

HARTLAND MIDDLE SCHOOL

AT ORE CREEK

January 19, 2012 Newsletter

School office telephone number: (810) 626-2400

Absence line: (810) 626-2405

HMSOC PAC NEWS

Our next Parent Advisory Council (PAC) meeting is Wednesday, February 8 in the HMSOC media center. All interested HMSOC parents are invited and encouraged to attend.

AFTER SCHOOL DANCE/ACTIVITY

The next after school activity is Friday, February 10 from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. This activity is for seventh and eighth grade students and will include music, open gym time, refreshments, foosball, ping-pong, and more. Admission is five dollars (\$5). Please contact Ms. Paulson or Mr. Jellison, our Student Council sponsors, through the Middle School office if you are interested as volunteering as a chaperone.

Please remember to pick up your child between 4:30 and 4:45 for after school activities and promptly at 9:00 p.m. for evening activities. If you need to pick up your child earlier, you must come in to the building. Please remember that these activities are for HMSOC students only, not siblings or other visitors.

YEARBOOKS

Please note that Jostens (our school yearbook publisher) still sends informational notifications to students even if they've already ordered a Yearbook. Thanks for your order!

STUDENT COUNCIL NEWS

The American Red Cross Penny Drive is going on now through February 28th. Penny collection jars are in the math classrooms.

PLEASE SEND A NOTE

If your child is leaving early, please have him/her bring a note to the office first thing in the morning. Please make every effort to let us know before 1:00 p.m. if your child will be leaving early. We will give him/her a pass to report to the office to be signed out by you at the designated time. This procedure will minimize disrupting phone calls to class to dismiss students.

ATHLETICS

Wrestling and Girls Basketball practice/tryouts start in January. Students must have a current physical on file (dated after April 15, 2011) in order to participate in sports, including tryouts. There is also a one-time \$95 fee that covers all school clubs and sports. Girls INTRAMURAL BASKETBALL starts after school on Monday, January 23 and runs through January 26 (no school or basketball January 27). There will be organized games, but no tryouts. This is open to all 7th and 8th grade girls, even if they do

not want to try out for the team. We will also offer open gym time before each home game. Official girl's basketball tryouts begin Monday, January 30.

COUNSELING OFFICE

If your child is experiencing difficulty with a family divorce or having trouble coping with the loss of a loved one or with family, school, or peer issues, contact Erica McLennan, HMS Counselor, through the school office for information on our peer support groups. Groups will begin meeting the week of January 17.

END OF FIRST SEMESTER/REPORT CARDS

The first semester of school ends Thursday, January 26. Report cards will be sent home with students (not mailed) the following week. Call the HMS office with any questions.

NO SCHOOL

There is no school for students Friday, January 27 due to a records day for teachers.

EIGHTH GRADE TRANSITION TO HIGH SCHOOL

- **Scheduling:** Hartland High School counselors will meet with eighth grade students through their math classes in March (date to be determined). Each hour all math classes will be going to the aux. gym. /auditorium where students will receive all the information they need to begin scheduling for the High School.
- **Freshmen Parent Night** will be March 14th at 7:30 p.m. at Hartland High School. Parents and students will receive information about the High School curriculum, counseling services, math offerings, music options, the Link Orientation program, and more. Students may attend but **MUST** sit with parents.

ROBOTICS

Congratulations to the HMS FIRST Robotics team, the Steel Eagles. Our team recently finished second overall competing amongst 18 teams in the West Michigan Championship. The Steel Eagles also received the highest engineering honor of the event for their robot design. Congratulations to team members Miles Bednarski, John Dunleavy, Domenic Portuesi, Daniel Sapp, Michael Slattery, Sam Veestergard, Austin Watson, Jordan Wallick, and Matt Weber. A special thank you to volunteer club sponsor Mr. Matt Bednarski.

OPTIMIST ORATORICAL CONTEST

The topic for this year's Hartland Optimist Oratorical Contest is "How My Optimism Helps Me Overcome Obstacles." Qualifying students will be competing on the evening of February 28 at HMS. Preparation for speeches will be during school on February 14 and 21. Interested students need to sign up with Mr. Bliznik, Mr. Scheib, or Mrs. Mihocko.

NJHS NEWS

NJHS is collecting Box Tops. Please turn them into the boxes labeled "Box Tops" throughout the building. These Box Tops will help to raise money for all that NJHS does.

BOOK CLUB

The Cromaine Library is hosting a teen book club on the following dates: February 16th at 3:00 p.m. **You must sign up with the library if you want to participate in this club. Contact the library for details. Snacks will be available.**

MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT RE: MEAP

The state has raised the scores required to achieve proficiency on the MEAP tests. This increase in the scores had a significant impact on the district's overall scores this year compared to last year. Every school district in the state has been similarly impacted. The State did this in preparation for Michigan's switch to the National Common Core standards. The first common core assessments will be administered in 2015. The MEAP scores will be released soon. At that time if you have any questions, please contact your principal.

ATTENDANCE LINE

Please note that we have an attendance line. Call (810) 626-2405 to report a student absence.

HONOR POINTS

Each year, eighth grade students are awarded ten honor points. Students must have at least one honor point remaining in order to participate in the annual eighth grade trip to Cedar Point in June. Honor points are deducted for disciplinary infractions.

PARENT CONNECT

Parent Connect allows parents with Internet access to monitor their children's grades. If you had a password assigned last year, it remains the same. Contact Karen Wilson at pc@hartlandschools.us for assistance.

We have added a new feature to Parent Connect called "Transport Info". This will allow parents to see their children's bus number and schedule when logged in.

Also, as a reminder, parents can keep their e-mail and work numbers up to date under the Updates tab. This convenience allows you the ability to keep some basic information up to date without having to call the schools.

Newsletters will not be mailed home or sent home with students. Updated newsletters will be available approximately every two weeks (every other Thursday) via the school website (www.hartlandschools.us). If you do not have internet access, you or your child may pick up a hard copy of the newsletter in the school office.

HARTLAND COALITION



The Hartland Coalition

"Parents and Community working together to provide a drug free environment for our youth"

"Parents are the most potent and under used tool in the prevention of substance abuse."

Joseph Callfano, Chairman & Founder CASA National Center for Addiction and Substance Abuse

The Hartland Coalition is a group of parents, educators and community leaders who are committed to the health and safety of children, to protect them from underage alcohol use and other illegal substances. The coalition believes that it is the responsibility of parents and the Hartland Community to make the environment safe for its young people and that young people need the community's support to make healthy decisions.

Please join us on January 26, 2012

6:30-8:00pm in Room 47

Hartland Educational Support Service Center
9525 Highland Road, Howell, Michigan 48843

Goals of the Hartland Coalition

Engage parents in Livingston County in prevention activities.
Increase parental disapproval of alcohol, tobacco, and other drug use (ATOD).
Increase proportion of youth who perceive parental disapproval of ATOD.

For more information call Key Development Center, Inc.
2060 Grand River Annex, Suite 600 810-220-8192 email:akh@keycenters.org

This program is provided through the Livingston Community Prevention Project (LCPP) and funded by The Washtenaw Community Health Organization and the Michigan Department of Community Health, Bureau of Substance Abuse & Addiction Services

Information about the
Future Problem Solving Program
Thursday, January 26, 2012, 6:30-8:00pm
Livingston Educational Service Agency (LESA)

1425 W. Grand River Ave, Howell

WHO: Families and Teachers with kids K thru 9th grade

WHAT: Develop higher level thinking skills while solving real-life problems. Be like Steve Jobs or Thomas Edison. Get the creative juices flowing! Everyone is invited learn about this exciting program **hands-on!** Learn about the various aspects of the program, the reasonable cost, and how it involves creative problem solving in both competitive and non-competitive activities. Presentation will be given by Michigan's own director of FPS, Barbara Kirby. This is a great way to energize your school!

FREE!


PLEASE PRE-REGISTER: 810-227-5379 or m.brucker@comcast.net so we can prepare supplies



What is Future Problem Solving Program?

Future Problem Solving Program (FPSP) is a nonprofit educational corporation administering creative problem solving activities for students grades K-12. FPSP provides opportunities to students in both content and skill areas. FPSP meets standards for curriculum and instruction, language arts, social studies, science, the arts, math, geography, civics, technology, life skills and behavioral studies. Students will develop skills through research and investigation of student selected topic areas relevant to their world. For additional questions about the program, www.michiganfps.org, or call 810-923-1484.

This program is brought to you by Michigan Association for Gifted Children (MAGC)

One size does not fit all.  *Meet the needs of the
gifted child.*

www.migiftedchild.org