

Hopkins Public Schools



Hopkins Middle School Newsletter

215 Clark Street
Hopkins, MI 49328
Ph: 269-793-7407
Fax: 888-557-7919

"Committed to Quality Education for our Children's Future"

Homecoming this year is



Friday, October 13

The parade will begin at 5:00 pm with the football game scheduled to start at 7:00 pm against Godfrey-Lee.

HOME COMING 2017

SPIRIT DAYS!!!

Monday: Crazy Sox Day

Tuesday: Twin Day

Wednesday: 80's Day

Thursday: Character Day

Friday: Viking Spirit Day!

Picture Retake Day
will be
Tuesday, October 17th

Parent/Teacher Conferences

7th & 8th Grade (and all electives)

Wednesday, October 18th

4:00-8:00 pm

in the MS Gym

6th Grade (core only)

Thursday, October 12th

4:00 to 8:00 pm

in the MS Gym



HOME COMING DANCE

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2017

3:00-5:00

HMS CAFETERIA- \$5.00

CD'S PIZZA- \$1.50

CANDY- \$1.00

WATER- \$.50

POP- \$.50





FFA HOMECOMING HOG ROAST
Friday Oct. 13, 2017 from 4 to 7 p.m.
Fire Station/Hopkins Downtown Park

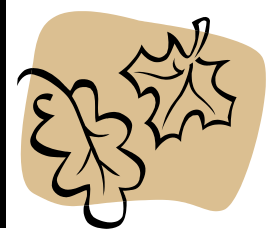
Pork
Potatoes
Applesauce
Cole Slaw
Dessert
Beverages

Adults - \$8.00
Kids 4-12 - \$4.00

Rain or Shine!
Take out available.
Inside seating provided.



We no longer collect ink cartridges to recycle.



After school media center hours:
 Students not participating in a club or sport are welcome to stay after school in our Media Center to get help with work until 3:30 pm.



Our next PARTNERS meeting will be held Tuesday, October 3rd!

Boxtops

Turn your boxtops in to the office during the month of October bundled in groups of 50 (if possible) **and marked with your student's name.** Boxtops may be use to **purchase your student's 2017-18 yearbook.** If you collect 220 or more your yearbook could be paid in full!

Dick's Food Market CONTEST NOTICE!!!

We would like to encourage family and friends to shop at **Dick's Market** during the week of October 9-15 and to deposit all sales slips in the box designated for Hopkins Middle School.

The winning school will receive a bonus 10,000 points towards the final purchase of school equipment.

There will be another contest later in February so please continue to save all of your receipts!



HOPKINS FFA NIGHT at



Monday, October 16 5:00 - 8:00 pm

Culver's in Otsego

1369 Allegan St., Otsego



Join us for supper on October 16 at the Culver's in Otsego. Hopkins FFA members will be serving guests between 5:00 - 8:00 pm. Culver's will donate a portion of the sales during this time to the Hopkins FFA chapter. We'll see you there! Come hungry!

Proceeds from this event will be used to help cover the cost for Hopkins FFA members to attend the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis in October. Thank you for your support!



NEWSLETTER NOTICE

If you would like to have a paper copy of the Middle School Newsletter sent home with your student, please print and sign the last page of this newsletter and return it to the Middle School Office.


Newsletters go out every two weeks. The next newsletter will go out on Friday, October 20.

HOPKINS CAREER FAIR

All 8th & 11th grade students will be participating in the annual Hopkins Career Fair on Thursday, November 2nd.

The event begins with a keynote speaker, followed by five 30 minute sessions in classrooms throughout both MS and HS buildings.

Boys 7th & 8th Grade
Basketball Tryouts

October 23rd 

7th Grade: 3-4:30 pm
8th Grade: 4:30-6:00pm

Sign up in the
Middle School office
now!!!





The 7th grade class will be attending an academic field trip on October 18th. Students will be reading a couple of the plays in advance and will have work to complete after viewing the plays. Students will be stopping at Burger King and McDonald's for lunch after the show. If students wish to purchase lunch they will need to make sure to have money with them. Students may pack a sack lunch, especially if they have food related issues.

Thank you in advance to all of the parents that signed up to chaperone. Information will be sent home with your child the week before the trip. We look forward to spending a day with you and your children at the theater!



SIXTH GRADE CAMP

Sixth grade students at Hopkins Middle School have a unique opportunity to participate in the residential Sixth Grade Adventure Camp program at the Outdoor Education Center October 18-20, 2017. The camp is located in Dowling, Michigan on M-37 between Hastings and Battle Creek. During their three-day stay at camp, the students participate in a series of activities that expose them to reasonable stress and challenge. They are placed in situations requiring that they communicate with each other and work together to bring about a positive and successful experience. These activities include the high ropes course or climbing tower, teams course, and Sherwood Forest activities. In addition, the program includes outdoor skill activities, such as fire building, campfire cooking, canoeing, orienteering, and survival skills. The students may also participate in selected environmental study activities, which allow them to understand and appreciate mankind's ultimate dependence upon his natural environment. The three days of being together in a camp setting offers children the opportunity to live democratically with other children and adults as they study, work, and live together.

**SIXTH GRADE CAMP
OCTOBER 18-20, 2017
COST: \$178.00**





Theatre Tech Training Day



Who's Invited?: ANYONE in **Grades 8th - 12th** (and it's FREE!)

YES you CAN/SHOULD attend this training day even if you have already done some tech training in the past--Gain MORE experience and become a team leader this year.

What is This?: Free training for students on the basics of Audio, Lighting, and Back Stage work. Students that attend and complete **this day of training** will qualify to participate in all Hopkins Music Concerts and Musical Tech Team activities for the 2017-2018 season.

When is It?: **October 25th from 3:00-6:30pm**

(FREE Pizza and Pop will be provided)

Where is It?: **Hopkins M.S. Cafetorium & Stage**

More Details: Are you interested in being part of what goes on behind the scenes? Do you like to work with your mind as well as your hands? Do you want to receive training in a high demand field that may help you get a job/internship someday later in life? Then come to the Hopkins Theatre Tech Training Day in October. You will learn the basics of Stage Lighting, Sound/Audio, and become part of a highly trusted and skilled team. This will be a great opportunity for YOU to get experience in the field of Stage Tech and have fun at the same time. Obtain those highly coveted "Techie" skills--come attend **this day**.

Questions, or need further details, contact:

Mr. Jacob Oaster
Director of Vocal Music—Hopkins M.S./H.S.
Phone #: (269) 793-7407 (x3109)
Email: JacoOast@hpsvikings.org



Fall 2017 Spaghetti Dinner

Presented by the Hopkins Vocal Music Boosters



Thursday, NOVEMBER 9th

From: 4:45-7:00pm

(M.S. and H.S. Art Shows starting at 4pm, Choir Concerts to follow beginning at 6pm)

Location: *Hopkins High School Cafeteria*

*333 Clark Street
Hopkins, MI 49328
(269) 793-7407 (x. 3109)*



Tickets: *\$6 per person*
**Group Special – 4 Dinners for \$20*

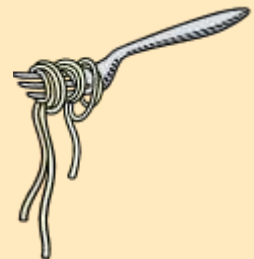
**Carryout Dinners Available*

Purchase Tickets:

- At the door, the evening of the dinner*
- Through any Hopkins High School Vocal Music Student*
- At the Hopkins Middle School or High School Offices*
- At M.S. or H.S. P/T Conferences—Oct. 18th*

Menu:

- Salad & Breadsticks (provided by Olive Garden)*
- Spaghetti -- meat & meatless sauces*
- Desserts*
- Beverages*



The proceeds from this event will provide financial assistance to choir students for the 2018 New York Trip, as well as provide senior choir students with scholarships.

Middle Years

Working Together for School Success



Short Stops

In the loop

You can stay involved in your tween's education from inside your own home. How? Make what's happening at school a regular topic of conversation. Visit the school website often, and check emails from teachers and the school district. Bring up subjects mentioned, such as school assemblies, or comment on photos that are posted.

DID YOU KNOW?

Having good posture in class will help your middle schooler concentrate. Plus, it puts less strain on his back and lets him breathe better—increasing blood flow to his brain. He could practice while doing homework. Encourage him to sit up straight with his back touching the chair and his knees bent at a right angle.

Fun historical facts

Want to spark your middle grader's interest in history? She could look in library books or online to find unusual stories about the people she studies. *Example:* Before the Civil War, Harriet Tubman once escaped capture by pretending to chase a flock of chickens.

Worth quoting

"Reach high, for stars lie hidden in your soul." *Pamela Vaull Starr*

Just for fun

Q: "The more of me you make, the more of me you leave behind. What am I?"

A: Footprints.



Tween push-and-pull

Your middle grader lets you into her world one minute, then seems to put up a "Keep Out" sign the next. She needs you—but at the same time, she's pushing away to figure out who she is and to become more independent. Try these ideas for handling classic "now I need you, now I don't" tween behavior.

Challenge: Your child no longer tells you all about her life.

Solution: Instead of pressing her for information, wait until she's in the mood to chat. If she opens up as you're heading to bed, consider staying up longer. Then, listen closely instead of immediately offering your opinion or ways to fix problems.

Challenge: Your tween spends more time with friends and less time with family.

Solution: It's normal for her to want to be with friends. To encourage family time, look for opportunities that appeal to her. Maybe you'll have breakfast together on weekdays or let her do your nails after she does hers.



Challenge: Your middle grader is embarrassed by whatever you do.

Solution: At this age, children want to fit in and are sensitive to what their peers think. Try not to take it personally, and remember that she'll outgrow it. In the meantime, notice what embarrasses your tween, and work around it if possible. For instance, if she doesn't like you hugging her good-bye in front of others, you might say "Love you" and walk away. 🤝

Musical learning

Most tweens love listening to music! Use your child's interest to boost his learning.

1. Be a critic. Suggest that he write reviews of favorite songs. He could bring songs to life with similes, or figures of speech that compare two things in an interesting way. *Example:* "The upbeat tempo is as thrilling as a roller coaster ride."

2. Think like a songwriter. Picking out the main message in the lyrics—the theme—will give your middle grader practice with a key reading skill. What message does the songwriter want to share? Invite your tween to search for songs with similar themes.

3. Find the math. Ask your child to choose a popular song. Can he detect a pattern in the lyrics (verse, chorus, verse) or the rhythm (say, the drumbeat)? How many times does the pattern repeat? 🤝



Stellar study techniques

Regularly reviewing textbooks and class notes helps information sink in and prepares your tween for tests without last-minute stress. Here are interesting ways he can study.

Poster perfect

Suggest that your middle grader summarize a chapter's most important points on poster board or construction paper. Perhaps he'll model the lunar cycle for science or outline events in the Peloponnesian War for social studies.



Then, he could add graphics to illustrate the information. Using both words and drawings is a great way to cement information in his brain. *Tip:* He might hang finished posters on a wall for easy review.

Game show

Have your child and his study buddies write review questions on separate slips of paper and put them in a bowl. A "host" can draw and ask questions. Players "buzz in" to answer

by tapping the table. If the first person answers correctly, he earns a point. If not, the other players buzz in again. (Note: The host should consult the textbook or study guide to check answers.) Give everyone a turn as host, using a new set of questions each round.

Parent to Parent

Financial sense

My 13-year-old, Alice, complained that she wanted the same clothes her friends have. But they're too expensive, and I wanted her to understand how we make financial decisions.

I had Alice draw a circle and told her to imagine it was a pizza. Then, I asked her to divide it into slices to represent our budget. I explained that about $\frac{1}{3}$ of our money goes to rent and almost $\frac{1}{2}$ is for car expenses.

After Alice finished dividing up the pizza, she was surprised by how little was left for clothing. She realized that to spend more on clothes, she'd have to take something from another slice—and there really wasn't anyplace to do that.

Alice still wishes she could buy more clothes, but now she understands the reason. I hope this lesson helps when she has to manage her own money "pizza" someday.



Living in a diverse world

In school, in college, or on the job, your child will meet and work with people of various backgrounds and abilities. Share these strategies for embracing diversity:

- Point out that cultural differences make life more interesting. A classmate from another heritage might invite her to participate in a tradition with her family or introduce her to foods that taste and smell different. Then, have your tween do the same to share her background.
- Encourage your middle grader to connect with classmates who speak other languages. She can ask them to teach her words and phrases and then try using them in conversation.
- Let your tween know you expect her to show respect toward everyone. She could sit down to chat with a student in a wheelchair (rather than towering over the person). Also, she should smile and say hello when walking by people with disabilities—the same way she would with anyone else—rather than ignoring them.



Q & A Sticking with it

Q My son gets frustrated when schoolwork isn't easy for him. How could I motivate him to keep trying?

A It's important for your son to believe he can succeed when something is difficult.

First, have him think of a situation where he struggled and then made progress. Maybe he became a better Little League pitcher from one season to the next. Ask him what steps he took to accomplish that.

He might recall that a coach gave him feedback on his stance and that he practiced hard until he improved.

In the same way, he can overcome obstacles with schoolwork. To understand a tough science concept, he might ask his teacher for extra help and look up fun related experiments to try at home.

Finally, suggest phrases he could say to himself to stay motivated, such as, "I'll get this if I keep at it."



OUR PURPOSE

To provide busy parents with practical ideas that promote school success, parent involvement, and more effective parenting.

Resources for Educators,
a division of GCH Incorporated
128 N. Royal Avenue • Front Royal, VA 22630
800-394-3052 • rfcustomer@wchterskhowe.com
www.rfeonline.com
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HMS Contact Information

ADMINISTRATION:

Scott Stockwell, *Principal*
Pat O'Dell, *Dean of Students*
Todd Crook, *Counselor*
Molly Khang, *Counselor*
Jennifer Hitchcock, *Secretary*

STAFF:

Aleman, Kathleen
Barry, Joseph
Byville, Suzanne
Caulder, Stephanie
Dana, Katie
Dykstra, Krystal
Fisher, Mark
Francis, Cody
Haverdink, Melissa
Hazen, Rick
Irwin, Julie
Johnson, Chris
Johnston, Jennifer
Kerber, Brian
Klumpp, Molly
Marckini, Katelyn
Oaster, Jacob
Postma, Carrie
Quist, Carrie
Reszka, Richard
Rynsburger, T.J.
Schoonveld, Missy
Scudder, Mack
Smith, Julie
Smith, Lesa
Stein, Karen
VerMerris, Steve
Weible, Alexis
Weick, Pat
Williams, Jessica

EXT:

3509
3507
3508
3512
3500

EXT:

3002
3001
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3105
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IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Oct 3rd	PARTNERS Meeting
Oct 12th	Sixth Grade Parent Teacher Conferences
Oct 13th	HOMECOMING
Oct 17th	Picture Retake Day
Oct 18th	7th and 8th Grade Parent Teacher Conferences
Oct 18-20	6th Grade Camp
Oct 31st	1/2 day of school for all students



ATTENDANCE

Please call the Middle School office at (269) 793-7407 within 24 hours of your students absence. You may leave a message on our voicemail system day or night. When reporting illness, please inform the secretary of the type of symptoms your child is experiencing (*fever, sore throat, ect.*). If your child is absent 2 days or more, you may request homework. If your student is absent only 1 day, homework may be picked up from their teachers the following day. You may also email absences to jennhitc@hpsvikings.org.

PHONE CALLS

Telephones in the office are to be used for **illness and emergencies only**. Thank you for your cooperation.

IMMUNIZATIONS

Please report all immunizations that your child has had so we are able to keep our school records up to date. All new students and all 6th graders must be completely up to date on all immunizations. Contact the HMS office if you have any questions.

MEDICATION

ALL medications needing to be dispensed to students must be supplied from home. The school does not provide any type of medication. All prescription medication must be provided in a pharmacy labeled bottle. Tylenol/Aspirin must be brought to the office in an unopened bottle. All students requiring any type of medication must have a medication form completed by their parents and on file in the office.

CHANGES in Phone Numbers, Home Address & E-Mail

Please inform the office any time there are changes in your address or phone numbers. We need to have this information so we can update our records and successfully contact you if needed.



Newsletters are emailed home every two weeks as well as posted on our school website and MS Facebook page.



Newsletter

I wish to have a paper copy of the Middle School newsletter sent home with my child.

Student's Name _____
(please print)

Grade _____

Parent Signature _____