

# NEWSLETTER 3/2012

**"A school of excellence." [WCED]**

**10 February 2012**

**NORMAN HENSHILWOOD HIGH SCHOOL  
TOP 22 WESTERN CAPE SCHOOL OF ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE**

## ALPHEN HOUSE: ATHLETICS CHAMPIONS 2012

Dear Parents and Pupils

I wish to congratulate Alphen House for their victory in the Inter-House Athletics held on Saturday last week. They beat Constantia House into 2nd place, with Silverhurst 3rd and Maynard 4th. The level of organization was superb and the support from the parents was INCREDIBLE—to say the least! Thank you parents for your overwhelming support. Our Alphen House Captains Devon John and Justine Stewart [pictured alongside] received the trophy on behalf of Alphen House. Our top athletes were:

**Junior Victrix Ludorum:** Kristen Barker

**Junior Victor Ludorum:** Ridhaa Dien

**Senior Victrix Ludorum:** Chanelle Hermans and Cleo Constant

**Senior Victor Ludorum:** Damien Furnell and Devon John

**Proud Captains of Alphen House, Devon and Justine [Matric], pictured alongside.**



### Inside this issue:

Inter-House Athletics in pictures	1
Inter-House: let's be solutions-focused.	3
Athletics: training and zonal champs	2
SGB Elections: Are you ready???	2
FUNDRAISER	3
Valentine's Ball/Picnic/Civvies Day	2
P = P — I	4

### SCHOOL FEES R 12 000 + R 750 CDF

R 1200 per month [1 February—1 November]

R 750 Capital Development Fee [CDF] per family

#### Discounts

Pay fees by 29 February and get 10 % discount, by end of Term 1 and get 5 % discount.

Pay your CDF by end of term and get a R250 rebate i.e. only pay R 500.

Thank you to parents who have already paid in advance for 2012. You have qualified for 15 % discount.

## GOVERNING BODY ELECTIONS 2012

The following comprise the SGB for a THREE-YEAR period 2012—2015:

**7 parent members, 2 educators, 2 pupils [RCL], 1 non-educator, Principal [ex-officio]**

### Message from the Chairman's desk [Mr Marcellas Goldman]



The SGB must, from within its ranks, elect the following: **Chairperson** [a parent member]; **Deputy Chairperson** [a parent member]; **Treasurer** [a parent member preferably]; **Secretary** [any member]. We look forward to many of our parents stepping up to the plate and making a significant difference in the life of Henshilwood between 2012 and 2015. I wish to call on ALL parents who have areas of expertise to offer us e.g. Finances, HR, IT in a future SGB to come forward. We need parents who can represent the entire parent body in the interests of Henshilwood.

The school is a busy one and needs parents to support it at SGB level—and make a difference to the lives of the many thousands of pupils who will pass through its doors in the years ahead. We take governance seriously and therefore want committed and serious parents who are willing to work beyond their calling as parents and sacrifice time, effort and energy in support of the entire school community. It is a tall order but something that the NHHS parent community knows a lot about. Our passion for this campus is what drives us as governors—elected by you the parents. **Step up to the plate, put your hat into the ring, stand up and be counted!!!**

**DATE OF ELECTIONS: 19 MARCH 2012 [MONDAY NIGHT] @ 7 PM**



## FEBRUARY AND MARCH ATHLETICS' ARRANGEMENTS: TRAINING AND ZONALS

**A-league zonals** take place on **1 March [Day 0]** and arrangements are as follows: buses will leave at 06:30 [athletes] and at 07:30 for spectators. The cost of the bus fare and the entry for spectators is R 45 per pupil [Bellville]. ALL moneys must be paid by 24 February as buses need to be confirmed. Pupils who do not attend the zonals will be at school as normal under staff supervision. It will be a long, hot day and parents are encouraged to stay in contact with their children to see when the buses depart from Bellville. Last year we were delayed by hours—completely at the mercy of the officials managing the championship. We are competing against athletics' big guns: Steenberg, Mondale, SP. We need our spectators' support.

The school's Athletics team was selected and announced yesterday. The Captains and Vice-Captains are as follows: **Luke Williams and Stefan Goldman [boys]; Chanelle Hermans and Simone Crouse [girls]**. Congratulations. We wish the team well as it trains for the zonals. A lot of hard work will have to be put into the preparation. Do not let the school, the team or yourself down.



## VALENTINE'S BALL AND PICNIC 17/2

### PICNIC

**Grade 8 and 9 ONLY.**

**Venue:** Pool Area

**Time:** 2 pm—4 pm

**Cost:** R 50 [gets entry and a picnic hamper]

### BALL

**Grades 10,11 and 12 ONLY**

**Venue:** School Hall

**Time:** 7 pm—11:45 pm

**Cost:** R 50 [non-VIP tickets]; R 70 [VIP tickets]

**DRESS:** FORMAL [no jeans/tekkies]

**300 non-VIP tickets available and 50 VIP tickets available. VIP tickets get access to the 'lounge area' and a free mocktail.**

**A prize will be awarded to the 'Best Dressed Couple' at the Ball.**

Get your tickets from the office now to avoid disappointment. You **MUST** produce your ticket at the pool/gate on the day. NO ticket, no entry. No outsiders who are over-age. No vehicles on the premises. All pupils at the Ball are to be dropped off at the gate where members of the SGB and PTA will be on duty. Code of Conduct applies. NO REFUNDS or pass outs. The Ball ends at 11:45 and no supervision will take place after mid-night. Thank you for the support.

## INTER-HOUSE ATHLETICS: LET'S FOCUS ON SOLUTIONS

We have opened up the conversation this week around the Athletics held last Saturday.

### NEGATIVES

1. An 'undesirable' outside element that appeared with an agenda to disrupt a part of the day.
2. Our own pupils [at least some of them] who saw the day as a social event and not an Athletics competition. This affected participation in some events.
3. A handful of our own pupils who were part of the disruption and who are being dealt with.
4. A lack of security—we were naïve given the history of our events which are always family affairs with no incidents to write home about.
5. The marquee tent was a headache.
6. No spectators' stands [future = \$\$\$?].
7. Athletes and spectators together [this is easy to solve with different tents for different houses].
8. Non-athletes NOT in school uniform.

### POSITIVES

1. Incredible parental support.
2. Superb organization.
3. Mass participation in many events.
4. Bonding of Staff, Governors and the PTA.
5. Most pupils gave their very best.
6. Excellent performance by Staff.

### The way forward?

Is it not time to think of having the event on a Thursday [like in the past] and let parents have due notice and hope they take a day's leave? Is that request unreasonable? We have fought hard [and won] to get our parents to support the school like they did on Saturday. Is it time to get non-athletes to wear school uniform? Stands for spectators are a must as it will resolve the issue of control of the 'crowd'.

### OR

Still have it on a Saturday and make it a family-only affair with security and tickets to enter. Each pupil gets tickets for his/her family ONLY [the issue of who the pupils give the tick-

ets will be a challenge]. NO outsiders at all.

As we grow to 1100 pupils we realize that we have larger challenges. With our community's help, and a paradigm shift from small school mentality to big school mentality, we can get the balance right. Our ethos must always be fore-most in our minds when we implement change. If it's good for the brand and ethos, it's the way to go.

I wish to invite parents to email me [dmillar@nhhs.co.za](mailto:dmillar@nhhs.co.za) so that I can gauge your feelings around the issue. Our BRAND must be protected at all times. Our community's interests must trump all else in all decisions we make, as a school community.



## FUNDRAISER: RAFFLE

The raffle WAS LAUNCHED THIS WEEK. The PTA and school have collaborated to bring even more prizes this year. The raffle closes on 22 March and the draw will take place at school on 23 March. A total of

**R 55 000**

worth of prizes will be up for grabs. Girls and boys will be placed separately in the draw. In addition, there are FOUR 1st prizes, FOUR 2nd prizes and FOUR 3rd prizes. Prizes will be awarded separately to JUNIORS and SENIORS. The

1st prize will be drawn for a senior boy, senior girl, junior boy and junior girl—that way more pupils get recognized for their contribution. This will also apply to 2nd and 3rd place. Each pupil will receive a raffle sheet to the value of R 150 [15 tickets at R10 each]. An extra FIVE tickets will be on the sheet and will be free tickets for the pupils. ONLY the pupils stand in line for the major prizes. Cash prizes will be awarded to the person whose name is drawn off the sheet. There will be lucky draws to the value of R 1000 each Monday morning leading

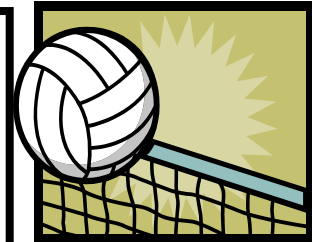
up to the draw.

**Target amount:** R 137 250

**Profit target:** R 82 250

**Use of profits:** the development of the 'Indoor-outdoor sports' centre on West Campus..

**Please support us as we attempt to raise moneys and meet our targets for this fundraiser. .**



Fundraising will ensure that we continue to offer a world class campus with world class teaching and learning.

## REJECT MEDIOCRITY AND EMBRACE EXCELLENCE.

### THE SHREDDER

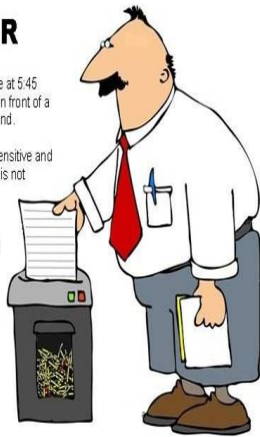
A young engineer was leaving the office at 5:45 p.m. when he found the CEO standing in front of a shredder with a piece of paper in his hand.

"Listen," said the CEO, "this is a very sensitive and important document, and my secretary is not here. Can you make this thing work?"

"Certainly," said the young engineer. He turned on the machine, inserted the paper, and pressed the start button.

"Excellent, excellent!" said the CEO as his paper disappeared inside the machine. "I just need one copy."

**Lesson:** Never, never, ever assume that your boss knows what he's doing.



CIVVIES DAY 17 FEBRUARY.

R 10. REASON? TO PURCHASE ANTI-BULLYING WRIST BANDS FOR ENTIRE SCHOOL.

Parents, are you interested in coaching? If so, please email [j holland@nhhs.co.za](mailto:j holland@nhhs.co.za) OR [mjakoet@nhhs.co.za](mailto:mjakoet@nhhs.co.za) and let them know what you wish to coach. A stipend will be paid—if necessary. We desperately need parents to assist with cricket coaching and umpiring.

### SALES AT INTER-HOUSE

Well done to the PTA who made just over R 500 on coffee, tea and donuts. The School Council also raised as much on ice-cream and the Grade 11s, wait for it, **R 11 500** profit on boerie rolls!!! CONGRATS to all teams on their takings, especially the Grade 11s. I wish to thank the PTA for allowing the Gr. 11s the opportunity to make money for their Matric Ball 2013.

[www.henshilwoodhigh.co.za](http://www.henshilwoodhigh.co.za)

The picture featured at the end of the newsletter is the one taken at Premier Zille's official residence, Leeuwenhof, when I was invited to represent the school in the category 'Excellence in Academic Achievement' at the Annual Awards' ceremony. The Minister of Education [MEC] Donald Grant is also featured. The criteria used to identify the top schools were:

1. The pass rate in 2011 [10 % weighting].
2. The endorsement [Bachelor's pass] rate [60 % weighting].
3. The ratio of passes in Mathematics in relation to the number of Grade 12 candidates at the school [30 % weighting].

**NB:** Only schools that maintained their number of learners in matric were considered.

I predict that it will take us less than three years to get into the

Top 15 or even Top 10. Some may ask: is it all about achievement? My short answer is the following: each child, while s/he has time to develop and grow according to his/her own ability, must ensure adherence to the formula ...

$$P = P - I$$

P = Performance; P = Potential; I = Interference. My performance is contingent upon my potential minus interference. Our children must learn to deal with the interferences that are thrown at them every/most day/s so that they eliminate the interferences and perform according to their potential. Potential is a dreadful word and means nothing at all!! Attitude is the greatest predictor of success. Hope for the future brings power to the present. We need to be goal orientated and mentally tough. To WIN we need to know What's Important Now.

To all pupils I have a simple message: let others lead small lives but not you! Never confuse

a moment in life with life. Move on from mistakes. Pick yourself up and realize that the WIN principle can generate momentum in your life to ensure your success. If you know what you want you hit the target. Pursuit is the proof of desire!

Have a good weekend and remember ... you do not sleep with the sheep but walk with the lions!

David J. Millar [Principal]

