

December 1, 2023

Hello HMS Families,

I hope everyone had a great week!

HMS is “No Place for Hate” – on Tuesday, we began our day with a schoolwide Teams meeting. We used the time to talk about hate speech, what it is, why it is against our values and beliefs at HMS, and what we should do when we experience it. I spoke for a few minutes, then Ms. Dease, our 7th Grade Counselor, addressed the students, and we wrapped up by asking every student to do some personal reflection and sign the “No Place for Hate” pledge. In signing this pledge, our students committed to the following:

- I WILL SEEK TO GAIN understanding of those who are different from myself.
- I WILL SPEAK OUT AGAINST prejudice and discrimination.
- I WILL REACH OUT to support those who are targets of hate.
- I WILL PROMOTE respect for people and help foster a prejudice-free school.
- I BELIEVE that one person can make a difference - no person can be an “innocent” bystander when it comes to opposing hate.
- I RECOGNIZE that respecting individual dignity and promoting intergroup harmony are the responsibilities of all students.

“Word of the Week” - Vocabulary development is a crucial component of an effective literacy program, and we are restarting Word of the Week for the 23-24 school year. Each week, we identify a new vocabulary word that we want our students to become more familiar with and be able to add to their repertoire. Our hope is that by exposing students to a different word every week, they can begin to “own” these words and make them a part of their working vocabulary! We encourage you to find ways to use this word in your conversations with your students whenever the opportunity presents itself!

The “Word of the Week” next week is...Aspiring!

News and Notes:

- **HMS is on the “Testing/Special Activity” Schedule next week** – We will be running the special schedule next week in order to ensure all students complete the iReady mid-year diagnostic assessments in Reading and Math. Click [here](#) for a link to the schedule. Students will report to Homeroom instead of Advisement next week at 8:55.
- **Remote Day Requests for 12/15** – If your student(s) is not going to be here on December 15th, but is all caught up with their work, you can request a Remote Day by completing the form below (as long as they have not already used their 5 days allocated for the semester). Only students who are caught up on their work may request a remote day on this day. Remote days do not count as a school absence. There will not be any major assessments on the 15th. Click on this form to make your request: <https://forms.office.com/r/24pBc4EjSR>

- **Parent and Student Surveys!!! - Parents, your opinion matters!** Tell us about your experiences with the district and your school by filling out the College and Career Ready Performance Index (CCRPI) **Georgia Parent Survey** required by the Georgia Department of Education. This survey provides a foundation for your school's Climate Star rating score and is part of the CCRPI. These climate scores are an important indicator of culture and climate within each school in the district. Each school will receive a 1-5 star rating, with five stars representing an excellent school climate, and one star representing a school climate most in need of improvement. The surveys are anonymous and confidential and will remain open through **Friday, December 15.** To access the CCRPI survey, click [here](#).

Georgia Student Health Survey - The Georgia Department of Education (GA DOE) requires all public schools to participate in their Georgia Student Health Survey. To see the GA DOE informational website [click here](#). Each school must have a 75% participation rate on the student portion of the survey. Schools failing to meet the 75% student participation rate will score 0.00 points on the school's CCRPI survey calculation under the survey portion of the School Climate Star Rating. **All students will participate in this survey starting the week of December 11th.**

This GA DOE developed survey asks questions that are covered by the Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA). For more information about PPRA, [click here](#). PPRA requires that schools provide parents/guardians with advanced notice of student participation, the option to preview the student survey, and the ability for parents/guardians to opt their students out of any surveys that include PPRA protected areas. If you would like to opt your student out of participation in this survey, please click the following link and complete the form - <https://forms.office.com/r/p6TSKaQHfk> requesting that your student not participate in Georgia Health Survey prior to December 4th.

For links to preview the student surveys, click on the links below.

Georgia Student Health Survey - Middle & High School (grades 6-12)

English - [click here](#)

Spanish - [click here](#)

School Activities:

- On December 13th and 14th, PE students will be encouraged to play in our Toys for Tots Hockey Tournament. Each team will need to bring in one new unwrapped toy as their entry fee. Each team will have 4 students. Don't miss out - sign up in PE with a PE teacher!



- Basketball Tryouts - Is your student interested in trying out for Hopewell Basketball? 7th and 8th grade boys and girls are welcome to come tryout in January!! The boys' tryouts will be Jan 3, 4, 5 and the girls' tryouts will be Jan 8 and 9. If your child is interested in trying out all forms must be submitted to rankone (<https://www.rankone.com>) by Dec 15 including a full physical

completed by a licensed medical professional. Please fill out the form below that applies to your child. If you have any questions, please email Coach Hill at hillmd@fultonschools.org

Girls Basketball: <https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=mLHcDGmBcEu6n9p-O6cAwttTC0TyNBjBjcBxqcRuXAVUQzQySUJzT1ZNNFpPRUZPQUZWS0NITjVZNC4u>

Boys Basketball: <https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=mLHcDGmBcEu6n9p-O6cAwttTC0TyNBjBjcBxqcRuXAVUMTFaTjZHM0c1RU1SRzE1UEMzS0Q4Uk5LUS4u>

- **YEARBOOK** - The HMS 2023-2024 yearbook is now on sale on the Jostens website. If you have any questions about yearbook purchases, please contact Mrs. Karen Allen (allenk2@fultonschools.org). The link is: <https://bit.ly/3YpEgAi>
- **8th Grade Parents only** – Yearbook Recognition Ads are on sale **NOW**. These are the pages at the back of the book that recognize your 8th graders before they move on to high school. The ad is created by you using the Jostens online software. **There is a deadline for this optional purchase: December 15.** This year the ad costs \$45 and can be created using this link: https://www.jostens.com/apps/store/ybAdDesigner/1653131/-/20231107141511920158/CATALOG_SHOP/
- **YEARBOOK NEEDS YOUR HELP!** The yearbook staff is inviting students and parents to submit photos for the yearbook. If you've got great photos of school and community events or you and your friends just having fun outside of school, we'd like to see them. Our photographers can't be everywhere. Help us get as many photos as possible to create a terrific book everyone will want to have. Ideas can be sports photos from feeder teams, Halloween and other holidays, or pictures of students just hanging out and having a good time on the weekends. There is no limit to the number of photos you can submit. To submit, just click on the link: https://images.jostens.com/0mRzn1-bo_AYGOy_MnaE1TA

Other Items:

- As we continue through the holiday season, we wanted to remind you that candy, desserts, baked goods, or any other edible items **are not** to be sold or distributed at school or on the bus unless approved in advance by the school administration. Per our Student Code of Conduct, students who do not adhere to this expectation are subject to disciplinary action for violation **7A: Failure to Follow Rules** and all candy or food items will be confiscated. Please discuss this expectation and possible consequences with your student(s) as this will be taken very seriously. This is due to recent National and State reports about students sharing edible items and synthetic medications that have been shared with other students that contain very harmful substances.

Please know that taking this measure will help us maintain a safe environment for all students. You can help us protect your student(s) by requesting that they not eat anything given to them by another person, anything that they have not brought from your home or anything not in its original sealed package.

Thank you for your continued partnership in keeping all of our students safe at school!

- From the PTA:
 - o Thanks to all of our amazing business partners!



- Free fun at CHS!



- 2025 Japan Travel Opportunity - Mrs. Sofia Nisar (8th grade science teacher) is offering students the opportunity to join a 9-day, educational trip to Japan in June 2025. This trip is open to students who are currently enrolled at Hopewell Middle School, but is not a school-sponsored field trip. Parents are welcome to join as well.

Highlights of the trip will include:

- o Osaka's Dotonbori Canal Street
- o The Arashiyama Bamboo Forest in Kyoto
- o Travel by bullet train
- o Take an in-depth tour of Mount Fuji
- o Visit the Harajuku shopping district & Meiji Shinto Shrine in Tokyo

Experience rich culture, historic landmarks, and breathtaking natural beauty while backtracking Japan's Golden Route, an immersive journey that includes the country's must-see cities and sights. From the centuries-old spirit of Kyoto to the legendary Mount Fuji to the modern metropolis of Tokyo, this adventure is a beautiful collection of the many shining gems of Japan.

Contact Mrs. Nisar at nisars@fultonschools.org with any questions.

General Reminders:

- HMS has an email specifically for sending in notes/excuses for student absences. You can email your parent, doctor, dentist, etc. note to HMSAttendance@fultonschools.org. This is not for early dismissal requests. These notes should be sent into the front office with your student in the morning on the day they need to leave early. You do not need to email individual teachers to notify them of an absence.
- If you need to check your child out of school early, **please remember we do not allow checkouts after 3:30!** If they are leaving early, send them in to the Front Office in the morning with a note from you. This makes the whole process easier and more efficient, and prevents us from having to disrupt their class when it's time for them to leave.
- The Front Office closes at 5:00, so please do not expect anyone to answer the phones or be there to buzz you in unless there is an evening activity.

Thanks so much for your support of our school!

Sincerely,

Michael LeMoyne
Principal – Hopewell Middle School

HMS Website - <http://school.fultonschools.org/ms/hopewell/Pages/default.aspx>

Follow me on Twitter - @MichaelLeMoyne

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