

August 25, 2023

Hello HMS Families,

I hope everyone had a great week!

Just a heads up, especially for new families - A number of our students choose to walk home (especially on Fridays) and head down toward Menchie's or QuikTrip at the intersection of Windward Parkway and Highway 9. We wanted to share that these businesses have reported to us several times in past years that the behavior of some of our students is less-than-exemplary. We also get frequent reports of kids walking there in an unsafe way and crossing the road in an unsafe manner. If you are allowing your child to do this, we suggest you take a trip yourself to observe the students so you know what they are up to (or at least have a conversation with your kids about your expectations of them). HMS does not encourage this practice, nor do we have any type of supervision in place for them once they leave the school campus.

Processes and Procedures Reminder(s)/Update(s):

- While it's still early in the year, we encourage you to make sure you have access to our Infinite Campus Parent Portal. This will help you stay on top of your child's grades, attendance, behavior, etc. For more information about this and/or for information on how to set it up, click the following link - [Infinite Campus / Program Overview \(fultonschools.org\)](https://fultonschools.org). Also, make sure any and all people who might need to pick your child up early from school are listed as Emergency Contacts. If they aren't, we can't release your child to them (this does not apply for regular dismissal time). To add an Emergency Contact, call the front office and we can walk you through the process.

News and Notes:

- Thanks to everyone who attended Curriculum Night this week. The evening is not the end, but really the beginning of what we hope will be ongoing communication between you and your child's teachers this year. Just a reminder, we encourage you to review our school and district website and Student/Parent Handbook for relevant information. In addition, the Curriculum Night General Session Powerpoints are linked below and should all be on our website by the middle of next week as well.
[Curriculum Night 6th Grade - 2023.pptx](#)
[Curriculum Night 7th Grade - 2023.pptx](#)
[Curriculum Night 8th Grade - 2023.pptx](#)
- Picture Day is September 1st! Click on the links below for more information:
 - o [Email Flyer-2023-09-01.pdf](#)
 - o [Full Color Flyer-2023-09-01.pdf](#)
- Most of our students have received their devices at this point, although some students who have recently enrolled may not have yet. For your information, students can get help with their device during the day by visiting our School Technology Specialist, Mr. Cowart, during his office hours (2nd, 4th, and 8th period). Also, please note the fine structure below (fines can be paid

through OSP or cash/money orders brought to the front office) related to FCS devices and the HMS device bags (if your child is using one):

- Lost/Stolen Device - \$260 via OSP (\$250 cash or money order)
- Damaged Device - \$104 via OSP (\$100 cash or money order)
- Lost or damaged Charger - \$32 via OSP (\$30 cash or money order)
- Lost or damaged Device Bag - \$15 via OSP, cash, or money order

- From the PTA:

- The 6th Grade Fall Festival is scheduled for Friday, September 29th immediately after school. Look for a permission form in the next couple weeks. Also, we will be asking for a small donation to cover some of the costs. Stay tuned for more information...
- Business Partner Highlights
 - **Summit Counseling:** A message from Summit Counseling:
 - As a parent, you want what is best for your child, but it's not always easy to know what type of support they need. Counseling services can be a positive support to all students with a wide range of needs, and over time, these services can help them better manage their emotions, improve focus inside and outside the classroom, improve or maintain relationships with family, friends, and school staff, and benefit their overall health.
 - Hopewell Middle School has partnered with the Summit Counseling Center to offer confidential school-based mental health therapy. With Summit therapists on site, students have the option to receive services during their school day. This flexibility allows the therapist to quickly intervene, so students get the help they need to achieve their best at school. Visit www.summitcounseling.org to view services and schedule an appointment today!
 - **Beau Vinci**
 - Welcome to our new HMS PTA Business Partner Beau Vinci Violins! Located in downtown Alpharetta. Please check out ways to rent your instrument for orchestra! <https://beauvinciviolins.com/>
 - **Sam-Savant Flooring**
 - Welcome to Sam Savant as a new business partner! At Sam Savant we specialize in concrete & epoxy flooring. We have years of experience preparing, polishing, staining, and sealing concrete floors.
 - **OUR HIGHLY SKILLED & KNOWLEDGEABLE OPERATIONS & PRODUCT SPECIALISTS CAN HELP YOU CHOOSE & CREATE YOUR OWN PERSONALIZED FLOORING SYSTEM THAT EVERYONE WILL BE TALKING ABOUT!**



- The new Fulton County Schools Student Code of Conduct & Discipline Handbook (2023-24) is ready to start receiving parent/guardian signatures. Students age 10 years and older and all parents/guardians who have a student attending Fulton County Schools should sign. Use the link [How to sign the Code of Conduct](#) to see step-by-step instructions on how to sign.

School Activities:

- **Virtual Author Visit** - Hopewell has been offered a virtual author visit from Jason Reynolds, a #1 New York Times bestselling author of many award-winning books. The recipient of a Newbery Honor, a Printz Honor, an NAACP Image Award, and multiple Coretta Scott King honors, Reynolds is also the 2020-2022 National Ambassador for Young People's Literature. He is on faculty at Lesley University for the Writing for Young People MFA Program and lives in Washington, DC.

This event will take place on Tuesday, August 29th around 10:30. Students who want to attend must sign up before August 23rd (through the Media Center Team Site) so we can make the appropriate arrangements for viewing the author's talk. Students also need to specify if they want to purchase a school lunch that day since this event will run into some of the grade levels lunch times.

If you have any questions, please email Whitney (Beem) Beck at beemw@fultonschools.org.

- **National Read a Book Day is September 6th.** This is a day when students do not attend school. We are asking families to take some time to read together. As an added bonus, submit any pictures of your family reading by using the hashtag #hopewellturnspages or emailing the picture to beemw@fultonschools.org. A random picture will be chosen to receive a prize!
- **YEARBOOK:** The HMS 2023-2024 yearbook is now on sale on the Jostens website. If you purchase your book early in the school year, you are guaranteed the LOWEST price (which is \$50) and there are some additional personalization benefits available to you. 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 in 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://bit.ly/3s1cxtV>

- **JUNIOR BETA:** The deadline for Junior Beta membership forms has been extended to Friday, September 1st. Our first meeting has been **moved to Sept 8 at 8:15** in the media center. Junior Beta is an honor society that focuses on leadership and service. This year students will be able to earn the Presidential Volunteer Service Award. Some Beta members will also attend the state convention in late November in Savannah. If you have question, please direct them to Mrs. Allen: allenk2@fultonschools.org
- **Soccer:** Do you have a child that plays soccer or is interested in playing soccer? Hopewell offers a Co-Ed soccer team to our 7th and 8th grade students, allowing them to compete against other middle schools in the area. Students must have an up to date physical completed by a physician before trying out. All paperwork and game schedule can be found at <https://hopewellsports.weebly.com> . Tryouts will be 8/29/23-8/31/23 and the first game is on 9/13/23. If you have any more questions, please reach out to Coach Hill at hillmd@fultonschools.org
- It is not too late to join the HMS Debate team. Come out and enjoy the fun of arguing with others! If your child is interested, please have them stop by C117 and pick up an information sheet and membership form. Practices are Monday's after school until 5:30. Mrs. Karen Allen is the coach for the debate team: contact her with questions: allenk2@fultonschools.org

Other Items:

- The Alpharetta Junior Raiders have asked us to share their game schedules, so just click on the links below to review. All our home games are held at Alpharetta High School. Entry Fees are \$7 for adults, \$3 for students, and kids 5 and under free. All FCS employees are free (must have employee badge).
[6TH GRADE SCHEDULE.pdf](#)
[7TH GRADE SCHEDULE.pdf](#)
[8TH GRADE SCHEDULE.pdf](#)
- The Georgia Department of Education is hosting a Peanut Festival Postcard Contest honoring President Jimmy Carter. All entries need to be emailed in by September 6th. Please go to <https://www.nps.gov/jica/learn/education/2023-peanut-festival-postcard-contest.htm> for more information or email Whitney (Beem) Beck (beemw@fultonschools.org) with any questions.

- FCS continues to partner with the Metro Atlanta Policy Lab for Education (MAPLE) at Georgia State University to gain insight into the impacts of the pandemic. We wish to better understand students' experiences during and after the pandemic to better understand and meet our students' needs moving forward. Please complete this optional and anonymous survey by clicking this link: https://fultonschools.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_3lpnaRG2USGTurs. The survey will close on Wednesday, September 6th.



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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