

WINTER CONCERTS AT HMS

Mark your calendars! You are invited to attend the Winter Concerts.

- **Tuesday, January 23**
7th Grade Chorus, 7th Grade Orchestra
- **Thursday, January 25**
7th Grade Band, Jazz Band

Our student musicians and singers have diligently prepared for these concerts. Mr. Barkon, Mr. Gunn, and Mr. O'Herron are excited to share their students' talent with our community. All concerts begin at 7 PM in our school auditorium. We hope to see you there.

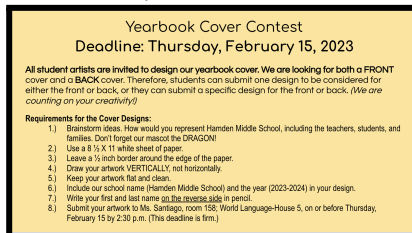
HMS 2024 YEARBOOK COVER DESIGN CONTEST

The club's first project is the **Yearbook Cover Design Contest**. Student artists are invited to design our yearbook covers. Students can design a cover and submit it to Ms. Santiago by Thursday, February 15th. The winning entries will be proudly displayed as the front cover and back covers of the 2024 HMS Yearbook.

Requirements for the Cover Designs:

- 1.) Brainstorm ideas. How would you represent Hamden Middle School, including the teachers, students, and families. Don't forget our mascot the Dragon!
- 2.) Use a 8 ½ X 11 white sheet of paper.
- 3.) Leave a ½ inch border around the edge of the paper.
- 4.) Draw your artwork VERTICALLY, not horizontally.
- 5.) Keep your artwork flat and clean.
- 6.) Include our school name (Hamden Middle School) and the year (2023-2024) in your design.

- 7.) Write your first and last name on the reverse side in pencil.
- 8.) Submit your artwork to Ms. Santiago on or before Thursday, February 15th by 9 a.m. (This deadline is firm.)



HMS PTA MEETING

Our next PTA meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 30th from 6:30-7:30 pm at HMS. There is also a Zoom Link available: <https://zoom.us/j/93038450990> for those who might prefer to join from home. We will be discussing upcoming events, including an **Internet Safety Presentation** on February 21st at 6 pm and a **Family Bowling Night** on Feb 12th 6:30-8:00 pm. We would love to connect with other parents; please join us!

NATIONAL ASSESSMENT OF EDUCATIONAL PROGRESS (NAEP) TESTING

Hamden Middle School will participate in the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) on 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.

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>



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.



SAVE THE DATE: IXTAPA DINNER FUNDRAISER

On Thursday, February 15th, the HMS community is encouraged to have dinner at a local Mexican restaurant, Ixtapa. They will donate 20% of all meals purchased at the restaurant or take out. *(It does not include meals ordered through outside groups, like Uber orders, Grub Hub, or Door Dash.)* We hope members of the HMS community will join us. It is a great night to tell your family that you are having a treat for dinner! And, who celebrates Valentines on 2/14? Smart families wait until the next day! 😊
