

Lasting Legacy

Student leadership programs leave a lasting impact on the future of Hudson High School

by sophomores Grace Schwenneker and Sophie Selenke

The things we do for ourselves are gone when we are gone, but the things we do for others remain as our legacy. What will be Hudson High School's legacy? This is what high school Principal Jeff Dieken wants to answer.

Dieken started to think about legacy earlier this summer when construction in the middle school took place for a new ramp near the competition gym.

Underneath the ramp, the administration left a time capsule, marked with an X, to be opened in 50 years.

The items inside the capsule are currently a secret, but Dieken says that it contains objects from multiple staff members that were chosen to symbolize 2017. The capsule's items will be revealed in the year 2067.

While the construction was a start for legacy at Hudson Schools, Dieken hopes to leave a legacy that is deeper than external changes, but instead one that shows what being a Pirate really means.

Said Dieken, "it's not about the money we leave behind, but the honesty, integrity, and leadership we leave behind."

The NHS Legacy

The administrators aren't the only ones

thinking about legacy. Hudson's National Honors Society (NHS) has proposed the same idea to students. NHS is an organization for students who have qualities of scholarship, service, leadership, and character.

"I have been challenging the kids to see where they could create an impact and a legacy," said first-year NHS advisor Dawn Frye.

This year, Frye has challenged students to think about where they could

create a new legacy, and senior Katelyn Pint has suggested the Thanksgiving Food Basket Drive.

The Thanksgiving Food Basket Drive was a competition between seminars to see which could bring in the most canned or boxed food goods.

"I hope this new tradition will continue on through NHS to help feed hungry families in our community," said Pint.

Ultimately, the goal of the NHS is to leave a strong program for future members, so being a leader in the classroom



photo by senior Hailey Elder

Senior National Honor Society member Katelyn Pint and NHS advisor Dawn Frye organize food to donate to the Northeast Iowa Food Bank.



photo by senior Erin O'Malley

Student Council president senior Caleb McCullough and student council advisor Kim Culham discuss the meeting agenda.

and the community stays strong for years to come.

The Student Council Legacy

Along with NHS, student council president, senior Caleb McCullough, has expressed a passion for making new changes to the school to address problems he has seen in his four years here at Hudson.

"I have a unique position to make real and lasting changes. I want these changes to improve the experience of students at Hudson," said McCullough.

The council is not just trying to improve life for students, they are also improving facilities used by Pirate Nation and guests. Student council is trying to get mirrors in the weight room bathrooms. McCullough says they want the new addition because they feel that the mirrors could improve the bathrooms and make them look formal.

The council is not stopping there. They are trying to make improvements inside the school. They have added two new microwaves in the lunchroom. The old microwave was used by a number of students every day, but it broke down after extensive use.

The senior council members are leading the other members of the council to leave their legacy. The 10 senior members want to upgrade the high school library.

Dieken and Superintendent Voss have been brainstorming ways to improve the library for a few years, and student council wants to have a part in it.

Instead of having the library as a place

full of books sitting on shelves, they want to transform it into a lounge. They want to add couches, whiteboards, projectors, charging stations, and studying areas. Aside from repainting the library and adding new lights, they want to create an environment that students can use to relax and enjoy.

Dieken says that the changes in the works are too costly for Student Council to do on its own, but that they could be involved by giving input and making donations.

Senior Katelyn Pint said, "Student council and NHS should be organizations that make an impact on the school to last a lifetime."

What would you like to see added at Hudson High School?

"A hot beverage machine in the winter so kids who walk to school can warm up."

- sophomore Mattie Myli

"A water fountain with a water bottle filler by the lockers next to the bathrooms. I bring a water bottle and I usually need to fill it during passing time. I have to fill it up manually."

- freshman Anna Staebell

"A music sound system in the commons playing music before school."

- 7-12 art teacher Laura Angove

DISCLAIMER: This newspaper, the newspaper's website, and the district yearbook are projects of the journalism class at Hudson High School and is intended to be a learning opportunity, a way for Hudson students to better their writing, photography, and design skills. | Any expression made by students, including students' expression in an official school publication, is not an expression of official school policy. The school district, the school board and the employees or officials of the school are not liable in any civil or criminal action for any student expression published by students.