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Principal's Message



Dear HMS Parents and Guardians:

As I walk into HMS on any given morning, I hear our 7th grade band practicing some great tunes from the 70's and students playing basketball in the gym. If I walk a little further down the hall, many students are already busy doing school work in homework club or partaking in activities in the Maker Lab. As we are a learning community, it is important to have the students work on their academics skills as well as their social emotional skills. This year, our main focus in the building is community and climate. The students have been focused on being respectful to others and taking responsibility when they make mistakes. All of our students completed the Digital Citizenship Curriculum, which teaches how to use technology in a safe and responsible way the supports positive school culture. We are in our third year of the Verizon Innovative Learning Grant which gives all of our students access to Ipads and data. Please check out our website <http://hunt.bsdt.org/> to see some of the great videos and projects that students are creating.

During the month of September, our English Language Arts (ELA) teachers have been administering the Scholastic Reading Inventory (SRI). This research based reading assessment measures reading comprehension using authentic text. After all the students are tested, the teachers use the data to create interventions that will best meet the needs of individual students. The teachers will also meet in their Professional Learning Community (PLC) to analyze the data school wide and make decisions on future programming and curriculum. During parent/guardian conferences, your child's ELA teacher will be reviewing your child's SRI score and recommending strategies on how you can work with your child to improve their reading comprehension.

Effective October 9, 2017, all students who wish to ride a GMT bus must have a school issued ID or pay for the bus each time they ride. HMS will provide all students who live at least one mile from school with a school ID with the GMT logo. This will be the student's bus pass. Information about GMT School Tripper routes can be found at <http://ridegmt.com>.

The Burlington School District has a new phone system, Hunt's phone number still is **802-864-8469** but we no longer have separate numbers for our attendance, guidance, athletic director and nurse. When you dial the main number you will be prompted to press a number of the person or department you are looking for. Each teacher has an extension and mailbox but the phones will not ring into the classroom during the school day. If you need to get a message to your student, the best way to reach them is through their school email that they will be checking at the end of each day.

I am happy to report that we currently have 99% of our students' information updated in Powerschool. Please remember if your information changes to update it in Powerschool so we can contact you if needed.

Our after school programs and fall sports are in full swing. Please continue to check the school calendar and webpage for changes in schedules due to weather. **Our first school dance will be October 27th from 6:30-8:30.**

STUDENT SUPPORT TEAM

The Hunt School Counseling office is open **7:30 to 4:00**. You can reach the office directly at **864-8469 AND press 1**. This will bring you to our Administrative Assistant in the Counseling office. Once you reach our office you can also connect to our extensions. You may also dial any of us directly by using the 864-8469 number and dialing the extensions below.

Our Student Support Team is off and running this school year, excited to connect with students who are new to HMS, and reconnect with returning 7th and 8th graders. We have a variety of roles designed to support all students and families at Hunt. Please contact us by phone or email with any questions or concerns.

Nikola Gorčíková EXT 61004 (ngorciko@bsdvt.org) is the Guidance Office's extraordinary Administrative Assistant. Ms. Gorcikova is responsible for scheduling of appointments, conferences, maintaining tardy and early dismissals, and all other business that comes to the door.

Kathy Stergas EXT 61005 (kstergas@bsdvt.org) - Mrs. Stergas, School Counselor, is at HMS every day of the week. I **work** with students individually, in small groups, and also facilitate large classroom discussions. My role is to support all students and their families as they navigate the middle school years. There are many issues confronting middle school students today and my belief is that all students sometimes need someone to talk to. I collaborate with teachers, parents and community agencies to create a safe, healthy and fun middle school experience!

Peggy Weaver EXT 61007 (pweaver@bsdvt.org)- Ms. Weaver, Student Assistance Program Counselor (SAP), is here at HMS each day, and is available to work with all students. Ms. Weaver's area of expertise is drug and alcohol prevention, intervention, and referral. Ms. Weaver offers support to *all* students individually, small groups, leadership groups, and classroom presentations. This year Tatum O'Malley, a graduate student from UVM will be at Hunt 3 days a week interning with Ms. Weaver.

National Prescription Drug Take Back Day

ZOMBIE AWARENESS WALK



Join BE Above as we take to the streets to educate the public about safe medication disposal.

Zombie make-up and clothing will be provided!

Oct. 28, 2017 @ 11 am
City Hall Steps



Email beaboveBTV@gmail.com to participate!

Lindsay Dunn EXT 61008 (ldunn@bsdvt.org) is Hunt's full-time School Psychologist. Her primary role is working with students and their teams to provide evaluation, consultation and support to those eligible, or potentially eligible for Special Education Services or Section 504.

Liz Trackim EXT 61006 (ltrackim@bsdvt.org) Ms. Liz, is the full-time School Social Worker at HMS, co-hired through HowardCenter. Liz is here every day, and has a specific student caseload of 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students and families. Liz works individually with students, as well as small groups. Liz often consults on larger teams, as well as provides supports to students, families, Hunt teams around mental health concerns, crises, as well as can help connect with referrals in the community.

Emily Pearl (epearl@bsdvt.org) Ms. Emily is a School Services Clinician at HMS, co-hired through Howard Center. She is at HMS half time: on Thursdays, Fridays, and every other Wednesday ("A" Wednesdays), and has a specific caseload of 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students and families. Emily specializes in Art Therapy, and works individually with students as well as with small groups. She often consults on larger teams and provides supports to students, families, and Hunt teams around mental health concerns and crises, and can help connect with referrals and resources in the community.

Indigo Team Update

We have had a lively but productive start to our year. Our students have begun to come together as a group, and have settled into a solid academic routine. We have completed our first project, participated in team-building activities, learned our way around the technology systems, mastered lockers and schedules, and taken our first trip off campus. And at the same time, we have jumped right into our academics. To keep up with our activities, homework, curriculum, and announcements, please check out our team page regularly. Here is the link, if it's not already bookmarked on your device:

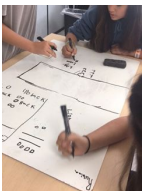


<https://sites.google.com/a/bsdvt.org/hmsindigo-team/>



Meanwhile, here are a few highlights of our first few weeks.

In Math, we have tackled a few big, involved problems to get our Math brains going. These engaging, multi-layered kinds of problems will be part of our work all year. Kids are off to a good start with rational numbers, as well as some early team statistics work, as kids use data to argue for new ideas and activities for our team.



Science is off and running with scientific method and our first design technology challenge: the EGG DROP, a sixth grade tradition. Keep an eye on our website for information about the egg drop competition (and follow-up eggs-travaganza), when the fire department joins us with their 100 foot ladder.



We have jumped right into ongoing current events/current issues discussions in Social Studies, with conversations about topics such as Colin Kaepernick and the act of "taking a knee." Kids have shown interest, thoughtfulness, and awareness as they listen to each other and share thoughts about our complex world. We have also done a number of activities to develop a common geographical vocabulary and skill base, in preparation for our first area of study: Canada.

Ms Chayer, in Language Arts, took on the task of making sure students are familiar with important ideas around digital citizenship, in preparation for our 1:1 iPad program. Kids have also practiced inferencing, culminating with writing their first formal paragraph of the year. Challenging discussions about stereotypes are underway, leading into the class novel *The Revealers*, which will anchor LA work for the next couple of months.

We are pleased with the connections that kids are making with us and each other. Our team is off to a good start! Please feel free to email us with questions any time, and we hope to see you all at our upcoming Open House!

Phoenix Team News

In Language Arts our first month has been focused on creating classroom community and establishing successful habits. Students have also written: one “good” paragraph about a topic of their choice, their personal definition of success and describing an important object of their choice.

Within the next week we will begin to read *Brown Girl Dreaming* by Jacqueline Woodson. Please support your student at home by signing reading records; students are expected to read a minimum of 30 minutes five times a week. Ms. Hickey can be reached at lhickey@bsdvt.org.

The focus this year in Social Studies/Global Citizenship will be on understanding Ancient World Civilizations and how the past has helped to shape the present. The first month found students agreeing upon routines for the learning environment, pre-assessing geography skills, and learning and applying the Five Themes of Geography. Additionally, each Friday focuses on current events. Please check in with your child about these conversations. Ms. Fabri can be reached at jfabri@bsdvt.org.

Mathematics:

- 7th graders are learning about integers.
- 8th graders are learning how to solve very complicated equations.
- Ms. Gagnon can be reached at agagnon@bsdvt.org

Science:

- The beginning of the year focused on students creating expectations for the classroom. The overall theme was “Be respectful to your classmates, teachers and yourself.”
- We also focused on having a growth mindset and that making mistakes increases learning. Mistakes should be celebrated!
- This year we are focusing on change over time.
- We are starting the year talking about weather with a focus on hurricanes.
- Ms. Cullen can be reached at mcullen@bsdvt.org

TEAM SOLSTICE

Science:

Students began the year in science by identifying themselves as a “Resident Expert” and sharing their expertise with our team via a poster. Next, students have been developing an answer to the question, “What happens in my brain when I learn?” We have explored evidence from neuroscientific studies related to the physical changes that occur in our brains as we learn and practice. Next, we will learn about the science of weather and climate through the timely lens of hurricanes. Follow us on Twitter @SolsticeScience !

Math

- Seventh graders are using a math program called Eureka Math, a program that is aligned with our Common Core Math Standards. We have begun a module (unit) on operations with positive and negative numbers and solving

linear equations.

- Our eighth graders are working through the Grade 8 Eureka Math program. Our first module is centered around linear relationships.
- Some of our eighth graders have chosen to also undertake Algebra Seminar, which uses the Grade 9 Eureka program, as a supplement to their Grade 8 work.
- All students are working on taking notes. Instead of taking them from a book, students take them from class discussions. These notes will help them when they are doing their practice problems.
- Canvas is our online grading system, and I update it once a week (between Friday and Sunday), so students (and parents) are encouraged to check it at the start of each week, in addition to checking the assignment book daily.

Language Arts

- Students completed their "What I dream about.." projects which are now displayed on the classroom walls.
- We are now reading eerie short stories while discussing words and plot that contribute to the mood of the story. We are also learning how plot line and the point of view of the narrator can help build suspense.
- We will finish the unit by writing paragraphs analyzing and/or comparing stories we read.
- Students are reading 150 minutes a week towards their reading logs. Be on the lookout for this at home!

TEAM OASIS

In math class, Oasis seventh graders are learning about rational numbers. They have been adding and subtracting negative numbers, including fractions and decimals. Soon, they will learn how to multiply and divide with negative numbers, use the distributive property and solve basic algebraic equations. Oasis eighth graders are solving complex algebraic equations. They have been using equations to solve word and geometric problems. Soon they will be solving systems of equations, starting with graphing.

All Oasis student have an IXL account that they can use at home. This is a great place to practice math skills.



Hello from Team Synergy!

We were so happy to welcome our new team of sixth graders and meet many of our families during our informal Open House on August 29th. Although the September heat has made it feel like mid-summer these first weeks, we've had a successful start to our year: getting to know one another, establishing routines, memorizing schedules and locker combinations and... learning, of course!

Here are some things we've been focusing on in our core classes:

MATH We've had a great start to this year. We are learning about growth mindset as it pertains to learning math. It is important that students understand that mistakes lead to growth. With that in mind we explored an exciting Zombie math problem that lead to lots of discussion. We are currently working on the Eureka Math integers lesson. Students seem quite engaged and had a fun time learning some necessary vocabulary.



ELA (English Language Arts) - *Wow!* We have a team of super-engaged readers this year! You could hear a pin drop during our daily silent reading. Mr. Dabritz, our school librarian, introduced the team to all the library has to offer, and students are already growing their “book ladders” - a list of books they’ve completed.

Our first unit focuses on elements of literature and we are reading a series of short stories from Cynthia Rylant’s *Every Living Thing*. Students are also learning key academic vocabulary words and are maintaining a vocabulary notebook. A unique part of this work is learning the American Sign Language sign for each of the words they are studying.

SCIENCE: Our sixth grade scientists have been quite inquisitive in our classroom laboratory. They started the year off observing hornworms and were recording qualitative and quantitative data. They are learning to write lab reports using C-E-R (claims, evidence and reasoning) which is part of NGSS curriculum. They conducted an experiment with ice cubes and made connections to the “real-world” regarding salt and freezing points. They are learning about variables and conducted an experiment using freshwater vs. soapy water and gained insight about surface tension and cohesion. We will soon begin our engineering process and solve the problem for protecting an egg from a 100 foot drop. Yes, it is soon time for our annual egg drop competition.

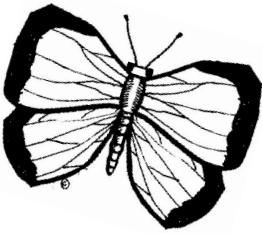
SOCIAL STUDIES - Our first unit is called “The World in Spatial Terms.” We are learning the elements of a map, how to determine absolute and relative location using a compass rose, map grid, and longitude/latitude, and how all maps - physical, political, thematic - have a story to tell.

As one small piece in our Latin America curriculum, we are raising monarch larvae which we will tag and release, sending them on their amazing migration to the oyamel forests in central Mexico. We will be learning about the people who will welcome the monarchs when they arrive in their wintering grounds in November and the threats - human and natural - the monarchs face once they arrive.



Don’t forget to mark your calendars for Thursday, October 5th for our Hunt Curriculum Night. We will be presenting information and answering questions about what your Synergy student will be learning and doing this year. We hope to see you there!

Mrs. Hevey and Mrs. Orlando





BURLINGTON SCHOOL FOOD PROJECT				
OCTOBER 2017				
K8 LUNCH				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<p>2</p> <p>Chicken Patty Sweet Potato Fries Daily Salad Bar View Nutrients</p>	<p>3</p> <p>PIZZA DAY Caesar Salad Daily Salad Bar View Nutrients</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Vermont Beef Tacos Seasoned Beans Daily Salad Bar View Nutrients</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Lasagna Rollups Roasted Broccoli Daily Salad Bar View Nutrients</p>	<p>6</p> <p>All-Beef Hot Dog Vegetarian Baked Beans Daily Salad Bar View Nutrients</p>
<p>9</p> <p>Chicken Nuggets Steak Fries Daily Salad Bar View Nutrients</p>	<p>10</p> <p>PIZZA DAY Caesar Salad Daily Salad Bar View Nutrients</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Chicken Nachos Seasoned Beans Daily Salad Bar View Nutrients</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Cheese Ravioli Mediterranean Vegetables Daily Salad Bar View Nutrients</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Meatball* Subs Roasted Roots Daily Salad Bar View Nutrients</p>
<p>16</p> <p>Roasted Chicken Peas & Corn Dinner Roll Daily Salad Bar View Nutrients</p>	<p>17</p> <p>PIZZA DAY Caesar Salad Daily Salad Bar View Nutrients</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Cheese Quesadillas Seasoned Black Beans Daily Salad Bar View Nutrients</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Baked Ziti Mediterranean Vegetables Daily Salad Bar View Nutrients</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Professional Development NO CLASSES View Nutrients</p>
<p>23</p> <p>Grilled Chicken Sandwich Baked Potato Bar Daily Salad Bar View Nutrients</p>	<p>24</p> <p>PIZZA DAY Caesar Salad Daily Salad Bar View Nutrients</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Vermont Beef Burrito Seasoned Beans Daily Salad Bar View Nutrients</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Spaghetti & Meatballs* Fresh Broccoli Bites Daily Salad Bar View Nutrients</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Corn Dogs* Peas & Corn Daily Salad Bar View Nutrients</p>
<p>30</p> <p>Chicken Tenders Dinner Roll Roasted Roots Daily Salad Bar View Nutrients</p>	<p>31</p> <p>PIZZA DAY Caesar Salad Daily Salad Bar View Nutrients</p>			

HEALTH OFFICE UPDATE

With the start of the school year, we'd like to share a few reminders for the the Health Office. As always, the nurse is available for any medical concerns that you may have.

- If you student has asthma, Please remember that we need a new Asthma Action Plan annually. They can be faxed to school **(802-864-8467)**. It is important to have inhalers at school in the event that asthmatic student experience breathing difficulties.
- The nurse is able to provide most prescription medications in school with a medication order from you doctor. Please consider this if mornings are hectic and medication is easily forgotten.
- Immunizations should be up to date at this time. If your child has not had HPV or meningitis vaccinations, please consider them. Both are optional but are highly recommended. Contact the health office or your pediatrician for more information.

- Any students missing **required** immunizations will receive a letter home. Please notify the nurse if you will be providing an updated record or if an appointment has been made to receive the vaccinations.
- Finally, please remind your students to wash their hands regularly throughout the school day, especially prior to eating. Being in a large community, germs are many and illnesses spread quickly!

Please call (540-0166) or stop in to say hello or share any information with me about the health of your child. I am always eager to hear of cases of the flu, strep throat or other infectious illnesses so I know what is out there and what to look for.

STAY HEALTHY!

Burlington Fire Department News:



Burlington Fire Department would like to invite our community to their open house on Saturday October 14th between 2pm - 6pm.

Place: **Mansfield Ave**, Burlington

Bring your families to tour the fire station

BBQ starts at 4pm



MAKERSPACE

Hunt Middle School's
NEW Makerspace

Playful place where
EVERYONE
can craft their ideas

- *3D Printing*
- *Vinyl Cutter*
- *Button Making*
- *Electronics*
- *And so much MORE!*

What is a makerspace?

A makerspace is place where equipment, community, and education enables its community to design, prototype, and create.

Where?

Library (room behind librarian's desk)

When?

Every morning during homework help and some days after school (check calendar)