



THE FALCON CRIER

DECEMBER 2017



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MARK YOUR CALENDAR!!

Next NHMS PTSA meeting is

December 5, 2017 at 6:30 pm



Dr. Karl E. Wickman
Principal

Mr. Antonnio R. Hockaday
Assistant Principal

Ms. Christine I. Kelly
Assistant Principal

Mr. Jeffrey R. Raff
Assistant Principal

From the Principal

December Holiday Traditions:

As we celebrate the many holidays starting in late November beyond New Year, one thing that almost everyone has in common are traditions. Regardless of the holiday, it seems you can ask just about anyone, and there will be family traditions related to that holiday. This is a global phenomenon. For example:

In Argentina, the main meal Christmas is eaten during the evening of Christmas Eve, often as late as 10pm or 11pm. Because it is warm, the meal may be a barbeque or even be eaten outdoors. At midnight, the celebration will include fireworks.

In Greece, On Christmas Eve, children may go out into the streets singing carols. They play drums and triangles as they sing. Sometimes they will also carry model boats decorated with nuts which are painted gold. Carrying a boat is a very old custom in the Greek Islands.

In Haiti, On Christmas Eve children place their newly cleaned shoes, filled with straw under the tree on the porch. They hope that Santa (called 'Tonton Nwèl') will remove the straw and put presents in and around the shoes.

In Spain, after the midnight service, people walk through the streets carrying torches, playing guitars and beating on tambourines and drums. One Spanish saying is 'Esta noche es Noche Buena, Y no Es noche de dormir' which means 'Tonight is the good night and it is not meant for sleeping.'

(source: <https://www.whychristmas.com>)

At North Harford Middle School, we too have many traditions. I would like

to share one of our newest traditions which is now in its third year. This is a caring community that is always willing to help those less fortunate. We have partnered with Mason Dixon Charities who serves an important role in our community in supporting our community members in time of need.

Each year after Thanksgiving, there is a tree in the lobby of NHMS. On this tree you will find paper ornaments. Each of these ornaments has a list of businesses that Mason Dixon has identified as places the people they serve can get to and find the things they need.

The way this "giving tree" works is that you simply take one of the ornaments from the tree, purchase a gift card from one of the businesses listed on the back, and return the gift card to the office at NHMS. From there we collect all of the cards and give them to Mason Dixon to distribute to those in need.

We have seen unbelievable generosity the past three years and are excited to continue this tradition again this year. We invite you to take part in this NHMS tradition, and hope you have a wonderful holiday season sharing your own family traditions with family and friends.

Sincerely, Dr Karl Wickman

2017-2018 PTSA

Executive Board:

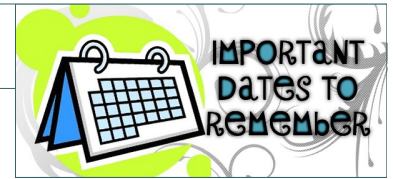
President: Carla Manzo

Vice President: Sandra Monaco-Burton

Secretary: Vacant

Treasurer: Christy Collins

DECEMBER CALENDAR



Check out Edline for updates to the calendar.

You can also email the PTSA at nhmspts@gmail.com with any questions.

December 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4 7:00pm Winter Concert (Orchestra)	5 6:30 pm NHMS PTSA Meeting	6 7:00 pm Winter Concert (Band)	7 7:00 pm Winter Concert (Chorus)	8	9
10	11	12	13	14 Staff Apprecia- tion Day	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22 3 Hour Early Dismissal	23
24	25 Christmas Schools Closed	26 Schools Closed	27 Schools Closed	28 Schools Closed	29 Schools Closed	30 / 31

PTSA COMMITTEE NEWS

STAFF APPRECIATION DAY!!!

Lets show our support for all the hard work put in by our NHMS Staff. We are in need of additional volunteers and donations. Please contact one of the PTSA officers if you can assist!

SWEET MUSIC FROM THE PTSA

Your NHMS PTSA recently made a purchase in support of the Music Department. Numerous music stands were provided to assist our music students achieve greatness!

MEMBERSHIP CONTEST...RESULTS ARE IN!!!

The following Homerooms were the grade-level winners for having the most PTSA members sign up during this school year! 7th grade had a tie!

6th Grade Winner: Mrs Rommelman's HR

7th Grade Winner: Mrs Thompson's and Mrs Martinek's HR

8th Grade Winner: Mrs Smith Weaver's HR

The winning Homerooms will receive a doughnut party! The PTSA will be reaching out to each homeroom to coordinate a date.

7th GRADE ACTIVITIES The 7th grade activities will be held on January 24 from 2-4 pm. Inclement weather date is January 31. We still need volunteers to assist. Please contact Christy Collins at chrisscol-lins18@gmail.com.

DONATIONS NEEDED!!!!!! Help us kick off the holiday season for the wonderful staff at NHMS. We are in need of breakfast items that the staff can grab and take back to their work areas, i.e donuts, bagels, fruit, yogurt, granola, granola bars, etc. We are also collecting sweet treats that will be used during the breakfast and included in staff goodie baskets. This should help them get into the proper holiday spirit! We are asking that all goodies be delivered to the front main lobby of NHMS by 2pm on Wednesday, December 13th. If you prefer, consider making a monetary donation and let the PTSA do the shopping/baking for you. Cash or checks (made payable to NHMS PTSA) can be sent to the school in an envelope labeled NHMS PTSA. Thank you for supporting our wonderful staff.

North Harford Middle School—Helping during the Holidays

Many families choose to participate in charitable giving during the holidays. For many years the North Harford Middle School community has generously donated new toys to the Harford County “Empty Stocking Fund”, as well as donating canned goods to Mason-Dixon Community Services. This year is no exception; however, you may notice a change to our Christmas tree in the lobby. In lieu of the ornaments we have decorated our tree with red, white, and green Christmas tags that represent gift cards of varying value to local stores. These cards will provide resources to local families over the holidays and throughout the year.

If you would like to help:



- 1) Detach a “gift card/tag” from the tree. Gift card will be color coded:
 - a. Red = 10.00
 - b. Green = 25.00
 - c. White = 50.00
- 2) You may purchase a gift card to any of the following businesses: Saubel’s or Shop Rite grocery store, Walmart, Kohl’s, Target, or the Dollar General in denominations of \$10, \$25 or \$50,
- 3) Purchase the gift card of your choice (Choice of local business will be listed on the back of each tag.) and return it to the NHMS Counseling Office
- 4) We will deliver the gift cards to Mason-Dixon Community Services and they will distribute these to local families in need.



- 1) Purchase a new toy for a boy or girl aged newborn – 14 years.
- 2) Your student can bring the toy to the office any time before December 8th. We will wrap the toys and deliver them to the Empty Stocking Fund for distribution to local families in need.



2017-2018 NHMS PTSA Committee Chairpersons

Box Tops/Labels: Paula Mackey

Corporate Rebates: VACANT

Eighth Grade Activities: Carla Manzo, Tesha Wright

Seventh Grade Activities: Christy Collins

Sixth Grade Activities: Heather Miller

The Falcon Crier: Andrew Collins

Faculty Basketball Game: Laura Coyne

Falcon Walk: Karen Bowser, Ora Cummings

Hershey Park Tickets: Julie Harvey

Membership: Lisa Pfeiffer

Reflections: VACANT

Spirit Wear: Julie Harvey

Staff Appreciation: Tesha Wright

Volunteers: VACANT

Merry
Christmas

