



# Kennett High School



Principal's Report  
May 9, 2016

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## Identified Improvement Targets in Progress

1. Kat Murdough and Jess Tilton have been increasing their already numerous interdisciplinary opportunities in freshman English and world cultures with a new novel unit connected to students' study of culture in Afghanistan. Students have read *Shooting Kabul*, *A Thousand Splendid Suns*, or *The Kite Runner* and are currently writing multi-genre pieces about culture and identity in these books. As part of this work, students have also engaged in an online discussion forum, which has allowed them to discuss novel content with students across their entire team and not just the students within their class/section. This will help students make valuable connections to their final project of the year, a multi-genre research project, which is also interdisciplinary between freshman English and world cultures.

## Student & Staff Accomplishments

1. The Spanish class field trip to Jalisco was a great success. The waiters only spoke to the Spanish V students in Spanish and were very kind and friendly. The experience allowed the students to speak Spanish to each other more and they felt a lot more comfortable while speaking. This has been one of the highlights for the Spanish V class and it was great to see them grow in such a short amount of time. Utilizing community resources to advance the educational experience has been a targeted goal at Kennett.
2. **New England District of Key Clubs Educational Conference, April 8<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup>, 2016:**Thirty-two KHS Key Clubbers participated in the conference; in all, nearly 1,000 Key Club members from the New England District attended. KHS was again awarded first place of all 165 clubs in New England in fundraising for District charities. The club presented a check for \$13,000.00 to the New England District treasury (*KHS's contribution was over three times the amount of the second place club's contribution*). - KHS also received first place for having achieved the "highest amount of funds raised per member."- In addition, KHS was awarded Key Club International's "Distinguished Club" award for overall excellence. Only five clubs of the 165 Key Clubs in the New England District received this recognition.- KHS Key Club received special recognition for its fundraising for UNICEF charities.- KHS Key Club received the second place award for overall achievement in the highly-competitive Platinum Division.- Tessa Greenhalgh, KHS Key Club's President, was awarded an "Outstanding Club President" award. She was one of only three club presidents so honored.- Tessa Greenhalgh also won the Sandy Nininger Award for Leadership (this award is named after a Medal of Honor recipient). She was one of only three Key Club members in New England to receive this award, and in addition, this is the second year in a row she has won this award.- Molly Robert was awarded an Outstanding Secretary Award for the timely and accurate monthly Key Club

reports that she prepares.- Molly Robert also placed third in the Gold Division for overall excellence as a Key Club Secretary. - Kyle O'Keefe, KHS Key Club's Vice President, was awarded the Paul Tasho scholarship, one of only three scholarships awarded at the conference.- Caleb Esmay, Key Club Treasurer, earned an "Early Bird" award for the club for timely and accurate payment of dues.- Taylor Bouchard and Abbie Tepe were talent contest finalists. As such, they sang their inspiring duet "Lava" to an audience of 1,100 attendees and were awarded third place in the talent contest. - Molly Robert won first place in the New England District's oratory competition (KHS Key Club members have now won this contest for two years in a row), and was thus given the privilege of presenting her outstanding speech to the 1,100 Key Club members and adults at the conference. As a further result of her win, she was invited to compete in Key Club's international-level oratory contest in Atlanta this summer.- Logan Hagerty, the New England District of Key Clubs' Bulletin Editor, was awarded the District Administrator's Award for exemplary performance as a district board member.- Even more big news!.....at the conference, the delegates from all over New England elected Caleb Esmay as the New England District Treasurer for 2016-2017. Caleb ran a terrific election campaign; his stump speeches were extremely well-received by the voters.

3. Two busloads of Kennett band and chorus students participated in a combined concert with Fryeburg Academy Music on Wednesday April 27 at the Laura Hill Eastman Performing Arts Center. All the groups performed well and the combined bands and choruses were exceptional. Kennett will host next spring. The Band will be featured in a documentary about New Hampshire's political process being produced by KHS alumna Jacqueline Goss. The band will be playing an arrangement of "Show Me the Way to Go Home" as a backdrop for the film. Recording is scheduled for May 24.
4. The Spring Concert will take place on Thursday, May 19 at 6:30 pm in the auditorium. KHS Music proudly presents "A Music Bouquet". There is a \$5 suggested donation given at the door.



Key Club at New England Conference



Youth and Government Conference