



THE FALCON CRIER

APRIL 2017



Think Spring

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Dr. Karl E. Wickman
Principal

Ms. Mary Beth Dougherty
Acting Assistant Principal

Mr. Jeffrey R. Raff
Assistant Principal

Ms. Wendy L. Steo
Assistant Principal

From the Principal

North Harford Middle School is very proud of the many advances we have made in the use of technology within the school. By the Fall of 2017, we anticipate that every student will have a school tablet assigned to them for use during the day. There are many educational benefits for having all students use the same technology device. One major advantage is that we control which Apps are on the devices. We do not load social media Apps on the devices and social media sites are blocked from the school devices.

We continue to hear stories from students and parents about inappropriate interactions or cyberbullying on line that occur outside of our controlled network. With our children being Social Media savvy, what can parents do at home to ensure that the Apps

that students have on their personal devices are safe and age appropriate?

One of the difficult things about Social Media is that Apps publish terms of use for the ages children must be to be a member of the App. However, most of these sites make this determination based on the Children’s Online Privacy Protection Rule (COPPA). This sets the standard age at 13 for what data the sites can collect from users, but does not necessarily restrict the CONTENT of individual posts.

So where can parents turn for more information? I would encourage parents to take a look at www.common sense media.org. This organization is a non-profit organization dedicated to helping kids thrive in a world of media and technology. They provide a rating system, which makes a recommendation for the appropriate age for students to use individual Apps.

Consider the following popular Apps used by many middle school students on their personal devices when we compare the commonsense media rating to the App terms of use:

Name of App	App developer’s terms of use for age	Commonsense Media age recommendation
Snapchat	18 or older , or 13 with parent permission	16 and older
Instagram	13 or older	15 and older
Twitter	13 or older	15 and older
Kik	18 or older, or 13 with parent permission	17 or older
Ask FM	18 or older , or 13 with parent permission	18 or older

While we make no judgement on parental decisions as to which Apps are appropriate for their children, we feel it is important to share as much information as possible to assist parents in making those decisions.

*Karl Wickman Ed. D.
Principal, North Harford MS*

APRIL/MAY/JUNE CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
<p>Check out Edline for updates to the calendar. You can also email the PTSA at nhmspts@gmail.com with any questions.</p> 						APRIL 1	
2	3	4	5	6 PTSA Meeting 6:30 pm After school dance 2:15-4:00pm (org. by the Girls Club)	7 Report Cards will be distributed	8	
9	10  6th grade Honors Assembly	11  7th grade Honors Assembly	Schools Closed for Students—Spring Break				15
16  Schools Closed	17	18  8th grade Honors Assembly	19	20	21	22 	
23	24	25	26	27 NHMS Drama presents "The Phantom Toll-booth"	28 NHMS Drama presents "The Phantom Toll-booth"	29	
30	MAY 1	2	3 Progress Reports	4	5	6	
Staff Appreciation Week							
7	8	19	10 Parent-Teacher Conferences 4:00pm - 6:00pm	11 PTSA Meeting 6:30 pm	12	13	
14 	15	16	17	18 Chorus Spring Concert 7:00pm - 8:30pm Auditorium	19 8th grade dance	20	
21	22	23 Orchestra Spring Concert 7:00pm - 8:30pm Auditorium	24 Band Spring Concert 7:00pm - 8:30pm Auditorium	25	26	27	
28	29  Schools Closed	30	31	JUNE 1 PTSA Meeting 6:30 pm	2	3	
4	5	6	7	8	9 		

PTSA COMMITTEE NEWS

BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION

Thank you to everyone who supported Box Tops for Education so far this school year. You've helped to support NHMS PTSA programs and activities. Box Tops for Education is a really easy way to support NHMS. Schools can earn up to \$20,000 per year! Every box top counts!

Please continue to save Box Tops through the end of the school year and throughout the summer. Some box tops will expire before then. We do not receive credit for expired box tops.



EIGHTH GRADE DANCE

The 8th grade dance will be held on Friday, May 19, 2017 in the school gymnasium. Information will be coming home soon with 8th grade students. If you have questions or would like to help, please email Kim Hackett and Carla Manzo, the committee chairpersons at nhmspts@gmail.com.

REFLECTIONS

Reflections News!!! The Harford County Council of PTAs has announced the results of their judging. North Harford Middle School participants did a great job representing the school.

- ◇ In the category of Dance Choreography an Award of Excellence awarded to Jaimeson Nobile
- ◇ In the category of Film Production an Award of Outstanding Interpretation awarded to Daniel Truxel and an Award of Merit to Haley Rankin
- ◇ In the category of Literature Award of Merit awarded to Alyssa Dunn
- ◇ In the category of Photography Award of Outstanding Interpretation awarded to Julia Eakes, an Award of Excellence awarded to Maggie Layman and an Award of Merit awarded to Haley Rankin
- ◇ In the category of Visual Arts Award of Outstanding Interpretation awarded to Brooke Rodano

Congratulations to all of our participants!! Jaimeson, Daniel, Julia, Maggie, and Brooke will have their entries competing at the state level!!! We wish them luck!

SPIRIT WEAR

The NHMS Spirit Wear store is back by popular demand! The store was extended but will close **Sunday, April 9th**. The spring line features clothing from Under Armour and other great items...shorts, tees, sweats and socks. Follow this link:

<https://northharfordmiddle.itemorder.com>

ALSO AVAILABLE DIRECT FROM THE SCHOOL: Custom socks with your school logo! Price is \$11.50/pair or 2 for \$20.00 (tax included in price). Pick up an order form in the school lobby or contact Julie Harvey at crazytown@zoominternet.net

PTSA MEETINGS

We hope you will join us this Thursday, April 6 at 6:30 p.m. for our monthly General Membership Meeting. We will meet in the conference room in the office. And please note our remaining 2016-2017 meeting schedule:

May 11, 6:30 p.m., general membership meeting and officer elections

June 1: 6:30 p.m., general membership meeting

Attention Incoming High School Athletes

The State of Maryland and Harford County Public Schools require all student-athletes to submit a physical prior to starting a season that certifies they are physically fit to participate in any try-out, practice or contest of a school team.

There will be a change in procedure regarding Interscholastic Participation Physicals that will take effect in the upcoming school year 2017-2018.

Beginning in the 2017-2018 school year, we will be requiring physical examination forms for sports to be completed and dated after June 7. Re-authorization of physicals completed before this date will no longer be permitted.

IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS

Students entering grades 7 and 8 in school year 2017-2018 must have:

- **One Tdap (Tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis booster)**
- **One Meningitis vaccine (MCV, MCVP4)**

Check with your doctor to see if your child has had these vaccinations. Please do not delay; schedule an appointment to receive these vaccines or get documentation of vaccination as soon as possible. Your child will be excluded from school next year if they are not in compliance with these regulations.

Visit www.hcps.org and click the "health center" button for more information.

IT'S THE RULE

SHOTS BEFORE SCHOOL

2016-2017 NHMS PTSA Committee Chairpersons

Box Tops: Paula Mackey
Corporate Rebates: Lisa Fulco
Eighth Grade Activities: Kim Hackett/Carla Manzo
Environmental: Kristin Grabowski
The Falcon Crier: Michelle Schell
Faculty Basketball Game: Michelle Schell
Falcon Walk: Mark Lazoff

Hershey Park Tickets: Carla Manzo
Membership: Beth Bearinger
Reflections: Jennifer Bray
Spirit Wear: Julie Harvey
Staff Appreciation: Tesha Wright
Volunteers: Michelle Schell
Website/Facebook: Carla Manzo

If you have questions regarding the PTSA, or specific questions for an officer or chairperson, please email nhmspts@gmail.com and it will be directed to the appropriate person for follow-up.

Harford County Youth & Family Resource Festival

Saturday, April 22, 2017 | 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Harford Community College – APG Federal Credit Union Arena

This unprecedented event in Harford County will feature public and private resources for youth from birth to young adults of all abilities

Over 80 vendors with information on:

- Summer camps
- Tutoring and mentoring programs
- Pre-school programs
- Behavioral health
- Financial support
- Free car seat inspections
- Recreational and athletic programs
- Housing support services
- Services for children with disabilities and delays
- And so much more!

Families who pre-register receive a FREE tote and voucher for a FREE lite lunch

REGISTER ONLINE AT:

www.harfordcountymd.gov/2070/Youth-Family-Resource-Festival

Check website for updates on event activities and transportation schedule.

Free SHUTTLE BUS throughout the day from Hall's Cross Roads and Magnolia Elementary Schools and EPICENTER.



36

workshops
scheduled for
youth, caregivers
and parents

Kid Zone!

Touch-A-Truck
Fire Truck &
Police Car

Disney Characters
Meet & Greet
Face Painting & More!

**Free
KidPrint ID**

by Harford County
Sheriff's Office

Free Child
Identification
Cards!



Barry Glassman
Harford County Executive
Amber Shrodes
Director, Community Services

Harford County Department of Community Services – Local Management Board
**Office of Children Youth & Families &
Office of Disabilities**

www.harfordcountymd.gov/services/lmb 410.638.3389

ILA News

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Mrs. Mullen's January and February ILA Students of the Month:

Aden Walter	Maleik Miller
Sophia Trimble	Brooke Engel
Jessica Randow	Arielle Simon
Sophia Phelps	Kellie Babylon

Special congratulations to Layla Stubler - AGAIN!
Her poem won first place in the Young Authors' Contest for Middle School.
Way to go, Layla!

Congratulations to Mrs. Mullen's March ILA Students of the Month:

Autumn Corsello
Victoria Westerman
Gwyneth McDougall
Arielle Simon

To see Layla's poem follow this link to the NHMS PTSA folder on Edline:
https://www.edline.net/pages/North_Harford_Middle_School/PTSA

New Maker Space at NHMS!

North Harford Middle School is proud to announce the acquisition of a Maker Space cart which is currently being used in "Project Lead the Way" classes.

The cart contains materials for hands-on or DIY yourself learning.



Exciting things are happening at NHMS!





Newsletter of the NHMS Chapter of the National Junior Society - by Taylor Mason

One of the programs the NJHS is involved in is morning tutoring. Our members wanted to gain information about how the program was benefiting our school and how we could improve it for next year. We interviewed AM teachers, the students being tutored, and our fellow members to see how people were benefiting from our service.

All of the teachers interviewed said tutoring is a good activity for the NJHS to be involved in. The students feel more comfortable being tutored by other students. Teachers have also noticed that when students have one on one help, there is more improvement. Mrs. Taylor, a 6th grade special education teacher, said that tutoring shows members' knowledge and helps us improve our skills, such as patience and responsibility. The students are understanding the material better too, especially in mathematics. Mrs. Brown, an 8th grade teacher, says that there is sometimes a better connection between students than between student and teacher. Tutoring also benefits the teachers because there are fewer students to run around to. Some criticism for the NJHS members is that we need to improve on not hesitating when helping students. Overall, teachers believe that the tutoring that the NJHS provides is helpful and as the NJHS grows, more students will be helped.

Our peers say that the NJHS image is well-organized and we are great role models for the school. Overall, the members are enjoying tutoring and they think that we are benefiting the student body by helping out with school events and tutoring sixth through eighth graders. Most members also think that some of us are comfortable with tutoring others, but some need to adjust. Although the majority of our members believe that the NJHS is not as well-known as it could be, we will gain momentum in the coming years, as this is only our first year. As NJHS members, we get to meet new people and learn new communication skills. Finally, some members have also noticed an improvement in their work ethic.

One hundred percent of students interviewed feel that the majority of NJHS AM tutors are friendly and encouraging. They also believe that tutoring is helpful in many subjects, such as Math and English. Finally, most students said that they are more comfortable with a fellow student tutoring them than a teacher. However, some students in the AM rooms never had a NJHS tutor or rarely saw one. NJHS members need to make sure that everyone is going to AM so that the students can benefit.

Almost everyone interviewed saw some benefit from tutoring. The teachers as well as students saw grade improvements and the members are learning helpful skills. In summary, the majority of NJHS members are enjoying tutoring and learning new skills that will benefit them forever.

Junior Rangers

Rocks State Park

Spring Session 2017

Have fun outdoors and learn about environmental conservation!

Park Pals:

4-6 yr olds

Junior Rangers:

7-14 yr olds

Fees: \$30 per child;
\$20 for each additional
sibling. Cash or check
accepted April 12th.

Dates: April 12-14

Time: 9am-12pm

Location: Rocks State
Park, Hills Grove Pavilion

Hills Grove Address:

4001 St. Clair Bridge Road
Jarrettsville, MD 21084

For more information call:
410-557-7994

Larry Hogan, Governor
Mark Belton, Secretary of Natural Resources



*Accommodations for individuals with disabilities will be made upon request. Seven day notice is requested.

Bel Air Police Youth Camps 2017

Registration opens 4/1/17

**Camp # 1 Camp # 2 CAMP # 3
*Dates: 6/12 - 6/16 6/19 - 6/23 6/26 - 6/30
*Time: 9am – 1pm
*Place: Bel Air Armory
*Age requirement: 8-14 (boys and girls)
*Fee: \$75.00 (includes T-shirt and a gift)**

Classes taught by police officers and/or police explorers



**Radar
Searches
Traffic stops
Athletic events
K-9 demonstration
Crime scene investigation
Physical fitness and self-defense techniques etc...
Awards banquet on the last day w/ family!!
Space is limited = *first come first serve!!!*
Applications: Bel Air Police Department
39 North Hickory Ave Bel Air, MD.**

Contact: OFC Rick Krause RKRAUSE@BELAIRMD.ORG

Harford County Public Schools is not sponsoring, endorsing, or recommending the activities announced in this flier/material.



"Nobody can do
everything,
but everyone can do
something!"

~Author Unknown

Please consider being part of the NHMS PTSA Executive Board or nominating someone you think would be a great addition to the team!

Elections for the 2017-2018 school year will be held in May. We also have many committee chair positions open!

Please email nhmsptsa@gmail.com with nominations or questions.