



# THE FALCON CRIER

NOVEMBER 2015



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Dr. Karl E. Wickman  
*Principal*

Mr. Antonnio R. Hockaday  
*Assistant Principal*

Mr. Jeffrey R. Raff  
*Assistant Principal*

Ms. Wendy L. Steo  
*Assistant Principal*

## From the Principal

The Season of Giving:

I have spoken often about the amazing spirit of giving and service to community that the students of North Harford Middle School have always demonstrated. It seems that practically every day I see some new initiative or project that students have started based on this very spirit of service to the community in which we live. This week I had a meeting with Mason-Dixon Community Services. This organization provides aid and support to families in need in our community. They have been great partners with North Harford Middle School over the years and we are appreciative of the many things they have done for our families and students.

In our meeting we talked about the spike in requests for aid they receive, especially in the colder months. North Harford Middle School traditionally does some sort of drive to help out the families served by Mason-Dixon and this year the tradition continues. We want to try something a little different this year.

Each year after Thanksgiving break we decorate a tree in the main lobby. This year we are going to decorate the tree in a very special way. Instead of traditional ornaments, we will be placing paper

stockings on the tree. Each stocking will have a pre-determined amount of either \$10, \$25 or \$50. Students and families who wish to participate will select a stocking in whatever amount they chose. Inside the stocking will be a list of options for gift cards to purchase. Participating families will purchase the gift cards and turn them in to the Main Office. All collected cards will be given Mason-Dixon Community Services.

Our goal will be to “undecorate” the tree by having students, faculty and families claim all of the stockings. We will have the stockings on the tree throughout the entire holiday season and are proud to be able to help this organization that helps our community. If you have any questions about the project, please let us know. We are very excited to see how it turns out.

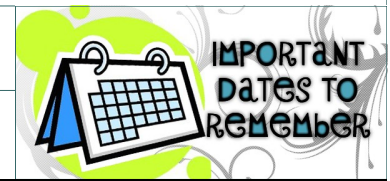
*Karl Wickman Ed. D.  
Principal*

## The Giving Tree

Helping Those in Need



## NOVEMBER CALENDAR



Check out Edline for updates to the calendar.

You can also email the PTSA at [nhmspts@gmail.com](mailto:nhmspts@gmail.com) with any questions.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> 2ND QUARTER BEGINS	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> SMA Magnet Open House at Aberdeen HS 6:30-8:30pm	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> Board of Ed. Meeting—open session 5:40pm (HCPS A.A. Roberty bldg.) Intramural Basketball begins	<b>10</b> Harford Tech Magnet Open House at Harford Technical HS 5:30-8:30pm Intramural Badminton begins	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 6:30pm—PTSA meeting in Media Center IB Magnet Open House at EHS 6:30-8:30pm	<b>13</b> Report cards distributed	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> One World Run (see page 5)
Scholastic Book Fair						
American Education Week						
<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> Professional Development. Schools Closed for Students	<b>24</b> Professional Development. Schools Closed for Students	<b>25</b> Professional Development. Schools Closed for Students	<b>26</b> Thanksgiving Day—schools and offices closed	<b>27</b> Schools and offices closed	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>DEC 1</b> 6th grade honors assembly 7:50am	<b>DEC 2</b> 7th grade honors assembly 7:50am	<b>DEC 3</b> School Picture Make-Ups 8th grade honors assembly 7:50am	<b>DEC 4</b> Magnet Program application deadline	<b>DEC 5</b>

### 2015-2016 NHMS PTSA Committee Chairpersons

Box Tops/Labels: Paula Mackey  
Corporate Rebates: Phil Hopkins  
Eighth Grade Activities: Melissa Brode  
Environmental: VACANT  
The Falcon Crier: Michelle Schell  
Faculty Basketball Game: Michelle Schell  
Falcon Walk: Mark Lazoff & Beth Bearinger

Hershey Park Tickets: Debbie Sullivan  
Membership: Michelle Schell  
Reflections: Jennifer Bray  
Spirit Wear: Debbie Sullivan & Julie Harvey  
Staff Appreciation: Nancy Pappas & Courtney Westermeyer  
Volunteers: Sandra Monaco-Burton  
Website/Facebook: VACANT

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

## PTSA COMMITTEE NEWS

### BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION



The October Box Tops for Education Homeroom Competition was a success! Over 5000 Box Tops were submitted, earning over \$500.00 for NHMS PTSA programs.

The homerooms that submitted the most box tops in each grade are -

Mr. Richenderfer's 8th grade homeroom with 428 box tops

Ms. Kelsall's 7th grade homeroom with 520 box tops

Mrs. Breton's 6th grade homeroom with 570 box tops.

Great job NHMS!

Many thanks go out to all who participated. Thank you to the parents that helped prepare the box tops for submission. Keep saving Box Tops as we will be having another competition during February, 2016.

### REFLECTIONS

This year's Reflection program has concluded. Entries are being prepared to move on to the Harford County Reflections contest. Participants will be notified of the recognition breakfast to take place soon. Congratulations to all of our participants!

### FALCON PRIDE WALKATHON

The 2nd Annual NHMS Falcon Pride Walk was a great success! Although we didn't reach our \$20,000 goal we did raise \$14,000 to fund programs and activities for students and staff this year at NHMS. Thank you to students, staff and all those who contributed their time and/or money to this great event!

And the winners are:

#### Prizes

Grand Prize Winner of GoPro—Alexander Hau

\$100 Best Buy gift card—Gavin Barker

Headphones—Tony Dellarose

Itunes gift card—Sarah Huller, Tyler Jackson, Carly DeVeau and Max Bearinger

Speaker—Jackie McGowan

Pandora Bracelet—Kylee Testerman

Highest Class Participation (teachers were awarded Eats and Sweets gift cards):

6th grade—Mrs. McGinty

7th grade—Mrs. Waggner

8th grade—Mrs. Thompson

Highest Donations (class won a dessert party):

6th grade—Mrs. McGinty

7th grade—Mr. Rickey

8th grade—Mrs. Carletti

School Total \$14,000  
School Participation 38%

### MEMBERSHIP

We didn't hit our Walkathon goal, but we still need to fund our programs and activities for the year. Send in your memberships and maybe your child's homeroom will win a donut party! See pages 8 and 9 for details! Thank you for your support and please come to our next meeting to see what the PTSA is doing for students and staff alike!

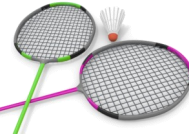
## INTRAMURAL NEWS

NHMS Physical Education Intramurals is a highly structured program that emphasizes sportsmanship and skill development through game play.

Intramurals take place after school at 2:15pm and end promptly at 3:30pm. Students must be dressed properly for activity and have participated fully in physical education class in order to be involved in intramurals. At 3:30pm, students will report directly to the front of our school. Children who cannot be picked up promptly at 3:30pm will not be allowed to participate in intramurals.

Our Late Fall Intramurals will be:

Basketball: Monday & Wednesday beginning November 9th; and Badminton: Tuesdays and Thursdays beginning November 10th.



Both programs will consist of 10 sessions. Students interested in participating are reminded to pick up a permission packet in the physical education locker rooms.

Please email our intramural director, Mr. Ron Sadtler, if you have questions:

ronald.sadtler@hcps.org

## ILA NEWS

### Congratulations to Mrs. Mullen's ILA October Students of the Month!

*Keaton Campbell*

*Hailie Moore*

*Ellie Evans*

*Julie Ament and*

*Autumn Robinson*



## ONE WORLD RUN

PAO's One World Run @ NRC will take place this year at the Norrisville Recreation Complex in White Hall, Maryland. This will be the sixth year to raise money for children in East Africa who have been orphaned by the AIDS crisis. Funding goes directly to the Mission House of Hope which provides food, clothing, health care and education to the children of Kandaria, Kenya. Project AIDS Orphan is a tax exempt pursuant to Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)(3) and most donations are tax deductible. Last year's students of team 7A wrote letters to the community to secure the funding for this year's race. We haven't received donations up to this point, but I feel certain that the 5K will be able to take place as usual. In the words of the

late Steve Jobs, "Your time is limited, don't waste it living someone else's life. Don't let the noise of other's opinion drown your own inner voice. Have the courage to follow your heart and intuition."

PAO's OWR@NRC will take place on **21 November 2015 at the Norrisville Rec Complex**. Packet pick-up for preregistered participants and same-day registration will begin at 8. A stretching and warm-up activity will begin at 8:30 for those interested participants. Registration will close at 8:50 and the race will begin at 9:00 AM, with a kid's fun run to



follow at 10:00 AM for the area's younger runners. The race will be timed and awards will be given to the first three finishers in 7 age categories, as well as to the largest youth group involved and overall winner for the male and female divisions. The Falcon Flying Feet Running Club at NHMS won the award for the largest youth group for 2014. Please see another page in this newsletter for the registration form for this year's race.

You can contact the site's race director at [sharalyn.heinly@hcps.org](mailto:sharalyn.heinly@hcps.org) to register, answer questions, accept donations, or volunteer.

Happy Running!  
Sharalyn



one date. one time.  
seven continents.  
one world.

November 21, 2015 9:00 AM @Norrisville Rec Complex

Mail registration to 5110 Buttermilk Road Pylesville, MD 21132.

Early Bird Registration

8:00 ~ Packet Pick-Up and

\$30 before 27 Oct

Same Day Registration

Registration \$35 before 16 Nov

8:30 ~ Warm-Up Session

Same Day registration \$40

9:00 ~ OWR 5 K begins

Kids' run: \$20

10:00 ~Kids' Fun Run (<1 mile)

Name (Last, First): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Youth Group name \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Age on Race Day (Required) \_\_\_\_\_

Sex:  Male  Female

For more info, please contact Sharalyn Heinly at [sharalyn.heinly@hcps.org](mailto:sharalyn.heinly@hcps.org)

Payment:  Cash  Check (payable to Project AIDS Orphan)

Adult T-Shirt Size:  S  M  L  XL  XXL

Child T-Shirt Size:  S  M  L

WAIVER: I, for my heirs, executors and myself, do hereby release all race sponsors and contributors from any and all liability resulting in injury or death from my participation in this event. I understand the implication of competing in the event and certify that I am physically prepared to cover this distance.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent / Guardian if under 18





## FROM THE NURSE'S OFFICE



### **Behavior Checklists:**

A behavior checklist is a form that is completed by the student's teachers to evaluate attention span, impulsivity, activity level, and other behaviors. If your student's health care provider is requesting that a Behavior Checklist be completed as part of his/her evaluation or to monitor medications, please contact the school nurse. An Authorization to Release Student Records must be completed and signed before checklists will be provided to parent/guardian, health care provider, or other outside agency. Checklists will then be completed by teachers and returned to nurse who will then forward them to requested agency.

### **Medication Policy:**

A Medication Policy Form must be completed and signed by parent/guardian and the student's health care provider for all prescriptions and over the counter medications. A new form is required each school year and for any changes in medication, dose and/or time to be administered. Medications are to be brought to school by parent/guardian or another responsible adult. Students are not permitted to carry medication on the school bus or school grounds. Under extenuating circumstances, there may be exceptions. This is for the safety of all students. Prescription medications must be in a labeled container with specific instructions and over the counter medications must be in their original container.

It is the parents responsibility to provide the health suite with a written order for all medications. Should your student be seen at an urgent care center, ER, or doctor's office and prescribed medications that are to be administered during the school day, please obtain this order prior to bringing medications into school. It is very difficult to obtain signed orders from urgent care centers or the emergency room afterwards. **Please ask the prescriber to write school orders prior to leaving.** HCPS discretionary medication forms **DO NOT** allow Ibuprofen for headaches so if your student's headache is only relieved with Ibuprofen/Motrin/Advil please have his/her health care provider write a school order for this medication. Nurses are not permitted to take verbal orders from parents for medications.

Should you have any questions, please contact one of the NHMS nurses at 410.638.3658. Our fax is 410.638.3669 and my email is: [marcia.whitmire@hcps.org](mailto:marcia.whitmire@hcps.org)

Wishing your family a safe and healthy fall and holiday season.

Marcia Whitmire, RN  
Charmain Bishop, LPN

## FROM THE NURSE'S OFFICE

# INFLUENZA Q&A



What is influenza (flu)? It is a contagious respiratory illness caused by influenza viruses. It is estimated that 5%-20% of the US population gets the flu each year; more than 200,000 people are hospitalized from flu complications—20,000 of these are younger than 5 years of age; and a range of 3,000-49,000 people die each year from the flu. Some people, such as older people, young children, and those with certain health conditions (such as asthma, diabetes, or heart disease), are at high risk.



How does the flu spread? The viruses are spread mainly by droplets made when people with flu cough, sneeze or talk. These droplets can land in the mouths or noses of people who are nearby. Or, a person might also get the virus by touching a surface or object that has the virus on it, and then touching their mouth, eyes or nose.



What are symptoms of the flu? Symptoms include: fever (usually high), headache, extreme tiredness, dry cough, sore throat, runny/stuffy nose and muscle aches. Stomach symptoms, such as nausea, vomiting and diarrhea can also occur, and are more common in children than adults.



How long is a person contagious? This depends on the age and health of the person. You may be able to pass the flu on to someone else before you know you are sick, as well as while you are sick; from 1 day before symptoms develop to 5 –7 days after becoming sick.



What is the difference between a cold and the flu? They are both respiratory illnesses but they are caused by different viruses. Colds are usually milder than the flu and are more likely to have a runny or stuffy nose. Colds generally don't result in serious health problems, such as pneumonia, bacterial infections or hospitalizations. Children or teenagers with flu-like symptoms should NOT take aspirin. In general, the flu is worse than the common cold, and symptoms such as fever, body aches, extreme tiredness and dry cough are more common and intense.

*\* It can be difficult or even impossible to tell the difference between the two viruses based on symptoms alone. Special tests may be helpful if done within the first few days of illness, to tell if a person has the flu.*



What can I do to protect myself? The CDC recommends a yearly flu vaccine as the first and most important step in protecting against this serious disease. There are many different flu viruses and the flu vaccine can protect you from the main viruses (three or four depending on which vaccine you get). It can protect you from getting sick or it can make your illness milder if you get a different flu virus.

### IMMUNIZATION



### REQUIREMENTS

Students entering grades 7 and 8 in school year 2016-2017 must have:

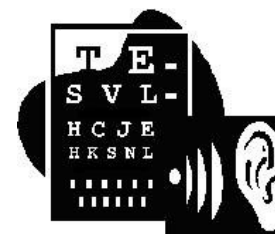
- **One Tdap (Tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis booster)**
- **One Meningitis vaccine (MCV, MCVP4)**

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](http://www.hcps.org) and click the "health center" button for more information.

## Vision and Hearing Screening

Vision and hearing screening for 8th graders run from September through December. If parents have any questions, please call me at 410.638.3658—Marcia Whitmire, RN



# You're invited to visit your public school for:

National Education Association's 94<sup>th</sup> Annual

## American Education Celebration 2015



Parents are strongly encouraged to pre-register any guests expected to attend the American Education Celebration. Pre-registration will help maintain the safety and security of our schools, as well as expedite the check-in process. Forms will be provided by your child's school.

Monday, November 16

Grandparents/Senior Citizens Day

Tuesday, November 17

Grades Pre-K, K, 2, 4, 6, 8, 10 & 12

Wednesday, November 18

Grades 1, 3, 5, 7, 9 & 11



Schedules may vary from school to school. Please contact your school directly for designated days or additional information.



[www.hcps.org](http://www.hcps.org) • Follow us on Facebook and Twitter

### AMERICAN EDUCATION CELEBRATION REGISTRATION FORM

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ Homeroom Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Visitors: (Please include any visitors that you wish to be able to visit your child's classroom.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Parents Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Please remind all visitors to bring photo ID with them on the day of the visitation. Notify your guests that cell phones, cameras, food and drink are not permitted in the classroom. Visitors will not be permitted in the cafeteria during students' lunchtime. Thank you for your cooperation and we look forward to seeing you in November.



# DONUT

## FORGET TO SEND IN YOUR NHMS PTSA MEMBERSHIP!



If your child's homeroom brings in the most memberships in their grade by November 30, his/her class will win a donut party!

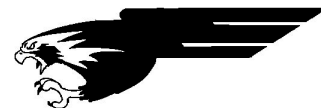
- ⦿ If there is more than one NHMS student in your family, the total # of memberships will be split evenly between their homerooms (maximum of 4 counted per family membership). Make sure you fill in your student(s) name and homeroom!
- ⦿ Winning homerooms will be calculated by % of total students in their class.
- ⦿ Membership form can be found in this newsletter. Send in to school in an envelope marked "PTSA Membership" today!

## COMMUNITY NEWS

Jarrettsville Volunteer Fire Company Auxiliary is holding a Craft Show on Saturday, December 12th at the Fire House on Rte. 165 in Jarrettsville from 9-12. There will be local crafters selling homemade items, jewelry, floral arrangements, etc. Admission will be free with plenty of free parking. Food will be available for purchase.



# North Harford Middle School PTSA Membership Form 2015/2016



*Parents, staff, students and friends of North Harford Middle School, we invite you to join the PTSA today!  
Your support is necessary to enhance the programs, experiences and environment for all at NHMS.*

<b>MEMBER NAME/CODE</b>	<b>ADDRESS</b>	<b>EMAIL/PHONE</b>
1. _____ Circle Code ( P T S A )	_____	_____
2. _____ Circle Code ( P T S A )	_____	_____
3. _____ Circle Code ( P T S A )	_____	_____
4. _____ Circle Code ( P T S A )	_____	_____

CODES: **P** = parent, **T** = teacher/staff, **S** = student, **A** = all other friends of NHMS

*Student Name is required. Membership cards will be sent home with this student:*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ Homeroom: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please check here if you DO NOT want to be included on the PTSA e-mail list. We will email the Falcon Crier news-letter each month, as well as news flashes periodically which we feel may interest you. You may opt out at any time.*

## **DUES**

Memberships are \$10.00 per individual, with a maximum cost of \$30.00 per family:

Individual:                    # \_\_\_\_\_ x \$ 10.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Family:                                    \$ 30.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (# family members \_\_\_\_\_)

Additional Tax-Deductible Donation (write in amount): \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total Dues and Donation:                                    \$ \_\_\_\_\_

***Thank you for your Membership and/or donation!***

## **VOLUNTEERING**

There are so many great things happening at NHMS and it wouldn't be possible without help from our members!  
Please select the volunteer opportunities with which you would like to be involved:

- Help with PTSA events
- Hospitality Help (donating food/drink items for staff appreciation days)
- Please contact me to help as needs arise (name & email/phone: \_\_\_\_\_)

## **CONTACT US**

- If you have questions about your NHMS PTSA membership, please contact Michelle Schell at [schell.michelle@gmail.com](mailto:schell.michelle@gmail.com)
- If you have general questions for the NHMS PTSA, please contact Kim Hackett, NHMS PTSA President, at [nhmsptsa@gmail.com](mailto:nhmsptsa@gmail.com)



## Band Parents,

In an effort to improve communication with you about band events, grades and other opportunities, I would like to create a group email list for each of the 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade bands. This way I can communicate announcements and information quickly that pertain to the bands as a whole.

Two parent volunteers, Michelle Schell and Carol Strine, have volunteered to help me gather this information. They have set up an email address on Google to serve as a kind of "NHMS Band Boosters" account. To help them gather information for me, please email the information below to [band.nhms@gmail.com](mailto:band.nhms@gmail.com) or your student can return this page to me in class.

Student First and Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian First and Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address(es) \_\_\_\_\_

Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Additionally, please let Carol and Michelle know if you are able to help with the following and they will contact you with more information:

- Concert night student supervision
- Concert night food sales
- End-of-the-year party
- I'm not sure when I can help but please keep me informed of volunteer needs

Neither I nor my parent volunteers will share your information with other parties. Please keep in mind that the new email address is not my personal email account. Continue to send grade inquiries and personal student questions to [kristin.stauffer@hcps.org](mailto:kristin.stauffer@hcps.org) Thank you very much for your help and please contact me if you have questions.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Kristin Stauffer  
6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Band  
7<sup>th</sup> Grade General Music  
North Harford Middle School  
[kristin.stauffer@hcps.org](mailto:kristin.stauffer@hcps.org)

# School Counseling Corner

## North Harford Middle School

We are excited to see North Harford Middle School students off to a great school year! In addition to students working hard on academics, we are seeing positive peer relations continuing from last year and being built. It is also encouraging to have so many students approach us about future academic and career opportunities, including our four magnet programs. Please feel free to contact us with any questions or concerns via phone or email. Our policy is to return your message within 48 hours.

A BIG CONGRATULATIONS goes out to all of the 7th and 8th grade students who were accepted into the Peer Helper Program this year. We had many outstanding applicants and they should be very proud of themselves!

### November Events:

11/5- Open House:  
Science and Math Academy, 6:30—8:30 pm.  
AHS

11/10- Open House:  
Harford Tech, 5:30—8 pm

11/12—Global Studies  
& International Baccalaureate, 6:30—8:30,  
EHS

11/16—11/18  
American Education Week: Come visit the school and get an inside look at learning here at NHMS!

Nov. 16: Senior/  
Grandparents day  
Nov. 17: Grades 2, 4, 6,  
8, 10, 12  
Nov. 18: Grades 1, 3, 5,  
7, 9, 11.



### HONORS ASSEMBLIES

If your child has made Honor Roll for the first quarter, you will receive an invitation to our assembly with the report card. Please come help us recognize your child's successes. All assemblies will begin at 7:50am.  
6th Grade: Dec. 1st  
7th Grade: Dec. 2nd  
8th Grade: Dec. 3rd

### EMPTY STOCKING FUND

Runs from November 2nd through December 7th. Please help us spread holiday cheer by donating one toy (unwrapped) to the School Counseling office. Items are particularly needed for children, ages 11-13 and infants. The donations will go to children in Harford County.

6th Grade: [Peggyjo.Teague@hcps.org](mailto:Peggyjo.Teague@hcps.org)  
7th Grade: [Laura.Grace@hcps.org](mailto:Laura.Grace@hcps.org)  
8th Grade: [Patricia.Schlough@hcps.org](mailto:Patricia.Schlough@hcps.org)

November  
2015

**Please remember to check the Guidance section of Edline frequently for updates, announcements, and helpful resources.**

### Magnet Applications

The Deadline to apply online to a Magnet School program is December 4, 2015.

For more information, please go to [www.hcps.org](http://www.hcps.org).

### November 11:

### **Veteran's Day**