

HMS Newsletter

December 2018



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Important Dates

Dec 13 – Band Concert @ 7PM

Dec 17 – Choir Concert @ 7PM

Dec 21 – End of Quarter

Dec 21 – Jan 7 Christmas Break



PRINCIPALS PAGE

It is hard to believe that the school year is almost half over!! We are nearing the end of another calendar year. We hope you find many things to be thankful for as we celebrate through the Holidays this season.

Thanksgiving is already behind us and we've expressed gratitude for our many blessings.

Christmas is three weeks away and we remember, "It is better to give than receive".

Let's ring in the New Year with an optimistic outlook and positive goals for the Spring semester.

From your HMS family, we wish you a safe, happy and healthy Holiday Season!



Safety Section

Enhancing School Safety by Identifying Stressors

(National Threat Assessment Center)

Stressors can occur in all areas of a student's life, including at school with coursework, friendships or outside of school with parents, siblings or at jobs. Many students can experience bullying, a stressor which can take place in person or online. The school intervenes on campus when we are aware of issues. Students should be encouraged to report to a staff member or the police if it happens on-line or outside of school.



For The Students

7-12 Choir Concert is Monday Dec 17th at 7pm at the tassel

7-8 Students need to arrive and be in their seats by 6:45pm

No Cell Phones are permitted at the concert

All singers are required to stay for the entire concert

5th Grade music students will continue to play recorders next semester. If you have a recorder at home – please send it to school with your student's name on it.

6th Grade music students need to bring a basketball to school for music class next semester. We will begin using the basketballs after the program. Please clearly label the ball with a marker. Students will need to have these at school by March 1st

7-12 Band Concert will be Thursday Dec 13th at 7pm at the Tassel

Nurse's Nook

With flu season in full swing, school nurse Keegan Anderson, RN reminds parents and students to stay on guard. Influenza is a respiratory virus with symptoms such as fever, cough, sore throat, body aches, stuffy/runny nose, headaches, and fatigue. The flu is spread through droplets from coughing, sneezing, and talking so hand hygiene is vital. Also, please do not send students back to school until they have been fever free (without Tylenol or Ibuprofen) for at least 24 hours. Flu season begins in October, but it is not too late to receive your vaccination if you have not done so. The CDC recommends everyone age 6 months and older receive an annual flu shot.

Illness Keegan Anderson, our school nurse, reminds all parents that if your child has a fever of 100 or above, flu-like symptoms, vomiting, or diarrhea, he/she needs to stay home from school. Also, if your child has a fever, it needs to be normal without taking Tylenol or ibuprofen (Motrin) for 24 hours before coming back to school. Please consult your Student Parent Handbook for more detailed information

Absences If your child is going to be absent, please call the school office before 8:00 to inform us of the absence. If you know ahead of time that our student will be absent, please send a note, call the school office or e-mail the school secretary. We will attempt to contact you if your student is absent and you have not contacted us. If we do not have contact with you and are not informed of the reason for absence, the absence will be considered unexcused. It is also important that you inform us of the reason for the absence, especially when due to illness as we are required to report illnesses to the Health Department on Wednesdays.



Counselor's Corner

HMS ANNUAL HOLIDAY FOOD DRIVE starts Monday, December 10th - Monday, December 17th. This year we are encouraging all students to get involved with collecting food, paper products, diapers etc. for our local food pantry. This year, we have decided to do something a little differently. We asked the food pantry, what they are in need of, so this year we will be giving certain items a point total. More information will be sent home with your son/daughter this Friday. We want to focus on the "giving" part of the drive and not so much on the "winning" part. We want to encourage kids to think about the people receiving the assistance and what they would need and enjoy, along with nutritional value, not just simply the amount of food they are bringing. **BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR HMS HOLIDAY FOOD DRIVE NOTE!**

TEAMMATES NEWS:

We are in need of more adult mentors, must be 18 years of age or older, here is what we are looking for:

- *Has a desire to be involved with a young person and make a difference!*
- *Respect for young people*
- *Active listening skills*
- *Empathy*
- *Ability to see solutions and opportunities*
- *Flexibility*
- *Wants to carry on Tom and Nancy Osborne's legacy of TEAMMATES!*

I currently have 8 boys and 5 girls ready to be matched. One boy in the 8th grade, one boy in 7th grade, six boys in the 5th grade. One girl in 6th grade and four girls in 5th grade

How to become a mentor - 3 easy steps:

- #1 Apply online at: teammate.org
- #2 Attend training
- #3 meet your mentee - your meeting can be before school or during lunch, once a week you pick the day that works for you!

***"Every child you pass in the hall has a story that needs to be heard.
Maybe you are the one meant to hear it."***

***Want to give a gift that keeps on giving...
BECOME A TEAMMATES MENTOR!***

***Wishing you and your family a Holiday filled with JOY, HOPE and LOVE!
Mrs. B. :)***



Odds and Ends

When weather is a concern, parents ultimately have the final decision on whether or not to send children to school or to pick them up early. An attempt will be made to have school every scheduled day. If, however, due to inclement weather or if unforeseen circumstances arise, Radio Station KUVR Holdrege and Television Station KHGI Channel 13 Kearney will carry information in relation to the school closing. Information will also be posted at www.dusters.org and automated phone calls will be made. School may be delayed to allow for additional assessment of weather conditions and/or for snow removal. Announcements will be made if food service (breakfast/lunch) schedules are disrupted. If weather conditions develop during the day that warrants dismissal, the same procedure will be followed. Conditions may exist that children on bus routes will be dismissed and taken home, but school will remain in session.



Basket Raffle

The newly formed Duster Union would like to hold a basket raffle again this year to raise money for student activities, the purchase of kindness t-shirts for all middle school students and clubs. The raffle will take place Saturday, December 15th, at the high basketball games against McCook.

We need your help with the baskets for the raffle. Anyone who would like to donate a basket, can bring them to the middle school office on Wednesday and Thursday, December 13th and 14th. This way the baskets will be available for viewing and advanced ticket sales. We had a great variety of baskets last year including both small and large, as well as, themes interesting to almost anyone. This was such a fun event last year for the students and was an excellent fundraiser. We appreciate your support!





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Mission Statement

“The mission of the Holdrege Public Schools is to prepare students to be life long learners and productive, responsible citizens by providing a quality education in cooperation with family and community.”

www.holdregedusters.org

DECEMBER 2018



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4 *4:00 7 & 8 bball vs Gothenburg	5 Student Union Mtg	6 *4:30 7 th bball @ McCook	7 Pep Rally	8
9	10 <i>Food Drive (Dec 10-17)</i>	11 *4:30 Wrestling @ Cozad	12	13 *4:00 Wrestling @ Home *Holiday Band Concert 7:00 *Baskets on Display at HMS	14 *Baskets on Display at HMS	15 *HMS Basket Raffle at Varsity Basketball Game
16	17 *Holiday Choir Concert 7:00 <i>End of Food Drive</i>	18 *Teammates Cookie Decorating at Lunch (Home Ec rom)	19 *Student Union Christmas Lunch	20 *Teammates Cookie Decorating at Lunch (Home Ec Room)	21 End of Quarter	22
23	24 Christmas Break Christmas Eve	25 	26 Christmas Break	27 Christmas Break	28 Christmas Break	29
30	31 Christmas Break	1 Christmas Break	2 Christmas Break	3 Christmas Break	4 Christmas Break	5

For December Lunch Menu please follow this link

Or see the Holdrege public schools homepage under “Links” tab

http://cdn.myschoolmenus.com/instance/2054371/district/21.html?school_id=27&menu_id=11927