

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Communication

One of the most frequent concerns I hear from parents is that, as a school, we don't communicate as well as we should. I do apologize for this and want to share some ways we are trying to improve our communication.

1. Facebook - we have started an HHMS Facebook page and are currently up to 154 followers. This is just another way we will attempt to get important HHMS info out to you. The Facebook link can be found at the bottom left of our school webpage. Our Facebook URL is <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Highland-Hills-Middle-School/234471569910537>
2. INOW home portal - our hope is that our home portal will be up and running very soon so that you may be able to monitor your child's academic progress via the internet. INOW will also allow us to gather your email address so that we can send out important upcoming information directly to your email mailbox.
3. School webpage - We have a new school webpage format and are still working out some bugs. We hope to make it the most user friendly page possible. You should be able to find teacher webpages, online textbook info, counseling info. etc. Our school webpage URL is <http://hhms.nafcs.k12.in.us/>

Please share with us ways in which we can improve our communication with you. Thanks so much for helping us make Highland Hills Middle School the **GREATEST MIDDLE SCHOOL ON THE PLANET!**

Steve Griffin, Principal

"Team Work Makes the Dream Work"

"TEACHER CLASSROOM NEEDS"

Ever wonder what you can do to help at HHMS or wonder how you can thank that special teacher? Well, here is one way....

The PTO has enhanced our website to include a section for

"Teacher Classroom Needs". There will be individual names on a list and reasonably priced items they need for their classrooms. This is a great way you can help our students and teachers! Please check this page periodically as needs will continually change. The website is HHMSPTO.NET

Thank you and I hope you will find this useful.

PTO BULLETIN BOARD

The PTO is trying to highlight our student body, school, faculty and staff and we need your help to make this successful. Would you please be our eyes and ears? Is your child involved in an organized activity, were they in the newspaper or have they done something special that we can highlight on a bulletin board? Well, we would like to share that. Please send the article, picture or any information to school (Attention PTO/BULLETIN BOARD) because we would love to post it!

Twenty-First Century Scholars

Indiana started the Twenty-First Century Scholars in 1990 to ensure that every student can afford a college education. Income eligible 7th and 8th graders who enroll in the program and fulfill a pledge of good citizenship are guaranteed the cost of four years of college tuition at any participating public college or university in Indiana.

As a Twenty-First Century Scholar, you can get help finding free tutoring, a mentor and part-time job, and once you get to college, students who are Twenty-First Century Scholars receive support to finish their college degrees.

BUT first you have to apply. Students and their parents must complete and return the application by June 30 of the 8th grade year. Don't wait. Apply today.

Contact your regional support site, your school counselor, or call 1-888-528-4719.

HHMS DIRECTORY COVER WINNERS

Thank you to all the students who submitted a cover for the school directory. First place was a joint effort by Anna Neafus and Erin Keenan. There was a tie for second place between Megan Johnson and Haley Smith. Third place goes to Lucas Willman. These four pictures will be printed on the inside and outside covers of the directory. We also want to thank our art teachers who took the time to review each cover and determine the winners. Our fantastic directory will be coming out soon!!!

Special Education Classroom Needs

The list below are items and activities that are needed for our special education classroom at HHMS. If you are interested in helping with these needs please email mhouse@nafcs.k12.in.us and let him know. Your help will be greatly appreciated.

We want to secure a Smart Board and projector for the room. Donations toward this purchase are appreciated.

We need more reading material for the students.

We will need to buy more items for our math manipulative set.

We need community members to come and read with the children on project days.

We will also need to send out grocery list from time to time to get supplies that we need.

Thank you all for your support!

BIG THANKS TO NAFC EDUCATION FOUNDATION

I would like to thank the NAFC Education Foundation for the generous grant I received this month to add a SmartPal Classroom kit to my 7th grade math classroom. I am hoping that having this tool will help motivate students to become more engaged in some of the math activities we do during our lessons. Having the financial support from this foundation and my community to meet the classroom needs of my students is greatly appreciated!

Dawn Boling, 7th Grade Math Teacher

HHMS

MUSIC NEWS

HIGHLAND RINGERS

October 30th--The Highland Ringers at the Southern Indiana American Guild of Organists' Pipes and Pumpkins program--6:00 St. John United Presbyterian Church, Elm & 13th Streets, New Albany.

Musical program and candy and other treats--suitable for all ages--the Ringers dress in costumes and play a few pieces; there are also organ and choral presentations. It's free and a lot of fun. Bring your children!

ORCHESTRA ROCKS 2011

Orchestra Rocks 2011! HHMS and FCHS Orchestras join forces Tuesday October 18, 7:30pm in the FCHS gym. Tickets are \$5, 12 and under are free. (Rehearsal for HHMS orchestra students for this concert is Tuesday October

11, 6-8pm in the FCHS orchestra room.)

BAND CONCERTS

Tuesday, October 4th @ 7:00 Intermediate and Concert Band Fall Concert.

Tuesday, October 25th @ 7:00 Beginning Band Fall Concert

Chess Club

Chess Club is on Tuesday's after school until 5:00 in Mrs. Milliner's room (A102). All students are welcome and it is not too late to join.

RED RIBBON WEEK

Student Council will be putting a can on drugs by sponsoring a can four drive on October 24-October 26. Please have your students bring in can food items. They can also bring in toiletries such as soap, toilet paper, tooth paste, tooth brushes, and shampoo. For every five items that they bring to school, they get a chance to win prizes. Also, please wear red on Wednesday for Red Ribbon Week.

ART DEPARTMENT

The Art Department is in need of a few items. If you are just tossing out any of these items, they could be used for art projects---PLEASE send them in.

Yarn, mirrors, costume jewelry, beads, and acrylic paint. Thank you all for your help!

THE JAGUAR DEN

Wow! This has been a very busy month for Food & Nutrition Services! This year we are offering 1 extra side (fruit or vegetable) included with your child's nutritious lunch all for the low price of \$2.15. We are proud to say that our students love their fresh fruits & vegies!

Your child has several options/combinations available to them for their school meals. Breakfast has three combo options they can choose from, all for \$1.50. Lunch has four combos for them to select from depending on how hungry they are--all lunch combo options are \$2.25.

Parents please include your student's lunch pin# and their full name on the memo line of your check as this will ensure that your check is processed promptly and placed on the correct student's account.

Also, when putting money on your child's account through www.mealpayplus.com, make sure you select the money to be applied to their Meal or General account. Meal Account money can be spent only for complete school meals, and General account money can be used to purchase school meals and other a la carte food items.

Thanks to all of you!