

Monday, November 1, 2021, Issue 10

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1 NO SCHOOL Professional Development	2 NO SCHOOL Professional Development	3A No Late Bus No After School Activities	4B	5A Marking Period 1 Ends
8B After-School Programs Board Game Club Cross Country NJHS Student Council Yearbook Club	9A After-School Programs Cross Country Jazz Band Mock Trial Rainbow Club Lyman Hall High School Presentation	10B After-School Programs Divide & Conquer Math Club	11A	12B
15A After-School Programs Annie Jr. Auditions Cross Country Student Council Boys Basketball Tryouts (2:44-4:44 p.m.)	16B After-School Programs Annie Jr. Auditions Cross Country Jazz Band Mock Trial Rainbow Club High School in the Community Presentation Girls Basketball Tryouts (2:44-4:44 p.m.) HMS Conferences (5:30-7:30 p.m.)	17A After-School Programs Annie Jr. Call Back Auditions Green & Gold Gazette Boys Basketball Tryouts (2:44-4:44 p.m.)	18B After-School Programs Girls Basketball Tryouts (2:44-4:44 p.m.)	19A After-School Programs Basketball Tryouts (Make Ups & 1st Day of Practice) (2:44-4:44 p.m.)

22B After-School Programs Cross Country Student Council Basketball Practice (2:44-4:44 p.m.)	23A After-School Programs Cross Country Jazz Band Mock Trial Basketball Practice (2:44-4:44 p.m.)	24 NO SCHOOL Professional Development	25 Thanksgiving Break	26 Thanksgiving Break
29B After-School Programs Student Council Basketball Practice (2:44-4:44 p.m.)	30A After-School Programs Cross Country Jazz Band Mock Trial Basketball Practice (2:44-4:44 p.m.)			

REMINDER: HMS MARKING PERIOD 1 ENDS FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 5th.

There are 3 days remaining in this marking period. Be sure to check the [Parent Portal](#) to check your child's progress! It is time to get any missing assignments turned into your teachers.

SAVE THE DATE: HMS Conferences will take place on Tuesday, November 16th

between 5:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m. Our first round of conferences will be virtual. Parents will sign up with a teacher, and the teacher will share his or her Zoom link. We do ask parents to only sign up for ONE conference with a member of the CORE TEAM. *(Note: English, math, science, and social studies teachers are the Core Team.)* Parents can also sign up to meet with several ENCORE TEACHERS during conferences, including teachers of art, music, health, physical education, STEM, world language, etc. We will share specific registration information in next week's newsletter on Monday, November 8th. Parents will have one week to register for conferences.



WINTER SPORTS REGISTRATION (LAST CHANCE!)

It is never too soon to think about basketball season. Families can begin to register their child at [FamilyID](#). Please know that only students who are medically cleared by the nurse and academically cleared by Mr. Mandel will be permitted to try out. We will review grades from the first marking period. Students who fail more than one class will not be eligible to participate. Keep those grades up, student athletes! Basketball tryouts will take place the week of Monday, November 15th. Student athletes will stay after school with coaches, and they must be picked up by a parent or guardian by 4:30 p.m. Questions? Please contact Mr. Mandel, HMS Athletic Coordinator, at rmandel@hamden.org or our Basketball Coaches.

Boys Basketball Coach
Aaron Hawkins
ahawkins@hamden.org

Girls Basketball Coach
Kim Mallard
kmallard@hamden.org



FACE MASKS

It is our responsibility to wear face masks at school. It is the best way to prevent the spread of COVID. It is possible adolescents can have COVID without symptoms, and then they may spread the illness to others. We need to do everything we can to remain safe and in school. As a result, our students must wear their face masks correctly every day while in school. We are noticing the following problems:

- Students are coming to school without a mask.
- Students do not have spare masks in their backpacks.
- Students are wearing ski masks instead of the approved face masks.
- Students are wearing their masks incorrectly, and they do not respond to adult redirection.
- Students are ripping masks off each other as a game.



Parents, we need your help. You must send your child to school with a couple of masks each day. Reinforce the school's expectations to wear the mask correctly throughout the day. The mask should completely cover the person's mouth and nose. Most importantly, students should respond to the request to correctly wear their mask, as needed. If a student continues to chronically wear their mask improperly, we will call home to ensure parents are aware of the concern. And, if the problem persists, we will contact parents to pick their children up from school. Please contact Michelle Coogan with any questions or concerns at mcoogan@hamden.org.

OH MY! Avoid these common mask mistakes!



PUNCTUALITY

The act of being on time is a life skill. Schedules help us to manage and organize our day, week, month, and year. At HMS, we have a bell schedule that guides our day. When the bell rings, it signals a transition. In addition, bells also mark the start of class. We allow three minutes of transition time for our students to pass from class to class. In most situations, three minutes is ample time. There may be a few instances when a child from House 5 has to travel to the music hallway, and it too can be done in three minutes. We promise!

The challenge for middle school students is managing the desire to socialize with the demand to be on time to class. Each day we help our students with verbal reminders. And, yet, some students continue to be late to class. It is the end of the first marking period. Students have received tremendous support in learning their schedules. Now, it is time for our students to demonstrate responsibility by getting to class on time.

Starting this week, we will introduce our students to “late sweeps.” When the bell rings, teachers will close their classroom doors and begin their lessons. Students who linger in the hallway will share their names with staff, parents will be called, and children will serve an office detention. If a student is having a chronic challenge getting to class on time, we will invite parents to come to school with the intention to meet and support their child. Without a doubt, we must work together to instill the importance of punctuality. Lessons learned in middle school will support students in high school, college and beyond.



DRAGON PRIDE CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS

There are behaviors that support student success at school. Teachers and students brainstormed a list of expectations for different areas in our community, such as our

classrooms. Our goal is to teach and model these expectations throughout the school year. We also strive to honor students who make positive choices with positive feedback and DRAGON PRIDE tickets.

This week, we invite all parents to review these expectations with your children. Set a goal for the month of November. For instance, “I want to share more during class discussions.” or “I want to participate in school spirit days!” Conversations at home empower children to be their best.

Email your child’s goal to Ms. Coogan at mcoogan@hamden.org. Everyone who responds to this Dragon’s Tale Challenge

by Friday, November 5th at 8:00 a.m. will be entered into a special raffle.

P Present & Prepared	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Report to class on time• Be prepared with all learning materials• Store your personal technology (cell phones & earbuds) in your locker
R Respect Everyone	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Raise your hand• Wait your turn to share• Listen to others• Clean up your area
I Insist on Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Follow adult direction• Wear your mask over your nose & mouth• Practice safe use of supplies• Keep your hands to yourself• Demonstrate control of your body
D Determined to be Your Best Self!	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Advocate for yourself & your community• Complete all assignments to the best of your ability• Use the appropriate level voice
E Engage in the Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Participate in all learning experiences• Get involved in clubs & activities• Practice kindness



MUSIC NEWS

Ms. Carmella Rossomando-Heise will join the HMS Faculty on Monday, November 22, 2021. Mr. Gunn and Ms. Rothbard are ready to welcome her into the music department. Ms. Rossomando will teach both Chorus and General Music to students in seventh and eighth grade. She is a well-respected teacher who loves all things musical. Her enthusiasm, dedication, and years of experience will ensure a smooth transition to HMS. Students will love getting to know their new teacher. Here are a few fun facts about Ms. Rossomando:

- Ms. Rossomando lives in Hamden, and she is an alum of Hamden High School.
- In college, she played the string bass at Carnegie Hall.
- Her beautiful daughters go to elementary school in town.
- She plays all instruments, and woodwind instruments are her specialty.
- She plays in a band in which she plays tenor sax, keyboards, and sings.

We are counting down the days until Ms. Rossomando gets here. 13...12...11...

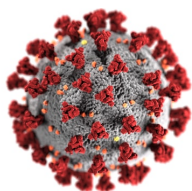


ANNIE JR. IS COMING TO THE HMS STAGE...

Our students' voices have been heard. The sun will come out tomorrow, and our student performers are invited to audition after school on **Monday, November 15th** and **Tuesday, November 16th**. It is important to pre-register for an audition by completing this [simple form](#). Jennifer Sciglibaglio will serve as the director, and she is eager to meet students. **Students should have a 60-second monologue or poem prepared to recite, as well as a favorite song to sing -- about 16 bars.** It is your chance to show off your talents! Stay tuned for more information in upcoming newsletters.

HMS GREEN & GOLD GAZETTE

Mr. Simone is working with a talented group of student writers this year. We are thrilled to share their first publication of the HMS Student Newspaper. Please take a moment to read the [October 2021 Issue of The Green and Gold Gazette](#).



COVID REMINDER

When you suspect your child has COVID symptoms, it is strongly encouraged that you communicate with the pediatrician and have your child tested. Then, it is important to keep your child home while waiting for the test results. We appreciate all of our parents who are following guidelines and communicating with the school nurses. Together, we are keeping kids healthy and in school!