

Happy
Valentine's
Day

February 2024 Newsletter

Hanson Middle School

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

781-618-7575 – Main Office

781-618-7375 – Absentee Line

Dear Parents:

February is the shortest month of the year. However, within those twenty-eight days, a number of noteworthy days will be observed and/or celebrated. Sunday, February 11 is Super Bowl Sunday. Countless numbers of chicken wings, meatballs, nachos, etc. will be devoured on that day. Super Bowl Sunday has become an “unofficial American holiday” Unfortunately, our New England Patriots won’t be playing.

On February 14, we celebrate Valentine’s Day. Greeting cards, flowers, and boxes of candy will be purchased and given to loved ones. St. Valentine is the patron saint of a number of things including love, young people, and a happy marriage.

Students are always pleased that their winter vacation comes in February. This year, the school vacation will begin on Friday, February 16, and will conclude on Sunday, February 25. Remember with each passing day we are getting closer to spring.

The make up day for the Storm Day in December will be Friday March 29, 2024, Good Friday as voted on by the School Committee. This will be an early release day with dismissal at 11:00 am.



Upcoming Events

Friday, February 9

Early release 11:00 am
dismissal

Tuesday, February 13

8th Grade Scheduling/
Curriculum night for WHRHS
6:30 p.m.

Friday, February 16

Winter Break begins at 2:15

Monday February 26

Students return

Community Events

School Committee Meeting

February 7, 6:30 p.m. Budget
presentation

February 28, 6:30 P.M.



From Guidance – Ms. Sweeney



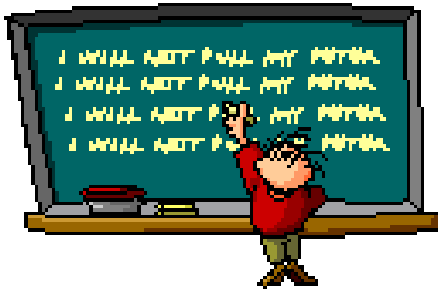
Grade 8:

Grade 8 Parents: Academic teachers have recommended levels for each student for Grade 9 and you'll receive these recommendations in the near future! Please keep an eye out for communication from the high school! On Tuesday, February 13th, at 6:30 PM, WHRHS counselors and administrators will host a scheduling and curriculum night. This will be an opportunity for parents of current 8th graders to learn more about courses offered at the high school and the process of scheduling courses. On March 4th, high school counselors and students will meet with our 8th graders at HMS to talk more about scheduling and the high school experience and they'll help our students to enter their choices of electives online. I'm glad to help in any way that I can as questions come up! If you wish to contact your child's high school counselor, students are assigned to counselors by their last names as follows:

Last names beginning with A-B	Ruth Carrigan	x7434
Last names beginning with C-F	Josh Murphy	x7454
Last names beginning with G-L	Courtney Selig	x7455
Last names beginning with M-P	MaggieCate Cunha	x7425
Last names beginning with Q-Z	Dom Amado	x7429

Counselors can be reached by phone at 781-618-7020 and then the extension listed above next to each name or by email at Firstname.Lastname@whrsd.org (ex: Ruth.Carrigan@whrsd.org).

On February 5th, all students who have submitted applications to South Shore Technical High School will be interviewed at HMS by Mrs. Dow, Guidance Counselor from SSVT. During this interview, she will ask each applicant questions related to the student's goals and desire to attend SSVT and will discuss grades, behavior, and attendance. Mrs. Dow will communicate to each student any areas in need of improvement. Applications submitted after this date will still be considered for later rounds of acceptance. Interested students should complete the on-line application.



From The Assistant Principal – Mr. Belvis

Student Activities:

Winter After School Activities have begun. We were happy to be able to offer a wide assortment of activities, including Run Club, Ping Pong, and Volleyball. Please be sure to pick your child up at 3:50 PM.

Breakfast:

As always, breakfast is available daily. Mrs. Hickey always has several options available for pickup in the cafeteria. Breakfast and lunch are still free for all students.

Electronic Devices:

Questions have come up regarding Air Pods, Apple watches, and other similar devices. The use of electronic devices (including earbuds, Air Pods, or headphones), unless allowed by teacher/administrator for educational purposes, is not permitted during the course of the school day including during passing time or in the hallways. Electronic devices are not allowed in the restrooms. Staff members are allowed to confiscate and safeguard a student's cell phone or other device until the end of the school day. Students who do not comply with a staff member's request will face further discipline, as outlined in the code of conduct, including detentions or retrieval of a device by a parent/guardian.

Morning Drop-Off:

During the winter, we typically see an increase in the number of students being dropped off. If driving your child to school, please be sure that they arrive by 7:35. Students arriving after 7:40 will be marked late. Consequences will be issued in accordance with the student handbook for students with excessive tardies.

Student safety is always a top priority. Please exercise caution as it can be difficult to see around other vehicles. Be sure not to pass school buses or vans when their red lights are flashing, as doing so jeopardizes safety and is unlawful and subject to fines. Also, please be careful to not block buses when turning into the pick-up/drop-off area, as their visibility as they round the corner by the auditorium is poor in the best of conditions. Please do not park on the roadway beside the auditorium (between the building and the side parking lot). Doing so causes bus drivers to have to cross into the left lane. There is frequently a line of cars waiting in the oncoming traffic lane, making it difficult for buses to safely pass.

For morning drop-off and afternoon pick-up, please have students enter and exit vehicles at the curb in front of the school, not in the left-hand lane.

SCHOOL NURSE NEWS



ILLNESSES:

- Please continue to be cautious and keep sick children home. If your child is experiencing more than one symptom such as cough, sore throat, congestion, headache, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, and/or fatigue, they should stay home and be seen by their pediatrician as needed.
- As always, if your child has a **fever of 100 or higher**, they need to stay home until they are fever free for 24 hours without taking any fever-reducing medicine.
- We ask that you do a home covid test as a precautionary measure, as if they test positive for covid, we are still required to have students and staff quarantine at home for 5 days following onset of symptoms or date of positive test if having no symptoms.

ABSENCES:

- Please remember to call the absence sick line (781-618-7375) or the nurse directly to report your student absent and be sure to include the reason for absence. I will be following up with phone calls home as needed regarding illnesses and absences.
- Additionally, please call the nurse directly to notify of any absences related to a COVID-19 matter.
- If your child does see their doctor for an illness, please ask for a doctor's note for their absence(s) from school so your child's absence can be marked as excused.

MANDATED SCREENINGS:

- I continue to work on completing the **grade 7** hearing, vision, and BMI screenings. It is going slowly and taking me longer than expected, but as I am working on these screenings, I will send home referral letters to parent/guardian(s) for those students who do not pass the hearing or vision screenings. If you would like the BMI results for your child, you may contact me to request that information be sent to you.

HEALTH UPDATES:

- As we are now mid-way through the school year, I would like to remind parent/guardian(s) to please contact me with any new health conditions/concerns that we should be aware of at school.

INJURIES/RESTRICTIONS:

- If your child has sustained an injury, we must have a note from the doctor stating the child's physical limitations/restrictions, including a gym excuse note and order for the use of assistive devices such as crutches or a wheelchair

Thank you and as always please contact me with any questions or concerns.

Lisa Godbout, M.Ed., BSN, RN
lisa.godbout@whrsd.org
781-618-7575



School attendance is essential for many reasons, as it plays a vital role in a student's educational achievement. Research shows that chronically absent students (missing 10% or more of the school year or just 18 days over an entire year) are less likely to read proficiently by third grade, achieve in middle school, and graduate high school. Here are some key reasons highlighting the importance of school attendance:

Academic Achievement: Regular school attendance guarantees students can participate in classroom activities, engage with teachers, and learn new concepts. Consistent attendance is directly connected to better academic performance and higher grades.

Continuous Learning: Education is often a sequential process where one concept builds upon another. Missing school repeatedly will result in gaps in a student's knowledge and understanding, making it challenging to catch up later.

Social Interaction: School is where students interact with peers, learn social skills, and develop relationships. Regular attendance allows students to build friendships and develop essential social skills for their future personal and professional lives.

8th Grade Washington D. C. Trip fundraising

We have Hilliard's Chocolate bars available for student fundraising. Students or parents can purchase a box of candy bars from Mrs. Laferriere in the main office for \$50. Each box contains 40 chocolate bars which can be sold for \$2 apiece. You make \$50 profit and can apply the money to your students account or use for spending money while in D.C.

Yearbook

Yearbook sales are live until the spring! The deadline to buy a yearbook is Friday, April 26th. **There are NO sales after that date.**

Student yearbooks are \$20.

The link to purchase: ybpay.com

Our school code is: **14121424**

From there you will be able to input your child's information and billing details. All yearbooks get delivered to Hanson Middle School and are passed out to students the ***last week of school***. The same details will be going home with students the week prior to February break.

If you are ordering for more than one student please put in a separate order for each student (this allows for each student to get their own at the end of the year for signing time).

Any questions, please reach out to Ms. Ashley (Ashley.Silvia@whrsd.org)

From the HMS Student Council

Student Council would like to recognize our winners for Citizen of the Month for the month of January:

5th Grade: Jack Woerdeman

6th Grade: Emily Sheehan

7th Grade: Cadence Norris

8th Grade: Leah Dexter



Congratulations to all of our winners! Thanks for making HMS a little brighter every day! Winners will have a pizza lunch with Mr. Tranter, Mr. Belvis and Mr. Every and Mr. Merritt!

This past Friday, Student Council held our first Teacher-Student Dodgeball Tournament. Students from all grades competed as they were coached from the sidelines by Mr. Sidor, Mr. Lopes, Mr. Tower, and Ms. Kent. Special thanks to Ms. Foley and Ms. Downey for chaperoning, and to Emerson Bourgelas for MC'ing. The event brought in nearly \$350 to be donated to Boston Children's Hospital. We thank all players, and all who attended and donated to such a worthy cause!

Looking ahead, Student Council will hold another “Spirit Week” as we head into February Vacation.

Monday (2/12): Jersey Day

Tuesday (2/13): Backwards Day

Wednesday (2/14): Valentine’s Day Colors (Red, Pink, White)

Thursday (2/15): “Mad For Plaid” (Flannel)

Friday (2/16): Twin Day

As a reminder, Student Council will generally meet every other Wednesday with both advisors, and meetings will usually last until about 3 or 3:15. New members are always welcome to join throughout the school year!

PERFECT ATTENDANCE SEMESTER ONE

Abajoli, Gianna
Andrews, Mya
Andrews, Tyler
Barata, Elizabeth
Begin, Tyler
Benedetti, Lucas
Bickford-D'Agostino, Isabel
Brzuszek, Jayden
Cahill, Sean
Da Silva, Emanuel
DeLue, Emily
DeLue, Jackson
DeLue, Julianna
DeLue, Ryan
Dennehy, Xavier
DiBenedetto, Anthony
Dieso, Grace
Emma, Harper
Feeley, Nathan
Flynn, Aoife
Foresteire, Matthew
Foster, Tyler
Foster, Zachary
Gardell, Asher
Hamill, Violet

Howland, Jackson
Hunter, Toby
Joyce-Viveros, Briella
Kelleher, Benjamin
Kimani, Edlin
Kunert, Darian
Mahoney, Conor
Northrup, Jaxon
Norton, Ava
Patel, Shaan
Patukonis, Norah
Pelton, Andrew
Pelton, Eve
Pond, Samuel
Quinlan, Jackson
Sargent, Anthony
Silva, Bella
Sirignano, Sabrina
Spence, Samuel
Squires, Alastair
Sullivan, Quinn
Truong, Abigail
White, Kevin
Zacchini, Shane

MCAS Testing 2004

Grade 5 ELA

Session I	Monday	March 25	E-Day
-----------	--------	----------	-------

Session II	Tuesday	April 2	E-Day
------------	---------	---------	-------

Grade 6 ELA

Session I	Tuesday	March 26	A-Day
-----------	---------	----------	-------

Session II	Wednesday	April 3	A-Day
------------	-----------	---------	-------

Grade 7 ELA

Session I	Thursday	March 28	C-Day
-----------	----------	----------	-------

Session II	Monday	April 8	D-Day
------------	--------	---------	-------

Grade 8 ELA

Session I	Monday	April 1	D-Day
-----------	--------	---------	-------

Session II	Tuesday	April 9	E-Day
------------	---------	---------	-------

Grade 5 MATH

Session I	Tuesday	April 23	E-Day
-----------	---------	----------	-------

Session II	Tuesday	April 30	E-Day
------------	---------	----------	-------

Grade 6 MATH

Session I	Wednesday	April 24	A-Day
-----------	-----------	----------	-------

Session II	Wednesday	May 1	A-Day
------------	-----------	-------	-------

Grade 7 MATH

Session I	Friday	April 26	C-Day
-----------	--------	----------	-------

Session II	Friday	May 3	C-Day
------------	--------	-------	-------

Grade 8 MATH

Session I	Monday	April 29	D-Day
Session II	Monday	May 6	D-Day

Grade 5 SCIENCE

Session I	Tuesday	May 7	E-Day
Session II	Wednesday	May 8	A-Day

Grade 8 SCIENCE

Session I	Monday	May 13	D-Day
Session II	Tuesday	May 14	E-Day

Grade 8 CIVIC TBA