

Hereford Middle School

News and Notes

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September 2009

From the Principal's Desk

It continually amazes me at how quickly the summer flies by. Of course, the same can be said of the school year! In a blink of the eye, we will be making plans for next summer.

At the end of last school year, our students voted on new school colors and a new mascot. The nearly unanimous choice for the mascot was the bull, and the colors are maroon and gold. Clearly, the students liked being aligned with the high school. There is a strong sense of Hereford pride in our community.

As the school year begins, I would like to remind you that students MAY NOT be dropped off before 7:15 a.m. Before that time there is no adult supervision. We are also in great need of parent volunteers to help us with the student drop-off in the morning.



Catherine P. Walrod
Principal

If you are able to give about 30 minutes beginning at 7:15 a.m., please contact Ms. Brenda Thompson at bthompson4@bcps.org.

If you are picking up your student(s) in the afternoon, please wait until 2:15 p.m. as we have had some unsafe traffic situations in the past. After the buses have departed, students waiting for parent pick-up will be directed outside from the cafeteria and then vehicles may proceed around the drive for pick-up. Please be aware that there will be NO PARKING on Corbett Road in front of the school between 1:30-2:30 p.m. daily. The area is needed for bus parking. Also, please remember that for any student NOT RIDING a bus (parent pick-up, etc.) must have a note that has been approved by the administration. Students must drop off all requests for approval to the Front Office before homeroom. We encourage you to have your child(ren) ride the bus.

On the morning of Saturday, October 31st, the Hereford Zone schools are partnering with MSDE and St. John Properties for a 5K run. The proceeds will go to Kids Helping Hopkins. You can run the 5K or do a one-mile fun walk. There are numerous activities that will also occur that morning. Please save the date and more details will follow.

I look forward to another successful year at HMS.

Sincerely,

Catherine P. Walrod
Principal

IMPORTANT BUS INFORMATION

Hereford Middle School will again this year **NOT APPROVE** bus notes for students' to ride another bus other than their assigned one.

Also, please remember that any students **NOT RIDING** a bus (parent pick-up, etc.) must have a note that has been approved by the administration.

Students must drop off all requests for approval to the Front Office before homeroom.



YEARBOOK SIGNING PARTY FOR 6TH GRADE SPARKS ELEM. ALUMNI

Where: Sparks Elementary School

When: October 21, 2009

Time: 3:45 p.m.

Pick up your yearbook and enjoy some fun, food and drink. Bring a pen and see you there! Contact Chris Carpenter at 410-357-8214 with any questions.

VOLUNTEER TRAINING:

All parents who wish to volunteer in any capacity, including field trip chaperones, need to attend a volunteer training at HMS or a feeder elementary school. Volunteers must attend a training **EACH** school year. The 30-minute HMS training is scheduled before each Back-To-School Nights (September 9th & 16th) and is held in the library. **PLEASE BE PROMPT.** Contact Kellie Holloway at kholloway@bcps.org with any questions about the training or about volunteering at Hereford Middle.

Thank you to everyone who volunteers - you really make a difference!!

ART NEWS...

Clay Club. . . . We are very excited to be the recipients of a grant from the Museum of Ceramic Art again this year! This grant enables us to offer students the opportunity to participate in the after-school Clay Club. This year's club will meet on Wednesdays in room E-3 from 2:10 until 3:30 p.m. The introductory meeting will be held on September 30th. Interested students can obtain a permission form from one of the art teachers....Mrs. Peterson, Mrs. Pagani, Mrs. Aitken, or Mrs. Barr.

G/T Art Portfolios. . . . Students interested in applying for G/T art for next year will begin working on portfolio requirements in October. Some of the requirements will be completed as part of the art curriculum and other requirements will be completed at home. Art teachers will be distributing portfolio requirement information the first week of October. Completed portfolios will be due in April. Please contact Mrs. Peterson at kpeterson@bcps.org with any questions or concerns. We are very proud of our hard working G/T art students and the growth of our program in art!



MAGNET INFORMATION MEETINGS: Mark your calendars with these important dates!

The Office of Magnet Programs is holding three Magnet Information Meetings. On Tuesday, September 22, 2009, the meeting will be held at Randallstown High School. On Wednesday, September 23, 2009, the meeting will be held at Parkville High School. On Thursday, September 24, 2009 the meeting will be held at Patapsco High School & Center for the Arts. All meetings will be held in the school's auditorium from 6:00-7:30 p.m.

The Magnet Expo! Which showcases elementary, middle, and high school magnet programs will be held on Saturday, October 3, 2009, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Crowne Plaza in Timonium.

The deadline for magnet applications is Monday, November 30, 2009 and will be here before we know it. Come find out about magnet school programs in Baltimore County Public Schools.

For more information, please contact Mrs. Ann Aumann, 8th grade counselor, at aaumann@bcps.org or at 410-887-7905.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING THE NEWSLETTER

Beginning with the October issue, all Hereford Middle School newsletters will be posted on our school's website: herefordms.bcps.org. We are following the trend of other school newsletters in the county by going green. Making this change allows us to save costs and it reduces the amount of paper waste in our community.

If you do not have access to a computer and would like to request a paper copy of the newsletter, please complete the information shown below and return this entire letter to the main office as soon as possible. A paper copy of the newsletter will be distributed to your youngster through homeroom when it is published.

Thank you for your assistance in helping Hereford Middle School aid the environment and reduce costs. And thank you for your continued interest in your child's education.

_____ I would like to receive a paper copy of the HMS newsletter.

Student's Name: _____

Grade: _____ Homeroom Teacher: _____

Parent's Signature: _____

HEREFORD MIDDLE SCHOOL CALENDAR

September, 2009

- 7 Labor Day (*SCHOOLS/OFFICES CLOSED*)
- 9 Parent Volunteer Training, 5:00 p.m., library
Back-To-School Night, Grade 6, 6:00-8:00 p.m.
- 16 Parent Volunteer Training, 5:00 p.m., library
Back-To-School Night, Grades 7 & 8, 6:00-8:00 p.m.
- 21 School Pictures
- 28 Yom Kippur (*SCHOOLS/OFFICES CLOSED*)

October, 2009

- 2 Grade 6 Field Trip, Corn Maize
- 16 Professional Development Day/MSTA Convention
(*SCHOOLS CLOSED FOR STUDENTS*)
- 19-23 Red Ribbon Week
- 22 Grade 7 Field Trip, Renaissance Faire
- 26 Picture Make-ups
- 28 Baby Bull Run, 2:30-5:30 p.m., Phys. Ed. Department

November, 2009

- 5 First Marking Period ends
- 6 Assessment/Professional Development Day
(*SCHOOLS CLOSED FOR STUDENTS*)
- 16-20 American Education Week
- 19 Report Cards distributed
- 20 Grade 7 Career Day
- 23 Turkey Trot, 2:30-4:00 p.m., Phys. Ed. Department
- 26-27 Thanksgiving Holiday (*SCHOOLS/OFFICES CLOSED*)