

From: Brian Pittman/HollyRidgeMS/WCPSS
To:

Date: Monday, July 13, 2009 04:45PM
Subject: Holly Ridge Middle School | Hornet eNews Update

To: 6th Grade Parents
From: Brian Pittman, Principal

Hornet eNews Update, 7/16/2009

Topics Included:

1. Introductions & Background on the Hornet eNews Update
2. Orientations & Key Dates
3. SPAN
4. TDAP Vaccinations
5. Class Schedules & Supply Lists
6. Useful Weblinks

1. Introductions

Greetings from Holly Ridge Middle School! I am Brian Pittman and am very happy to serve as your principal. Many parents are used to weekly folders or phone messages that come home to keep parents informed. While we use the phone message system from time to time, our primary method of communication is this weekly email listserv, the *Hornet eNews Update*. We make every effort to keep the emails limited to once per week to keep from clogging your email. Any replies should be sent directly to me. If you are interested in what type of information is usually sent out via this listserv, you can view last year's messages at the link below.

<http://hollyridgems.wcpss.net/principalmessag2008.htm>

If you prefer that we use a different email address for this listserv, please email our Data Manager, Mrs. Jones, at NCWISE450@wcpss.net and she will make the change. Also, please share the news of this listserv with others so we can have as complete of a list as possible! They can contact either Mrs. Jones or I to be added.

2. Orientations & Key Dates

Please plan to attend our Rising 6th Grade Parent Orientation (August 19, 6-8pm). This event is intended for parents only as a way of focusing completely on your needs as new middle school parents. The goal is to provide you with the resources and knowledge to be involved and help your students be successful.

Also, students are invited to attend a 6th Grade Student Orientation (August 20, 8:30am - 12:00pm). This event is intended for the students only. We will help them get to know where classes are, how lunch works, build some confidence for the first few days, etc.

If you have questions about these events, feel free to contact me or Assistant Principal Karen Bruce (ksbruce@wcpss.net).

3. SPAN

The Student/Parent Access Network (SPAN) is an online system that allows parents and students to monitor grades, attendance, discipline, etc. via the internet. There is a form that we need in order to activate your parent account. You can download this form and learn more about SPAN at the link below. For parents that return this form to us by August 12, we will have your accounts ready for you when you come to parent orientation on August 19 and help you get logged on. If you have questions about SPAN, Mrs. Jones (NCWISE450@wcpss.net) is your primary contact person.

<http://hollyridgems.wcpss.net/span.htm>

4. TDAP Vaccinations

North Carolina requires that all rising 6th graders have the TDAP vaccination upon entering 6th grade. We are required to exclude from school any student who has not given us verification of this vaccination. See the link below for more information. In a mailing that we will send to all parents next week, we will add a handout that will confirm that we have your student's TDAP vaccination record or it will give information on how to complete

this task.

<http://www.wcpss.net/parent-tips/health/tdap.html>

<http://www.wcpss.net/attachments/tdap-july-2009-shots-english.pdf>

5. Class Schedules & Supply Lists

Class schedules will be distributed at both parent and student orientation sessions in August. They will not be mailed. A general supply list is posted on the website, but we strongly encourage you to wait and get specific supplies after you've talked with teachers at orientation.

<http://hollyridgems.wcpss.net/supplies.pdf>

6. Useful Weblinks

HRMS Website: <http://hollyridgems.wcpss.net/>

HRMS Calendar: http://www.google.com/calendar/embed?src=swebb@wcpss.net&ctz=America/New_York

Rising 6th Grade Information: <http://hollyridgems.wcpss.net/rising6th.htm>

SPAN Information: <http://hollyridgems.wcpss.net/span.htm>

Bus Stops: <http://www.wcpss.net/school-directory/bus-routes/450.html> (updated by county as information is available)

Lunch Information: http://www.wcpss.net/child-nutrition/school_menus.html

These emails will not become weekly events until mid-August. I hope you find the information helpful. If I can be of service, please do not hesitate to contact me (bpittman@wcpss.net).

Brian Pittman, Principal

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