

From: Brian Pittman/HollyRidgeMS/WCPSS
To:

Date: Tuesday, October 20, 2009 08:56PM
Subject: Hornet eNews Update

To: Holly Ridge Middle School Parents
From: Brian Pittman, Principal

Hornet eNews Update, 10/25/2009

Topics Included:

1. Pastries with Pittman - Tuesday, Oct. 27
2. Change to After-School Activity Bus
3. Middle School Success & High School Success Courses
4. NC Writing Assessment for Grade 7
5. 2nd Quarter Class Schedules
6. Wake Wednesdays Update
7. Upcoming Events
8. Useful Links

1. Pastries with Pittman - Tuesday, October 27 at 7:30am

On Tuesday, October 27 at 7:30am, the PTA will host the first "Pastries with Pittman" of the school year. This is an opportunity to ask the principal any questions, share concerns, or share successes. Please come join us! Check in at the front office and they will let you know the location.

2. Change to After-School Activity Bus

The county has informed us that there will no longer be an after-school activity bus on Wednesday afternoons. Please make plans accordingly.

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

3. Middle School Success & High School Success Class

Starting with the 2nd quarter, we will be offering some sections of two new 9 weeks electives for 7th and 8th graders. "Middle School Success" is for 7th graders and focuses on building organizational skills, study skills, vocabulary, and other skills necessary to achieve long-term success. If your student struggles with any of these, this would be a great option for them. Contact your counselor, Ms. McKenzie (amckenzie@wcpss.net), if you're interested in your student taking this class.

"High School Success" is a 9 weeks course for 8th graders only. We've built the content around what our main feeder high schools have identified as the critical skills necessary for success in high school that they often see incoming 9th graders struggle with. Contact Mr. Bearman (bbearman@wcpss.net) if you wish to add this elective course. For more questions on the content of these courses, please contact administrator Kathy Livengood (klivengood@wcpss.net).

4. New NC Writing Assessment Program

Last week 7th grade students participated in the first of a new four-part writing assessment system designed by the state. We would like to invite you to come to HRMS on Wednesday, November 4 at 6:00pm to learn more about this new writing system. The session will last no more than one hour. As a "thanks" for coming out to learn more about this writing system, we will allow parents to pick up their child's report card a day early while you're at HRMS that evening. See Ms. Livengood (klivengood@wcpss.net) or Ms. Polk (mpolk1@wcpss.net) if you have questions about this event. We hope to see you there!

5. 2nd Quarter Class Schedules

We will provide students a draft copy of their 2nd quarter schedules on Tuesday. Directions will be included with the schedule for requesting changes to new 9 weeks electives only. Please contact your counselor if you have questions about your schedule.

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

6. Wake Wednesdays Update

During the last few weeks, our focus during Wake Wednesday release time has been to examine data on how students are performing. The primary outcome is that grade levels have been able to identify places where additional intervention or enrichment is needed. Student schedules for 2nd quarter and beyond are adjusted accordingly. Also, this week, teams will be completing their curriculum maps for 2nd quarter. If you're interested in a more detailed overview of what we're doing with this time, please visit the link below or contact me.

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

7. Upcoming Events

Tuesday, Oct. 27 - Pastries with Pittman, 7:30am

Wednesday, Oct. 28 - Football vs. East Cary (at home), 3:45pm

Thursday, Oct. 29 - Soccer & Volleyball @ East Cary (away), 3:45pm

Thursday, Oct. 29 - Last Day of 1st Quarter

Friday, Oct. 30 - Teacher Workday / No School

Wednesday, Nov. 4 - Writing Test Workshop, 6:00pm

Thursday, Nov. 5 - Report Cards Distributed

Wednesday, Nov. 11 - Holiday / No School

8. Useful Links

Daily Announcements: <http://hollyridgems.wcpss.net/announcements.htm>

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

Daily Instructional Postings: <http://hollyridgems.wcpss.net/faculty.htm>

Superintendent's Journal: http://www.wcpss.net/announcements/archives/superintendents_journal/

Have a great week!!

Brian Pittman, Principal

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