



## August 2019 Newsletter

# Hanson Middle School

<http://www.whrsd.k12.ma.us>

781-618-7575 – Main Office

781-618-7375 – Absentee Line

It is hard to believe that in just a few short weeks summer will be ending and school will be starting. Summer seems so short but we are getting excited to welcoming the students back on August 28th. During these very hot summer months, the administration has been busily preparing for another successful school year.

On Thursday August 22<sup>nd</sup> we will be hosting our incoming 5<sup>th</sup> graders for a brief orientation and ice cream social from 9:00 – 11 am. This is a great way for the students to find their homerooms before the first day of school. This event will be run by our student council. Parents don't need to attend this event. Mr. Belvis and I will be available for parent question from 10:30 -11:00 am. All parents are welcome to our Open House/Meet the teacher night on September 5<sup>th</sup>.

In this newsletter, you will find information from the school nurse, and the assistant principal as well as information on picture day.

You can follow us on Twitter for updates regarding activities and other happenings at Hanson Middle School. Follow us **@HansonMiddleMA**.

If you have any concerns, please feel free to contact us.

Bill Tranter, Principal



### Upcoming Events

#### Thursday August 22

##### Orientation

Grade 5 9:00 am – 11 am.

#### Wednesday August 28.

First Day of School – Students report 7:40 am.

#### Thursday August 29

Picture Day

#### Friday August 30

Early Release 11:00 am

#### Monday September 2

No School - Labor Day

#### Thursday, September 5

Open House/Meet the Teacher

5:30 PM Grades 5 & 6

7:00 PM Grades 7 & 8

### Community Events

#### School Committee Meeting

August 28, 7:00 p.m.





## From The Assistant Principal

### Morning Drop-off:

As a reminder, students should be prepared for the start of the school day by 7:35 and should be in homeroom by 7:40 to avoiding being marked tardy.

If you are dropping your child off, with safety in mind, please be sure to do so at the curb at the school's front entrance. Doing so also keeps the left-most lane available for moving traffic. Also, keep in mind that it is unlawful to pass buses or vans while they are stopped with their red lights flashing.

### Attendance:

Attendance at school is expected of all children on a regular basis. If your child will be absent, please call the school office prior to 10:00 A.M. at [\(781\) 618-7375](tel:7816187375).

Pursuant to Chapter 222 Acts of 2012: The school shall notify the parent or guardian if the school has not received notice of an absence within 3 days of the absence, and shall notify the parent or guardian in the event of the following:

- the student has at least 5 days in which they have missed 2 or more periods unexcused in a school year
- The student has missed 5 or more school days unexcused in a school year

The principal or designee shall make reasonable effort to meet with the parent or guardian of a student who has 5 or more unexcused absences to develop action steps for student attendance

## HMS Picture Day

**August 29, 2019** Picture packages will be sent home at the beginning of the school year. Information regarding Picture Day will be sent in an email prior to the opening of school. **Envelopes should contain the package you wish to purchase along with the Look Code (background) and full exact payment.** All students will have their picture taken. Online orders may be made prior to and up to 48 hours after picture day at [www.mylifetouch.com](http://www.mylifetouch.com) . Remember to always keep an updated picture of your child in your wallet!

## 8 Grade WASHINGTON, D.C. AND GETTYSBURG

If you have not enrolled in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade trip scheduled for June 1<sup>st</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> please do so prior to September 30, 2019. The web site is [www.efexploreamerica.com/2266593CE](http://www.efexploreamerica.com/2266593CE) . The tour number is 2266593CE. The group leader is William Tranter and the cost is \$1070

# Picture Day is Coming

Order before  
Picture Day at: [mylifetouch.com](http://mylifetouch.com)

**Picture Day is:**  
**Thursday, August 29, 2019**  
Hanson Middle School

- ① Visit:  
[mylifetouch.com](http://mylifetouch.com)
- ② Enter  
your Picture Day ID  
MV229003Q0
- ③ Order  
your perfect package—and  
don't worry about returning  
anything on Picture Day!



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# SCHOOL NURSE NEWS



Attention all parents/guardians of grade 7 students:

All students entering grade 7 are required by Massachusetts Department of Public Health to submit a current physical exam and an updated immunization record. The school nurse is responsible for making sure that all grade 7 students are in compliance with their immunizations. Your child should have come home with a letter from the school nurse at the end of last year regarding this. Please submit these forms to the school nurse, Mrs. Godbout, as soon as possible. You may contact Mrs. Godbout with any question at 781-618-8761. Thank you.

## ***Helpful Hints for Middle School Families***

Set your child up for success this school year with some basic pointers. Suggest that he or she try to follow this checklist, and you will help him or her get off on the right foot:

- Attend school every day unless you are sick
- Get to school on time every day
- Get 8-10 hours sleep each night
- Eat a healthy breakfast each morning
- Pay attention in class
- Write down your assignments for each class in your Agenda book
- Start your projects when you get them
- Complete all your homework on time
- Read for pleasure every day

## Frequently Asked Questions

### 5<sup>th</sup> Grade transition to Hanson Middle School

- 1) Will there be another informational meeting regarding the 5<sup>th</sup> grade move to Hanson Middle?

There will be an informal question and answer period on August 22 from 10:30-11:00. Open House will take place on September 5th

- 2) Will 5<sup>th</sup> graders have recess?

Yes however it will only occur when the weather will allow students to go outside.

- 3) Will 5<sup>th</sup> graders be on the same bus as the other students going to the middle school?

All middle school students in grades 5-8 will ride the same buses. Our start time and end time will remain the same 7:40-2:15.

- 4) Will the students be changing classes?

5<sup>th</sup> grade will remain self-contained as it was structured at Indian Head. Students will only switch for related arts classes. The 5<sup>th</sup> grade will be housed in the East Wing on the first floor of Hanson Middle School. The 5<sup>th</sup> grade will have their own bathrooms dedicated just to the 5<sup>th</sup> grade right near their classrooms.

- 5) Will they have lunch with 8th graders?

All grades have their own lunch period. 5<sup>th</sup> grade will have lunch together.

- 6) Will there be an orientation for 5<sup>th</sup> graders?

We will be having an orientation for students on August 22<sup>nd</sup> from 9:00 - 11:00 am

- 7) Will 5<sup>th</sup> graders have snack in the morning?

Yes. Teacher will provide students with snack information when school starts in August.

- 8) Is breakfast available?

Yes. Student can have breakfast in the cafeteria or bring it with them to their classroom.

- 9) Will 5<sup>th</sup> graders be required to change for gym class?

No. Students will not need to change until 6<sup>th</sup> grade.

- 10) What activities will 5<sup>th</sup> graders be able to participate in?

5th graders will be to participate in all activities available to students in grades 6-8 including but not limited to: Student Council, Yearbook, Builders Club, Cross Country, and Spring Track.

11) Will 5<sup>th</sup> graders have lockers?

Yes. Lockers will be assigned to all students. Locks will be assigned to 5<sup>th</sup> grade students at the orientation day in August. Students will be able to take the locks home and practice the combination prior to the start of school. Lost locks will be replaced at a cost of \$6.00

12) Will 5th graders have field trip opportunities next year?

5th graders will have the same opportunities for field trip that they have always had.

13) Is after school provided at Hanson Middle School?

The Whitman Hanson School District has made arrangements with the YMCA to provide afterschool care for the 5<sup>th</sup> grade students. This program will be held at Indian Head. Bus transportation will be provided from Hanson Middle to Indian Head. Student will ride the bus they are regularly assigned to and be drop off at Indian Head School.

14) How will grading be done in grade 5?

Grading will be done with a traditional grading system (A-F). Also student will receive a grade in conduct and effort on a scale of 1-4. Interim reports will be issued after Days 45 and 135. Reports cards will be issued after Day 90 and on the last day of school.

15) What will student support look like?

There will be a Special Ed teacher and an Instructional Aid assigned to grade 5. Support will be based on the Students IEP. There will also be a Reading Teacher to support students who need additional reading instruction. We also have a guidance counselor and an adjustment counselor to assist students with any social emotional needs that may arise.

16) Will 5<sup>th</sup> graders have access to the Library/ Media center?

Yes. The Hanson Middle School library is available to all students to check out a book or to assist in any research project.

17) What related arts/special classes will 5<sup>th</sup> grade students have in addition to the 4 core subjects?

In addition to English, Math, Science and Social Studies, students will have Physical Education, Tech Ed, Art, Music, and C.I.T.Y.

## School Council

Are you interested in getting involved with your child's education in another way? If you are, then think about whether you would be interested in joining the Hanson Middle School Council (also called the School Improvement Council). By law, every school is required to have a School Council. The group is made up of parents, teachers, and at least one community member.

The law outlines four major areas of responsibility for councils. School councils are to assist principals in:

1. Adopting educational goals for the school that are consistent with local educational policies and statewide student performance standards;
2. Identifying the educational needs of students attending the school;
3. Reviewing the annual school building budget; and
4. Formulating a school improvement plan.

**We will meet 4 times during the school year. The meeting schedule is as follows: Wednesday October 9, Wednesday December 11 and Wednesday January 15, Wednesday March 25 for about an hour, starting at 3:00 PM, and ending around 4:00 PM.** Emails will be sent prior to each meeting to inform you whether it will take place or is being cancelled and the reason for cancellation.

If you are interested in being involved please call the main office at 781-618-7575.

**CHECK OUR WEBSITE OFTEN – WE ARE CONTINUOSLY UPDATING –** <http://www.whrsd.k12.ma.us>  
and on Twitter @ **HansonMiddleMA**