

Hacker Middle School September Newsletter

We've started to settle into the school year, but there is still a lot going on! Find a few important upcoming dates, events and other information below.

Important Upcoming Dates

September 7th – Labor Day (No school)

September 9th – HMS Picture Day

September 11th – 1st Quarter Midterm

Upcoming Events

School Pictures

Comb your hair, brush your teeth, and smile big - Hacker Middle School's picture day is this Wednesday, September 9th! Picture packets have been sent home with information. Dorian will be our photographers and they offer an easy online purchase option that is explained on the packet. Picture purchases can be made online the day of and up to three days after pictures by visiting <https://ios.mydorian.com/ordering/access> using Access Code: ZP8RP97R. Make up / retake picture day is scheduled for Wednesday, October 21st.

*Our online students (MHSDO) are welcome to join us for picture day on a drop-in basis on picture day between the hours of 8:00-10:45am and 12:00-2:45pm.

First Quarter Midterm

Even though it feels like the school year just started, we are on the cusp of the midterm for the first quarter. First quarter midterm grades will be available through Canvas on Monday, September 14th. Should you have questions about your student's grades, please contact their teacher directly.

After School Program

We are happy to announce that, through the award of the 21st Century Community Learning Centers grant, we will be providing remote afterschool activities for all interested fifth and sixth grade students. Though originally designed to be an onsite program (and hopefully will be at some point in the near future), under the current Category 2 restrictions this will be a take home / virtual program. Beginning Monday, September 21st, academic tutoring (via Google Meets) and take home activities such as book club, art, and STEM projects, will be available. If your

student is interested in participating in this free program, please complete the following form:

HMS Spirit Wear

Hacker Middle School spirit wear is now available for purchase using our online store! There are many options available for purchase including t-shirts, sweatshirts, hats and even a mask. These are made to order items and can only be purchased through the website: <https://www.bsnteamssports.com/shop/StudentHMS>.

Safety Procedures

Safety Drills

On occasion, we will have various safety drills (ex: fire, lockdown, etc.) at Hacker to ensure everyone knows what to do in case of an emergency. Should there ever be a serious situation, you will be notified via a Blackboard message to apprise you of what has happened.

Parent / Guardian ID Check

As in previous years, our school continues to use access control to ensure student safety. What this means for you and your student is that during school hours all exterior doors will be locked, including the front door, limiting access to the building. To gain entry, you will need to press the call button to the left of our front door ***and*** present a photo ID to the camera before being allowed in the building. To aid the flow of traffic, the front door will be unlocked in the morning prior to student entry into the building (beginning at 7:30a.m.) and after students have been dismissed for the day (until 4:00p.m.). This procedure has been implemented to provide the safest environment possible for students and staff.

Student Drop Off and Pick Up

Please remember that if you are dropping off or picking up your student from school you do so on Jackson Street on the school side of the road. Please do not use the bus drop off zones (N. 4th E and E. 2nd N) or the parking lot between Hacker and Bennett Mountain High School. While it may seem trivial, in doing so, we are better able to keep our students safe while keeping the bus lanes open.

Other Information

Canvas

On August 19th, you should have received an email from our Director of Technology, Matt Adams, regarding the Canvas program. Not only is Canvas the program students use to access and complete assignments when working online, it also has a parent portal side that allows you to see your student's assignments, due dates and grades. Information on how to create your parent account can be found here (you will need to scroll down a little):

<https://sites.google.com/mtnhomesd.org/mhsdcanvas/home>.

Online Learning Times

Just a reminder...in the Category 2, hybrid learning model we are currently in, students are expected to get online and complete work through Canvas during their at home session (AM / PM). Additionally, Fridays are considered a school day with teachers providing remote instruction and assignments. Students need to complete these assignments accordingly as they are graded.

Military & Family Life Counselor Program

Lynn Crenshaw, our Military & Family Life Counselor (MFLAC) continues to be available to students and families via telephone or video conference for non-medical counseling. This service is available to all students who are military connected and have a signed consent on file.

Box Tops

We've received several questions in regard to whether or not we participate in the Box Tops for Education Program and the answer is YES! Unlike in years past where you would clip the little pink label and send them to school, General Mills has made the program digital and you simply scan your receipt using their app and it automatically looks up qualifying products. During the app set up, you have the ability to select the school you would like your box tops to go to. Be sure to select Hacker Middle School!

Final Notes

The start of the school year has been unique to say the least! Despite the new schedule and the variety of new procedures in place, students have adjusted very well and we are incredibly proud of them.

With that, please know we have an outstanding, dedicated staff here at Hacker who work very diligently to provide your student the best learning opportunities. While

there may be times we won't see things in the exact same way, as parents and educators, we are all working to help your student build the knowledge and skills to help them be successful in their future.

Thank you for your continued support as we work each day to provide your student with a quality education.

Sincerely,
Lonni Smith
Principal