



Dear Harrison High School Families:

Harrison High School is an active and vibrant learning community. Learning takes place in a variety of ways and occurs not only in classrooms, but also in the library, hallways, cafeteria and in every inch of our building. Supporting every aspect of student growth - intellectual, social, emotional - and providing a variety of pathways for students to succeed is the foundation of our work.

There are multiple sources of support for students at Harrison High School. Teachers are available at the Academic Support Center in the library during period 4 through period 8 each day to provide academic help and enrich student learning. Peer Tutoring has become a vital part of student learning and free tutors are available by request. Our school psychologists and counselors provide valuable support to help students face challenges and create an environment where they can be successful. Details about each of these programs and services appear below.

I am constantly inspired as I walk through our high school and interact with your children, proud of the seriousness with which our students approach their learning, and heartened by the respect they offer each other. I am grateful for the privilege of learning from your children's examples of persistence and compassion each and every day. Thank you for sharing the gifts of your children with me. They are truly inspirational.

Best wishes for a restful and festive holiday season.

Sincerely,

*Kimberly Beukema*  
**Principal**

Happenings @ HHS “**Happenings @ HHS**” features a glimpse inside Harrison High School to share the learning that takes place in classrooms, hallways and around our school.

### **Academic Support Center**

Teachers are available at the Academic Support Center in the library during periods 4-8 every day. Students may drop in and meet with teachers for help in a subject area. There is no need to schedule an appointment in advance.

[Academic Support Center Schedule](#)

## **Peer Tutoring**

Our peer tutoring program is an integral part of our high school. Student volunteers manage the program and make “best fit” matches between tutors and students. To request free tutoring, student, counselor, parent, or teacher simply needs to email [hhspeertutors@harrisoncsd.org](mailto:hhspeertutors@harrisoncsd.org) with the request; include the subject and grade level in the email.

## **Helping Teens Cope with Stress and Anxiety**

At a recent PTA meeting our counseling staff discussed Helping Teens Cope with Stress and Anxiety. Their presentation was informative and provided helpful information for identifying and managing stress and anxiety in teenagers. If your child needs help managing stress or anxiety do not not hesitate to reach out your school counselor or one of our school psychologists. They are available to assist all students.

### ***School Counselors:***

Mrs. Lauren Ciallella - [ciallellal@harrisoncsd.org](mailto:ciallellal@harrisoncsd.org)  
Mrs. Kira DiFalco - [difalcok@harrisoncsd.org](mailto:difalcok@harrisoncsd.org)  
Mrs. Kristy Grammas - [grammask@harrisoncsd.org](mailto:grammask@harrisoncsd.org)  
Mrs. Shari Heyen - [heyens@harrisoncsd.org](mailto:heyens@harrisoncsd.org)  
Mrs. Renee Katzenberg - [katzenbergr@harrisoncsd.org](mailto:katzenbergr@harrisoncsd.org)  
Mrs. Cindy Leong - [leongc@harrisoncsd.org](mailto:leongc@harrisoncsd.org)  
Mr. Daniel Logue - [logued@harrisoncsd.org](mailto:logued@harrisoncsd.org)

### ***School Psychologists:***

Dr. Amabell Abbott - [abbotta@harrisoncsd.org](mailto:abbotta@harrisoncsd.org)  
Dr. Ashley Ribner - [ribnera@harrisoncsd.org](mailto:ribnera@harrisoncsd.org)  
Dr. Lara Singer - [singerl@harrisoncsd.org](mailto:singerl@harrisoncsd.org)

### ***Social Worker & Student Assistance Counselor:***

Mr. Larrie Gold - [goldl@harrisoncsd.org](mailto:goldl@harrisoncsd.org)  
Mrs. Dana McCarthy - [mccarthyd@harrisoncsd.org](mailto:mccarthyd@harrisoncsd.org)

***A Special Moment: In each newsletter I pause and share an experience that I observed in the high school which inspires me and exemplifies our core values.***

The days of a principal are filled with various activities and responsibilities, but the one I enjoy most is spending time in classrooms. Recently I visited a math classroom. Students were gathered in small groups as the teacher traversed the room probing, encouraging, answering questions. I listened as two students worked together on a particular math problem. They patiently revisited concepts and reviewed understanding as they shared their thinking for solving the problem. For most of the period the two students worked together toward resolution, sharing, encouraging and ultimately solving the problem in front of them. The determination on their faces transformed into broad smiles and excitement. It was a true celebration of learning (not to mention a classroom that epitomized differentiated instruction and personalized learning!).

Counselor Connection **“Counselor Connection”** provides ongoing information about how the **Guidance Department and our school counselors support students in constructing a high school experience both inside and out of the classroom that meets students’ unique talents, passions and goals.**

The Guidance Office is fully immersed in the college application process with Seniors, and counselors are preparing to meet with underclass students in January and February to begin course planning for next year. Watch for communication from counselors at the start of the new year with your child’s scheduled meeting time.