

Weeks of January 1-5, 2024

**Monday,  
January 8, 2024 (B5)**

**Tuesday,  
January 9, 2024 (A6)**

Wednesday,  
January 10, 2024 (B6)

Thursday,  
January 11, 2024 (A7)

Friday,  
January 12, 2024 (B7)

HMS Early Dismissal

Monday, January 8, 2024

Students dismiss at 12:05 PM.

Gr. 7 House 5, Team Holt

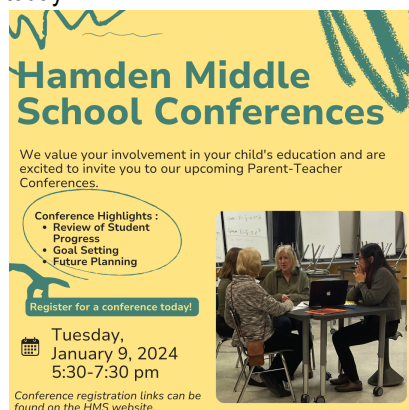
[Gr. 8 House 1, Team Domurad](#)  
[Gr. 8 House 2, Team Morello](#)  
[Gr. 8 House 3, Team DeLucia](#)  
[Gr. 8 House 4, Team Rocco](#)

Parents are also encouraged to register for conferences with their middle schooler's Encore and World Language Teachers. Please check out the following links:  
[Encore Team](#)  
[World Language Team](#)

Members of our PPS team, including school counselors, psychologists, social workers, and speech and language pathologists are also available to meet with parents. It is a great time to hear about your child's progress.  
[PPS Team](#)

Finally, our school administrators, deans of students, and curricular specialists will be available to meet with parents. Please register for a conference with specialists by using this link: [Specialists Team](#). Ms. Coogan, Ms. Coffey, Mr. Ortiz, Ms. Mule, and Mr. Tremper will be present in the main lobby to greet and talk with parents.

It is an important night for our community. We hope to connect with one grown up for each middle school student at HMS. Help us achieve this goal by registering for a conference today!



### **HIDDEN IN PLAIN SIGHT PRESENTED DURING CONFERENCE NIGHT!**

The Hamden Youth Services Bureau is sponsoring an opportunity for parents to learn how to look for signs of potential adolescent "risky" behavior. When parents attend conferences on Tuesday, January 9th, they can visit this informational station in the main lobby. There will be a mock bedroom for parents and adults to explore and try to find evidence of drug paraphernalia and warning signs associated with drug and alcohol abuse. It is an excellent resource, and parents have expressed positive feedback about this informational program.

### **JOIN HEALTHY HEROES**

Members of the HMS faculty and staff work with students on Monday and Friday afternoons. They help students complete their homework assignments. They also promote healthy choices with healthy snacks, engaging lessons, and fitness activities. This program is FREE to HMS students. Parents, please consider if your child would benefit from this program. Contact Michelle Mule for additional information at [mmule@hamden.org](mailto:mmule@hamden.org).

### **HOMEWORK**

Our middle school students have homework most evenings. Parents can remind their children to do the following activities:

- Read for a minimum of 25 minutes
- Complete math problems on IXL
- Complete world language activities on Rosetta Stone
- Check PowerSchool to monitor grades
- Check Google Classroom to finish classroom assignments

We anticipate that all students should be engaged in about 60 minutes of learning activities outside of the school day.

### **OFFICE HOURS & IXL SUPPORT**

Our teachers host office hours on Tuesday afternoons. Students can stay after school to get help with an assignment or assessment. Parents, please review your child's progress on PowerSchool. If your child is earning below a C in any class, encourage them to stay after school with the teacher.

All students are responsible for completing math lessons on IXL. It is part of their homework responsibility. On Tuesday afternoons, members of the faculty stay after school in the library to assist students with this weekly assignment. If you want your child to attend, encourage them to talk to their math teacher. We are here to help!

### **PERSONAL TECHNOLOGY**

We noticed that many of our students were gifted new technology over the holiday season. As a reminder, the HMS faculty and staff do not want students to use their personal technology during class lessons. We cannot be responsible for lost or broken technology. If parents allow students to bring cell phones, headphones, iPads, and more, they should have clear expectations for how to manage these devices, including how to stow them away during the school day.



**REMIND YOUR HMS STUDENT TO WEAR THEIR SNEAKERS TO SCHOOL, ESPECIALLY ON PHYSICAL EDUCATION DAYS!**

### SBAC PRACTICE TESTS

Our students will complete the state-mandated assessments in April and May 2024. SBAC is an important test that allows parents and educators to monitor their child's progress in learning as compared to grade-level standards. We encourage all of our students to take the Practice Test at home. Click this [LINK](#) to get to the website. Click on Practice and Training Tests.

SYSTEM

**Practice and Training Tests**

Become familiar with the testing system, accommodations, and types of questions on the summative tests.

Click on Sign In.  
 Select Grade 7 or Grade 8.  
 Click on Smarter Balanced Practice Tests. Then, select one of the following tests:  
 ELA Practice Test  
 Math Practice Test  
 Math Practice Performance Task.  
 NGSS Science Practice Tests (Gr. 8 Only)

It is a great opportunity for parents to work with their children. By completing the practice tests together, parents will gain a sense of the three or four tests middle school students are expected to take.

### NATIONAL ASSESSMENT OF EDUCATIONAL PROGRESS (NAEP) TESTING

Hamden Middle School will participate in the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) on Wednesday February 12, 2024. NAEP is the largest nationally representative and continuing assessment of what students know and can do in various subjects. It is different from our state and local assessments because it is a common measure of achievement across the country. The assessment is administered by the National Center for Education Statistics, within the U.S Department of Education. The results are released as The Nation's Report Card, which provides information about student achievement to educators, parents, policymakers and the public. If your child has been chosen to take part in this assessment you will be receiving an email this week.

The assessment takes approximately 2 hours for most students, which includes transition time, directions and completion of survey questions. The information is used for statistical purposes only and your child's grades will not be affected. A brochure that explains what participation in NAEP means is available at <http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/pdf/parents/2012469.pdf>. If you have questions please contact Ms. Coffey at [jcoffey@hamden.org](mailto:jcoffey@hamden.org).

### HMS BASKETBALL GAMES

Students who are interested in watching a basketball game at HMS **must be accompanied by an adult/parent**. Parents, we love to

have students cheering on teams, but we need help supervising students during the games.

Moving forward, parents can only accept responsibility for their own children and three additional friends as long as they are willing to remain at HMS until all children are safely picked up from school.

### HAMDEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS VIRTUAL BULLETIN BOARDS

Parents are invited to check out the district website. It is the virtual space for community fliers. It is a great way to see what is going on in our beautiful town.

<https://www.hamden.org/families/vbb>

**HAMDEN**  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

**DAILY HEALTH ASSESSMENT**

Please review this health assessment each day before entering school

**HOW ARE YOU FEELING TODAY?**

Students and staff with mild respiratory disease symptoms (infrequent cough, congestion, runny nose, sore throat, etc.) *may come to school if:*

- ✓ They are fever-free (a temperature of less than 100° F) and feel well enough to participate.
- ✓ They test negative for COVID-19 prior to reporting in-person every day they have symptoms, as well as one final test on the morning their symptoms have completely resolved, and
- ✓ They consider wearing a mask while in school

Students and staff who have any respiratory disease symptoms *must NOT come to school if either:*

- ✓ They have a fever (a temperature of 100° F or higher),
- ✓ They test positive for COVID-19

Stay home until the symptoms resolve and test for COVID-19. This includes not coming to school until the fever has ended for at least 24 hours without the use of medication. Anyone testing positive for COVID-19 should stay home according to the guidance provided by their medical provider and in consultation with the school nurse.

Following this guidance will help keep our schools healthy and open!  
[www.hamden.org](http://www.hamden.org)

### DAILY HEALTH ASSESSMENT

Please review this updated Daily Health Assessment, available in [English](#) or [Spanish](#), with your child every day. This is an important first line of defense in both ensuring the health and wellness of your children and also protecting our entire school community from the risk of infection.



## New Year Sale!

**SPIRITWEAR WEEKLY AD**  
VALID JANUARY 5 - 11, 2024

<b>Giordan Long Sleeves</b> #22000 & 21000 <b>20% OFF</b>	<b>Give the gift of School Spirit!</b> With an extra 10% off!	<b>Giordan Mangas Largas</b> #22000 & 21000 <b>20% DESCUENTO</b>	<b>¡Que el regalo del espíritu escolar sea doble!</b> ¡Con un extra 10% de descuento!
<b>Sponge Hoodies</b> #3710, 3710Y <b>15% OFF</b>	<b>Wicking Short Sleeves</b> #3700, 3700, 3700, 3700 <b>15% OFF</b>	<b>Sudaderas con Capucha de Espuma</b> #3710, 3710Y <b>15% DESCUENTO</b>	<b>Mangas Cortas Resistentes</b> #3700, 3700, 3700, 3700 <b>15% DESCUENTO</b>
<b>Tri Blend Short Sleeves</b> #3800, 3805, 3807 <b>10% OFF</b>	<b>Ladies' Beach Crewneck</b> #12301 <b>10% OFF</b>	<b>Mangas Cortas Tri Blend</b> #3800, 3805, 3807 <b>10% DESCUENTO</b>	<b>Cuello Redondo de Playa Para Mujeres</b> #12301 <b>10% DESCUENTO</b>
<b>TOTE BAGS!</b> <b>15% OFF</b>	<b>BOLSOS DE MANO!</b> <b>15% DESCUENTO</b>		