



# News From The Middle

December 13th, 2023

## UPCOMING EVENTS...

- Thursday, December 14th
  - JV/V Boys Wrestling @ Pierre Riggs HS 5:00 & 7:00 pm
  - 8th Grade Girls Basketball - A & B @ Tea Area Middle School 4:15 pm
  - 8th Grade Girls Basketball - C & D vs. SF Christian @ NMS 4:15 pm
  
- Friday, December 15th
  - Winter Bash for student body - \$5.00 entry fee 3:05-5:00 pm
  - 7th Grade Girls Basketball - A & B vs East MS @ Horizon Elementary 4:15 pm
  - 7th Grade Girls Basketball - C & D vs. East MS @ Endeavor Elem 4:15
  
- Saturday, December 16th
  - MS Wrestling meet @ George McGovern MS 8:00 am
  - 7th Grade Girls A-B Basketball Jamboree @ Harrisburg HS 10:00 am
  
- Monday, December 18th
  - 8th Grade Girls Basketball - A & B vs Harrisburg SMS @ NMS 4:15
  - 8th Grade Girls Basketball - C & D @ Harrisburg SMS - **CANCELED**
  - MS Wrestling meet @ McCook Central High School @ 5:00 pm
  - Winter Wonderland Dress-Up Days - Ugly Sweaters
  
- Tuesday, December 19th
  - 7th Grade Girls Basketball - A & B vs. Tea Area @ NMS 4:15 pm
  - 7th Grade Girls Basketball - C & D @ Tea Venture Elem - **CANCELED**
  - Winter Wonderland Dress-Up Days - PJ's
  
- Wednesday, December 20th
  - 8th Grade Focus on High School Presentation @ Freshman Academy Little Theatre @ 7:00 - 8:00 pm
  - Winter Wonderland Dress-Up Days - Christmas Vacation

- **Thursday, December 21st**
    - 7th Grade Girls Basketball - A & B @ Harrisburg SMS 4:15 pm
    - 7th Grade Girls Basketball - C & D vs Harrisburg SMS @ NMS 4:15
    - Winter Wonderland Dress-Up Days - Wear plaid
  
  - **Friday, December 22nd**
    - 6th Grade Holidays Around the World 9:15 - 10:15 am with Parade starting at 10:00 am
    - Winter Wonderland Dress-Up Days - Holiday Attire
    - 2 Hour Early Release - Dismissed at 1:04
  
  - **Monday December 25th through Tuesday, January 2nd**
    - Christmas Break
  
  - **Wednesday, January 3rd**
    - Classes Resume
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### **Attendance:**

When your learner is going to be absent, late for school, or has an appointment that will require them to leave school; make sure to call the school office at 605.743.2567 ext. 3008 before 9:00 AM daily or email [NMSAttendance@harrisburg.k12.sd.us](mailto:NMSAttendance@harrisburg.k12.sd.us). If your learner is going to be out for an extended period of time and/or you would like classwork for the day, please let the office know about attendance and contact your learner's advisory teacher for missing work.

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### **From the Office:**

**Add / Drop Band or Choir:** The last day to add or drop band or choir from your learners schedule is Friday, January 5th. **Parent or guardian** must either call the office at 743-2567 ext 3008 or email the office or the band/chorus teacher.

**School Lunch Policy Change:** In the past, North Middle School has not allowed student lunches to contain food from outside vendors or to have their lunches be delivered by outside vendors. Starting immediately, students may now have food prepared by outside vendors, but it **MUST** be delivered by the parent. The office will not accept any deliveries from DoorDash, GrubHub etc... Lunch prepared at home is always welcome. Please remember that soft drinks, coffees, and energy drinks are not allowed. [Please take time to review our peanut / tree nut policy below in the Nurses message.](#)

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## **From the Principal:**

Greetings!

On behalf of the Harrisburg School District (HSD), we would like to remind you of the transition taking place for all middle school students during the 2023-2024 school year. Last school year, the Harrisburg School Board approved a single *learner centered pathway* that will replace the traditional and personalized learning pathways. As you prepare for this transition, we acknowledge the unknown can sometimes cause anxiety. Therefore, we would like to provide some basic information on this topic.

**All HSD Middle Schools will implement a single Learner Centered Pathway, utilizing best practices rooted in the following:**

**Learning:** the guarantee of a strong, viable curriculum with instruction that meets students where they are in their educational journey.

**Agency:** the building of self-efficacy and desire on the part of all learners and teachers to take action to improve their college and career readiness.

**Character:** the deliberate nurturing of learners to examine their decisions and responsibilities through the lens of empathy and understanding for all.

**Relationships:** the development of positive, growth focused interactions resulting in a strong sense of belonging and safety for everyone in the school community.

**Common Scheduling:** each middle school will have a single *learner-centered pathway*, built upon instructional best practices that integrate each of the characteristics listed above. This will require students to have schedule changes throughout the year.

As a result of adopting this pathway, each school will facilitate learning according to the principles described above.

With the transition to three middle schools this year, this is an exciting time to be in middle school. We look forward to the opportunity to work with each of you.

Thank you,

Brian Hartwig, Principal, North MS

Brad Hartzler, Asst Principal, North MS

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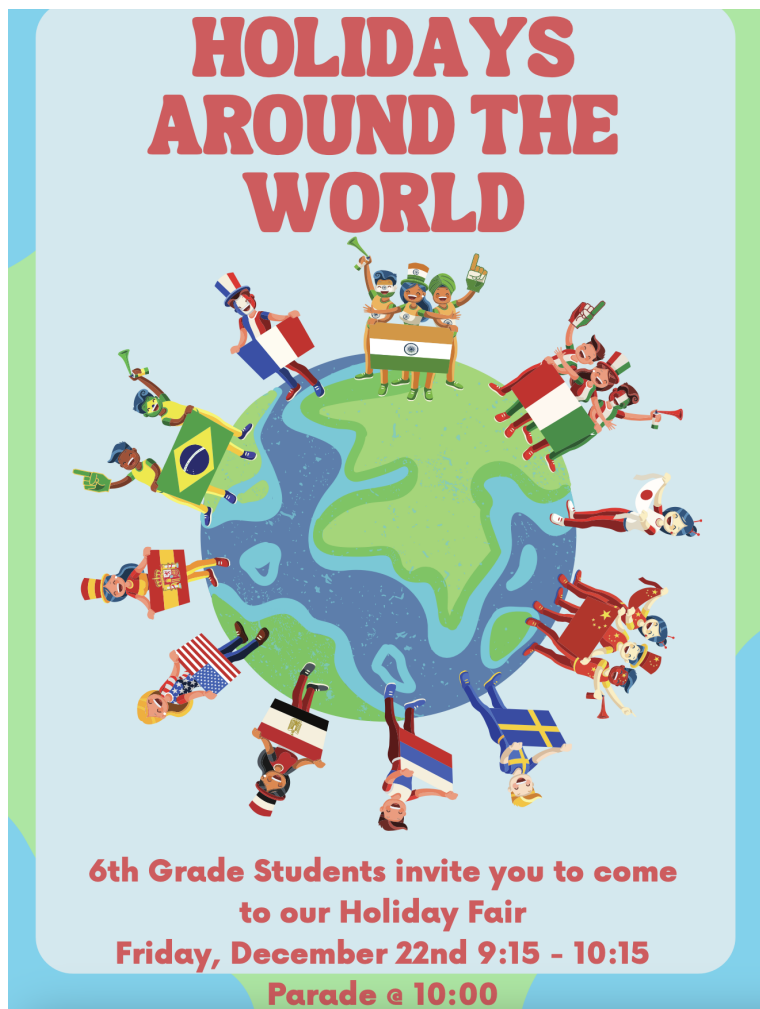
## **From the Nurse / Peanut Policy:**

Please take a minute to review our Peanut Policy in full - [PEANUT/TREE NUT POLICY](#).

The school will make a reasonable effort to make sure that peanut/tree nut products will not be used by the school in the elementary and middle school lunchrooms, which includes products labeled “it may contain...” and will inform parents and students that food made with peanuts/tree nuts or products labeled “it may contain...” will not be permitted in student lunches brought in from outside the school lunch program. If you have any questions regarding our Peanut Policy please reach out to our school nurse, [tara.erickson@k12.sd.us](mailto:tara.erickson@k12.sd.us).

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## **From 6th Grade:**



**From the SPED Department:**



**HELLO NORTH MIDDLE SCHOOL!**

Next week our ELC and Success Center learners (with some additional helpers) will be selling candy canes for \$1. All proceeds will go to the giving tree and back to our students. You will find us in the hubs during DS. We will have a ton of different flavor options! Please see the schedule below.

- Monday: 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Hub during B DS
- Tuesday: 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Hub during C & D DS
- Wednesday: 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Hub during A DS
- Thursday/Friday: stop by Osmanski's room (E123 – across from the library) between classes or before/after school.

See you soon!



DECEMBER 18 - 22

# WINTER WONDERLAND DRESS-UP DAYS!

*Monday*

**UGLY  
SWEATERS**



*Tuesday*

**PJS**



*Wednesday*

**CHRISTMAS  
VACATION**



*Thursday*

**PLAID**



*Friday*

**HOLIDAY  
ATTIRE**





## From the Counselor:

HNMS Families, this year we will be partnering with the Helpline, to bring a program to our school known as Hope Squad. Hope Squad is a peer-to-peer mentoring suicide prevention program.

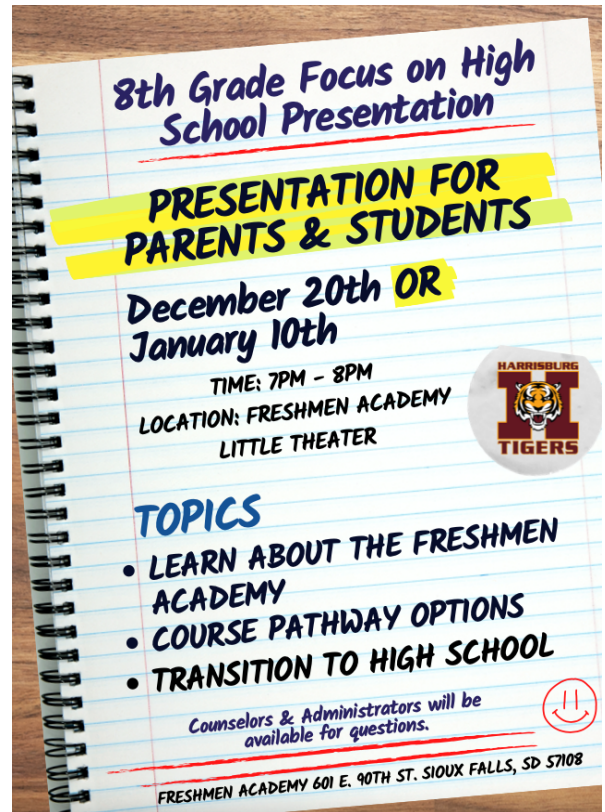
<https://hopesquad.com>

988 is a national suicide and crisis lifeline. A trained professional will answer calls 24 hours a day.

<https://988lifeline.org>

Please email or call with additional questions.

Krista Groeneweg NCSC, NCC, LPC, RPT,  
LPC-MH Supervisor  
Licensed School Counselor  
Harrisburg North Middle School  
605-743-2567 ext. 5178



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## From PAWS:

Email - [pawsnorthmiddleschool@gmail.com](mailto:pawsnorthmiddleschool@gmail.com).

Follow on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/HarrisburgNorthMiddleSchoolPAWS>

**PAWS Meetings 2nd Tuesday of the Month - The next meeting will be Jan 9th.**

**PAWS would like to thank all of you that were able to help with Staff Holiday Breakfast! It was a hit!!**

**PAWS is looking for additional helpers leading Minute to Win It Games for the Winter Bash on Friday, December 15th. PAWS will provide the games and prizes but could use extra helpers to ensure things run smoothly.**

Please use this [link](#) to sign up to help with the Winter Bash.

Please reach out to Kandice Marquardt at [Kandicemarquardt@kw.com](mailto:Kandicemarquardt@kw.com) or (605) 351-8092 if you are able to help!

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**From Student Council:**

HNMS Student Council invites all students to attend our annual Winter Wonderland North Pole Party! This event will take place on Friday, December 15<sup>th</sup> from 3:05 - 5:00. Admission is \$5.00.

There will be a hot chocolate bar, gingerbread building contest, karaoke, photo booth, holiday movie, bingo, minute-to-win-it games, and gym activities.

If you are interested in the gingerbread building contest, create a team of 4 and sign up in the office! Space is limited....all teams must be signed up by Friday, December 8<sup>th</sup>!

Hope to see you all there!

**Bridget Leach**  
6th Grade Reading & Language Arts  
Middle School Student Council Advisor  
Harrisburg North Middle School

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## From the Fine Arts Department:

**HHS Drama is hosting Kids Camp in January!**

**WHEN:** January 20, 9AM-4PM

**WHO:** Grades 2-8

**WHERE:** Harrisburg High School Performing Arts Center

**COST:** \$40, collected at camp check-in (includes workshops, t-shirt, snack, & lunch) **TIMELINE:** Registration 8:30-9:00, Camp 9:00-3:30, Public Performance 3:30-4

**NOTE:** Please do not register unless you **KNOW** that your student can attend, as we buy supplies in advance based off of registration numbers. **ALSO**, please note that this camp is performance-based. Students who attend will all participate in the public performance.

**TO BRING/WEAR:** Please bring a water bottle and have your student wear all black and closed toed shoes.

**REGISTRATION:** Open until we reach capacity.

**QUESTIONS:** [KAMRIN.RASMUSSON@K12.SD.US](mailto:KAMRIN.RASMUSSON@K12.SD.US)

If you would like to sign your student up, please visit: [HHS Drama Kid](#)

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## From the Encore Department:

Are you interested in traveling to Panama with us in 2025 but couldn't make it to the informational meeting at North? Head to East Middle School on **Thursday, December 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:15!** The meeting will discuss the trip itinerary, what is included, our travel partner, safety and support, and the price and how to enroll. We hope to see you there!



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## **From the History Department:**

**Need a Christmas gift idea? How about a trip to Washington, DC to witness the Presidential Inauguration? There is still plenty of room to join!**

**Presidential Inauguration for CURRENT 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students and their families: January 18 - 21, 2025**

**We will visit all of the National Memorials in Washington, DC, Holocaust Museum, Smithsonian Museums, tours of the White House and Capitol (pending), Mount Vernon, and participate in the Wreath Laying Ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery.**

**On JANUARY 20 we will witness our 47th President taking the Oath of Office, and the inaugural address. We will end the evening with a dinner cruise and dance on the Potomac. We will get a chance to meet other middle schoolers from across the country!**

**For more information contact: [tamra.huffman@k12.sd.us](mailto:tamra.huffman@k12.sd.us)**

**Ms. Tamra Jo Huffman, M.A. Ed.  
8th Grade American History  
Harrisburg North Middle School  
2022-2024 Ford's Theatre National Oratory Fellow  
2021 Gilder Lehrman South Dakota History Teacher of the Year  
2019 - 2020 Harrisburg School District Teacher of the Year  
<http://huffmanhistory.weebly.com>**

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## From Athletic Department:

### GIRLS AND BOYS BASKETBALL INFORMATION

First Practice:

Boys Basketball January 10

If your child plans to participate in sports, remember they will need a physical on file with the High School. [Visit here](#) to access the physical forms and consent forms that need to be filled out. There are **TWO** steps and **ALL** forms should be turned in together to either the High School or to your Learner's Middle School.

#### **First Practices | Middle Schools**

DATE	SPORTS
Thursday, August 24, 2023	Cross Country, Football and Volleyball
Monday, November 6, 2023	Girls' Basketball
Wednesday, November 15, 2023	Wrestling
Wednesday, January 10, 2024	Boys' Basketball
Monday, March 18, 2024	Track and Field

#### **Parent/Athlete Pre-Season Meetings | Middle Schools**

DATE	SPORTS	LOCATION
Tuesday, August 22, 2023	Football, Cross Country & Volleyball	East Middle School--6:00 PM North Middle School--6:45 PM South Middle School--6:45 PM
Thursday, November 2, 2023	Boys' and Girls' Basketball	East Middle School--6:00 PM North Middle School--6:45 PM South Middle School--6:45 PM
Wednesday, March 6, 2024	Track and Field	East Middle School--6:00 PM North Middle School--6:45 PM South Middle School--6:45 PM

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Harrisburg North Middle School 2201 W. 95th Street Sioux Falls, SD 57108

Phone: 605-743-2567 (office extension: 3008) Fax: 605-275-9140

Attendance Email: [NMSAttendance@harrisburg.k12.sd.us](mailto:NMSAttendance@harrisburg.k12.sd.us)

Like us on Facebook! Harrisburg North Middle School

Visit our webpage! <http://northmiddleschool.harrisburgdistrict41-2.org/>

Twitter: Check us out at @H\_M\_S and #HNMS Pride!