

Moments at the Middle School

From Dr. Lux and Mr. Rice

January 5, 2023

Dear HMS Families,

We hope that you all had an enjoyable and restful break. We have been happy to reconnect with students over the past few days. The kids have appeared rested, happy and excited to be back with their friends and teachers. It is hard to believe we are already approaching the second half of the school year! We look forward to building on all of the wonderful things that have happened so far at HMS this year and bringing some new projects and ideas for our students, as well.

Positive Behavioral Interventions and Support (PBIS)

Hampton Middle School will soon begin implementing elements of Positive Behavioral Interventions and Support (PBIS). The main goal of PBIS is to create a positive and supportive school climate, where all students can learn and grow. For students, this means that they will begin receiving explicit instruction on what positive behavior looks like in various school settings, beginning with the hallway. We will also be incentivizing observed positive behavior that is noticed! We will begin introducing these new lessons and incentives to students later this month.

Attn 8th Grade Parents - 8th Grade Dinner Dance

The annual 8th Grade Dinner dance will be held on Saturday, June 3rd at Hampton High School. Please help the PTO plan the event! If you are interested in helping with decorations, planning the fun, chaperoning, helping to run activities or just want to help, then send Trish Buben an email at tab190@gmail.com. We will have a planning meeting in January.

High School on the Horizon (8th Grade Students ONLY)

8th grade students and parents are invited to attend *High School on the Horizon* at Hampton High School on Thursday, February 2, from 6:00 - 7:00 pm. From 6:00-6:30 high school counselors will present the program of studies to students and review scheduling procedures. From 6:30-7:00, the HHS Student Council will host the Clubs and Athletics Fair in the HHS auxiliary gym. Refreshments will be provided by the HHS PTO in the cafeteria.

PTO Game Day- January 20th, after school

HMS PTO will host Game Day for students immediately after school on January 20th. There will be a DJ, Bingo, Plinko, Connect Four, and Ping Pong. Students can also enter the Corn Hole Tournament for a chance to win \$25 gift cards. Tickets are \$5 in advance or \$6 at the door. Tickets will be sold during lunch from January 17th-20th.

The event will begin immediately after school on Jan. 20th and will end at 4:30 pm. As a friendly reminder, all students must be picked up at the middle school by an adult at the end of the event. Student pick-up will take place at the back of the building, door #11. Parents should hold up a sign with their child's name to keep the line of cars moving.

Attendance/Tardiness

Now that we are nearly halfway through the school year, and cold and flu season is upon us, we wanted to review the school's attendance and tardiness procedures:

If your child is absent or late from school, you may either send in a physical note or email HMSattendance@ht-sd.org with your child's name, date of absence/tardy, reason for absence, and your name.

Students are permitted up to 10 parental excused absences per school year. They are also permitted up to 5 travel days per year with pre-approval from the school. All subsequent absences must be excused with a medical excuse.

Student tardies may be excused by parents up to 3 times per quarter. All subsequent tardies are considered unexcused, unless accompanied by a medical excuse. Once students have accrued 3 unexcused tardies, they are issued a school consequence and support for on-time arrival.

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Flexible Instruction Days

As we get into the season of inclement weather, we would like to take an opportunity to remind students and families about the procedures for school cancellations. Since our school calendar has built-in inclement weather days, students are not required to make up the first two cancellations of the year. For subsequent cancellations, we will move to Flexible Instruction Days. On Flexible Instruction Days, students log into each class via Zoom. Teachers will post the Zoom link for their classes on their Google Classroom page prior to the Flexible Instruction Day. Teachers will be taking attendance during the Zoom session. Please remember, Flexible Instruction Days will operate on a 2-hour delay schedule.

Attendance Email

If your child is absent or late for school, there is a **new way to send an excuse**. You may now email HMSattendance@ht-sd.org with your child's name, date of absence/tardy, reason for absence, and your name. You may also email a picture or scan of a medical note. Alternatively, you may continue to send in a physical note with your student if you prefer. Please do not email an excuse to an individual staff member.

Remember, students are permitted 10 parental excuses for absences for the school year. Any further absences must be accompanied by a medical excuse. Students are also permitted 3 parental excuses for late arrivals. Further late arrivals are considered unexcused, unless they are accompanied by a medical note.

Upcoming Reminders for January:

- **Advisory - Thursday, January 12th**
- **No School - Monday, January 16th**
- **Game Day - January 20th, 2:45 - 4:30 pm**
- **End of Quarter 2 - Friday, January 20th**
- **Beginning of Quarter 3 - Monday, January 23rd**
- **Advisory - Thursday, January 26th**

- **High School on the Horizon** - Thursday, February 2nd, HHS, 6-7 pm (8th grade students & parents only)
- **Report Cards Available** - Friday, February 3rd

Club Meetings for January:

- **Homework Club** - M-Th, 2:45-3:45 pm, Library
- **Math Lab** - M-Th, 2:45-3:45 pm, room D403
- **Yearbook Club** - Tuesday, January 10th, until 3:30 pm, room G703
- **Mock Trial** - Tuesday, January 10th
- **Fun & Fellowship Club** - Wednesday, January 11th, 7:25 - 7:50 am, Library
- **Student Council** - Wednesday, January 11th, until 3:45 pm, room G704
- **Talbot Chamber Orchestra Rehearsal** - Wednesday, January 11th, 2:45 pm - 3:45 pm
- **Art Club** - Thursday, January 12th, room B209, 2:45 - 4 pm
- **Enrichment Workshop - Wooden Room/Wall Sign** - January 13th during tutorial periods; students should sign up outside the Maker Studio
- **Mock Trial** - Tuesday, January 17th
- **Mock Trial** - Tuesday, January 24th