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The Hyde Weekly #4: Your attitude dictates your success

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The Hyde Weekly

This is an informal e-communication from the Hyde School campus, intended to share highlights, signs of growth, issues that are being addressed, and moments of joy. Its purpose is to bring the Hyde School parents and the larger community into the school culture.

Action Reflection

This week, the front lawn of the Hyde mansion was the setting for two events.

On Hyde's new state-of-the-art ropes course, shouts of encouragement mixed with excited voices as one of our soccer teams hung from the ropes.

A few feet away in the Spiritual Center, students and faculty were silently practicing mindfulness during a guided meditation session.

Both events were important, and the contrast between the two illustrates what makes the Hyde program transformational.

We call it the **Action/Reflection** cycle. Acquiring knowledge in traditional education puts the focus on the teacher and the teacher's mind. Hyde, however, emphasizes character. This shifts the focus to the student's growth and puts a premium on the student's actions. Often, these actions are the result of challenges that draw on and draw out the inner resources of the students.

After action, students learn to reflect upon those actions to form new visions of themselves. In sharing thoughts and feelings about their actions, students can develop new action plans based on these new senses of themselves. Every action is tied to a reflection where we think about what we are doing and who we are. These reflections lead to new perceptions of our attitudes and of ourselves.

The Action/Reflection learning cycle is a vital process in the Hyde education. It is also the reason why, around the school, you can so often hear these words being said to a student: "*You are not the person you were last week, last month or last year!*"

Onward,



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Laura D. Gauld". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Laura D. Gauld
President & Head of School

First FLC of the Year!

By Biggest Job Family Program Director Mary Moore



Students and parents work on team building on the low ropes section of the ropes course

The first Family Learning Center weekend (aka FLC) kicked off last week with a new challenge for both students and parents – the ropes course!

We started off the weekend with a storytelling exercise and then jumped on the ropes course first thing the next morning. Some were relieved to hear that we were doing the “low ropes” section – but that turned out to be very challenging as well! Both parents and students learned something about themselves and worked as a team in a new way.

Next, we had a seminar where we talked about how we saw ourselves and our family member attending the FLC. After that was the famous “trust walk” where both students and parents shared some important feelings with each other.

Friday evening we had singing auditions in front of the fireplace, which were a big hit! We heard some Weird Al Yankovic, Garth Brooks, John Lennon, and many more. We laughed together and inspired each other as well.

Saturday morning we drew the wall that we all build around ourselves and began discussing how to take some of those “bricks” away. Receiving meaningful feedback from others in the group was very helpful.

As always, our FLC ended with heartfelt letters from parents and kids to each other. As always, a moving, fun, and inspiring experience for all!

Don't forget to sign up for YOUR FLC today! Just email Sara at slevensohn@hyde.edu or chose a date here:

Register for an FLC

Lax Players Journey North for a Game with the Passamaquoddy Tribe

By Lacrosse Coach Chris Kidger



Corey Hinton & Hyde School students teaching children and adults the game of lacrosse

After classes on Friday, September 21, a group of Hyde Boys Lacrosse players hopped on a bus to make a 4-and-a-half hour trek into the north of Maine.

The destination—Indian Township with an overnight pit stop at the Grant family camp in Grand Lake Stream.

After the long drive, a Ken-Grant-gourmet dinner, an obnoxious 7:30 AM wake up from Coach Kidger, and a morning jump in the lake, the group made their way to Sakabasin Field at Indian Township for the primary objective of the weekend.

In partnership with Corey Hinton, a Portland-based lawyer and member of the Passamaquoddy Tribe, the group spent the morning teaching the game of lacrosse to children and adults alike before playing in a “Game to Honor the Veterans.”

Hinton spent the early years of his life living on the Reservation at Indian Township before his family made the move to Central New York and took up residence on Onondaga Nation Reservation, home to current Hyde students Jaden Stout '20 and Gavin Hill 'PG.

Onondaga is where Hinton was introduced to the sport of lacrosse. After a successful high school career at Niskayuna, he earned a scholarship to play Division 1 lacrosse at Colgate and later would earn his way to compete as a member of the Iroquois National Lacrosse Team.

While lacrosse has been played by the Passamaquoddy for much of their history, the sport has been lost to them within the past 200 years. Hinton, along with other influential members of the tribe, are working to reestablish the sport on the reservations at both Indian Township and Pleasant Point.

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[View photos from the trip](#)

Wilderness FLC: Bonding in Nature

By Faculty Andrew Herwig



Student and parent group on the summit of Burnt Mountain

Looking to go beyond the traditional on-campus FLC experience, six adventurous families chose to trek to (and around) the Black Wilderness Preserve in Eustis, Maine. The Wilderness FLC is an opportunity to bond with your family member while camping, cooking over fire, hiking, and canoeing—and, of course, enjoying the seminar experience around a campfire.

Our group arrived on the gorgeous property before lunch on Sunday morning. We transitioned our gear into water tight “dry bags” and made our way down to the edge of Flagstaff Lake. Loading all of our gear for the weekend into canoes, each family worked together to paddle their way to our campsite half an hour up the lake.

Pulling our canoes onto the beach, it became clear what a special four days it would be. The leaves had begun their transition from summer greens to autumn yellows and reds. The water was cool and the air was crisp. After some lunch, we set up camp.

[>>Continue Reading](#)

Celebrating Mid-Autumn Festival

By Faculty Fan Luo



September 24 is Mid-Autumn Festival, a holiday widely celebrated in Asia.

On Friday, faculty Fan Luo and senior **Rowan Schwardswald '19** hosted an interactive fun meeting introducing Mid-Autumn Festival to Hyde community. They put on a skit about the folktales behind this holiday and ran a school wide kahoot game on Chinese culture and Asian international students at Hyde. The top five winners were **Halle Bourn '20**, **Kyra Holdamf '19**, **Rachel Willey '20** and faculty Ben Liff. They each received a homemade moon cake as a reward. The moon cakes were hand made by **Nancy Zhou '19**, **Kevin Gong '19**, **Thomas Yao '19**, **Jasmine Lam '19** and myself.

Students from Advanced Music Theory class also perform a Chinese folk music piece called "Jasmine Flower." [Watch the performance here.](#)

Following the meeting, international students cooked a feast in Merritt House on Saturday night. Domestic students **Halle Bourn '20** and **Anna Mondanaro '19** came out of curiosity. They both were impressed by the food and hospitality from the international community.

After the feast, as always, students quickly organized themselves into pots and pans, dish duty and clean up teams. Everyone waited until Merritt house was all cleaned and ended the night with a few fun rounds of "Werewolf Kill" games.

Alumni Feature: Ethan Morrow '13



To kick off this school year's round of Alumni Features we interviewed California native Ethan Morrow '13! After graduating college and traveling across the globe, Ethan has returned to Hyde and is giving back to the community as our Assistant Dean of Students, a member of the English faculty team, and the Varsity Boys Soccer Coach. Ethan reflects on his time at Hyde, teachers who impacted him, and gives advice to the current Hyde student. Thank you for sharing your story with us Ethan, keep up the great work!

Career Path:

After Hyde, Ethan attended Assumption College in Worcester, Massachusetts. There, he obtained a Bachelor's degree in History with a minor in English. Post-graduation Ethan took a European tour, traveling and seeing more of the world.

Ethan interned during Hyde's Summer Challenge Program in 2016 and joined the Hyde Faculty full time in 2017. As a second year faculty member, Ethan is the Assistant Dean of Students, teaches English 10 and is a Varsity Boys Soccer Coach.

Lasting Hyde Principle:

When asked which Hyde principle had stuck with him the most Ethan responded, "*Leadership – I've become a leader by asking the best of myself and others*".

Ethan felt he was always surrounded by strong leaders while at Hyde. He believes that being a leader is leading by example and doing the things other people don't always want to do. He witnessed leadership at Hyde on a number of occasions:

- On the soccer field, Ethan said that the captain of the team always took care of the equipment at the end of practice. This was not his responsibility, but something he did for the good of the team. Although it may seem small, this example set the standard

for the rest of the team.

- Ethan also recalled a time when the Dinning Hall's dish room was backed up and the Head of School at the time, Don MacMillan, noticed. Don, without hesitation, took off his blazer and single-handedly washed every dirty dish. Don's leadership and commitment to do what needed to be done has always stuck with Ethan.

Impactful Hyde Teachers:

Paul Hurd was Ethan's favorite Hyde teacher. When asked about Paul, Ethan summed up their relationship by saying, Paul was "the man"! Ethan was in the Hyde Leadership Society alongside Paul and he also had Paul for Government and as a Senior Advisor. Ethan also spoke highly of **Ross Sanner**, who was the Director of Admissions at Hyde and was involved with Ethan's onboarding as a student. Ross was a mentor to Ethan, especially in athletics. Ross would tell Ethan "how it was" and give him constructive criticism on the soccer and lacrosse fields. One of Ethan's favorite quotes from Ross was *"I love you enough to tell you, you suck right now."*

Advice for a current Hyde student:

Ethan is very humble and had many thoughts about advice to give the current Hyde student, but thought he'd sum it up with one quote; *"Your attitude dictates your success."*

Thank you Ethan!

Not to Miss

- Gallery: Indian Township Passamaquoddy Lacrosse Game
- Gallery: International Retreat 2018: Ropes Course
- Gallery: Boys Varsity Soccer 2018
- Gallery: Now is the time
- Photo: Laura & students live during Biggest Job Family Education webinar
- Parenting Center on hyde.edu
- Joey G's Character Education Blog: How Happy Are You?
- Malcolm's Blog: BK - 10 Points for Seniors
- Parenting: The Biggest Job: Shannon Evans, The Scholar Coach: Finding the Right College
- Hyde School Blog: My Hyde Admission Process - from Interview to Enroll
- Lennox Lodge Facebook Page

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