

September 15, 2023

Hello HMS Families,

I hope everyone had a great week!

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

At Fulton County Schools, we prioritize student safety. Emergencies happen. When they do, preparedness is the key to handling them well. We ask that all parents or guardians who have not listed an emergency contact update their emergency contact list to include at least one person who is not the parent/guardian. If the parent or guardian is not accessible due to an emergency, it is important that the school has an approved person to contact regarding your student.

Thank you for updating your emergency contacts at your earliest convenience.

Here are step by step instructions for updating your student's emergency contacts and a link for doing so in the Parent Portal:

 [EMERGENCY-RELEASE-STUDENTS.pdf](#)

Link to parent portal: <https://www.fultonschools.org/infinitecampus>

“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” for next week is.... Narrate!

News and Notes:

- **FREE AND REDUCED-PRICE MEAL BENEFITS** - To continue free or reduced-price meal benefits for students each household must complete a new application every year. Free and Reduced Meal Benefits will end on September 20, 2023, if the household has not reapplied for SY 2023-2024. If there is an interruption in benefits or the household does not reapply, the household is responsible for payment of meals until the Free and Reduced Application is approved. To help assure continuation of benefits, the household must complete an online application by September 19nd 2023 at www.fulton.schoollunchapp.com or have a paper application turned in to the school cafeteria manager before September 16th, 2023 or. Be sure to list all the students in the household on the application. Keep in mind, the application may take up to 10-days to process. If you have any questions, please call the Fulton County School Nutrition Program – Meal Eligibility Desk at (470)254-2220.

- 7th Grade Parents ONLY: All 7th grade students will be taking the NWEA MAP assessment between September 25 and October 6th, 2023. This assessment is a computer adaptive test that measures skills in Reading and Math. MAP is used as a universal screener and a nationally normed assessment. The results help determine a student's overall academic performance level and identify students who may benefit from additional services or support to meet their learning goals. MAP scores will not be entered into the grade book.

The Math MAP assessment will be given during the window of September 25th-September 29th, 2023, during 7th grade math classes. The Reading MAP assessment will be given during the window of October 2nd-October 6th, 2023, during 7th grade ELA classes. The test will not take the entire week. It is estimated to be between 45 and 60 minutes long.

If you have any questions about the MAP assessment, please reach out to Amy Cousin at CousinA@fultonschools.org. See the flyer ([MAP Parent Flyer 23-24.pdf](#)) for additional information.

- 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:

- Tennis News!!!
 - o 7th and 8th graders interested in trying out for the Hopewell Tennis Team please complete [Tennis Registration](#). Tryouts will be October 3rd and 4th at 7:30 am on the Tennis courts. Contact Anna LoBean questions: lobean@fultonschools.org
 - o Intramural Tennis is offered for 6th –8th graders that want to hit/ practice in the mornings starting September 12th at 7:45 am. This is not the Hopewell Tennis Team. Please fill out [Intramural Tennis Form](#) to participate. Contact Anna LoBean for questions: lobean@fultonschools.org
- The 6th Grade Fall Festival is scheduled for Friday, September 29th immediately after school. Fliers were passed out to students last week and attached to the Friday notes. We are asking for a small \$6.00 donation to cover some of the costs. The deadline to sign-up is Wednesday, September 27th. Sign-up your student here:



- Volleyball Tryouts (Boys and Girls!) - 7th and 8th grade girls AND boys are eligible to try out for volleyball this year! Girls tryouts are October 2 & 3 at 7 am in the Hopewell gym. See Emilylyn Moore for questions meyere@fultonschools.org Boys tryouts are October 4 & 5 at 4:15 pm in the Hopewell gym. See Logan Deyarmin for questions deyarminl1@fultonschools.org

Follow this link to fill out all necessary paperwork: [Microsoft Forms](#)

- **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>

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

- 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 Mondays after school until 5:30. Mrs. Karen Allen is the coach for the debate team: contact her with questions: allenk2@fultonschools.org

Other Items:

- From the PTA:
 - o Reflections - Does your student enjoy art, music and dance or have an interest in writing, producing films and taking photos? We invite them to unleash their inner artist with PTA Reflections! Reflections is a national art contest celebrating the importance of arts education. In the 50+ years since the program's founding, millions of students have been inspired to participate by reflecting on a specific, student-selected theme to create original artwork. For inspiration, visit the Reflections virtual art gallery and learn more about prizes and scholarships at PTA.org/Reflections/Awards.

This year's theme is: I am hopeful because...

Entries are due no later than Friday October 20th. Download submission guidelines and an entry form from the Hopewell PTA website:

<https://hopewellmspta.membershiptoolkit.com>

Feel free to reach out to the HMS Reflections Chair Katie Black at vlackkm@yahoo.com with any questions.

- Book Fair - <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E4AA4AE2EA4F4C70-2023>
 - It is that time of year again for the annual Book Fair at Hopewell Middle School.
 - When: **October 5 - 17th from 7:45 AM - 4:15PM**
 - Where: HMS Media Center
 - How do students attend? They come with their ELA classes during the school day. They can also attend our Family Fun Night.
 - How can I help? Volunteer spots are open now for parents to volunteer to help with the Book Fair. Prior to volunteering you need to complete the Fulton County Volunteer requirements by going to <https://www.fultonschools.org/volunteer>. Don't worry it is quick and easy! On the day you volunteer sign in with the front desk and head back to the Media Center.
- Family Fun Night - Date: **October 5th at 6-8pm**
 - Location: HMS Cafeteria, Atrium and Gym
 - Who can attend? All families are invited, including younger children! Students need to be supervised to attend.
 - Help us setup, clean up or run the event by volunteering HERE (<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E4AA4AE2EA4F4C70-hopewell>) The more volunteers we have the more we can divide up tasks so that everyone can enjoy time with their families at the event.
 - Cost: This event is sponsored by the HMS PTA and is **FREE** to attend !
 - It is that time of year again to bring your family to Hopewell MS and discover the exciting world of Harry Potter during our Family Fun Night. The Hopewell PTA will provide Pizza, Popcorn and Butter Beer (soda) as you engage in the wonderful world of Harry Potter.
 - At the Family Fun Night, you can:
 - Purchase books for your family and teachers at the Book Fair
 - Engage in Harry Potter themed activities such as:
 - Play Quidditch
 - Engage in craft activities
 - Be sorted into your Hogwarts House
 - Take Harry Potter pictures using our green screen
 - Participate in Harry Potter Trivia
 - Go on a scavenger hunt to find the Golden Snitch and more



- Aurora Cineplex and The Fringe Miniature Golf - Join Aurora to celebrate on Sunday, Sept. 17th, 2023 from 12-4 pm
 - Sept. 17th
 - BOGO EVERYTHING --That's BUY ONE GET ONE FREE on this day --
 - * BOGO Movies (10am-4pm)
 - * BOGO Concessions (10am-8pm)
 - * BOGO Mini Golf (10am-8pm)
 - FREE CARNIVAL (12pm-4pm) - with Games, Balloon Artist, Face Painters, Giant Inflatables, Jumpees, a Train, Costumed Characters, and our Aurora Birthday Cake!
 - Artisans Arts & Crafts Show (10am-6pm)
 - Food Trucks, Meet & Greet, and more!
- Innovation Academy will be hosting **a free STEM Saturday for all 7th and 8th grade students** who are eligible to apply on **11/4/2023 from 9am-12pm.** This day each student will engage in STEM activities that will be led by our students and teachers. Registration for the day will begin at 8:30 with activities beginning at 9:00am.

Sign-ups will be available to the first 100 students who sign-up. Every sign-up after the first 100 will be waitlisted. **Deadline to apply is 10/22/23 (use the QR code below).** **Any questions, please reach out to guraishyh@fultonschools.org**



- The Milton Library is providing free math tutoring this school year on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month. They'll have three 30-minute sessions starting at 4pm. Parents and caregivers are encouraged to sit in the tutoring sessions and registration is required for the timeslots. The .jpg file linked below gives the details. The QR code on the flyer will send you to the Milton Library Event page for registration. Our tutor will help with basic math through calculus. Please call the library with any questions. mathtutorrevised.jpg
- A message from our feeder high schools:

From CHS - We want everyone to have a great time and enjoy Friday night lights. However, students should not be dropped off and left unsupervised. We are here to watch football, cheer on our Bears, and keep everyone safe. We cannot do these things if we are having to constantly monitor over 100 children who should be with their parents. Please help us and remind your students of proper behavior while visiting our campus.

From AHS - Hello Raider Nation, Please find this important message from our Athletics Director regarding Friday night football games at Raider Stadium.

From Coach Grantham: The Alpharetta administrative team would like to acknowledge concerns we observed and those brought to our attention after the first couple home football game. Our team prioritizes safety while supporting the overall, positive fan experience.

We have taken steps to decrease the wait time for entry and have adjusted our gate procedures for games. We have added additional gates with additional staffing in place to verify ticket holders. To assist our staff members, please plan to have your tickets up on your phone and ready for verification. Once verified you will be handed a wrist band, we would appreciate your support in wearing these while attending the game.

In addressing concerns with our student section, you will notice a change to our student fan section with added supervision present. Increased staff presence will be noticeable at our concession areas and within our restroom facilities. We urge our community members to please report, immediately, any issues found in the restrooms to an officer or administrator stationed at the front gate.

We would also like to share the following stadium guidelines:

- **No Re-Entry.**
- **No Outside Food/Drinks and No Athletic items allowed – Ex: Frisbees, Balls, Bats, etc.**
- **Clear bags only**
- **Elementary and middle school aged students must be accompanied by a parent/guardian.**

We thank you for your support of Alpharetta Athletics and hope that your experience is a great one while on our campus. Please be diligent in communicating safety concerns to our staff immediately so that we may address these in a timely manner.

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

Follow HMS on Twitter - @HMSMustangPride