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# BETA Alternative Press

VOLUME 5, ISSUE 2

## The Diversity Project

Did you know that BETA students come here from 15 or more separate school districts in the Hudson Valley? From the cities of Beacon and Poughkeepsie to the more rural areas of Dover and Red Hook, they come together with their diverse backgrounds and experiences to complete their high school credits and graduate so that they can move on with their lives. So we see that BETA, like the United States, is a kind of melting pot of colorful cultures and a blending of social voices. The Diversity Project was an effort to underscore the fact that, although our backgrounds may be very dissimilar, so many of us share common roots and aspirations. Many are not far separated in time from our immigrant ancestors/parents and grandparents. Indeed, some students and staff members are immigrants themselves. Despite this miscellany of origins, we are alike in many ways. All of us have dreams and hopes for our futures.

In the project we learned that our staff and student body represents over 33 nationalities as demonstrated by the display of different flags on the walls in the student lobby. Underneath each are the names of those who opted to participate in this project. Please feel free to check us out and learn something about who we are and from where our families came. We are proud of our diverse heritage!



## Interact Officer Installation

This assembly will be in the gym 6<sup>th</sup> period on Feb. 10, 2010. The Arlington Rotary will be in attendance to swear in the new Interact officers. Richard C. is serving as President, Clinton K. as Record Keeper, Kyle W. as Publicity and Rich W. as Parliamentarian. These members were nominated and voted for by the members of the Interact clubs.

This assembly will promptly begin with a welcoming by our Alternative High School Administrators. The pledge will be lead by ours truly, Clinton K. after which an invocation will be made by the Rotarian. We will also be joined by our very special Rotarian guest, Mr. Roger Risko. President Rich C. will introduce the teachers and advisors that make Interact possible. Without them there would be no clubs or opportunity to help the community, including helping different people around Dutchess. Mrs. Borchers will then introduce the officers. The officers will be sworn into office by Arlington Rotary President, Ms. Susan Doyle. A reading of the Interact mission statement will be read by Rich C. Closing remarks will follow.

*(Kyle W.)*

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**Crazy Hat Day**



**Twin Day**  
**Twin Day**






**Character Day**

**Mismatch Day**



# Interact Groups

<b>Student Mentoring</b>	<b>Green Committee</b>	<b>Helping Hands</b>	<b>BETA Spirit</b>	<b>Communications Committee</b>
<p>The Mentoring Club is designed to make new students feel at home in Beta and help them adjust to overwhelming pressures of transferring to a new school. Those who do this are assigned to a student (usually during their lunch period). The mentor assigned to the student gives him a person to talk to. The new student may have heard rumors about the school and the club member can help him decide the truth.</p> <p>Tiara is an example who came in November. Assigned to her, I found her nice. This program helped her to understand the rumors. Tiara is now making friends and adjusting well. (Matt B.)</p> 	<p>The Interact Green Team is pleased to announce that recycling is now in full swing at BETA. Collection bins for cans and bottles have been placed in the cafeteria and in all faculty break rooms. Green Team members recently decorated and delivered recycling boxes to classrooms and the collection of recyclables is underway. Items being collected are newspapers, bottles, cans, and paper. Any staff member who needs recycling boxes should contact Mrs. LeClair or Ms. Sassaman.</p> <p><b>Kudos to Ms. Babb</b> for bringing BETA recycling issues to the attention of school administration.</p> <p><i>Thank you, Ms. Babb!</i> The Green Team is open to new members to help with our many projects, so contact Mrs. LeClair (room 205) to sign up.</p>	<p>The "Helping Hands Group" of Interact consists of a number of teenagers who help the community by donating household items in shoeboxes. <b>We have donated 35 shoeboxes full of toiletries and other supplies.</b> Our group also contributes to the community by donating our time to work at the Lunchbox in Poughkeepsie to help feed people in these troubled times.</p> <p>We do this every month and so far, have worked there twice. A group of ten teenagers, we help in the kitchen and also serve the food. The food is great—trust me—I tried it. We also get to have it for lunch when we work there.</p> <p>We also fold clothes and hang them up for people to take for their use. We are very proud of what we do, and happy that we can make a difference. (John H.)</p>	<p>Student and Staff participation is UP for Spirit Days! Previous winners of the participation raffles were the following: Bradley F. who won a CD, Rich W. who won a set of earphones, Kayla H. Simone R. and Dan F.</p> <p>We are also looking forward to the next Spirit Days, which will be a Valentine theme—<b>Red, Pink or Hearts and Cupids on Feb. 12,</b> and then <b>SPORTS DAY will be on March 5.</b></p> <p>The Spirit Committee is also starting to formulate ideas for a <b>Field Day</b> in the Spring. There is lots going on this year. Be sure and participate in these activities with us.</p> 	 <p>This quarter Communications has been busy with the Diversity Project. (Students researched and printed out the flags of represented countries in the student lobby.) We were also instrumental in putting together the programs for the Interact installation.</p> <p>The Communications Committee is pleased to announce our newest members: Jean A, Kyle W, John H, Kingston, Kayla M. and Rich C.</p> <p><b>Thanks to all the students who participated in writing this newsletter!</b> We could not have done it without you. (Their names are entered under their articles.)</p>

## Newsletter Words

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This upcoming weekend is going to be NBA All Star Weekend. All your favorite basketball superstars will be participating. Tune in Friday for the Rookie Sophomore Game followed by Saturday's Skills Challenge, Shooting Stars, 3pt. Contest, and everybody's favorite, the Dunk Contest. Sunday, be sure to watch the East vs. West All Star Game where greats like Kobe Bryant, Dwyane Wade, and Derrick Rose will be competing to determine whose conference is the best. All this will be taking place in Dallas, Texas in the new stadium with the biggest HDTV ever built. Tune into TNT to watch on cable. (Rich C.)

 <p>To: Joey From: Trisha Hey, I love you. Be happy &amp; be good.</p>	 <p>To: Jesus From: Patricia Keep being a sweetheart. You have a sweet charm to you.</p>	<p>To: Sandee A. From: Kris S. I love you. Happy Valentines Day!</p>	<p>To: Jasmine K From: Rose Happy Valentines Day!</p> <p><b>Amore</b></p>	<p>To: Ryan C. From: Rose Happy Valentines Day!</p> 
<p>To: Juelle From: Colin P. Nice work there, Pete! 😊</p>	<p>To: Ashley S. From: Matthew C. Have a Happy Valentine's Day</p>	<p>To: Nick V. From: Chantasia Happy Valentines Day!</p> 	<p>To: Miss Sekul From: Admirer I still care about you. PS. Luw yah!</p>	<p>To: Adam K. From: Anonymous I love you Amazing! :)</p>
<p>To: Issac R. From: Patricia I love you! You mean the world to me. I'm glad our relationship is finally where we want it.</p>	 <p>To: Jennifer C. From: Patricia C. I love you homie; You're always there for me. Sisters we remain.</p> 	 <p>To: Elizabeth B. From: Kyle R. I love you babe, for ever and ever.</p> 	<p>To: Mrs. McCann From: Richard C. You're the best!</p>	<p>To: Kristen P. From: Shannon Stay pepperminty babe!</p> 
<p>To: Brianna M. From: Kayla H. I uuuu you. You're the best!</p>	<p>To: Anthony K From: Ryan C. You, well, be my friend</p> 	<p>To: Dave L. From: Justin C. Will you be my friend?</p>	<p>To: Mr. Hallett From: Patricia Have a good loving day. Tell your wife I said hi.</p>	<p>To: Ms. Fraser From: Dre Happy Valentines Day!</p> 
<p>To: Simone R. From: Your Wifey I love you so much baby girl! muwanz xxoxo</p> 	<p>To: Sandee From: Marcie Happy Valentines Day! Thank you for everything!</p> 	<p>To: David F. From: Marc I love you baby bay!</p> 	<p>To: Jen From: Patricia Happy V-day. You are the best. Keep strong! Don't let nothing or nobody put you down, or mess up what you plan on doing. You're a great girl and a great friend to have!</p>	<p>To: Janet From: Alissa I love you. You're a really good friend. Thanks 4 being there. &lt;3</p>
<p>To: Mr. Hallett From: Jen Happy Valentines Day! You're the best teacher ever. You Rock!</p>	<p>To: Kayla H. From: Simone Wifey, I love you. We have some good times.</p>	<p>To: Dan F. From: Simone You're an amazing person!</p> 	<p>To: Mr. Juele From: Nyg Better luck next year 34—3</p>	<p>To: Ashley M. From: Alissa I want to wish you the best of luck with the best. If you need anything call me, I will help.</p>
<p>To: Janet From: Bryant Happy Valentine</p> 	<p>To: Whitney J. From: Bryant J. Happy Valentine</p>	<p>To: Anthony K. From: Steven O. Be my friend</p> 	 <p>To: Matt M. From: Felisa F. "Follow your heart" =J&lt;3 Happy Valentines Day!</p>	<p>To: Beth M. From: Felisa F. You should know everyone loves you everyday, not just today. Happy Valentines Day!</p>
<p>To: Bryant J. From: Janet M. You're the best I love you!!! Boo.....</p>	<p>To: Taylor S. From: Dan F. I love you!</p>	<p>To: Mrs. McCann From: Dan Finley You're an awesome teacher :)</p> 	<p>To: Simone From: Dan Finley You're funny, cool and awesome!</p>	<p>To: Kyle W. From: Chantasia Happy Valentines Day!</p> 
<p>To: Kris S. From: Sandee I love you lolipop Much love, cupcake</p> 	<p>To: Meka From: Dre Happy Valentines Day!</p> 	<p>To: Char'Keya From: Dre Happy Valentines Day!</p> <p><b>Amore</b></p>	<p>To: Shanice From: Ryan C. Will U be my Valentine?</p> 	<p>To: John From: Jen It-Vday baby, you mean the world to me, you make me happy, no matter what we go through, in the end we are still strong "n" going. I love you.</p>
<p>To: Alissa &amp; Janet From: Anthony C. I love both of you</p> 	<p>To: Shannon From: A friend Happy Valentines Day! Smile! 😊</p> 	<p>To: Brianna From: Simone You're an amazing person &amp; beautiful.</p>	<p>To: Elizabeth B. From: Dan F. You're my best friend and you're lovable</p>	<p>To: Kayla H. From: Dan F. You're funny and obnoxious.</p> 
 <p>To: Anthony C. From: Janet You are the best I love you Bro!</p>	 <p>To: Anthony C. From: Alissa You are the best. I love you to death...</p>	 <p>To: Justin L. From: Tamara I love you so much and Happy Valentines Day</p>	<p>To: Ms. Sassaman From: Dre Happy Valentines Day!</p>	<p><b>Happy Valentine's Day</b></p> 