College Begins in Kindergarten (CBiK)

Why go to college?
Because college keeps paying off, your whole life long...

- Over a lifetime, a college graduate can expect to earn $1 million more than a high school graduate.
- On average, college graduates have lower rates of unemployment than high school graduates.
- College graduates have more jobs to choose from.
- Just one year of college can increase lifetime earnings 15 percent.
- College gets you out of your neighborhood and into a bigger world. It can open doors you never imagined.
- People see you as a leader when you are the first in your family to go to college.
- People who go to college live longer.

From: http://www.firstinthefamily.org/hardfacts/

College Began In Kindergarten
Hancock Alum Attends Hamline University

By Heather Schabert
Hamline Student

Hancock/Hamline University Collaborative Magnet School and Hamline University complete a circle for senior Sheila Kandels. She is one of several Hamline students who are alumni of Hancock. At Hamline, she is a history major and an education minor, but she acquired her love of learning from a special teacher’s influence at Hancock.

Now, with her degree in teaching, she wants to impart that love of learning to others.

Sheila transferred to Capitol Hill in fifth grade, but she was back at Hancock the next year. Hancock just “felt like home,” she said.

Because Hamline makes an effort to include Hancock children in campus life and exposes children to the opportunities available through higher education, Sheila “felt connected to Hamline University as a young girl.”

These early experiences instilled a desire to pursue higher education there, especially in light of her aspirations to become a teacher. In addition to the educational benefits, the extracurricular activities such as Earth Day were attractive. Sheila recalled walking across Snelling Avenue as a child on many occasions to take campus tours and visit college dorms.

Last Spring, Sheila was a student teacher at Hancock. By luck of the draw, she was placed with her second grade teacher Ms. Bloom, who called out her name with enthusiasm when she arrived for her first clinical. Following her former teacher’s lead, she found that she captured the attention of the children through gentle encouragement and assisted them by drawing on Ms. Bloom’s methods. In short, she loved teaching.

Due, in part, to her educational experiences, Sheila displays strong leadership qualities that she will take into her professional career and personal life. She acknowledges her strengths and weaknesses but makes use of the opportunities given to her allowing for personal growth after her Hancock-Hamline experience. As she aptly stated, she doesn’t need to compare herself with others. She strives to better herself based on past achievements and failures.

Maintaining the relationship between Hamline University and Hancock is essential to many children’s futures, and Sheila is an example of such a child.

Sheila (left) at Hamline’s annual Earth Day festival on Hamline’s campus in 1998.

Sheila and a friend, sixth graders, on Hamline’s campus.
Hamline First Years Get Hancock Experience

By Issam Himmi and Terrance Ollie-Forliti
Hancock Student Editors

City Serve is a program in which first-year Hamline students volunteer in the community. The program was created by the OSLV (Office of Service Learning and Volunteering) in 2000 because first-year Hamline students wanted to know where to volunteer in the community.

City Serve helps Hamline first years “get to know their new home,” said Tina VanSteenbergen, a Hamline student leader that helped with the program.

On September 4, thirty-five City Serve participants came to Hancock to volunteer. They helped in classrooms with students, helped new students around the school, helped organize teachers’ desks and school supplies, and one class organized a kickball game for the kids at Hancock.

Other City Serve participants went to other locations around the community like nursing homes, community theaters, Goodwill, and the YMCA. This was an enjoyable experience for Hamline and Hancock students alike.

“We had a lot of fun,” VanSteenbergen said.

Letter From the Editor

New Features of Snelling Connection

Hello new and seasoned Snelling Connection readers! For those of you who don’t know, my name is Whitney Klein and I am the assistant to the Hancock/Hamline Collaboration and the editor of the Snelling Connection. I am now a junior at Hamline University, and I have almost three years of working with the Collaboration under my belt.

The Snelling Connection has undergone a few changes this year, one of them being the addition of the Collaboration’s new logo. On the bottom of page 6, and faded into the background of this article, you will see the logo we introduced in last year’s summer edition of the Snelling Connection. The logo features the two H’s of Hamline and Hancock connected with one line, symbolizing the Collaboration as a bridge between the two campuses.

Also new to the Snelling Connection this year is the column “On the Issues.” This column is replacing the beloved “Speak Out” column of years past. “On the Issues” will give students and teachers from both sides of campus an opportunity to speak out about issues important to the world we live in.

In this edition, for example, people share their views about whether they should use paper or plastic bags in the supermarket according to which one is more environmentally sound. Keep an eye out for your child, neighbor, student, or possibly you, yourself to be featured in this column!

I would like to conclude by thanking you for reading this newsletter. I believe the Collaboration does such important work, and I am so glad that you are taking the time to read about it. If you have any comments, questions, or suggestions for this newsletter or for the Hancock/Hamline Collaboration itself, please contact me. I am more than willing to hear from you!

Whitney Klein
Hamline University
Email: wklein02@hamline.edu
New Faces Make Hancock’s Year Look Bright

By Manuela Ohs
Hamline student

The Hancock community is welcoming dozens of new members this year who are contributing to the teaching effort, and these faces represent fresh ideas for Hancock students.

America Reads/Counts
For example, the America Reads America Counts program is not new, but this year many new Hamline students are joining it.

“This brings new energy to the classrooms,” said Craig Anderson, curriculum coordinator at Hancock.

These new Hamline tutors will also be going through In the Mix workshops again this year, where they can learn how to be more effective tutors. This training is not only a good opportunity for Hamline students to improve their skills, but also for Hancock students to get help from an excellent tutor.

Volunteer Program
Besides this, a revamped volunteer program begins this Fall. In this program, volunteers from the Hancock neighborhood, Hancock parents, and members of the Hamline community will work with students at Hancock who need assistance in schoolwork. To help engage students and volunteers, Hancock introduced several versions of the book “We Both Read” this year. With stories about dinosaurs or fairy tales, the students easily learn new things while having fun at the same time. It also supports the connection between the volunteer and the student, because, as the name of the book states, they have to read it together, so it’s not a one-sided lecture.

Mini-Grants
The Hancock community also expects new faces and projects with a new set of Mini-Grants this year. Mini-Grants are funded programs or events, which serve to enrich the collaboration between Hancock and Hamline. They are a great opportunity for Hamline students to get in contact with Hancock pupils.

“We are very excited about the Mini-Grants,” said Craig. “We had some very interesting projects last year.”

“CSI: Tracking Down Criminals from Prints” and “Vamos a Leer a Jugar! (Let’s Read & Play)” are just two examples of last year’s topics. (For more information about the Mini-Grants, check out the Hancock-Hamline Collaboration’s website at www.hamline.edu/hancock.)

Art Residency
More new faces arrived at Hancock at the beginning of October. The reason: The Art Residency, the first big event in this school year. Students had a lot of fun working together with artists from ArtStart on the theme “The Mississippi.” With singing and drumming or painting, the students interactively learned how to treat the environment properly. As part of the activities, Hancock also took part in the “Gathering at the River” on Saturday, October 13, at the Harriet Island Pavilion and Grounds in St. Paul. The “Gathering at the River” was a free interactive arts event, open to all Saint Paul citizens. For this event the children from the kindergarten classes, for example, painted a mural together.

So Hancock can surely expect an exciting school year, with a lot of new people joining the community to make learning at Hancock more fun.
Hi. My name is Glynis Grostephan and this is my eleventh year as Hancock's Gifted Services Specialist, as well as part of this amazing Hancock and Hamline Collaboration.

Connecting to other staff and students via Kids Voting, Hancock-Hamline University Collaborative Advisory Committee, Site Council, grade-level pairings, and visits to HUSC by Hancock Student Council members has enriched the lives of my students and myself.

As Student Advisor for the Snelling Connection I've seen our Hancock student editors enjoy writing, learn more about our connections, and even overcome their fear of interviewing students and staff from Hancock and Hamline.

Eleven years ago, I worked with members of HUSC to promote the Hancock/Hamline Collaboration and this has developed into the annual Hancock/Hamline Collaborative Earth Day Festival. This event involves numerous volunteers and resources from the community and especially Hamline University. I encourage you to become involved in our collaboration and hope to see you at the Earth Day Festival in April!
On the Issues: Paper or Plastic?

Caitlin Hare and Vanessa Jenkins ask: What should you choose to carry your purchases from the supermarket or store? Which is better for the environment: paper or plastic? Why?

Your Answers:

"I use paper and sometimes plastic. Plastic is better for the environment." - Teadra, grade 4

"A plastic bag... "because if you use paper a lot we are not going to have more trees." - Janneth, grade 6

"Plastic bags...because it won’t break like paper bags." - Triana, grade 4

"Paper bag...because plastic takes longer to disintegrate." - Isaiah, grade 5

"Paper [is better] because paper is made from trees. And paper disintegrates," - Anita Jenkins, Educational Assistant.

"My canvas tote from home. If I am purchasing just a few items, I carry them out of the store without a bag. Although plastic is cheaper for the business owner, paper is better for the environment. Using your own canvas tote from home is even better and refusing the paper and plastic bag [is better]." - Ms. Lehmann, Assistant Principal.

Our Answer:

Sometimes we assume paper bags are better for the environment because they come from a renewable resource, but they really aren’t. The production of paper bags generates 70% more air and 50 times more water pollutants than plastic bags, and it uses millions of trees each year.

Then you would think plastic bags are better for the environment, but they’re not. It takes vast amounts of oil to produce plastic bags, they choke wildlife who eat discarded plastic bags thinking it’s food, and, since many plastic bags are not recycled, they release poisonous materials into the water and soil.

This proves that neither paper nor plastic is the best choice. Reusable cloth, canvas, Eco-Spun, mesh... any reusable bag (including the plastic and paper bags you already have) is the most environmentally friendly choice.

FINAL ANSWER:

NO PAPER!

NO PLASTIC!

REUSABLE BAGS ARE THE MOST ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY!

One of Three Bench Mosaics Completed!

This bench, one of three in the front of Hancock, was covered in a mosaic designed and created by Hancock fifth graders and an artist, Laurie Watson, last Spring.
New Hamline Tutors Field Editor’s Questions

Hancock welcomed many new faces this year. (See article on page 3.) The Hancock Student Editors are giving you a chance to meet a few of them here! A’driannne and Amy each interviewed a new Hamline tutor at Hancock.

By A’driannne Adams
Hancock Student Editor

This is Terra Duclos. Terra is a new tutor at Hancock. She’s been involved with kids since she was in high school. She has experience with kids, since she was a babysitter. She’s not going to be a teacher. She likes kids in grades kindergarten through six because they are fun. She comes on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. She’s from Blaine, MN. She says Hancock students are very cool.

Meet This Year’s Hancock Student Editors

Terra Duclos, Hamline student, replies to a question asked by A’driannne, Hancock.

By Amy Proefrock
Hancock Student Editor

Q: What is your name?
A: John Gross.
Q: How old are you?
A: 18.
Q: When did you start going to Hamline?
A: This year, 2007.
Q: Did you have to work here or was it your choice?
A: I chose to work here because I like kids.
Q: What is your job at Hancock?
A: Tutor kids in 5th Grade Math, and reading in Mrs. Smith and Mrs. Saari’s class.
Q: What did you think of Hancock before you started working here?
A: It looked like a really nice school and it’s close to my college.
Q: Do you have another job other than here?
A: In the summer I work for my dad.
Q: Do you enjoy working here?
A: Yes I do.
Q: What school did you used to go to?
A: Osseo Senior High School.
Q: What else do you want to tell me about yourself?
A: I play football at Hamline and I’m going to major in either legal studies or psychology.

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