

Parent Update
Week ending January 15

Good morning! Next Friday marks the end of the first semester. It's hard to believe that we are almost done with half of the school year. For those of you who are long term planners our anticipated end date is June 10th.

Semester 1 ending and start of Semester 2:

With the end of semester approaching I would encourage you to ensure that students turn in any late assignments or finish any assessments where they did not earn proficiency (3.0). We are looking to send home semester report cards on February 1st.

High School:

With the start of a new semester students are enrolled in a semester class will have some new electives to choose from for the second half of the year:

- E-Sports
- PE Tournament Play
- Critical Conversations
- Finding Your Ancestors
- PE Outdoor Adventure

Existing electives for second semester include:

- Printmaking
- PE Fitness
- Chorus
- Band
- * Metalsmithing
- * Metalsmithing
- * Advanced Photography
- * Sculpture

For juniors and seniors there may be dual enrollment (college) courses available. We have a number of students taking courses through UMA. A number of courses through the community college are also available.

Athletics:

Winter sports have officially started. The Varsity girls travelled to Mt. Abram last week, it's season opener, and trounced Mt. A by 50 points. Great way to start the season. The Boys varsity opens up next week against Class B, and local rival, Gardiner. The middle school opens up its schedule the week after, beginning on January 25th. We have, again, partnered with Munzing Media to broadcast our home basketball games. This includes V, JV, and MS games. A big thank you to Coach Ranslow for spearheading the effort so that parents and other spectators are able to enjoy watching HS & MS sports from the comfort of their homes. Rob Kennedy, as in the fall, will be the voice of the Bulldog varsity and junior varsity games. As I was Rob's partner in the booth this fall I will be announcing the middle school games. For away games we will try to publicize if the home town has a FB live broadcast or other means to broadcast.

Monday January 18

5:00 JV Girls @ GAHS / 6:30 V Girls @ GAHS (Munzing media broadcast)

Tuesday January 19

5:00 JV Boys v GAHS / 6:30 V Boys v GAHS (Munzing media broadcast)

Thursday January 21

5:15 JV Girls v Mt. Ararat / 7:00 V Girls v. Mt. Ararat (Munzing media broadcast)

5:15 JV Boys @ Mt. Ararat / 7:00 V Boys @ Mt. Ararat

COVID Reminders;

A few reminders, especially since HDES is experiencing and outbreak of COVID:

- If your student is experiencing any symptoms please keep them home and contact Nurse Hammonds.
- If your student is a close contact please keep them isolated from others. If they have a sibling please make sure that they are separated from one another. Many of us, including Coach Ranslow and I, have been holding our kids as secondary contacts to a live in close contact home from school. We encourage this mode of thought as a precautionary measure to keep our facility running.
- When your student is supposed to be attending in person but stays home to access remote learning please let the main office know. We have attendance codes that need to be entered.
- Bus routes may need to be altered and times adjusted as we combine bus routes due to drivers being deemed close contacts.

Capital Campaign:

Our capital campaign will help support us by:

- Paying the costs of the stadium lights installation in the spring.
- Resurfacing our track facility
- Livestreaming athletic events
- As you consider a tax write off please consider Hall-Dale! Donations may be made out to Hall-Dale High School and in the memo please write "capital campaign".
 - For large donations (personal or company) our capital campaign committee is determining a way to recognize the donor at the stadium complex.

No School Monday - Recognition of Martin Luther King Jr.

2021 will mark the 53rd year when Martin Luther King Jr. was assassinated in Memphis, Tennessee in 1968. President Ronald Reagan, in 1983, signed into law a day to recognize the famed Civil Rights leader. MLK Jr. Day is a day to remember his legacy by going out and performing a community service project to unite and create a greater bond. It is also a time to recognize healing whether it be supporting food banks and soup kitchens to end hunger, suicide awareness, tutoring, and supporting organizations who help the elderly, bring awareness to mental illness, and those that combat various illnesses.

Other reminders:

Wednesdays are SCHOOL DAYS:

Please keep in mind that we do have school from 7:45 until 11:15 on Wednesdays. Some teachers also hold intervention sessions in the afternoon. Our attendance on Wednesday's is

very different from the rest of the week. In the event that your student has mentioned that Wednesdays are optional - they ARE NOT.

Late Buses:

Due to the lack of students using the late bus we will suspend late busses until further notice.

Dress for the season:

The temperatures will drop next week and return to “normal” January temps. We will see highs in the low 20’s and the teens. Please make sure your middle schooler has gloves, a hat, and other warm winter attire. As students wait to get into the building or wait for their ride to arrive at the end of the day many are dressed like it’s spring. As a middle school parent I know I get pushback because it ruins their fashion sense; however, I figure I’d mention it.

As always, thank you for patience and support during this very interesting school year!

Mark