

HOCKINSON SCHOOLS

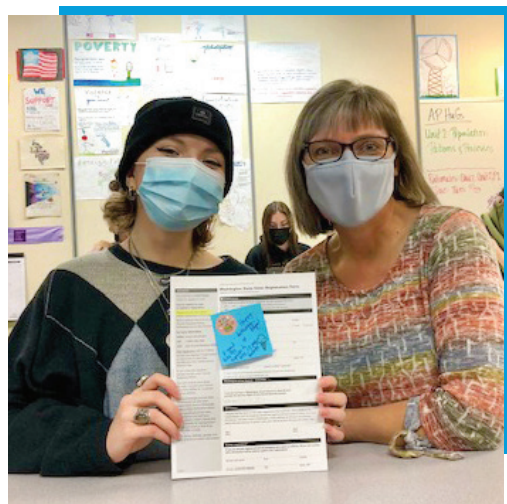
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Winter 2022 Newsletter

HHS Social Studies Teacher Encourages Students to Vote

Heidi Morris, a Social Studies teacher and Mock Trial coach, guides Hockinson seniors through an important step in becoming a legal adult by encouraging them to register to vote.



For at least the last decade, when seniors in Heidi's class turn 18, they receive a voter's registration form along with a promise that she will pay the postage if they would like to register to vote. Kaya Heimbuch, a senior at Hockinson High School, recently turned 18 making her eligible to register to vote. Heidi said that "Kaya was so excited to register that she filled her form out right away, and I dropped it off at the post office for her that afternoon."

One of Heidi's favorite things about teaching seniors is presenting them with a voter's registration form on their birthdays. She says, "One of the unexpected perks is being able to hear from former students around election time to

tell me that they voted or to ask me questions." While she never answers questions like, "Who should I vote for?" or "How should I vote?" she does direct them to the online voters' pamphlet and other informational links.

When learning was remote, Heidi emailed students on their 18th birthdays with the link to fill out a voter's registration form. Filling out the online registration form is easy for anyone who is 18 or over. HSD recently had a very close school board election, and the district will vote on a school levy in February. The best way to have a voice in how your school district operates is to become an informed, registered voter and to vote in our local elections.

Register to vote at: <https://voter.votewa.gov/WhereToVote.aspx>

HMS Families Give Back to Community in Big Way with Record-Breaking Food Drive

Hockinson Middle School students had their most successful year for the Clark County Fire District's annual food drive, bringing in over 7,000 items to be donated to local food banks. The canned food drive has been gaining momentum each year since teacher Joe Loper took over in 2015 and has become a fun school-wide event.

For the students, this is more than just a food drive. The school uses the home base time to demonstrate that, when the community comes together, it can accomplish great things. Thank you to all the students, families, and community members that supported the food drive!





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Superintendent's Message

Dear Hockinson Community,

Every day I witness our students learning and excelling in our schools. It is never once lost on me that this special process of academic and personal growth would not be possible without the support of the Hockinson community.



To traverse the challenging landscape of the COVID pandemic, Hockinson Schools have continually adapted, creating new ways to overcome obstacles and maintain in-person services for our students. This has not been easy, but thanks to your support and the efforts of our amazing staff, we have been able to meet the varied needs of our students face-to-face.

I want to make everyone aware that our district's levy is up for renewal on the February 8 ballot. We will be mailing out levy information in the weeks to come. I ask that you review this information to learn how levy dollars support our students and enable us to continue the 152-year tradition of quality public education in Hockinson. If you are not registered to vote, I encourage you to take a moment and register.

Educating our students is a team effort. Thank you again for being part of our team.

- Steve Marshall



Band is Back in Full Swing

The Hockinson High School Jazz Band secured a 1st place win at the recent Skyview "Storm of Cool Jazz" Festival where Parker Bruning and Kaisho Barnhill earned awards for outstanding soloists. Although the band has only been back in person for about a year, they have certainly been busy with concerts, community events, sporting events, and giving back to the community.

"It's important to remember that the district band program is known throughout the area for their high quality and that is thanks to the support of our community," said Corey McEnry, HHS Band Director. "It's rare to see a community that not only enjoys the performing arts but sees the value and makes the investment in performing arts. We are aware of that every day and we are incredibly grateful for it."

Extracurricular activities like this are funded by the Hockinson School Levy. Levy dollars enable Hockinson schools to continue to offer important educational programs and services not fully funded by the state.