

## JUST ASKING

BY HENRY KLEST

### Who is your favorite teacher at Barrington High School?

Barrington High School is ranked 553rd out of 91,957 public high schools in the nation for academics according to Newsweek. It is in the top 1 percent of high schools nationally and internationally for the number of Advanced Placement (AP) tests taken each year according to College Board.

How did Barrington reach this pinnacle of academic excellence? There is only one explanation - the extraordinary teaching staff. If you ask a BHS student or alumni about their favorite BHS teacher, they will give you the name of a person who changed their life. Whether we acknowledge it or not, teachers are the people who shape our minds and create a strong foundation of knowledge that influences the rest of our lives.



PHOTO: MARY KLEST

HENRY KLEST

Kathy Ho, a BHS senior and member of the class of 2012, says her favorite teacher is Mrs. Karuna Parmar, an Architectural Drafting and Computer-Aided Design and Drafting (CADD) instructor. "She's the teacher that helped me pick my major. Her class was what inspired me to want to become an engineer," says Kathy. "She always has a great relationship with all of her students without being intimidating." Kathy plans to attend the University of Minnesota next fall.

Jack Kieffer, a sophomore math whiz, knows almost every math teacher at BHS. I inquired as to his favorite teacher and to no surprise it was a math teacher. Mr. Ernest Lane teaches Algebra II and Trigonometry. "I like Mr. Lane a lot, because he is always laid back," says Jack. "And because he advocates for teaching the use of the abacus."

For someone who is not destined to become an abacus master, classrooms with other subjects are lead by great teachers, too. Mr. Nathan Newhalfen, an AP Human Geography and AP U.S. History teacher is one. Rahul Narain, a junior at BHS, said, "I like Mr. Newhalfen a lot. He's very into his job. His enthusiasm about every bit of material he taught was inspiring."

Many of the great teachers at BHS dedicate their free time to co-curricular activities. One of my favorite teachers, Mr. Patrick Wire, is both the varsity baseball and sophomore football head coach. How he finds the time to be the head coach of two teams and teach an engaging and conversational Global Studies class continues to baffle me.

Whether you're a student at BHS or a parent, you will always have access to one of the best teaching staffs in the nation. The teachers at BHS are a shining example of showing enthusiasm and love for the teaching profession. If teachers are the people who shape our future, the future is certainly looking bright for all those who attend Barrington High School.

*HENRY KLEST is a sophomore at Barrington High School. He is on the BHS tennis team and football team.*

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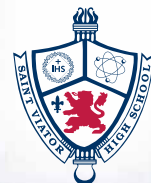
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## Open House

SUNDAY  
NOVEMBER 13, 2011  
1:00 P.M. – 3:00 P.M.

MONDAY  
NOVEMBER 14, 2011  
6:30 P.M. – 8:30 P.M.



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