

Haverhill Public Schools

Newsletter



OCTOBER 2021

SUPERINTENDENT'S CORNER

A MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS DR. MARGARET MAROTTA

Dear Students, Families, and Staff,

Our schools have been in session for close to two months now, and the impact of COVID-19 on our children is evident. While the school district continues to experience positive cases of COVID-19 and the Delta variant, the impact that I am referring to is the emotional impact of the pandemic. The pandemic has caused disruptions in routines and social isolation for all children, which can be associated with anxiety and depression and can have implications for mental health now and later in life.

While we don't yet know the full extent of the trauma inflicted upon our children by the pandemic, it is very clear that this school year far more students are showing evidence of trauma. Trauma is often expressed through increased anxiety, fear, sadness or worry, as well as anger, behavioral outbursts, and mood swings, some children become withdrawn or confused. When children and young people are struggling to cope with stress, they may exhibit unhealthy eating or sleeping habits, changes in activity level, older students may exhibit substance use or other risk behaviors, and difficulty with attention and concentration.

To help keep your child emotionally health experts recommend:

- Keeping a regular sleep schedule
- Taking breaks from work to stretch, exercise
- Frequent check-ins with supportive adults
- Spending time outdoors, either being physically active or relaxing.
- Monitoring use of social media sites

As a school district we want to partner with you in your child's education and mental health. We knew the return to school this year would be a challenge, educationally and emotionally. This school year we have added dozens of academic and mental health support positions to our schools. We have trained 150 professionals in Mental Health First Aid, and provided a full-time aid in each Kindergarten classroom – as many of our K students have no preschool experience. We have created a network of community mental health supports that work with our students in our schools, and we have student support teams in each school that proactively support attendance, physical and mental health, as well as academic needs. Please do not wait until the situation reaches a crisis point for we have people available to support your family. Please reach out to your school if you have questions or need support with your child.

Like so many businesses and organizations, the district is faced with staff shortages, especially with Educational Support Professionals (starting pay is \$21.00 an hour) and Substitute Teachers (long- and short-term - pay range is \$94.50 - \$125.00 a day) who work directly to support students and work closely with teachers. If you would like to work in a rewarding position making a difference in the lives of children, contact the Human Resource Department (call **978-374-3411**). There are both full- and part-time positions available.

Thank you for all you do to support your child's teacher, class, school, and our District. It means a lot to us as we partner to meet the daily needs of our students and families.

Warmest Regards,

Margaret

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

FEATURED ARTISTS	2
NURSES CORNER	2
PENTUCKET LAKE ELEMENTARY.....	3
HILLIES SHOP GRAND OPENING.....	3
YMCA EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR.....	3
IMPORTANT NUMBERS	3
CONSENTINO BACK-TO-SCHOOL BBQ.....	4
BRADFORD ELEMENTARY.....	4
COVID-19 SAFETY CHECK TESTING	5
STATE OF LATINO EDUCATION HONOREES... 5	
HHS HOMECOMING WEEK.....	5
PARENT WORKSHOP	6
CONSENTINO BUILDING PROJECT.....	7
SCHOOL COMMITTEE	8
EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES.....	8

UPCOMING EVENTS

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2021

CONSENTINO SCHOOL BUILDING PROJECT
VISIONING SESSION #3
6:00PM - CONSENTINO LIBRARY

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2021

EARLY RELEASE – STUDENTS ONLY

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2021

NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS
ELECTION DAY & STAFF PD

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2021

HHS FALL PLAY – OUR TOWN
7:00PM HHS AUDITORIUM

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2021

HHS FALL PLAY – OUR TOWN
2:00PM & 7:00PM HHS AUDITORIUM

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2021

NO SCHOOL – VETERAN'S DAY

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2021

HHS TERM 1 REPORT CARDS
ISSUED IN PARENT PORTAL

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2021

PARENT WORKSHOP
12:00PM – 1:30PM VIRTUALLY

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2021

EARLY RELEASE - THANKSGIVING RECESS

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2021 AND

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 2021

NO SCHOOL - THANKSGIVING RECESS

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2021

K-8 CLOSE TRIMESTER 1

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2021

K-8 TRIMESTER 1 REPORT CARDS

MONDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2021

HHS TERM 2 PROGRESS REPORTS
ISSUED IN PARENT PORTAL

FEATURED ARTISTS

WALNUT SQUARE

Mrs. O'Leary's
2nd Grade Class



WALNUT SQUARE

Ms. Sargent's
1st Grade Class



NURSES CORNER



Many of the recommendations from MDPH and CDC focus on preventative measures that are standard for any flu or cold virus. These simple precautions will help prevent the spread of the flu and other respiratory illnesses such as Coronavirus:

- Please cover your mouth when you cough or sneeze, using a tissue or the inside of your elbow
- Wash your hands for 20 seconds with soap and warm water frequently or use hand sanitizer when washing is not an option
- Maintain 3 feet physical distancing
- If you have a fever or feel sick, stay home and call your healthcare provider

Get the flu vaccine – it is not too late! Find more information on the flu and where to get a flu vaccine here: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/what-should-i-know-about-flu>

These precautions should be everyday practices - applied when at home, in school, and when in public.



IMPORTANT NUMBERS



BRADFORD K-4
978-374-2443

CONSENTINO MS 5-8
978-374-5775

GOLDEN HILL K-4
978-374-5794

GREENLEAF ACADEMY 5-12
978-374-3487

HAVERHILL HIGH SCHOOL 9-12
978-374-5700 MAIN

HUNKING K-8
978-374-5787

MOODY PREK-K
978-347-3459

MOODY EXTENSION PREK
978-420-1901

NETTLE MS 5-8
978-374-5792

PENTUCKET LAKE K-4
978-374-2421

SILVER HILL K-5
978-374-3448

BARTLETT SCHOOL & ASSESSMENT
CENTER K-12
(FORMERLY T.E.A.C.H.)
978-469-8735

TILTON LOWER K-3
978-374-3475

TILTON UPPER 4-5
978-374-3482

WALNUT SQUARE K-2
978-374-3471

J.G. WHITTIER MS 5-8
978-374-5782

CENTRAL OFFICE AT CITY HALL
978-374-3400

SPECIAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
978-374-3435

REGISTRATION CENTER AT BURNHAM
978-420-1951

TRANSPORTATION DEPT. AT BURNHAM
978-420-1921

the Y HAVENHILL

SAVE THE DATE

HAVERHILL YMCA'S 13TH ANNUAL
EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR

Wednesday, November 17th at 5:00PM
Renaissance Country Club
377 Kenoza Street
Haverhill, MA 01830

Commitment to Community award announced!
\$50 per ticket- includes appetizers and a cash bar at the in person event
or an appetizer box to go if you would prefer to celebrate at home.
Raffle baskets will be available at the event!
All proceeds go to benefit YMCA Educational programming.
RSVP by 11/10/21 to Colette Ekman at
ekman@northshoremymca.org

Premier Sponsor: **Haverhill Bank**
Just One Bank

GRAND OPENING

Hillies Shop

CITY HALL

FRIDAY
OCTOBER 29, 2021
LIGHT REFRESHMENTS 8:45 AM
GRAND OPENING 9AM

LOWER LEVEL
4 SUMMER STREET
HAVERHILL, MA 01830

PENTUCKET LAKE ELEMENTARY

Pentucket Lake Elementary has a new Physical Education teacher, Ms. Arielle Hall! Even though she is brand new to Pentucket Lake, Ms. Hall is not new to a lot of her Pentucket Lake students. Over the summer, Ms. Hall worked at the YMCA and got to know so many of the students who attend Pentucket Lake. Her summer YMCA students as well as her new friends are so excited to be a part of her class.

To get the school year started, Ms. Hall celebrated Hispanic Heritage Month by playing a modified version of a popular Hispanic table game called Loteria. Loteria is a lot like bingo except it uses pictures and Spanish phrases instead of letter-number combinations on the cards. The students will be playing on large cards with traditional Loteria pictures on the front and exercises on the back. When a picture on their board gets called, they flip the card over and do the associated exercises. The first team to have a full row of pictures is the winner!

Ms. Hall's goal at Pentucket Lake is to create an environment that encourages the students to enjoy and understand the importance of living a physically active lifestyle while celebrating the diversity of Pentucket Lake and Haverhill. With this goal in mind, she is really looking forward to having a safe, fun and productive school year!

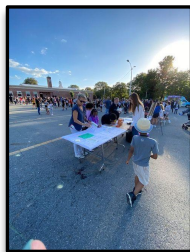
CONSENTINO BACK - TO - SCHOOL BBQ

Consentino Middle School hosted its second annual Back to School BBQ on September 21st. The event which welcomed over 1,000 students and family members included a BBQ dinner, Kona Ice, Tug-o-War, face painting, Math game table and more.

Additionally, the Consentino Counseling Team together with the National Junior Honor Society chapter hosted the 2nd Annual Fall Fill-A-Truck event where more than two pickup truck loads of non-perishable food and personal hygiene items were collected to support the school's Backpack 68 program. The Backpack 68 program is a student support program that discreetly provides students in need with a Backpack full of food and personal hygiene items to assist in getting students by for the roughly 68 hours between dismissal on Friday and breakfast at school on Monday.

The school also welcomed Dore + Whittier, the architectural firm selected to oversee the school's building project. Representatives from Dore + Whittier solicited feedback from staff, students, and families for what they like about the existing Consentino and what they'd like to see in a renovated or new building.

Overall, the event was a smashing success and the Charger Nation is looking forward to a great year!



BRADFORD ELEMENTARY

Bradford has been buzzing with activity. On August 31st Bradford welcomed families to our Meet and Greet. Families were able to meet teachers and fellow classmates at our outdoor gathering.

In September, the Bradford PTO held their annual Ice Cream Social. We welcomed over 200 people to the socially distanced outdoor gathering. Children and families really enjoyed spending social time together. The ice cream sandwiches and Icees were the hit of the evening!

Bradford had celebrated Hispanic Heritage Month which ran from September 15th to October 15th. Each morning during the recorded Google messages provided to all students by the administrators, a biography of an influential person with a Hispanic heritage was announced. We also had a colorful display of flags from countries of Hispanic origin.

Tucked in Tuesdays have returned to BES. Each Tuesday a celebrity staff member from BES reads a nighttime story for all of the children. Mrs. Seibold started the year off with, The Three Little Pigs and the Somewhat Bad Wolf. The stories are delivered via email at 6:45 pm - just in time to snuggle up and be ready for bed.



COVID-19 Safety Check Testing Starts This Week

Haverhill Public Schools will again be offering routine COVID Safety check testing weekly in our schools. This is a quick and easy lower nasal swab, which will be sent out as a group for testing. If the sample tests positive, individuals will be tested separately to determine if there is a positive case of COVID-19. By testing students and staff weekly, including those who are unvaccinated and vaccinated, we will increase the likelihood of preventing spread especially from individuals who are asymptomatic.

Additionally, Haverhill is participating in a new program from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) and Massachusetts Department of Public Health, called "Test and Stay". If an individual in school, who is unvaccinated, and is considered a school close contact, then the individual may be eligible to continue to come to school during their quarantine period and be tested at school using the Abbott Binax Antigen test daily for 5 days in school.

Parent permission will be required and information on providing permission for routine COVID Safety check testing, and the use of the Abbott Binax test, can be found in one consent form.

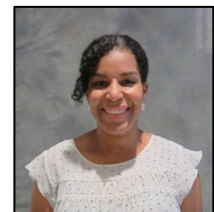
[To consent to testing for your child, or self \(staff member\) please click on this link. :](https://www.cic-health.com/consent/ma?district=null)
<https://www.cic-health.com/consent/ma?district=null>

State of Latino Education Honorees

On Thursday, October 7, 2021, Dinorah Peralta and Angela Bonifacio, two Haverhill educators, were honored at the State of Latino Education Event, a national conference sponsored by Latinos for Education. The events were attended by Education Commissioner Jeff Riley and various educators, advocates, and governmental leaders. The event's mission is to share information about the state of Latino education and educator representation across the Commonwealth, learn about efforts to increase educator diversity, and celebrate and award education champions for their contributions to our communities.

Angela Bonifacio, a twenty-five-year veteran of Haverhill Public Schools whose current role is an Educational Support Person, and her daughter Dinorah Peralta, a teacher in HPS since 2005 and now an Assistant Principal at the Tilton School, were honored. This mother-daughter team was recognized for their contributions to the education and engagement of Latino students and families throughout the pandemic and their remarkable impact on their school and community.

We thank these brave, strong, intelligent women for their continued advocacy for Latino students and families in Haverhill and their fight for equitable education for the students.



Haverhill High School

We had an incredible 2021 Homecoming Week at HHS!

From Spirit Week to all our athletic events, to Fall Fest and the Senior Pep Rally - last week was an incredible celebration of Hillie Nation, and the rain held off just long enough on Saturday night for our incredible, best attended (and first outdoor!) Homecoming Dance in recent memory! Thank you to all of our faculty, staff, and school leadership for all the work that went into putting on these events for our scholars, to our families for your support, and most of all to our scholars for showing us all the incredible things that Hillie Nation is all about!

PARENT WORKSHOP

Bringing Down the Temp: Supporting Your Child in High Intensity Moments

Haverhill Public Schools has partnered with McLean Hospital to bring professional development and training to our support staff and our families. This year we will host two virtual workshops for parents. The first workshop will be held virtually on **Friday, November 19th from 12:00 - 1:30pm.**

Bringing Down the Temp: Supporting Your Child in High Intensity Moments

Does your child have moments of high emotion where you're unsure of what to do or how to help? This parent workshop will help you make a game plan for those high intensity moments. During the course of this hour and a half presentation we will cover how to regulate both your own and your child's emotions in moments of high intensity. You will walk away with tangible, evidence-based skills that you can put into practice immediately.

This workshop will be held via Zoom. Join from a PC, Mac, iPad, iPhone or Android device:

To attend, please use the link provided:

<https://partners.zoom.us/j/88522538321>

Or One tap mobile:

+16468769923, 88522538321# US (New York)

+14086380968, 88522538321# US (San Jose)

Or join by phone:

(646) 876-9923 or (408) 638 0968

Webinar ID: 885 2253 8321

WEBSITES AND OTHER RESOURCES:

Handhold- created by a team of mental health professionals, this site is geared to assist families in caring for their child's mental health and emotional well-being and is loaded with resources:

<https://handholdma.org/>

"Just Breathe"- short video from an elementary student perspective on how to use mindfulness to help calm strong emotions:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RVA2N6tX2cg>

"Five Ways to Help Kids Cope with Anger" – Tips to help your child navigate ways to control their anger:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_bs58cqzx3o

Conversation Starters- talking with your child isn't always easy, this link provides a variety of ways parents can begin to talk with their children about feelings, dreams, likes/dislikes and more:

<https://www.onoursleeves.org/mental-wellness-tools-guides/conversation-starters/kids-discussion-guide>

"Calm Down" Plans - create an individualized plan to help your child recognize what makes them feel better when they are upset:

<https://handholdma.org/what-can-i-do/worksheet-to-help-your-child-recognize-what-makes-them-feel-better>



THE CONSENTINO BUILDING PROJECT

The Consentino School Building Project is underway! The city of Haverhill is collaborating with the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) on the Consentino School Building Project. The MSBA works in partnership with local communities to fund the building and remodeling of fiscally responsible and educationally appropriate schools. The MSBA is a quasi-public authority that provides construction management, financial, audit, and administrative expertise to support the Commonwealth's school districts throughout the school building construction process.

The MSBA has established the following 8 Modules to help Districts understand and complete the school building process:

Module 1 – Pre-Requisites

The MSBA requires the District to submit various information, including but not limited to: funding capacity information, existing maintenance practices, and design enrollment certification.

Module 2 – Project Team

The MSBA requires the District to hire an Owner's Project Manager and a design team utilizing MSBA standard templates and contracts.

Module 3 – Feasibility Study – Current Consentino Building Project Phase

During this phase, the District, Owner's Project Manager, and design team document the educational program, create a space summary, document existing conditions, establish design parameters, and develop and evaluate alternatives. The group will then recommend the most educationally appropriate preferred solution to the MSBA Board of Directors for their consideration.

Module 4 – Schematic Design

During this phase, the District and its team develop a final design program and robust schematic design.

Module 5 – Project Scope and Budget

At this point in the process, the MSBA Board of Directors establishes the MSBA's financial participation in the project.

Module 6 – Design Development, Construction Documentation, and Bidding

The District and its team advance the design, generate construction documentation, procure bids and award a construction contract.

Module 7 – Construction Administration

The MSBA continues to monitor the project's progress to confirm that it remains on track and meets project expectations.

Module 8 – Project Closeout

The MSBA performs an audit to determine the final total grant amounts and make the final payment.

The proposed project will replace or remodel the existing Consentino Middle School with a facility on the current site. The District identified in their Statement of Interest many deficiencies and structural integrity issues, including mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems. In addition to the physical plan issues, the District reported that the existing facility is overcrowded and does not support the delivery of its educational program.

A series of public visioning meetings exploring the design and amenities prioritized by community members, students, and staff will kick off with a Visioning Session on December 8, 2021 at 6:00pm. A light supper will be served, babysitting and Spanish translation will be available. Please visit the Consentino School Building Project website at:

<https://www.haverhill-ps.org/meeting-information/>

**Haverhill Public Schools
Mission Statement**

The Haverhill Public School system is dedicated to ensuring each learner meets or exceeds rigorous academic standards to become citizens with integrity, skills, and the resources to succeed in the global community.

**Employment
Opportunities**

- ⇒ **Haverhill-ps.org**
- ⇒ **Departments**
- ⇒ **Human Resources**
- ⇒ **Current Employment Opportunities**

Job vacancies and postings for all positions are available on our website. Job opportunities are posted as vacancies become available and will remain on the website until positions are filled. Applicants may access application information and forms from our website or visit the Human Resource Office at the School Department located at 4 Summer Street Room 104, Haverhill, MA 01830 - EOE

Follow Us on Social Media

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haverhill_public_schools

Twitter
@havschools



HAVERHILL SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Haverhill School Committee Approved Meeting Schedule

Thursday, October 28, 2021

Thursday, November 18, 2021

Thursday, December 9, 2021

Thursday, January 13, 2022

All meetings will begin at 7:00 p.m. and will be broadcast over HCTV and WHAV until further notice. The full meeting recording will be posted on the HCTV and HPS websites the following day.

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 Pandemic, Governor Baker issued an Emergency Order temporarily suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A sec. 20. Public bodies otherwise governed by the OML are temporarily relieved from the requirement that meetings be held in public places, open and physically accessible to the public, so long as measures are taken to ensure public access to the bodies' deliberations "through adequate, alternative means."

For additional information please visit the School Committee Department on our website:

<https://www.haverhill-ps.org/school-committee>



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