



CARDINAL FLYER

Hayes Center High School Journalism

Thursday, October 8, 2026

JUNIORS STEPPING UP

BY MONICA DIMAS

Have you ever seen a high school related movie? In what year of high school does the movie commonly take place? I feel that the movie takes place in either freshman year or junior year. Well, I never truly believed that junior year was important until I experienced it. I thought I was just moving up another high school level but no, in your junior year you pretty much find yourself between high school and adulthood. New questions that you're asked by adults are things like "What are you thinking of studying in college?" "Have you started college classes?" "What job are you planning on getting?" As a junior in high school, most of your answers are likely to be something like, "I have no clue", said with a light chuckle at the end. Your grades through high school always matter but now they seem to matter more than usual. Also, during this year, you're filling out scholarships and even looking at colleges you are perhaps going to apply to in the upcoming year.

Do you know one of the most important things that a high school student needs to complete before applying to college? It's the ACT. Our Hayes Center juniors took the second ACT of their high school career on Tuesday September 29th. They had previously taken their first ACT during their sophomore



Photo by Monica Dimas
Juniors Ava Messersmith and Agneshka Sankey discuss ACT prep with Mrs. Anderjaska.

year to experience what the test is like and how they could improve in the fall. It was also a good way for them to become familiar with the new template of the ACT, which has fewer questions and takes less time. Their scores help Hayes Center determine if students are prepared for college classes, allowing them to earn college credits before their junior or senior year. As the juniors experience all that the year has to hold, we wish them success as they begin visiting colleges and turning their attention to life after high school. Have a great rest of the year, Juniors!



Photo by Cheyenne Jeffers
The junior high football team lines up against Hitchcock County in their home win on Monday, September 28th.



Photo by Carly Softley
Junior high boys warm-up before football practice.



Photos of the Week

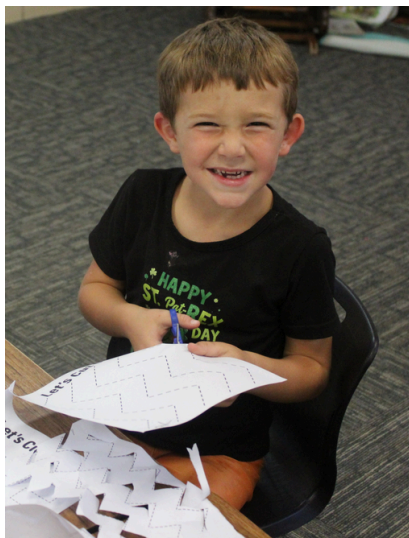


Photo by Harli Cox
Kindergartner
Kyler Rowley
smiles for a
photo while
cutting out his
project during
crafts.



Photo by Ava Messersmith
6th graders Kylee O'Neil and Tatum Lacey play their
saxophones in unison during band class.



Photo by Lanie Soundy
Harper Richards, Harli Cox, and Aurora Marquez get ready to
pass the ball on serve receive against Gothenburg during the JV
game at Cambridge.



Photo by Carly Softley
Embry Grimes colors in her pumpkin
drawing during library class.



Photo by Harli Cox
Lucia Lopez
(10th)
displays her
clay turtle
project in art
class.

Photo by Ava Messersmith
5th grader
Jacelyn Vapenik
prepares to pass
the volleyball as
6th grader
Hudsyn Cox
avoids the play
in PE class.





SPORTS SCORES

Varsity Football vs. Hi-Line @Maywood, Friday, Oct.2

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	Final
Hi-Line (2-4)	6	6	6	0	18
MHC (3-3)	0	8	0	0	8

Quaid Brott: Touchdown

Easton Gilmore: Interception

Varsity Volleyball vs. Gothenburg @Cambridge, Thu., Oct.1

	Set 1	Set 2	Set 3
Gothenburg (13-9)	19	25	25
MHC (16-5)	25	17	14

Caylie Softley: 5 aces, 10 digs

Jillian Johnson: Reached her 100th career block.

Varsity Volleyball vs. Cambridge @Cambridge, Thu., Oct.1

	Set 1	Set 2	Set 3
Cambridge (13-5)	23	25	25
MHC (16-6)	25	18	19

Cayle Softley: 15 kills

Jaylee Sellers: 20 assists



Photo by Lanie Soundy

Kai Landry hits the ball over the net for a kill during the JV game against Gothenburg.



Photo by Ava Messersmith

MHC's special teams lines up for a kick-off at the start of the third quarter in the game against Hi-Line on October 2nd in Maywood.