

**HAMMOND MIDDLE SCHOOL**  
**VIKING TIMES**  
**September 29, 2017**

**DATES TO REMEMBER:**

Monday, October 2	8 <sup>th</sup> grade MAP reading test
Tuesday, October 3	8 <sup>th</sup> grade MAP math test
Wednesday, October 4	7 <sup>th</sup> grade MAP reading test
Thursday, October 5	7 <sup>th</sup> grade MAP math test
Friday, October 6	6 <sup>th</sup> grade MAP reading test
Monday, October 9	6 <sup>th</sup> grade MAP math test
Friday, October 13	Fall Fling 3 – 5 pm
Wednesday, October 18	Student Flu Shot Clinic
Thursday, October 19	Spirit Night at Launch Trampoline Park
Friday, October 20	School Closed for Students
Monday, October 23	6 pm Parent Night on Mentoring
Wednesday, October 25	ODE Chaperone Meeting TENTATIVE

**PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE:**

HMS will host its first Parent Education Night (PEN) on Monday, November 9. The schedule is:

- 6:00 - 6:25 Refreshments
- 6:30 - 7:15 Session 1
- 7:15-7:30 Break
- 7:30 - 8:15 Session 2

The goal is to provide information about topics of interest pertaining to parenting middle school students. The format consists of two 45-minute sessions for adults to attend. Information regarding the sessions offered and registration is forthcoming. Please save the date and plan to attend!

**SPOTLIGHT ON 6TH GRADE!**

Congratulations sixth graders for continuing an awesome transition into middle school. The sixth grade agenda/homework books are quickly filling up with the “stamps” from all of your teachers, which only confirm what we already knew.... You guys are simply awesome!

The reminders from the HMS sixth grade team are pretty simple. PLEASE keep track of the “due dates” concerning our Outdoor Education trip in November. Mrs. Albanesi is working tirelessly to get all forms returned and cataloged so please help her out by sticking to the listed deadlines. Furthermore, all missing assignments need to be turned in by the end of this week, September 29, in order to be calculated for the upcoming “Progress Reports” which go home October 10<sup>th</sup>.

## **SPOTLIGHT ON 7TH GRADE!**

Hello 7th Graders! Each newsletter will focus on a different subject and this time it's MATH! Everyone's favorite! Let's see what our classes have been up to:

Math 7 - We are focusing on integers (positive and negative numbers) right now, so any opportunity you have to discuss situations involved negative numbers, go for it! Whether it's balancing a checkbook, diving under the water, or a freezing cold temperature, your students need to see how they'll incorporate negative numbers in their lives!

Math 8 - We are focusing on the laws of exponents right now! Lots of logic involved here which will take them far in their future mathematics courses. Working with square and cube roots is next, so make sure students know those perfect square numbers!

Algebra - We are finishing up our first unit on functions and ready to move on to Unit 2. As we move ahead to Modeling Linear and Exponential Functions, please take opportunities to find data trends to show your students. Seeing how numbers work together in real life really engages them in their thinking and will get them ready to have discussions in class.

A great way to follow along with your students' math courses is to visit the Math Family Weebly. The website is: <http://hcpssfamilymath.weebly.com> Until next time!

## **SPOTLIGHT ON 8TH GRADE!**

News from 8th Grade ELA: We've been busy!

So far this year in ELA, every 8th grader has:

- Designed an original cover for their visual/writing journal
- Created a "launch list" of ideas for journal writing
- Checked out a book from the media center (students are working to read over 20 books this year!)
- Researched some cutting edge technology
- Created an original Science Fiction narrative

Please encourage your child to read daily as part of their morning or evening routine. Even better: encourage family reading time, where everyone reads something of his or her choice for 15 minutes.

Encourage your child to check Canvas daily for announcements, assignment details, and grade updates.

## **SPOTLIGHT ON RELATED ARTS!**

### **Band:**

On Friday September 22, members of the Hammond MS Band participated in Hammond HS's Marching Band for the Big Bear Band Night. Our students and band students from the other feeder middle schools joined the Hammond High School Band for their halftime performance during the football game against Glenelg. Students rehearsed with the band before the game, ate dinner with the high schoolers and had the chance to see what being in high school marching band was all about!

### **Health:**

Save the date

Thursday, November 9 @ 6 pm

Family Life/Human Sexuality Parent meeting \*for parents only

### **Orchestra:**

Please Consider Making a Donation

We have had many, many requests from parents to borrow instruments from Hammond Elementary this year - more requests than the instruments we own. Please consider donating an instrument to the orchestra program if you have a lonely instrument at home that is gathering dust or perhaps a small instrument from years past. We would also gladly accept any method books that you are no longer using. We have many families in need. Please contact Mr. Reinhardt at [tim\\_reinhardt@hcpss.org](mailto:tim_reinhardt@hcpss.org) with any questions or donations. Thank you!

### **PE:**

Welcome to a new season of intramural Flag Football! Students have the opportunity after school to learn/apply their football skills during hour-long sessions up to 3 days a week while getting a solid workout. No worries about tackling, flags are provided. This is a coed intramural that welcomes students of all skill levels. Currently, we have 36 members on the roster and we encourage new comers to join. Mr. Fur and Ms. Karlheim, who would like to thank Dr. Dale for his support, sponsor the intramural.

## **TIPS FROM STUDENT SERVICES:**

Being in school all day, every day, helps your child get the most out of middle school. Encourage good attendance with these ideas:

- Point out that there is no substitute for being in class. Your child needs to be present to hear teachers explain concepts, to participate in group projects and class discussions, and to ask questions.
- Schedule doctor, dentist, and orthodontist appointments for before or after school hours whenever possible.
- It will be easier for your child to get up on time for school if he/she has had at least eight hours of sleep. Set a reasonable bedtime, and make sure your child puts away electronic devices so he/she isn't tempted to stay awake to read messages or play games.

## GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

**THE FLU VACCINATION CLINIC** is now scheduled for Wednesday, October 18. If you haven't yet filled out a consent form and would like your child to be vaccinated against the flu, [click here](#) to complete the online consent for by Friday October 6, 2017.

**HCPSS UTILIZES FAMILY FILE** for parents/guardians to complete emergency information. Parents/guardians must verify and/or update information annually for each child, and can do so by logging into HCPSS Connect at <http://www.hcpss.org/connect/>.

Parents receive news and announcements from our school and from the school system via the HCPSS News service. Parents are automatically registered for this service. Email messages are delivered to the contact information that you provide in the Family File.

You will receive via **email**:

- School newsletters & other communications
- System-level announcements
- Emergency notifications (school closings/delays).

**Text messages:** Parents are given the option to receive text messages. Text messages are sent only for urgent/emergency announcements (school closings and delays, etc.)

- New parents are sent a text message to opt-in for text alerts. – if you did not receive a text, visit [www.hcpss.org/hcpss-news/](http://www.hcpss.org/hcpss-news/) to troubleshoot.
- Text alerts are sent to the mobile phone number identified in the Family File. If you were already opted-in to receive text messages last year, and your phone number has not changed, you do not need to opt-in again.

Community members and others can sign up to receive email and/or text messages at [www.hcpss.com/hcpss-news](http://www.hcpss.com/hcpss-news) (or visit the home page [www.hcpss.org](http://www.hcpss.org) and click on the link at the bottom of the page).

### **Attendance Reminders:**

Late to school - If your child is going to be late to school, please send a note, including the reason, so the tardy can be excused.

Absent - If your child is absent, please send a note upon return, including the reason, so the absence can be excused. The note should be given to the front office.

Early Dismissal - If your child needs to leave early, please send them in with a note and have them drop it off to the front office. You must come into the building and provide identification for your child to be dismissed from class.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM OTHER SCHOOLS

**Hammond Elementary School PTA** is inviting all HMS students for a fun, family friendly way to give back and get their volunteer hours underway!! Please consider signing up your kids to volunteer at the Hammond ES PTA Fall Festival on Friday, **October 6, 2017** from **3:30 - 7:30 PM**. They can help the younger members of the community by running a carnival game and helping manage set up and clean up of the event.

There will be cool swag bags, snacks, and a free raffle for all student volunteers to enter. Please click [here](#) to signup your kids to volunteer.

Please join the **Hammond HS** community for **Homecoming 2017 on Saturday, October 14th!** This annual fall tradition starts with an **all you can eat Pancake Breakfast** in the school cafeteria from **8:00 AM to 10:00 AM**. The **parade starts at 10:00 AM** (line up starts at 9:30 AM) in the Amherst House/Kings Contrivance Village Center parking lot and ends at HHS parking lot at approximately 11:00 AM. The Golden Bears **football** team kicks off against River Hill HS at **noon** in the HHS Stadium. Future Golden Bears are encouraged to march in the parade. Convertibles and flatbed trucks needed for the parade. Please contact **Karin Bruce** at [karinfbruce@comcast.net](mailto:karinfbruce@comcast.net) or **410-381-6694** for more information.