

Getting *TECH*nical

Pirates progress with second semester upgrade

by sophomore Olivia Kolterman.

High school teachers and students will return from holiday break, and within a week, will turn in their 2013 MacBook Airs in exchange for a newer, faster laptop.

When the 1:1, one laptop for each student, was initiated in the high school in January of 2013, Superintendent Tony Voss said that it was never intended to be only for high schoolers but for younger students as well.

"We, as an administration, had always expected to include lower grades," said Voss.

As a result, in January the seventh and eighth grade students will receive the same upgraded laptops as the high schoolers. Out of the 705 students in the Hudson District, approximately 42% will have a district-issued laptop in hand.

The high school students and teachers are receiving new laptops because administration wanted to assure all laptops are on the same cycle. Diamond Assets, a company known for buying used laptops and selling them to another company, will buy the 2013 MacBook Airs for \$94,920.00 if in "A" grade quality, every laptop must have a working charger and extension cord. Originally the computers were

purchased for approximately \$100,000.00 out of the computer funds.

In some ways the endeavor is bringing money in to Hudson. An AppleCare lease was purchased for the 2013 MacBook Airs and it has not reached its limit, so Apple will reimburse Hudson with money for the unused data

"We just got new ones and I don't see any problems with the ones we have."

- junior Maria Geisler

"They will be upgraded which will be better for homework and other resources."

- sophomore Luke Meyer

which will roll-over to the new laptops.

A total of \$100,761.99 has been spent on the

buying of the new laptops. This money has come from the Physical Plant and Equipment Levee (PPL) fund, which is controlled by Voss. This account is to only fund projects such as computer updates, maintenance of school buses and the refurbishing of the school buildings.

The mid-year change of personal computers has some students and teachers feeling apprehensive. But technology instructional coach Mike Lewis feels that the computer upgrade will not be cause for concern because the change will be minimal.

Said Lewis, "The laptops will look the same, run the same and fit the same case. The only difference is that they will be faster."

High school math teacher Nancy Uden loves working on her new MacBook Air. Uden was the first teacher to get one of the new computers. "I like these computers because they are faster, they stay charged longer and they are lightweight, which makes it easier to carry to and from work," said Uden. Over 60% of the students polled are like Uden, in favor of getting new laptops, 24% have no preference and 16% are against the change which occurs in January.

photo by senior Alex Fouts



Parking ticket system succeeds

by senior Alex Fouts.

High School principal Jeff Dieken applauds Hudson High students for taking the parking conversation at the beginning of the school year to heart.

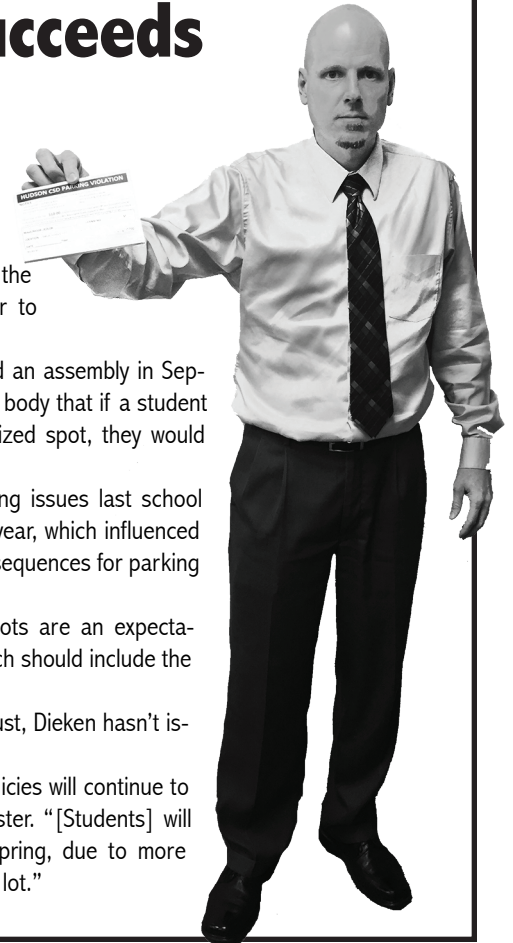
Principal Dieken conducted an assembly in September, informing the student body that if a student were to park in an unauthorized spot, they would receive a parking ticket.

There were multiple parking issues last school year that continued into this year, which influenced Dieken to start enforcing consequences for parking violations.

"Parking in authorized spots are an expectation for anywhere you go, which should include the school too," said Dieken.

Since the assembly in August, Dieken hasn't issued any parking tickets.

Dieken isn't certain the policies will continue to succeed in the second semester. "[Students] will have more difficulty in the spring, due to more people parking in the parking lot."



Will semester tests after break **BREAK** students's GPA ?

Recently, Iowa laws regarding education have changed, causing schools around the state to begin fall classes two or more weeks later than previous years. As a result, Hudson's semester tests have been scheduled for the first full week of school in January instead of before Winter Break as it has been for nearly two decades. Students were polled to get their opinions on taking the semester tests the nearly two week break, rather than in December. Here are the results:

- **2%** say they **DON'T LIKE** having semester tests after break
- **85%** said **NO PREFERENCE** of when semester tests are
- **13%** said they **LIKE** having semester tests after break