

Monday, March 7, 2022, Issue 24

## MARCH 2022

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>7B</b> NAEP Testing <i>(Select Grade 8 Students)</i> <b>After-School Programs</b> Annie Jr. Rehearsal Student Council <b>HMS Team Leader Meeting</b> <b>(2:45-3:45 PM)</b>	<b>8A</b> <b>Signs of Suicide Lesson for Team Walton</b> <b>After-School Programs</b> Jazz Band Mock Trial Club Rainbow Club	<b>9B</b> <b>After-School Programs</b> Annie Jr. Rehearsal GGG: Student Newspaper Korean Club Student "A" Team (Gr. 7)	<b>10A</b> <b>Early Dismissal (12 PM)</b> <b>Professional Development</b> <b>(12:45-3:45 PM)</b>	<b>11B</b> <b>School Spirit: Pajama Day!</b> <b>After-School Programs</b> Annie Jr. Rehearsal
<b>14A</b> <b>After-School Programs</b> 5K Club Annie Jr. Rehearsal Student Council Yearbook Club <b>HMS Climate Meeting</b> <b>(2:45-3:45 PM)</b>	<b>15B</b> <b>After-School Programs</b> Jazz Band Mock Trial Club Rainbow Club	<b>16A</b> <b>After-School Programs</b> 5K Club Annie Jr. Rehearsal Divide & Conquer Math Club Korean Club	<b>17B</b>	<b>18A</b> <b>HMS Safety Meeting</b> <b>(7:00-7:45 AM)</b> <b>After-School Programs</b> Annie Jr. Rehearsal
<b>21B</b> <b>ROCK YOUR SOCKS!</b> <b>World Down Syndrome Day</b> NJHS Induction Ceremony (9 AM) <b>After-School Programs</b> 5K Club Annie Jr. Rehearsal Board Games Student Council	<b>22A</b> <b>After-School Programs</b> Jazz Band Mock Trial Club Rainbow Club	<b>23B</b> <b>After-School Programs</b> 5K Club Annie Jr. Rehearsal Korean Club Student "A" Team (Gr. 7)	<b>24A</b>	<b>25B</b> <b>After-School Programs</b> Annie Jr. Rehearsal
<b>28A</b> <b>After-School Programs</b> 5K Club Annie Jr. Rehearsal Student Council Yearbook Club	<b>29B</b> <b>After-School Programs</b> Jazz Band Mock Trial Club Rainbow Club	<b>30A</b> <b>After-School Programs</b> 5K Club Annie Jr. Rehearsal Divide & Conquer Math Club Korean Club	<b>31B</b>	

## HMS PTA UPDATES

- PTA Executive Board Positions are open for the 2022-23 academic year. If you are interested in getting involved and serving as the PTA President, Vice President, Treasurer, or Secretary, please email [hamdenmiddlepta@gmail.com](mailto:hamdenmiddlepta@gmail.com).
  - Save the Date: Our next meeting will take place on Tuesday, April 26th at 6 p.m.
- 

## SPRING SPORTS

It is time to register for spring sports at HMS, including **baseball** and **softball**. Parents should visit the Family ID website on the [Athletics page of our school website](#), and enter the necessary information. Students must have an updated physical to try-out and participate in the season. Physicals must be less than 15 months old. Our baseball/softball season ends in May 2022; therefore, an updated physical must be dated from February 2021 or later. In addition, students must be academically eligible to participate. Parents, if you have any questions regarding spring sport registration, please contact Mr. Rob Mandel at [rmandel@hamden.org](mailto:rmandel@hamden.org).

---

## SPRING INTRAMURALS: HMS 5K Club

Intramural programs are a great opportunity for aspiring student athletes to get involved and meet new friends. This year, Mr. Cebula is hosting a 5k Club. The club will meet on Mondays and Wednesdays after school starting March 14th. Participants will learn about distance running while training for an actual 5K race. Interested students should contact Mr. Cebula and join his 5K Club Google Classroom. Please see Mr. Cebula with any questions. Parents can also email Mr. Cebula with any questions at [jcebula@hamden.org](mailto:jcebula@hamden.org).

---

## STUDENT ACCOUNTABILITY TEAM (A.K.A. OUR STUDENT “A-TEAM”)

Mr. Tremper is inviting seventh grade students who are interested in leading positive changes at HMS to join the Student “A-Team”. This group will meet bi-monthly after school on Wednesday afternoons. Students will discuss all things HMS, including our Dragon PRIDE expectations, school safety, programs, and more. It is a place for kids to share their thoughts on things that are going well, as well as ideas for improving our school community. Our seventh grade students have a solid understanding of their middle school, and they will help create plans for the remainder of this year, as well as next year. Students can sign up by visiting Mr. Tremper in room 231 or emailing him at [mtremper@hamden.org](mailto:mtremper@hamden.org).

---




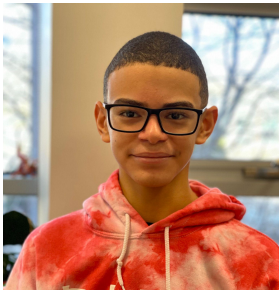
## BLACK HISTORY MONTH INTERVIEWS

Join Ms. Dawson and Mr. Cebula of HMS as they interview local leaders, Pastor Anthony L. Bennett (Morehouse College) and Lady Donna Thompson-Bennett (Spelman College). The goal of this interview is to educate viewers on Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), while highlighting these local leaders and positive role models in our state/community. All viewers will take away something positive from this interview! Here is the [link](#).

---

## CT ASSOCIATION OF PUBLIC SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS (CAPSS) AWARD

We are proud of our students; they are kind, compassionate, inquisitive and dedicated. We are shining the spotlight on the following students who are being honored by Superintendent Goeler with the CAPSS Award. We are grateful for their positive contributions to our school community.

	<p><b>Alaysia Kittrell</b></p> <p>Alaysia has much to celebrate. She is an excellent student who consistently earns high honors, and she is a member of the National Junior Honor Society. Alaysia played basketball for the HMS team, and her energetic, positive attitude truly helped her team. She is also involved in her church, and she has worked with others to feed the homeless through various community service projects. She is a selfless, empathetic person. Alaysia aspires to be a politician in the future; we are convinced she will make our world a better place.</p>
	<p><b>Felicity Potkay</b></p> <p>Felicity is an exemplary student who embraces all opportunities to engage in her community. She is motivated to learn and excel in her studies. She was inducted into the National Junior Honor Society as a result of her academic achievement and community service. Felicity is active in her church, and she serves as an usher and reader. In addition, she is a student athlete who played softball, basketball and volleyball at HMS. Felicity is supported by her parents and younger sister. Her mom and dad are her personal heroes. Felicity is an outstanding person who is destined for great things.</p>
	<p><b>Josiah Richardson</b></p> <p>Josiah is an eighth grade student who loves school. He can be described as hardworking and kind, and it is important to note that he has a great sense of humor. He thrives in the world of STEM, and enjoys learning about mathematics and science. Josiah plays basketball and his coaches admire his athletic ability and commitment to the sport. Josiah stated that his mom is his greatest coach; she inspires and motivates him to be his best at all times. Josiah embraces every day with a commitment to grow, learn, and move forward!</p>
	<p><b>Steven Torres</b></p> <p>Steven is motivated by his family; they support him so he can be his best. Steven enjoys coming to school each day. He is a “people person” and enjoys interacting with his peers and teachers. Steven is bi-lingual, and he is known to help multi-language learners with understanding and speaking English. Steven is a runner, and he participates in cross country and the 5K club. He is proud of his academic achievement, and he knows it is a result of his hard work and dedication. He is determined, and he does not let challenges frustrate or discourage him. Steven aspires to be a doctor in the future, and he is ready for the challenge.</p>

## NATIONAL SCHOOL BREAKFAST WEEK



Hamden Public Schools is celebrating National School Breakfast Week which is a weeklong celebration from March 7th to March 11th. The goal of this event is to help promote student awareness of the nutritious meals offered through the school breakfast program as well as increase student participation. Studies have shown that students who eat a school breakfast maintain healthier weight, have improved concentration, perform better in math and reading as well as score higher on standardized tests.

During the National School Breakfast Week event, we will be providing loyalty punch cards for each student at Hamden Middle School. Students who participate each day will have their punch card stamped by a food service worker. Students will need to write their full name or their student ID number on the cards to help with identification. At the end of the week, students who receive four total stamps will be able to drop off their cards to the cafeteria where our staff will be raffling off five gift cards on Monday morning.

We hope that you will help us promote this event and encourage your child(ren) to participate in our school breakfast program!



### FOLLOW HMS ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Please follow us on Instagram at [hms\\_dragons](#). We post daily reminders and recognize our dedicated staff and amazing students. Information is also posted on Facebook. Search for our Hamden Middle School group. Finally, parents can also check us out on Twitter [@HMSDragons](#). Social media is an excellent communication tool. It is a quick, easy way to stay connected.



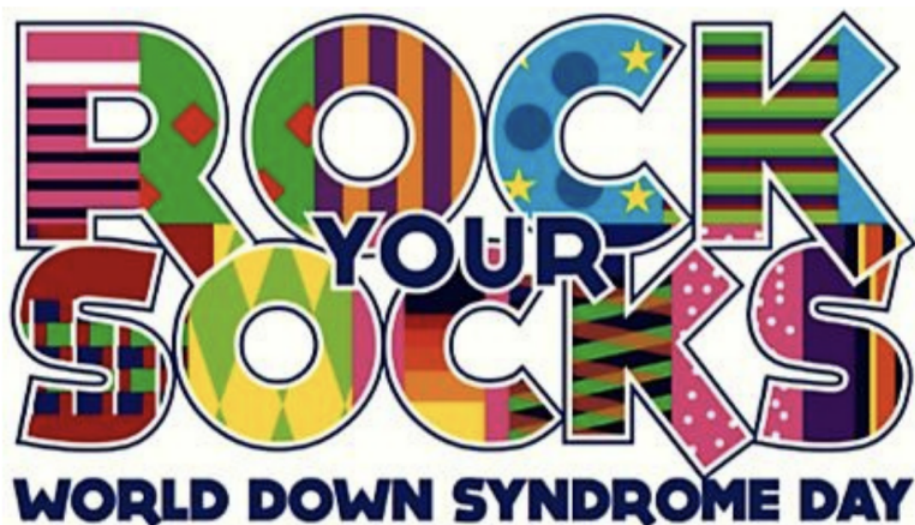
### FACE MASKS

Our Hamden Board of Education has voted to continue wearing face masks at school. Please continue to send your child to school wearing a face mask and bringing extra in backpacks. We will continue to support our students by modeling how to properly wear a face mask and gently reminding all to wear their masks above their nose and mouth. We are a team, and we must continue to support each other. We got this, HMS!

## DONORS CHOOSE

Ms. Mule, our seventh-grade SRBI Math Coordinator, created a Donors Choose project to purchase some engaging materials for supporting our students. This project will provide manipulatives for our HMS students to help bridge tangible concrete topics to more abstract concepts in math. Please check out this project at this [link](#) and consider making a tax-deductible donation or sharing it widely among our community. Thank you for your support!





**World Down Syndrome Day (WDS), March 21st, is a global awareness day which has been officially observed by the United Nations since 2012.**

Since the chromosomes look like socks, you can “**rock your socks**” by wearing mismatched, colorful, zany socks to support and create awareness.



Help raise awareness of what Down syndrome is, what it means to have Down syndrome, and how people with Down syndrome play a vital role in our lives and communities.

Make sure to take pictures and videos and post them on Social Media using the hashtags #LotsOfSocks, #WorldDownSyndromeDay and #mydsact





## STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Several of our HMS students played on the Hamden Peewee A Hockey Team, including Connor D., Jake C., Lucas M., and Kyra S. They had an outstanding season with over 20 wins! Recently, they competed in the state semifinals and had a great start. It was exciting for our kids and their families. We are proud of our student athletes. Thanks for representing Hamden in such a positive way. #DragonPride

**LAST DAY OF SCHOOL IS THURSDAY, JUNE 16th.**

# [Link to ACES Open Choice Application](#)



## 22-23 ACES Open Choice Applications

For suburban families who wish to apply for available seats in New Haven schools.



NOW AVAILABLE ON LINE!\*

<http://aceschoicelottery.org>

### What is Open Choice?

Open Choice is part of a law passed by the legislature of the State of Connecticut **to help reduce the racial, ethnic, and economic isolation** in Connecticut. It allows students from the suburbs to attend school in New Haven, where there are appropriate grade openings. ACES (Area Cooperative Educational Services) coordinates the Open Choice program in south central Connecticut, in collaboration with the CT State Dept. of Education. New Haven Public School openings for 22-23 are:

James Hillhouse High	Grade 9 & 10
Barack H. Obama University Magnet	Grade PK3, PK4 & K
Bishop Woods Architecture & Design Magnet	Grade K, 1 & 2
Brennan/Rogers: The Art of Communication & Media Magnet	Grade PK3, PK4, K & 1
Celentano Biotech Health & Medical Magnet	Grade PK3, PK4, K, 1 & 2
Christopher Columbus Family Academy	Grade K, 1 & 2
East Rock Community and Cultural Studies Magnet	Grade K, 1 & 2
Harry A. Conte/ West Hills: A School of Exploration & Innovation	Grade PK3, K, 1 & 2
John S. Martinez Sea and Sky STEM Magnet	Grade K
Lincoln-Bassett Community	Grade K, 1 & 2
Roberto Clemente Leadership Academy for Global Awareness Magnet	Grade K & 1



***\*Open Choice Applications are available on line at <http://aceschoicelottery.org> starting March 1, 2022. It must be submitted by 3:30 PM on 4/1/22.***

For more information please contact Lynn Bailey at (203) 498-6843 or by email at [lbailey@aces.org](mailto:lbailey@aces.org)