

January 12, 2024

Hello HMS Families,

I hope everyone had a great week!

Just a reminder, we are closed Monday for Martin Luther King Day, and we have a Professional Learning Day for staff on Tuesday, so students will not attend school that day. Also, staff have trainings/meetings throughout the day on Tuesday, so if you need to speak with someone, please email or call and schedule a time to talk.

“Word of the Week” - Vocabulary development is a crucial component of an effective literacy program. 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!

Due to the short week, there will not be a “Word of the Week” next week.

News and Notes:

- Semester 1 Report Cards were printed and provided to students today and are now available for review in Infinite Campus. Students may also view grades through ClassLink. All grades are final for Semester 1. At the middle school level, remember that year-long courses average the Semester 1 and Semester 2 grades for an overall yearly average. The yearly average must be 70% or higher in all core academic classes for a student to be promoted to the next grade level (or Summer School will be required for promotion to the next grade).
 - o Tips for Parents to Review Report Card/Progress Reports: [Parent Tips](#)
 - o Tips for Students to Review Report Card/Progress Reports: [Student Tips](#)
- As some of you may know, Ms. Consola, our 8th Grade Assistant Principal, has been out on leave for a bit. As a result, we have brought in an Interim 8th Grade Assistant Principal, Ms. Kay Walker, to support our 8th grade students and staff, until Ms. Consola returns. Ms. Walker is an experienced FCS school administrator and will no doubt be a great support for us. She will primarily be responsible for managing the day-to-day operations of the 8th grade, but will assist with other issues when needed. Her email is walkerk@fultonschools.org.
- The first home game of the HMS basketball season is January 24th. This year, in order to help with supervision and ensure that students are not left without a ride home, we will be requiring that student spectators for home and away basketball games are accompanied by a responsible adult who remains at the game with them. The adult can accompany up to four students with them. Students will not be allowed to enter the gym without an adult who will take responsibility for them. Again, this is an expectation for both home and away games.

- We have a few days coming up in February with some special events that require some adjustments to our day. Please note the dates below and the linked alternative schedules for a couple of the days. If your child normally has Late Arrival or Early Release and will have to miss a class because of these adjustments, please email their school counselor and check in with their teacher to find out what they will be missing.
 - February 8th – Scoliosis for 6th and 8th Grade
 - We will be “flipping” periods 4 and 5 with periods 8 and 9 so that we can complete all Scoliosis screening in the morning.
 - This will impact 6th and 7th grade lunch periods as well. Click the following link for the schedule - [Scoliosis Day Schedule.docx](#)
 - February 13th – 8th Grade visits to High Schools
 - 8th graders will be visiting CHS and AHS in the morning
 - We will be “flipping” periods 2 and 3 with periods 8 and 9.
 - Due to late arrival and early dismissal schedules, we will do 9th period, then 8th in the morning and 3rd period, then 2nd in the afternoon. This will not impact lunch periods. Click the following link for the schedule - [Bell Schedule 2.13.docx](#)
- Speaking of scoliosis screening, we are looking for at least 10-14 parent volunteers to help us on February 8th. Volunteers would need to arrive at HMS by 8:30 AM, and we should wrap up screening by about 12:30 PM.

Volunteers will need to complete online (asynchronous) training prior to the day of screening, and will then get a brief overview on the day of screening.

Please click on the [Volunteer Form](#) if you are able to help. We will send you information about the online training in advance of our screening date.

School Activities:

- **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>
- **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:

- From the PTA:
 - **The PTA is sponsoring the annual 8th-grade dance.** The dance will be on Friday, February 9 in the HMS café 7:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Students are encouraged to dress to impress. Only enrolled HMS students may attend the dance, no dates or non-HMS students allowed. RSVP and parent permission is required by Friday, February 2. RSVP and registration link: <https://bit.ly/4aN3Tkn>



- Interested in volunteering? Click here for an interest link from the PTA - <https://forms.gle/KBbHHwEwNNYFZnXZ9>
- PTA General Membership Meeting will be held virtually on January 24 at 9:30am
- Thanks to all of our amazing business partners!



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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