

Moments at the Middle School

*From Dr. Lux and Mr. Rice
February 23, 2023*

We hope everyone enjoyed the long weekend and had a chance to rest and have fun with your families! It has been great seeing the kids back, rested and refreshed this week! There are so many positive things going on in our building! Last week, we had a great showing at our school dance, we hosted administrators from all around the district to observe our students and teachers in action, and our school returned to the dark ages during an unexpected power outage. We look forward to finding innovative ways to get students to collaborate and persevere in the coming months.

Congratulations to our PBIS Winners this week! Students have been excited to receive tickets for showing responsible, respectful, and motivated behaviors in the hallway, and are even more excited when their names are pulled to receive a prize. In early March, we will extend our PBIS program to the cafeteria.

Read Across America Week: 2/27 - 3/3

This coming week is **Read Across America Week!** HMS will celebrate reading with a themed day Monday through Friday. *Please refer to the attached document for our theme day schedule.* Throughout the week, library-related word puzzles will be available in the HMS Library. On Wednesday, students will have a chance to find hidden pictures of book covers. Most importantly, we look forward to welcoming all students to the library with their reading or English classes to celebrate reading. We hope your student finds time to get cozy with a great book next week!

To celebrate Read Across America Week, we will use the following themed days:

Monday- Wear your favorite hat

Tuesday- Wear your craziest socks

Wednesday- Wear wacky clothes or “glam” it up

Thursday- Wear your favorite sports team or Talbot gear

Friday- Wear your pajamas

Wildwood Road Closure

A portion of Wildwood Road will close, beginning on March 1st. Some students will need to change buses. Families of students who are affected should have been contacted yesterday. General bus information with anticipated time changes will be posted on the district website on Monday. Please be sure to check the website to view any changes that may occur to your child's bussing.

March PTO Meeting

Please consider joining us for our next in-person PTO meeting on March 8th. The meeting will take place in the Maker Studio of the middle school from 12:00-1:30. With several vacancies on the PTO board next year, we would really like to increase interest and participation. Please consider coming in to hear about current plans and events. Refreshments will be provided by PTO. We look forward to seeing you there!

6th & 7th Grade Scheduling Process

Attention 6th & 7th grade parents:

By now, all of our 8th grade students should have turned in their 9th grade scheduling forms. This week, ***we began the scheduling process for 6th and 7th grade students***. The HMS Program of Studies can be found online using the following link: <https://resources.finalsite.net/images/v1676395911/hampton/hafvhuawwjmgsmjij7xs/23-24HMSBoardApprovedProgramofStudies.pdf>

The **6th grade students** received their scheduling forms Wednesday February 22nd. The scheduling choices for 7th grade students are limited, only including a music choice. Please review your child's form, choose his or her music class, and sign it. **Sixth grade students should turn these in by Monday, February 27th.**

Since there are many more course options in 8th grade, we will meet with all of the **7th grade students** on Friday, February 24th during their tutorial period to review the 8th grade course options. Be sure to look for this form to come home on **Friday after school (2/24)**. **Seventh grade students should turn these in by Wednesday March 1st.**

PSSAs/Keystones

Please note that PSSAs and Keystone Exams will occur during the last week of April and first week of May. Specifically, all students in grades 6-8 will take the ELA PSSAs on April 24, 25 and 26. Math PSSAs for all grades will occur on May 1-2, and Science PSSAs for grade 8 only will take place on May 3-4. Students who are currently enrolled in Honors Algebra I will take the Algebra I Keystone exam on May 16-17. Unfortunately, we cannot approve student trips on days that our students will be testing.

Upcoming Reminders:

- **10-Minute Play Festival** - Thursday, 2/23 and Friday, 2/24 at 7 pm, HMS Aud
- **Read Across America Week** - 2/27 thru 3/3 (see attachment)
- **Pops Concert** - Wednesday, 3/1 at 7 pm, HMS Auditorium
- **Chorus Concert** - Tuesday, 3/7 at 7 pm, HMS Auditorium
- **Advisory** - Thursday, 3/9

Club Meetings for February:

- **Homework Club** - M-Th, 2:45-3:45 pm, Library
- **Math Lab** - M-Th, 2:45-3:45 pm, room D403
- **Talbot STEAM Girls** - Monday, 2/27, Science of Flowers workshop, during tutorial periods
- **Best Buddies Club** - Monday, 2/27, 2:45-3:30, Room H804
- **Stock Market Club** - Monday, 2/27, 2:45-3:30, Room F608
- **Newspaper Club** - Tuesday, 2/28, 2:45-3:45, Room F603
- **Helping Hands** - Tuesday, 2/28, 2:45-3:30, Room G708
- **Enrichment Workshop** - Tuesday, 2/28 - Cricut Wall Signs, Part 2, during tutorial periods
- **Talbot Chamber Orchestra** - Wednesday, 3/1
- **Student Council** - Wednesday, 3/1, 2:45-3:45, Room G704