

# Hunt Middle School



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## Upcoming Events

### **September & October**

Early Release Day 12:00pm 9/26

Open House 6:30-8:00pm 10/3

Picture Day Retakes 10/11

Principal Coffee 7:30-8:30am 10/11

No School for Students 10/18

Dance 6:30-8:00pm 10/25





## Principal's Note

Thank you Nathan Caswell, Team Solstice Science Teacher, for organizing the field trip to the Climate Strike which gave our students the opportunity to participate in a proactive and educational social action. The students walked 3 miles downtown to Main Street Landing where they watched the film Beyond Crisis, and participated in the youth-led community discussion. They then walked to City Hall Park to participate in the Climate Crisis Rally and Climate March.

We will be having our community dinner and HMS open house on October 3rd. The dinner will run from 5:45 to 6:30 and the open house from 6:30 to 8:00pm. This year we have changed the format to better meet our families' needs. Each session will have the same content and if you come late and miss the start of the first session, you can still visit the UA teachers, Powerschool session or the guidance session.

Brent Thomas is our long term sub for music. He will be teaching general music classes as well as directing our middle school chorus. Please stop by and meet him during open house.

### **Session One 6:40-7:10pm**

Powerschool Session - Learn how to update your child's account and check their grades in the Library

Guidance Session - How to work with your middle schooler - Cafeteria

6th grade team orientation

7/8 grade team orientation

Unified Arts-visit the classrooms: Art room, French room, Design and Tech room, Music room, Health room, Band room, Orchestra room

### **Session One 7:20-7:50pm**

Powerschool Session - Learn how to update your child's account and check their grades in the Library





Guidance Session - How to work with your middle schooler - Cafeteria

6th grade team orientation

7/8 grade team orientation

Unified Arts - Visit the classrooms: Art room , French room, Design and Tech room, Music room, Health room, Band room, Orchestra room

## **7:50-8:00pm Open House Wrap Up**

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 1, 2019, 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/school-trippers/>

I will be holding a Principal's coffee on October 11th starting at 7:30 in the HMS library. All are welcome to come talk about what is happening at HMS.





# Athletics

Welcome to Hunt Middle School Physical Education 1st quarter Newsletter. We have had a great start to the new school year. We have focused on activities supporting team building, working together and supporting and encouraging a positive working environment. Our primary goal is to create a safe environment for all students to participate without the fear of ridicule. Our Physical Education program focuses on skills and activities for life.

Our grading system:

WE have spent a great deal of time going over our grading system with our students, in case of any confusion we want to make sure parents understand as well.

1st and foremost, it is **expected that students bring a change of clothes to PE class** (And change) and wear proper shoes. This counts as **10% of their grade**. In the grading section it will be listed as prepared for class. If your student has a "0" that means they either didn't change or did not wear proper shoes. If it has "100", your child changed and had on proper shoes.

Secondly, **Daily grade**, this translates to **90% of their PE grade**. How this works, Students grade themselves 1-5 (1=55, 2=65, 3=75, 4=85, and 5=95 (+/- 5 on each side)).

A few of the characteristics

**Level 1: Irresponsible:** Inappropriate behavior, excessive socializing, disrespectful, late to class, name calling, does not participate, not playing by the rules

**Level 2: Self-control:** cruises in neutral, doesn't participate, is not disruptive, does not call names, does not exert any effort

**Level 3: Participant:** Participate's, If the teacher is watching, only if they are with their friends, if the activity is near them

**Level 4: Self-Responsible:** Hustles, puts good effort, maximizes their time, Listens, follows directions, honest and fair, Willing to try and involved in the activities

**Level 5: Caring:** All of level 4 and Helps others, supports students positively, compliments others, helps others, sets up or cleans up equipment. Includes everyone in the class willingly.

It has been a great pleasure getting to know your children, we are looking forward to a great year in PE. Please feel free to contact Mr. Pecor or Mrs. St. Pierre at any time with your questions or concerns.





## Art

Art students in Grades 7 & 8 at HMS started their year off with a collaborative effort of school beautification and positivity. Our lesson on Visual Messages in Art allowed for students to problem solve a theme to have on display within a selected space in the school. All were asked to join in and share in their groups as they designed, cut and created bulletin boards for the school.



We reviewed and met the art standard:

VA:Cr2.3.8a Select, organize, and design images and words to make visually clear and compelling presentations.







## Team Phoenix News

Many of our team and class updates can be found at our team Twitter feed (<https://twitter.com/PhoenixLearns>) and team blog ([www.hmsteamphoenix.blogspot.com](http://www.hmsteamphoenix.blogspot.com)). Please visit them and be sure to sign up/follow for updates. We welcome your feedback as we seek to make these tools as helpful as possible for you all.

### Language Arts:

Welcome to Sarah Hunziger, our student intern from Saint Michael's College. She will be with us six hours a week this semester.

Students have worked together to create class goals and many students have volunteer class jobs.

Students took the Scholastic Reading Inventory to check reading comprehension in mid- September. They know their scores and would love to discuss them with you.

We soon will be reading the graphic novel March One. If you didn't get a letter about this from your student on Friday, September 22, here is a link for it. [Letter to Parents about the March One unit](#).

Students are reading daily in class and **should be reading at home half an hour, five times a week**.

Ms. Hickey can be reached at [lhickey@bsdvt.org](mailto:lhickey@bsdvt.org).

### Global Citizenship (formerly known as Social Studies):

For these first few weeks, we have been laying the foundation and setting up our routines and we're ready to dig into our content and skills work. This year, we will be looking at ancient world civilizations and what we can learn from them about sustainability.

Additionally, you should know that every Friday, we learn about and discuss current events. I encourage you to check in with your child to see what they are learning and help them process through any questions or reactions to the material.

This year, we will use the Class Pages feature within PowerSchool to track daily work, learning goals, assignments, etc. Please have your child show you this tool which you can find at

<https://bsdvt.learning.powerschool.com/jsbardel/globalcitizenship2019-20>

Ms. Fabri can be reached at [jfabri@bsdvt.org](mailto:jfabri@bsdvt.org).





### Mathematics:

- 7th graders are studying integers.
- 8th graders are studying equations .
- Parents and students should be checking PowerSchool daily.
- Help with math assignments is available after school Monday through Thursday in homework club.
- Ms. Gagnon can be reached at [agagnon@bsdvt.org](mailto:agagnon@bsdvt.org)
- Hannah McDonald, Ms. Gagnon's student teacher can be reached at [hmcdonal@bsdvt.org](mailto:hmcdonal@bsdvt.org). Her introduction is below:

Hello everybody!

I wanted to take a moment to introduce myself and let everyone know how excited I am to join the team here on Phoenix for this upcoming semester! My name is Hannah McDonald and I am going to be partnering with Anah Gagnon on team Phoenix until December of this year. I am currently completing my licensure in both Secondary Education Mathematics and Special Education with minors in both Communication Sciences and Psychology at UVM. I look forward to getting to know all of you and making the most of this upcoming year!



### Science

- During the first couple of weeks in science, students have been learning the routines and expectations.
- They also experimented with "What affects the diameter of a bubble?"
- They created their first graph and wrote their first Claim, Evidence, Reasoning Paragraph
- We are now going to start a unit on how the Earth has changed over time.
- Ms. Cullen can be reached at [mcullen@bsdvt.org](mailto:mcullen@bsdvt.org)





# Team Solstice News

Visit our team blog for the most up-to-date news: [teamsolstice.edublogs.org](https://teamsolstice.edublogs.org)

## Science

Students kicked off the year by identifying themselves as a Resident Expert in a topic or skill. Students introduced themselves as Resident Experts by making posters, which they shared and commented on in a Digital Resident Expert Convention. Ask your child to show you our private community of experts on [cluster.co](https://cluster.co).

Presently, Solstice scientists are learning about neurology and neuroplasticity as they piece together the answer to the question, "What happens in my brain when I learn?"

Our next topic of study will incorporate Geology and Paleontology as we examine evidence of Earth's history and changes to Earth's surface over time.

Mr. Caswell  
[ncaswell@bsdvt.org](mailto:ncaswell@bsdvt.org)

## Math

- Our seventh graders have begun our investigation of operations with positive and negative numbers; in addition to the basic operations, we also discuss topics like absolute value, properties of operations, and prime factorization.
- Our eighth graders have begun the year with some practice in collecting data and making conclusions based on the data. We will use that knowledge at various points in the year in connection with some goal-setting work we will be doing. Next up is a big investigation of linear relationships, such as calculating slope and intercepts, writing equations in different forms (slope-intercept, standard, and point-slope), and applying that knowledge to word problems. We will apply and extend that knowledge to look at graphing one- and two-variable inequalities, as well as solving systems of inequalities.
- Eighth graders will have the option of taking an additional Algebra Seminar the second half of the year; student contracts are being handed out now and must be returned in order to be eligible for this course.





## Language Arts

- Students finished up their hopes and dreams projects, which will be displayed around our classrooms.
- We are learning about the parts of a graphic novel and how to read them. Students are learning that a graphic novel is different than a comic book, that oftentimes, we have to dig deep, make inferences and look at the pictures for clues.
- Students researched important events during the Civil Rights Era to help us build background knowledge for our all class read of the graphic novel *March*. *March* tells the story of the birth of the Civil Rights era from the point of view of Congressman John Lewis. We will travel to the Flynn on October 8 to hear him speak.
- Please see [this important letter](#) regarding the content of *March*.
- Are you getting the Friday updates in your email? If not, please let Ms. Sawtell know and she can make sure you are on the list: [csawtell@bsdvt.org](mailto:csawtell@bsdvt.org)

## Social Studies

Students are off to a great start in Social Studies this year! The plan for the year: we have begun with a unit on geography skills. We'll follow-up by studying the geography of Africa and Asia. By the second quarter we should be studying ancient history including the Sumerians, Egyptians, Greeks, Persians, Rome, China, and India. Your student recently took a quiz on some of the basics on the world map. You should have seen this map as they were assigned to study it near an adult who could guide effective study techniques. If you haven't seen the quiz, ask them how it went or log on to Unified Classroom which you will find linked to the [Hunt website](#). Also know that they are watching the always entertaining [Geography Now](#) videos on Youtube. Feel free to follow along; it may make for some nice dinner-time conversation! For specific information about what we are doing in class click the "Make-up" work tab which is on my [website](#). Here's to a great year!









**CLIMATE STRIKE** **SEPT 20**





# Ecollect Student Update

**NOTICE:** Due to problems with Powerschool our deadline has been extended to **Monday, September 30**. If student information is not updated by then, that student may not be allowed to return to school until their update is complete. If a student without updated information comes to school on **September 30**, they may be sent home.

It is time for you to complete the online Annual Student Information Update (now listed as Ecollect Forms in Powerschool) for your student. The form asks you to update critical information, such as emergency contact information, medical information, etc.

Please go to the following [link](#) to Powerschool to update their information (see step by step directions below). If you do not already have an account in Powerschool (most of you do), then please refer to the directions below in order to create the account.

(<https://psapp.bsdrv.org/public/home.html>)

**NOTE:**

If you have questions or need assistance, please contact your child's school.

Thank You

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**Step 1. If you already have an account in Powerschool**, sign into your Powerschool account. After you have signed in:

- a) Look for your student's name as shown on the bar in the upper left corner;
  - i) click on the student's name
  - ii) then click the Ecollect Student Update Form and then start with the form called "A. Introduction" and complete the information.
  - iii) It will take you through each form. Make sure to complete every form.
  - iv) Once you finish with this student, move on to the next student by clicking on their name on the bar in the upper left corner. All students must be updated one at a time.
  - v) Done!
- b) **If the names of other children name do not appear**, you must next call your child's school and ask for their "Access ID and Access Password"





**Then again, in Powerschool, go to:**

1. "Account Preferences" on the menu on the left side,
2. then click on "Students",
3. then "Add Student."
4. Enter your student's name, their Access ID and Access Password.
5. Then select your relationship to your student through the Relationship drop down.

**Step 2: If you are not certain if you have a powerschool account, follow these steps:**

1. Go to [bsdvt.org](http://bsdvt.org) or to your school's home page.
2. Click on this image in the upper right hand corner of the webpage:
3. Enter your username and password.
4. Follow the steps for "Forgot Username or Password?" if needed.
5. **If you have never created a Powerschool account**, instead call your school and ask for an access ID and Access Password; when given these, click on create account, and enter the ID and Password as directed.





## Local Messages

### Piano Lessons:

Hello Hunt Families. My name is Randal Pierce, I've recently opened up a piano teaching studio in Burlington and am currently accepting new students. I teach reading music, playing by ear and creating on one's own on the piano. Be in touch if you are interested in playing! [Randal.pierce@gmail.com](mailto:Randal.pierce@gmail.com), [randalpiercemusic.com](http://randalpiercemusic.com), 802-999-1594.

### Student Dancer Auditions:

Come be a part of the holiday magic of Vermont's longest running Nutcracker performance with Albany Berkshire Ballet. Student Dancer Auditions will be held:

Burlington, VT - September 29, 2019

Flynn Center for the Performing Arts – Flynn Space  
153 Main St., Burlington, VT 05401

10:00 am Ages 4-5

10:30 am Ages 6-8

11:30 am Ages 9-11

1:00 pm Ages 12 and up

Audition fee of \$20

Shows will help kick off the holiday season Thanksgiving weekend November 30 & December 1, 2019. Children are generally in one show. For more information contact Lori Preiss at [abbvermontnutcracker@gmail.com](mailto:abbvermontnutcracker@gmail.com).

