graduation marshal for the Class of 2015 graduation in June. Her beautiful singing voice can be heard frequently as she sings the national anthem prior to sporting events. Athletic directors from other schools have taken the time to contact Neil Murphy and me about her poise, eloquence, and talents. Abby speaks to her commitment to academic diligence in her NHS essay. Abby, please be assured, your hard work, dedication, and self discipline place you in an elite group of amazing SHS scholars.

Nora Biron

To know Nora Biron is to know a remarkable young woman who at her young age, brings the descriptor of poise to a new level at SHS. She is exceptionally bright, great fun to be around, and remarkably comfortable being Nora. She is unique, caring, and distinctly mature. Nora has found her niche in television broadcast journalism. She has written and directed a documentary, served as a teaching assistant for Mr. Childress when he has 50 STEM students fully involved in his program. A peer leader, Nora has been selected to serve as a senior mentor next year, a role for which she is ideally suited. The recipient of several awards, Nora has been selected for academic awards in technology, broadcasting and history. In her NHS essay, she writes, "I hope my teachers and classmates have grown to rely on me and see me as one who they can count on to contribute to activities and complete my academics." Nora, I can assure you, the entire school has come to rely on you for the lovely presence and refreshing originality you bring to SHS each and every day.

Jenny Broder

An accomplished musician and member of the SHS Concert band and Jazz Band, Jenny has been very active in music throughout her high school career. In addition, she has been very involved with her church contributing in a variety of ways and most recently as a Vacation Bible School leader. She has participated in a mission trip to Rutland, Vermont and directed the Youth Works Kids Club on a mission trip to New York City. A very unique volunteer activity was Jenny's participation in Angel Tree Prison Ministry, a program which provides opportunities for prisoners to give holiday gifts to their children and family members. Jenny is a recipient of the gold scholar award and has been invited to display her artwork in the Cape Cod Art Association student art show entitled Beginnings. In her NHS essay, Jenny speaks to the satisfaction she has derived from the Connections program at Sandwich Council on Aging where she works with the elderly helping them acclimate to technology as a means of communication and gaining information. Jenny's academic record, along with her impressive talents as a musician and her commendable commitment to volunteer work has made her an ideal candidate for NHS.

Matthew Brook

A versatile scholar athlete, Matt has been a three year member of the varsity hockey team for the Blue Knights and a recipient of the ACL all Star award for hockey, Jeff Hayes Memorial tournament all star and named to the Cape Cod All Star team. Matt also received the sportsmanship award for soccer. Matt attended the National Student Leadership Conference on Medicine and Health Care and has been invited to attend the Boys State Leadership conference coming up this June. Matt's community service activities include volunteering at Street Reach and Grow Hockey, a program designed to introduce young children to the sport of hockey. Matt has received academic awards in the humanities. Matt is justifiably proud of his many volunteer hours spent helping others in Sandwich and is an excellent ambassador for Blue Knight Pride.

Helen Colwell

Outstanding student, exceptional athlete and highly involved member of the Sandwich High School community, Helen Colwell has earned the reputation for being a very hard working and dedicated young woman. She has been a multi season letter winner in soccer and served as captain of our varsity softball team junior year. This year, she has invited by Athletic Administrator, Neil Murphy, to serve on the Athletic Advisory Committee where she has been a strong contributor. Helen has served as a peer leader, peer tutor, and STEM ambassador. An accomplished student of Latin, Helen achieved Magnum cum laude status on the National Latin Exam level three. A perennial gold scholar, Helen is assiduous in her

attention to her pursuit of learning. In her NHS essay, Helen states, "Leadership is an important characteristic. Leadership includes being a role model for one's peers and being dedicated to one's position. As a hard working student who has achieved many of my academic goals, I have demonstrated the values of hard work and have always been there to help a classmate who is having trouble socially or academically." Helen, you are all that and more. Your accomplishments are exceeded by your gracious humility and many contributions to our school's culture of kindness and caring.

Maeve Connolly

One of Sandwich High School's most prolific leading ladies, Maeve is a delight to know and a treasure to watch. She lights up the state in KTC productions as well as for Sandwich Soul. Her dedication to theater and music is evident in all her performances. Her commitment to working on all aspects of character, voice, dance, and ensemble is remarkable. I have had the pleasure of listening to Maeve conversing with Kevin Lasit and to observe her receptiveness to his expert advice. She is truly a student of the theater and one who builds each and every nuance of her character. A few weeks ago, I had the good fortune to sit in on a French IV honors class and to hear Maeve and a Soul mate sing happy birthday the Soul way to a very appreciative teacher and student. Maeve brings the same joy and zest, which characterize her performances to her everyday interactions at SHS. She has given countless volunteer hours to the community through her music. In her NHS essay, she states, "I have made it my priority to conduct myself with the core values of Sandwich High School in mind, treating others with respect and kindness and helping out wherever I can." Maeve, you have done an amazing job and continue to serve as the epitome of Blue Knight Pride.

Madeline Cuppels

Scholar, class officer, leader and gymnast, Madeline Cuppels is an exceptional young woman. A peer leader and a peer tutor, she excels academically. Maddie has received excellence awards in Biology, Spanish, computer technology as well as gold scholar each year. Maddie has challenge herself to take the school's most demanding courses and states that her schedule has taught her to be efficient, focused, and determined. Madeline has been a member of the XCEL team at Cape Cod Gymnastics throughout her high school career and served as team captain since January 2014. In her NHS application, she states, "Since starting gymnastics at age four, I am very proud to be given the honor of helping the younger gymnasts and that has taught me a lot about leadership and how to gain respect of a group." Maddie has parlayed that skill into her work as a class officer and is currently

working very hard as Class Secretary to ensure the success of what promises to be a wonderful junior prom.

Brady Doherty

Outstanding athlete, Brady has earned multiple honors for his contributions to the Blue Knights soccer, hockey and baseball teams. Brady was invited to serve on the Student Athlete Advisory Council and was recently elected to the office of president of that new and highly respected group. Brady was invited to represent Sandwich at the MIAA Student Athlete Conference and has been selected athlete of the week for both baseball and hockey. He has contributed to many youth organizations including youth soccer. A hard working student, Brady has earned awards in Latin honors and was the recipient of Magna cum Laude in the Latin exam. Brady is a hard working student who arrives early and stays late at school balancing his commitment to academics and athletics. In his NHS application, Brady states, "I believe in being the best you can possibly be, and by doing that means hard work and commitment." Brady, keep up the outstanding work and you will surely achieve your goals.

Thatcher Drake

Rarely does a high school student possess the exceptional talents and breadth of versatility that define Thatcher Drake. Class officer, peer leader, and candidate for the prestigious Eagle Scout distinction, Thatcher is seemingly indefatigable. He goes all out every day all day and his accomplishments serve as testament to his impressive intellect, talent, and great interpersonal skills. A member of the SHS Jazz Band, he plays bass and xylophone. He is currently the principal bass player for the New England Philharmonic Orchestra, All State Orchestra, and SE District Orchestra. He is the recipient of numerous honors in music including several of the aforementioned affiliations. Thatcher has auditioned and been accepted into the prestigious Interlochen Center for the Arts, a six week intensive summer orchestra. He auditioned for and was invited to be a member of the New England Conservatory Youth Philharmonic Orchestra. He was invited to participate in a two week orchestra camp in Idyllwild, California. Thatcher plays in numerous bands throughout the cape including the All Cape jazz band and all Cape orchestra. Thatcher's NHS essay is among the most unique and thoughtful I have ever read. It begins with a quote from Napoleon Hill, "When you form a true alliance with others, and with work them in a spirit of perfect harmony, you control freely the spiritual forces within you, in the carrying out of your plans and desires." Thatcher goes on to provide examples of how Hill's writing changed his life. Thatcher's commitment to the principles of unified work is evidenced in his remarkably prescient resume and his contagious passion for life.

Madeline Esdale

Scholar, athlete, and leader, Madeline Esdale has compiled a balanced and highly regarded record of success at Sandwich High School. Madeline is a three season athlete who has been a three year letter winner in varsity cross country and had been elected to serve as captain of the SHS swim and dive team for the upcoming season. Madeline's community service has been largely focused on town recreation camps and through the archery program, she developed a sincere love for helping others to define and to achieve goals. Madeline, herself, is quite accomplished in archery and has found transferring this passion and skill to children to be enormously satisfying. Madeline has earned awards for her leadership and has been selected to serve as a senior mentor next year, a distinction she values greatly and one for which she is well suited. In her NHS essay, she speaks of her commitment to helping others. "When I was a freshman, the class that changed the direction of my high school career was senior mentor. My mentors helped me discover the basic skills to surviving my freshman year and made me feel like I belong. If it wasn't for their encouraging advice, I might not be in the successful position I am now. I have become extremely motivated to help others and I look forward to accomplishing my goals to do so" Madeline, you are destined to be a superb mentor.

Philicia Henderson

Known for her gentle and thoughtful insight and many accomplishments, Philicia Henderson is special presence in the Class of 2016. Her activities include indoor track, student leadership team, concert band, PALS, and Philosophy Club. Her community service work includes serving as a MSPCA volunteer and giving her time to the Sandwich Public library. A highly accomplished young scholar, she has been the recipient of several academic awards including gold scholar, excellence in history and biology. Philicia places great importance on her role as a student leader. In her NHS application, she states, " As a member of the student leadership team, I am dedicated to helping my peers. In the fall, I participated in the STEM Academy Orientation night. I was able to help my new peers prepare for the new school year offering suggestions on how to balance sports and academics and try their best to achieve their academic goals. During band concerts, I was able to help prepare the younger students by helping the 5th and 6th graders practice and tune their instruments. I have been active in promoting the SHS band program in the younger grades and I look forward to my work as a mentor next year." Philicia, you will be an outstanding role model to all who follow you at SHS.

Thomas Kelleher

One of the most unselfish and dedicated young men to attend Sandwich High School, Thomas Kelliher serves as the exemplar of the definition of Blue Knight Pride which is treating people the way you wish to be treated and always placing team before self. Tommy is the true servant leader who spends countless hours behind the scenes serving as technical director for KTC, computer technician for Mrs. McGrath and her tech team, and filming and editing school-wide productions including last year's now legendary lip dub. Tommy has been chosen by his peers to serve on the KTC board. He is an outstanding peer leader and has earned the complete trust of administration, the Lasits and the entire technology faculty. Last summer and fall, he served as the lead student technician for the school wide Ed Camp. Tommy has received awards for leadership, character, and dedication. In addition to his vast school contributions, Tommy has volunteered over 120 hours at Cape Cod Hospital. In his NHS application, Tommy speaks to his thoughts on leadership. "I feel that being a leader is not just a title on a piece of paper, but instead being a leader means that you use knowledge you have to expand the knowledge of others. When you share that knowledge with others, they learn and respect you, which build a leader. Character is also a very important part of leadership. I have learned that with a strong character, you can accomplish any task. Character is what separates a good leader from a great leader." Tommy, your leadership and character are unparalleled as they are accompanied by genuine humility and unselfish sense of purpose. You are our knight in shining armour.

Lindsay Lawrence

Lively, talented, and always herself, Lindsay Lawrence is a gift to the school. She devotes considerable talent to KTC and International Studies. A dedicated peer leaders, she has been selected to serve as a senior mentor, a role for which she is ideal. Lindsay is involved in multiple community service opportunities. Among them are Street Ranch, Dance Heroes and Dancing for a Cure. This summer, she will attend a Leadership Conference at George Mason University entitled Washington National Youth Summit on the Environment. Lindsay's passion for environmental science is deeply felt and has become a defining direction for her post secondary studies and career plans. Dance holds a special place in Lindsay's heart. In her NHS application, she wrote about her long standing involvement with dance. "My proudest contribution to the community is absolutely working with the magnificent children of Riverview School in the program Dance Heroes. Teaching these high school students, many of whom are developmentally delayed or disabled; the artistic beauty of dance and seeing them thrive is of one the greatest rewards. While I may hold a position of leadership among these young people, they teach me more

than I could ever teach them.” Lindsay, it is because you are open to their lessons of love and life, that you are the great leader and person you are.

John MacLeod

Varsity soccer player, student leader, outstanding young performer in KTC and Sandwich Soul, John is working hard to ensure the creation of a SHS gymnastics team for 2015-2016 school year. His zest for life coupled with his exceptional versatility make him a well known presence at SHS. John has taken on leadership roles within International Studies as well as Sandwich Soul. He serves as a peer leader and was invited to serve as a STEM ambassador. John’s community service has included over 130 hours of volunteering at Cape Cod Hospital and hours of performance time for Sandwich 375 celebration. An excellent student, John has earned numerous academic awards, Among them are Excellence in French, Biology, Humanities, and Gold Scholar. He has received awards for International Studies as well. John’s NHS essay was particularly well done. He states, “Being a part of theater and the arts has made me the person I am today. With phenomenal guidance, I have been able to achieve strength on and off the stage. The lessons I have learned through acting will surpass what I could learn from reading a textbook, and these lessons are easily applied to everyday life. My experiences at Cape Cod Hospital have been life shaping as well. I recently developed an interest in physical therapy and I was able to shadow employees at Cape Cod Hospital who work in that field. By combining my interests, I was able to solidify my hope to one day be a physical therapist for Broadway performers.” John, with your personal drive, appreciation for learning, ability to build great relationships with your directors and teachers, you are sure to achieve and to surpass your admirable goals.

Fiona Naples

Highly successful at field hockey and lacrosse, Fiona brings the same energy to her studies. Her academic awards include excellence in French, Math, and silver scholar. Her community service includes serving as a volunteer for the Special Olympics, Green Briar Nature Center, working as a volunteer for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society and helping at the Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital. Fiona’s NHS essay speaks to the challenges of being a student athlete. “I am very passionate about the sports I play; lacrosse and field hockey. I believe that taking on the role of student athlete is a difficult task but one that opens up the opportunity for camaraderie through teamwork on the field and in the classroom. Student athletes have to master the art of juggling if they want to thrive in both school and sports.” Fiona shows all the signs of promise as she stays committed to being a high performing student athlete. Your understanding of the challenges and the opportunities will guide your journey.

Christina O'Neill

A key member of the SHS girl's varsity hockey team, Christina is a dedicated and high performing athlete whose contributions are seen on the lacrosse field as well. Hockey has played a significant role in her life. Christina is proud and excited to have been named captain for her senior year. This upcoming fall, Christina will be playing for the fourth year on the Storm National hockey team. Each year she has played in this league, Massachusetts has progressed to the state finals. In addition, Christina is active in Key Club, International Studies, peer leader and Prom Committee. Her community service has been focused on volunteering at Mayflower Place Nursing Home and participating in a fundraiser for Boston Floating Hospital for Children. Christina has received an academic award for excellence in Spanish and has been invited to participate in Girls State this June. Christina is very centered on her role as a student athlete and expresses her thoughts, "Athletics have enhanced my life both physically and socially for I have been able to build relationships and improve skills such as communication and dedication. I thoroughly look forward to guiding my peers on and off the ice." Best wishes on a great senior season and you will be a very effective captain!

Hannah Paige

A talented artist, Hannah has been a member of the National Art Honor Society for three years. She has received recognition for her art and has designed murals for Sandwich High School. Among her awards in art is the silver key award from the Cape Cod Art Association. She has broadened her perspective by hosting a foreign exchange student and traveling to Spain and living with a host family for two weeks to increase her understanding of and appreciation for the Spanish culture. Hannah is a peer leader, aspiring senior mentor, and member of the Philosophy Club and International Studies. Her academic awards include excellence in Humanities, Earth and Space science, and visual arts. In her NHS essay, Hannah discusses the impact of her work on the Memory Project. "This allowed me to paint a portrait of an orphan from Mexico. My painting and others for the project were then delivered to the orphanage. I will be participating in this effort again this year and have found the whole experience to be amazingly rewarding. Hannah will also be participating in a mission to the Dominican Republic to work with local non-profits to better understand the needs of the community. Hannah, your willingness and desire to stretch beyond traditional learning paths is inspirational to all.

Jeff Polidor

Just as Jeff's good friend, Tommy Kelliher, was described as being a selfless leader dedicated to serving others, Jeff approaches his days in the same way. A remarkable leader, dedicated athlete, talented technician, and outstanding student, Jeff is one of the most contributive members of the Class of 2016. A three season athlete, Jeff is a steady leader on cross country, winter, and spring track. A four year stand out in Student Council, Jeff takes the lead on fund raising, organizing and facilitating pep rallies, and providing leadership as an officer. In addition, he is indispensable as a lead technician for KTC running sound and serving on the Tech Board. Jeff plays clarinet in the Concert Band and is playing an active role on the Prom Committee. Among his leadership roles are captain of cross country, treasurer of student council, president elect of student council, co-president of Philosophy Club, peer leader, and aspiring senior mentor. Last spring, Jeff was recognized for awards in leadership and character, character and dedication, jazz band award, sportsmanship award and excellence in history. Clearly from this glimpse into a day in the life of Jeff, his time management skills must be outstanding. In his NHS essay, he speaks to that attribute. "The transition to high school was a huge change, but I was quickly able to adapt to the new setting. I discovered that in order to succeed in high school, time management would be a very important skill. Balancing between sports, KTC, music and the arts has been the reason I have been able to flourish at this school." Jeff, we cannot thank you enough for all you do and the true Blue Knight you are.

Lily Reynolds

Dedicated to her teams and to her sense of social and civic responsibility, Lily Reynolds has played lacrosse and soccer won the sportsmanship award in girl's soccer. She is the treasurer for Students and the Military, SADD and peer leadership. She has been very helpful to freshmen as a junior and will continue her support through the senior mentor program next fall. Among her many avenues of community service are Cape Cod Cares for the Troops, food pantry, Sandwich fest, and volunteer work at Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital and helping at her church. Commenting on her motivation to and satisfaction derived from her volunteer work, Lily offers, "I enjoy being involved with volunteer work because I am able to assist and to give back to those you can appreciate the service I can provide. The responsibility and trust placed in me are very important to me." Lily, you have most definitely earned that trust and have shown you are a highly capable young woman deserving of trust.

Emily Robinson

Anyone who knows theater understands that often the stars shine as brightly behind the curtain. Emily Robinson has recently earned the role of General Stage Manager. Emily has found the same level of satisfaction in the teamwork created by KTC which often mentioned tonight. In addition, she is leaving her mark on the walls of SHS as part of the design and painting team for school mural being facilitated through National Art Honor Society and has contributed to the Memory Project. Beyond school, Emily has raised funds and awareness for foundation for West Africa. Emily's academic awards include excellence in mathematics, computer technology, biology, honorable mention in Massachusetts Scholastic Art Contest and finalist in the Cape Cod Museum of Art Student Show. Emily is dedicated to helping the elementary school teachers prepare their students' art work for exhibition. She aspires to help the teachers of the younger grades integrate technology into their art lessons and sees working with young children in an environment imbued with a love of and an appreciation for the arts as a rewarding path for her promising future.

Kaitlyn Scott

Versatile and personable are adjectives that come to mind when writing about Kaitlyn Scott. Kaitlyn is very active in Student Council, Key Club and serves as a peer tutor, peer leader, and STEM ambassador. She is two season varsity athlete and excels in both swimming and tennis. Among her athletic recognition awards are Team utility player award in tennis, freshman round table and sophomore high point award in swimming and varsity letter in swimming since freshman year. She has been selected to serve as captain for the 2015 swim season, an honor she richly deserves. In the area of community service, Kaitlyn shines as well. She is involved in her church, volunteers at the Cape Cod YMCA providing swimming lessons, and volunteered as a lifeguard for the David Brazil Memorial Kids Triathlon. Kaitlyn has found a way to weave together her love for swimming with her commitment to serving others. She is eager to start coaching for the Sharks, a Special Olympics swim team on Cape Cod. Kaitlyn is looking forward to a leadership role on the swim team next year as we all eagerly await updates on the renovations for the SHS pool.

Sara Serdy

If you saw the 25th anniversary Putnam Spelling Bee, the most recent KTC production, you got to see a side of Sara Serdy many of us had not yet discovered. She was nothing short of fantastic in her leading role. She sang and danced with a level of professionalism, poise, and depth which mesmerized the audience each and every performance. Sara, you were amazing in the show! In addition to KTC, Sara is

one busy young lady. Sara excels in the arts, athletics and academics. She is a member of Sandwich Soul and the SHS jazz band and concert band. She has earned varsity letters in her consecutive seasons of outdoor track and field. And, she has been elected as a class officer since her freshman year. Sara is currently president of the junior class, a role in which she excels. It is an honor and privilege to work with Sara in her role as class president. She is organized, always upbeat and very effective. For those who thought maybe this was enough to fill up a week, Sara is dedicated to her competitive dance group and dances 4 or more times a week preparing for local and national competitions. Sara is a peer leader and soon to be senior mentor. Sara's contributions to community service are an impressive part of her resume. She has done walks for Alzheimer awareness, teaches dance at Riverview School through the dance heroes program, and has participated in dancing for a cure marathon. In her NHS essay, Sara comments, "It is critical that a leader remains true to himself or herself and follows his/her aspirations in life. Leadership requires honesty, confidence, commitment, intuition, responsibility, positivity and creativity." Sara, you most definitely model the above attributes. Thank you for bringing so much joy to our school and to our town.

Emily Sholi

Funny, friendly, and caring are what comes to my mind when I think of Emily. Everytime I have had the pleasure of conversing with her, I come away with a great feeling about a young person of her caliber moving through life in a position of responsibility. A member of Key Club, Philosophy Club and KTC, Emily brings her strong work ethic to every group she serves. She is one of the stars behind the stage dedicating countless hours to the tech crew for now a total of 5 productions. She has found her niche in spring track setting and achieving her goals for personal bests. A peer tutor, peer leader, and aspiring mentor, she is currently engaged in her immediate role of chair for prom committee, Class of 2016. Like many of her classmates, Emily has forged connections between her community service and her passions. For instance, she has volunteered at the Bourne Skating Company and Learn to Skate Program where she volunteers to teach children from Bourne and from Sandwich. Among Emily's academic awards are gold and silver scholar, excellence in biology, and Spanish IV Honors. Emily's unwavering school spirit is expressed in her own words, "In my sixth semester here at SHS, I have captured the meaning of Get Involved. Being involved in my school means making Sandwich High School a place everyone is proud to walk into every morning whether that means spreading some BKP around or motivating myself and others in academics, sports, and the arts as well as giving back to the community." Emily, you are the human spark plug that keeps us all going!

Sarah Simmons

The entire community of Sandwich owes a word of thanks to Sarah Simmons for it is Sarah who serves as the student webmaster for our excellent Blue Knights Webpage, twitter account and message board. Mrs. McGrath, her advisor in this role, speaks highly of Sarah's dedication, maturity, and technical skills. Sarah is a highly valued member of PALS, international Studies, Prom Committee, Peer Mediation, Yearbook Committee and soon to be senior mentor. Among her many awards are dedication to PALS award, excellence in Web Design, Biology, and Spanish. Sarah is known not only for her varied and valued contributions, but also for her humility. She has created a marketing brochure for Sandwich Council on Aging, helped in a variety of fundraisers to benefit ALS and participated in a wide variety of community service days. She views leadership as service to others and practices this vision everyday. In her NHS essay, she graciously states, " I consider myself very lucky to be surrounded by so many talented classmates, and I am humbled to be invited to apply to National Honor Society. Throughout my two and a half years at Sandwich High School, I have worked as hard as I possible could to excel in my classes and extracurricular activities. I carry myself in a way that I want to be looked upon by people around me. Community service is something I believe strongly in and I have participated in many fundraisers inspired by my respect for my 7th grade teacher, Wally Kittredge, who succumbed to ALS this past fall after a long and brave battle. He had the respect of all his colleagues, students, neighbors and people who had never met him. I know respect is earned through your actions, and I work everyday to earn the respect of my teachers and classmates. My tribute to him is that he taught me how to inspire others and now he inspires me every day. Sarah, you are a true credit to your teachers, past and present, your family, your class, and the entire town of Sandwich.

Elizabeth Siranosian

A lovely presence at all times, Elizabeth Siranosian, is a very active and high achieving scholar athlete, talented artist, and very contributive student leader. Currently, she serves as captain of our girl's tennis team, a role in which she excels. Her prowess in tennis is complemented by her skillful leadership and excellent communication skills. Next year, when our new and highly successful volleyball team takes the court, the team will be lead by Elizabeth whose passion for the sport accompanied by her unflinching belief in her teammates bode for a great season. In addition, Liz is PR Secretary for Student Council, a group which continues to do an excellent job throughout the school. She is a member of Key Club, a group to which

she dedicates many hours organizing a wide array of community service projects. Among her many awards and recognitions are achieving All Cape and All State all star for girls tennis, her service work for National Art Honor Society, Prom Committee, peer leader, STEM ambassador, and soon to be senior mentor. She has received a Leadership and Character award, an award for exemplary achievement in the visual arts, excellence in Humanities, and silver scholar. Liz was invited to intern with Daniel Dobbins through the Heritage Museum and Gardens involvement with Art Works. Liz designed and constructed a beautiful banner hung at the fall town meeting. The banner served to inform the public about the new online magazine, Sandwich Learns Together. An attribute that I have had the pleasure of observing is the depth and sincerity of her caring. Liz comments, "I helped to plan the Cape Cod Relay for Life and I believe that is a great way to get involved. Because of my love for visual arts and my internship with the Art Works Program, I will be working with a graphic designer and facilitating a variety of school based murals and projects. Like others, Liz has found a way to access her considerable talents as an artist with her impressive leadership skills for the betterment of the community of Sandwich for which we thank you.

Jenna Sweeney

One of the brightest moments in any principal's day is when teachers share student work for my review and appreciation. When English teacher Lori Horan asked me if I would like to view Jenna Sweeney's Creative Writing project, I was delighted. Jenna's work was outstanding as it is in all areas. She is a lovely young woman always poised and ready to help others and staying true to her commitment to be an outstanding role model to others. Jenna is a stateswoman who has made an important difference in our International Studies program including her participation in Model UN conferences. An accomplished runner, she is a stand out in cross country, indoor track and spring track. She was recognized as athlete of the week for her role in the 4x800 relay team last spring. She has served as a class officer and is currently a peer leader who has done a great job at Freshman and STEM Orientation events. Jenna has found other avenues to focus her contributions such as Key Club, PALS, and Habitat for Humanity. Beyond SHS, she has volunteered at Street Ranch, Pan Mass Challenge, and the Sandwich Food Pantry. Here's a fun fact you all may not know about Jenna. She writes a monthly column on fashion, academic, and social issues for The Smart Girls Group. In reading Jenna's NHS essay, I was struck at how much she cares about serving as an ambassador for Blue Knight Pride and making a difference. In writing about her goals, she states, "In the spring of my sophomore year, I became a peer leader. This position requires me to set a good example for others. I am a leader on my sports teams. On the cross country and track teams, I willingly lead younger runners showing them the different routes to

run and guiding them through stressful meet days. My interest lies in the betterment of those around me. Through leadership, I am able to help those around me become the best version of themselves while simultaneously improving my own being.” Jenna, I can assure you that you have made a lasting difference at SHS and everyone around you is better for knowing you.

Elizabeth Wegman

My most recent story about Elizabeth is the wonderful slide show she presented at a reception for the Gerald DeConto Memorial Stadium. Elizabeth carefully and skillfully put together a tribute to the memory of Captain DeConto and his family. My first memory of meeting Elizabeth was three years ago when Mr. Newton, now Director of STEM Academy, asked me to gather student leaders to help him at the Massachusetts Maritime Academy with the ASLP program. Elizabeth volunteered and helped all three days. Selected to serve as one of the graduation marshals for the Class of 2015, Elizabeth is sure to lead our current seniors onto our first ever graduation in the new stadium with the same poise and dignity that identified her to me years ago. Elizabeth is a remarkable young woman. An outstanding athlete, she has lead the Lady Knights soccer team into post season glory for the past two years. She is the recipient of the ACL Sportsmanship award for indoor track, ACL All star and qualified to run in the MIAA Division Four state championship. Her awards for outdoor track include ACL and MIAA championship seasons. The ultimate scholar/athlete, Elizabeth is an exceptional student earning awards such as gold scholar, Magna um Laude in National Latin III honors exam, excellence in Humanities and three years of high honors status on each report card. Her service to her school and class is as strong as her commitment to her academics and athletics. Currently serving as class treasurer, a role she has held for three years, Elizabeth is also a peer leader, peer tutor, STEM ambassador, and soon to be senior mentor. She was also invited by Mr. Murphy to represent Sandwich at the MIAA Sports and Society conference. Elizabeth tells a lovely story in her NHS essay. “Blue Knight Pride and the SHS Core Values were especially strong last October at my homecoming game against Nantucket. My soccer teammates and I were privileged to be the first team to play on the De Conto field.” For that game, Liz made her teammates and those in attendance arm patches bearing Gerry’s name and number, Blue Knights #7 which was Jerry DeConto’s number when he was an all star soccer player for Sandwich High School 40 years ago. What made Elizabeth’s gesture even more powerful was seeing the Nantucket girls put the stickers on their arms as well. Thanks to the thoughtful wisdom of Elizabeth, she created a moment second to none for both teams and for Captain DeConto and his family. Thank you once again, Liz.

Hailey Whelan

Scholar, athlete, leader and great friend to many described Hailey Whelan. Varsity letter winner in soccer and basketball, Hailey takes her drive and determination to the classroom and to her clubs such as Key Club, peer leader and goals for senior mentor. She volunteers as a CCD teacher for her church and serves as a youth basketball coach. She has served as a peer tutor, volunteers for the De Conto road race, and gives her time as a summer basketball coach for young children. Her academic awards include excellence in Spanish and silver scholar. When thinking about her potential and her accomplishments, Hailey graciously wrote, “Volunteering, coaching, and teaching are some of the aspects of my life that best describe who I am. Without these opportunities, I would never have experienced some of the most meaningful times of my life that have shaped me into a responsible and open minded and dedicated person.” Hailey has availed herself of opportunities to serve, to grow and to mature into a wonderful young lady ready and eager to serve and to lead.

Carly Whittle

Carly Whittle is my litmus test to check in on how BKP is doing. Her passion for Sandwich High School and her uncompromised enthusiasm never fail to impress and to inspire all those fortunate enough to know and to love Carly. She is amazing. An outstanding three season athlete, Carly gives it her all for field hockey, basketball and lacrosse. During her tenure, both field hockey and lacrosse have achieved unprecedented success. Carly has been named captain of the girl’s basketball varsity team next winter, a role in which she is sure to excel. As testament to her legendary versatility, she has been chosen to join Sandwich Soul in 2016. Carly’s talents as an athlete and a musician are matched by her dedication to student leadership initiatives. Carly serves as a peer leader, a STEM ambassador and will be a wonderful senior mentor next fall. Among her many honors, she was invited to represent Sandwich at the Sports in Society seminar held at MIAA. She serves on the newly created Student Athletic Advisory Council and has earned the respect of Mr. Murphy and the other members of this exciting group. In addition, Carly was chosen to represent SHS at the 21st annual MIAA Sportsmanship Summit in the fall of 2014. Carly’s commitment to serving others is part of her fabric as a loving and caring human being. She has volunteered time at Street Ranch, teaching vacation bible school, Sunday school, Faith kids, youth basketball, community outreach to name a few. Among award received are leadership and character, National Latin exam, certificate of merit highest honors in mathematics awarded by the Society of Women Engineers, MVP for the holiday basketball tournament, and All Star Cape cod basketball team. Carly’s devotion to SHS and to what her experiences have

meant to her is summed up in her NHS essay. “It is important that I lead my peers into service. I maintain the right motives and character, As established in our schools core values, we must promote the high standards of performance, respect, dedication, integrity, dedication, and excellence.” Carly, rest assured, you have lived these core values from the moment you arrived at SHS.

Andrew Wilson

An exceptional leader, dedicated athlete, and accomplished student, Andre Wilson is the epitome of BKP. A stellar three-season athlete, he excels at football, wrestling and lacrosse. Off the field, he has volunteered as a Pop Warner coach, helped with Sandwich Fest, assisted in the renovations of the Sandwich boardwalk, and has served as an altar server for his church. Most recently, he has helped with STEM activities held at Compass Athletics. Andrew has been chosen as a peer leader and a senior mentor, a role in which he will excel. Andrew aspires to attend a military academy and to eventually earn the rank of officer in the US Army. Last summer, Andrew volunteered to speak at Freshman Orientation and followed up with a presentation to the freshman class on the meaning of BKP. Andrew thrives when given the opportunity to lead. He has already met with Coach O’Connell and Mr. Murphy to design and to implement off-season training. He states “Leadership is something I hold dear in m personal life, in and out of school, and why I am focusing on the military a central to my post secondary planning.”. Andrew, you continue to make us very proud and we wish you all the best.

Hannah Wright

Cross country, winter and spring track and KTC fill the days outside the classroom for Hannah Wright. A peer leader and strong school citizen, she is very active in her church including serving as a youth teacher and vacation Bible school teacher. Hannah is a junior naturalist for Greenbriar and serves as a mentor for young performers at the Cotuit Center for the Arts. Hannah has volunteered at Street Reach, Sandwich Food Pantry, City Reach, church fairs and youth group. Her academic awards include excellence in biology, visual arts, and silver scholar. A fun fact about Hannah is her role as assistant chime director at her church and how she has used this talent to mentor young musicians. Hannah has been deliberate in her journey of success at Sandwich High School as well as with her commitment to her church. She reflects, “I can still remember the first step I took into the lobby of Sandwich High School on the first day of freshman year with the mindset that I would accomplish greatness within the walls of my new home away from home. Every decision I have ever made in the past three years was chosen with caution and strategy in order to arrive at the place I am now. Not only do I challenge myself academically by taking rigorous courses, but also I take part in many leadership

opportunities. I have so enjoyed teaching Church school as the First Church of Christ in Sandwich due to the memorable interactions I am able to have with young children.” Hannah, you are well on your way to a lifetime of pride in your accomplishments as your maturity speaks volumes to the path and direction of your journey.