



# News From The Middle

## *Back to School Addition*

August 11, 2021

### UPCOMING EVENTS...

- Tuesday, August 17th
  - 6th Grade WEB event/Welcome to North 9:00-11:00 am (6th grade students only, no parents)
  - Orientation - All grades 12:00 - 8:00 pm
  
- Thursday, August 19th
  - First Day of School
  
- Friday, August 20th
  - Back to School Event 5:00-7:00 pm
  
- Sunday, August 22nd
  - Athletic Meeting @ NMS PAC 6:30 pm (those interested in Cross Country, Football, and Volleyball)
  
- Monday, August 23rd
  - Practice Starts: Cross Country, Football, and Volleyball

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### From the Principal:

Students, Parents, & Guardians:

We hope you are enjoying summer break! We are excited to welcome you and your learners back to North Middle School for the 2021-2022 school year. We have been looking forward to seeing everybody in the hallways this fall. Although you will see a few changes to make our school as safe as we can, we remain committed to developing strong relationships and student growth.

In the following document, you will find an update on a few of the changes your learner will see at North, as well as information about our Back-to-School Conferences on August 17th from 12-8. If you have any questions, please feel free to email or call anybody on the office staff.

Micah Fesler Principal <a href="mailto:micah.fesler@k12.sd.us">micah.fesler@k12.sd.us</a>	Amanda Olinger Assistant Principal <a href="mailto:amanda.olinger@k12.sd.us">amanda.olinger@k12.sd.us</a>	Krista Groeneweg School Counselor <a href="mailto:krista.groeneweg@k12.sd.us">krista.groeneweg@k12.sd.us</a>	Allison Weideman School Counselor <a href="mailto:allison.weideman@k12.sd.us">allison.weideman@k12.sd.us</a>
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### **Back-to-School Conferences - August 17th, 12:00-8:00**

Our orientation conferences will follow a similar format to last year. Your learner's advisory teacher will send an email on Wednesday that will include a link to sign-up for a 15-minute time slot to meet their teacher. You will be able to get their schedule and locker information, take school pictures, sign up for bus transportation, and take care of paperwork and the Device Usage Fee with Damage Protection.

**We ask that only the student and parents attend their conference to limit crowding. Please refer to the included building map to identify teacher locations.**

### **Conference Day TO-DO List**

To make the most of your conference experience, **everyone** will need to complete the following items before you leave:

- **Welcome Packet** - Insurance forms, class dues, donation requests, t-shirt order forms, Best Buddies, and a variety of informational sheets (receive during learner's advisory conference)
- **iPad Agreement & Fee** - Two things will need to be completed before your son/daughter receives their iPad. *Beat the rush on conference night by completing these things online today!* (located in the Commons)
  - Required Forms: [Acceptable Use Policy/Parent-Learner Agreement](#)
  - Device Usage Fee with Damage Protection - login to [MySchoolBucks](#) ->Click on North MS Student Fee ->North MS iPad Fee. Contact [Julie.Alton@k12.sd.us](mailto:Julie.Alton@k12.sd.us) if a financial hardship exists.
- **School Pictures** - **Parents please wait outside the gym to avoid overcrowding.** Order your school pictures in advance by visiting

[www.schoolphotosbymark.com](http://www.schoolphotosbymark.com) prior to orientation day. Please contact our school counselors if a financial hardship exists. (located in the gym).

- **School Name:** Harrisburg North Middle School
- **Picture Day Date:** Tuesday, August 17th
- **How to order:**
  - **Online > [www.schoolphotosbymark.com](http://www.schoolphotosbymark.com) > click “order here” > choose the “click here to order” > enter “HASD” for the event name, click “search” > click on Harrisburg School District > North Middle School > enter your email address and click “login” > choose photo packages > when finished, click on “shopping cart” icon and enter your students’ information as well as your own.**
- **Picture Retakes:** Tuesday, October 5th (7:00 am-12:00pm)
  
- **Advisory Conference:** During your reserved time, have a brief conference with your learner’s advisory teacher. Here you will learn more about the teacher team and receive schedules, welcome packets, and locker information. *You can expect to receive an email from the teacher with a link to sign up for times early next week. ([This map lists where you can find each teacher](#)).*
  
- **Locker Check:** Swing by your learner’s locker and have them practice their combination. *This year, we are asking everyone to refrain from decorating lockers or placing unnecessary shelves/baskets. **Backpacks will be allowed this year to reduce locker visits.*** Learners will be asked to visit their lockers only three times per day (in the morning, before and after gym to get appropriate shoes, and at the end of the day).
  
- **School Supplies:** [Click on this link and select your learner’s list.](#) *Please drop off Clorox Wipes and Kleenex with your advisory teacher.* While you are at your locker, drop off any other extra supplies.
  
- **Cell phones:** Remind your learner that cell phones are not allowed in the classroom throughout the day. They should be silenced and placed in the locker as soon as they arrive at school and remain there until the end of the day.
  
- **Bus Transportation:** Meet the drivers, sign up, and get Information about your learner’s bus route. (located in the gym) [Roger.Timmerman@k12.sd.us](mailto:Roger.Timmerman@k12.sd.us)
  
- **School Lunches:** Information about how to pay for lunches and access Free/Reduced Application online. (located in the Commons)

- **Student Council:** Stop by our student council table to order a class t-shirt!
- **PAWS:** Stop by our Parent Group's table in the Vortex for information on opportunities coming up for students to participate and families to donate/volunteer.

**Teachers will not be able to accept cash or checks for student dues or donations on the 17th. Please send those with your learner on the first day of school.**

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### **From the Office:**

#### **School Pictures**

We are excited to announce that we are using School Photography by Mark this year! They have three different ways for you to order pictures; online, paper form or scan a QR code day of orientation.

#### **How To Order Picture Day Photos Online...**

1. Go to [www.schoolphotosbymark.com](http://www.schoolphotosbymark.com)
2. Click on "Order Here"
3. Choose the "Click here to order"
4. Enter "HASD for the event name, click "search"
5. Click on your school district
6. Click on your students school
7. Enter your email address and click "login". All orders are tracked with the email address you enter.
8. You should now see a page with our photo packages. Choose from any of our packages and/or order ala-carte items.
9. Once you are done shopping, click on the "shopping cart" icon. You will be prompted for your students' information as well as yours. That is it!

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### **From the Tech Office:**

#### **Parents:**

**Download the Canvas App:** Please download the Canvas Parent app before coming to orientation conferences. Simply download the app on your personal device--and that is all you need to do!!

You will get your **student pairing code at your learner's conference**, and you can set up your account from there!

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### **From PAWS:**

Parents/Guardians:

PAWS is excited to start a new school year! We have many fun opportunities coming up for students to participate and families to donate/volunteer.

- PAWS is offering you the opportunity to advertise through our school, directly reaching over 800 students, over 100 staff members and their families! Besides other accolades, your name/logo will be printed on over 900 Harrisburg Shirts worn during homecoming, the North Color Run and more, reaching much farther than the school. Please consider being one of our amazing sponsors!
  - Please contact Stacy Haber at [shh\\_blue@yahoo.com](mailto:shh_blue@yahoo.com) or text 359-3166 for more information.
  
- Our first donation opportunity will happen in 1 week...Yes, before school even begins!! Please take a look at the attached sign up genius and sign up to donate an item(s) toward our Staff Welcome Back Meal on August 17. We ask that all donations are brought to North MS by Monday, August 16.
  - <https://m.signupgenius.com/#!/showSignUp/20F0F4FADAA2AA6F85-staff>

If you have any questions feel free to email us!

Thanks So Much!

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### **From the Counselors:**

Hello Families of HNMS:

Welcome to HNMS and our 2021/2022 school year. We know this is going to be an amazing year. Mrs. Weideman and Mrs. Groeneweg are the School Counselors at HNMS and we are so looking forward to meeting all of you.

Allison Weideman is the School Counselor for our TL learners.

([Allison.Weideman@k12.sd.us](mailto:Allison.Weideman@k12.sd.us))

Krista Groeneweg is the School Counselor for our PL/Advanced learners

([Krista.Groeneweg@k12.sd.us](mailto:Krista.Groeneweg@k12.sd.us))

Please contact us with any questions!

- Parent Connection Form- complete this form to provide the HNMS counseling team with helpful information about your learner.
  - <https://forms.gle/MSnNR6wVT5Qm4GDh9>

## Parent Connection 2021/2022

Use this form to help the school counseling team best support your learner.

forms.gle

- We hope to see everyone at our Back-to-School Event on **Friday August 20<sup>th</sup>, from 5-7 p.m.** This is for 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade. Cost will be \$5.00 at the gate and there will be an additional charge for the concessions. There will be inflatables, yard games, dodgeball, dunk tank, and concessions. This event will be out back on the football field. (If there is bad weather, we will move the event inside)
- WEB (Where Everybody Belongs) All 6<sup>th</sup> graders are invited to attend our HNMS Welcome WEB event on August 17<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 a.m. -11:00 a.m. The doors will open to the HNMS commons area at 8:45 a.m. This event is only for 6<sup>th</sup> graders. We look forward to meeting all of you! Mrs. Groeneweg, [Krista.Groeneweg@k12.sd.us](mailto:Krista.Groeneweg@k12.sd.us)
- Best Buddies at HNMS is a friendship club designed to create more inclusion and interaction between students with developmental and intellectual disabilities and those without disabilities. We get together once a month and your child may be matched in a one-to-one friendship. We'd love to have your student be involved and the best part is no special talent required... just a willingness to be part of something and to include others!
  - Click on the link to print an application: (If you were a member last year, you will need to register again for this school year.) Contact Mrs. Weideman with questions: [allison.weideman@k12.sd.us](mailto:allison.weideman@k12.sd.us)
  - <https://www.bestbuddies.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/BBI-MS-Membership-Application-2020-21..pdf>

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### **From the Teachers:**

Current 7th and 8th grade students and parents:

Washington, D.C. and New York City Trip: June 26 - 30, 2022

There will be a flyer in your child's advisory classroom during orientation on August 17 about the Informational Meeting for the trip as well as a table set up in the vortex. Anyone is welcome to attend including participants who have already registered. Email Ms. Huffman with questions: [tamra.huffman@k12.sd.us](mailto:tamra.huffman@k12.sd.us)

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### **From the Teachers:**

Calling all parents who are tired of their kids' Pokémon cards just laying around the house! Mrs. Martin is on the lookout for any and all collections (of all sizes, anything helps) that are no longer being played with at home. Please let her know if you have any to donate, [Kathleen.Martin@k12.sd.us](mailto:Kathleen.Martin@k12.sd.us), drop off at the school, or send to school with your child next week!

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### **From the Athletic Department:**

**For Parents and Athletes entering Grades 7-12 as well as those entering Grade 6 who plan to participate in Cross Country or Wrestling:**

The ***South Dakota High School Activities Association (SDHSAA) and the Harrisburg School District*** require certification as to the adequacy of a student's health for athletic participation.

- This certification shall be restricted to a duly licensed Doctor of Medicine, Doctor of Osteopathy, Doctor of Chiropractic, licensed physician's assistant, or licensed nurse practitioner.
- All exams must be signed by authorized medical personnel as listed above.
- Stamping the name of a medical clinic or a medical association as a substitute for the Doctor's signature is unacceptable.
- **Physicals taken in the spring for the ensuing school term shall be taken after April 1.**
  - For example, a physical taken on or after April 1, 2021, is valid for the 2020-22 school year.
  - A physical taken on March 1, 2021, expires on July 1, 2021, and is **NOT** valid for the 2021-22 school year.

To meet the requirements of the SDHSAA and the District, please follow the steps below. **Once all steps are complete you are cleared to participate. Again, this process MUST be completed, and forms MUST be submitted to the HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES OFFICE prior to the first day of your sport's season.**

[SEASON START DATES AND MEETING DATES](#)

***Please complete these steps prior to the first day of practice to be cleared to participate in your activity!***

**Step 1: Athletes** fill out the [Pre-participation Physical Evaluation HISTORY FORM](#). Take the **HISTORY FORM** and the **SDHSAA PHYSICAL EXAMINATION FORM** to an authorized medical provider (listed above) for a physical exam.

**Step 2: Athletes and Parents** fill out the [Parental and Student Medical Consent and Concussion Awareness Forms](#) required by the SDHSAA and the District.

**Step 3:** Once you have you have completed **Steps 1 & 2**, you may submit the forms in one of two ways:

- Turn in ALL forms to the Harrisburg High School Office. **(DO NOT turn forms into any Middle School or Elementary School Office!)**
- E-mail an electronic copy of ALL forms to Cassidy Ayotte ([cassidy.ayotte@k12.sd.us](mailto:cassidy.ayotte@k12.sd.us)).

**INCOMPLETE MATERIAL WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED, PLEASE MAKE SURE THE ENTIRE PACKET IS COMPLETE.**

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### **From FCA:**

We will be starting up with the Fellowship of Christian Athletes again this fall!  
EVERYONE IS WELCOME --- NOT JUST ATHLETES!

Details on the meeting will come at the end of the month. If you are interested in helping support our FCA group in any way, please email [Kellie.Steinmetz@k12.sd.us](mailto:Kellie.Steinmetz@k12.sd.us). We meet Friday AM's at 7:30 in the Multipurpose room. Please sign up on our remind app to get all announcements and details for the group following directions on the image below. Any questions, please contact Mrs. Budig ([Amanda.Budig@k12.sd.us](mailto:Amanda.Budig@k12.sd.us)) or Mrs. Steinmetz.

Looking forward to a great year! Thanks!

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Visit our webpage! <http://northmiddleschool.harrisburgdistrict41-2.org/>  
Twitter: Check us out at @H\_M\_S and #HNMS Pride!