

NORTH HALEDON LEARNING COMMUNITY

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Dear Learning Community Member:

We are excited to bring you our new district-wide newsletter. When we say, "district wide," we truly mean it! Within this newsletter, you will see how all constituents within our learning community are involved. Not only will we provide happenings in our schools, but some of our stakeholders – such as our Township Police Department, Mayor and Town Council, and Library – will be providing updates, events, and noteworthy news to all. Hope you find the time to read, and do look out for our next newsletter.

Warm Regards,

Nicholas S. Coffaro, Superintendent of Schools

"Picturing your destination is the first step to achieving something great..."



Our administrative and teaching staff are working diligently to provide quality education for our students. Every Monday our district wide staff meets after school till 4:15 with focus on professional development. Currently, our Math and LA curriculum has been revised to meet the new NJSLS. Also, our mandated NGSS (Science Curriculum) was created and aligned a year ahead of schedule (full implementation). Please find the time to attend our BOE Work Session Meetings since we will present to the Board Members and Public various portions of our curriculum, as well as updates as to professional development.



Upcoming Events

October 31st

Halloween Parade 11:30 (Single Session Day- 12:49HMS/12:59MS)

November 29th & 30th

Parent/Teacher Conferences

- 29th @ 6pm-8pm (Reg. Day)
- 30th @ 1pm-8pm
- No School for Students on November 30th

Important Dates

SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

October 18th @ 7:00 MS

- PARCC Test Results will be presented.

November 7th

Election Day

November 8th

End of Marking Period 1

November 11th

Veterans Day

November 9th & 10th

Teacher Convention (No School)

November 22nd (Single Session)



Student and Personnel Services

The month of September brought two workshops to our district. We continue our partnership with the state (NJ DOE) as to training and updates with regard to mandates. State reps led both sessions as some members of our leadership team, as well as our Child Study Team, were in attendance. The focus was in areas such as Least Restrictive Environment, accuracy in terms of documentation (educational programming and services), and effective teaching models regarding Inclusion setting.

“The bad news is that time flies, but the good news is you are the pilot...”

A look back:

- Our beautification plan as to building and grounds began this past summer. Included in this plan, which was presented at a board meeting prior to the summer (Long Range Facility Plan), were updates and repairs, as well as new additions (Memorial School Sign on HMR).
- School opened on September 6th. We thank our crossing guards and police department for their help.
- Back to School Night occurred on 10/3 & 10/4 as families met with our wonderful staff and spent time viewing student work in classrooms and hallways.
- A favorite of mine – School Picture Day – occurred during September. A very special day for all families.
- October 2nd – 6th was Week of Respect with acts of kindness occurring throughout both schools. Our new school counselor, Mrs. Veronica Conover, led all events and activities. Thank you, Mrs. Conover, for your work.

Police Department

Twice per month, and with the help of our police department, we execute practice emergency drills. As a family, do communicate with your child as to practice and procedure. Our goal is to perform exercises without creating stress on all. Again, a thank you to Chief Bracco and members of his department.

For road accessibility, please do not park on Squaw Brook prior to 2:30. Enter MS lot at dismissal for 2:45. Not before. Thank you.

Mayor and Town Council

We thank Mayor George and the Town Council for their assistance with our schools. Special thanks to our DPW for their collaboration with our school custodial and maintenance staff. Recent addition to Memorial School has been a curb which will prevent rain water flow to playground area. Some town events:

- 10/21 Shred Event
- 10/27 & 10/28 Boys Scouts Haunted House
- 11/11 Veterans Day Ceremony



“What's happening in our schools...”

HIGH MOUNTAIN SCHOOL – Mrs. Mazzola

“We have been off to a busy start! I thank each of you for your assistance with ensuring it was a smooth transition. PTO graciously hosted its annual **Ice Cream Social** for the Grade 5 students by bringing in an ice cream truck! Grade 8 students visited MRHS for **Tri-Town Field Day**. First of its kind. Truly a fun day meeting new people from neighboring towns. Congratulations to all who wrote essays for **Student Council**. Was wonderful to see many at **North Haledon Day** and celebrate as a community. Looking ahead, **Student Council Elections for Officers** will take place on 10/10. Also, our Grade 8 students will be measured for **Caps & Gowns** on 10/13. **Red Ribbon Week** will occur during week of 10/23. Stay tuned for **Spirit Day** details. First school dance is on 10/27. **Check Website** for more updates!”

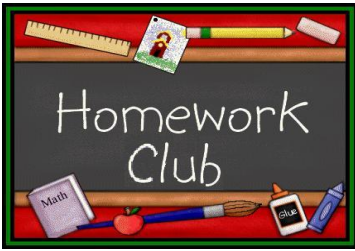
MEMORIAL SCHOOL – Mrs. Tait

“A great opening to the school year with a **Celebration Assembly** on the first day of school! We will continue to highlight & recognize each grade level during the school year. **Student work** are displayed throughout school. We are proud as to the authentic production of this beautiful work by our students. **Author & Writer Visit** on 10/18 for K-2 students (Anna Kang & Christopher Weyant). **Makerspace** is here! Very excited about this new unit within our **Enrichment Program**. Already we have caught students “**Doing The Right Thing**.” Keep it going! Proud of our Grade 4 students being wonderful role models for rest of school. More **TECH** at MS than ever before! **Check Website** for more updates!”



Our commitment to excellence begins with a healthy partnership with home and family. We are about “community.” Some tips for all:

1. Establish a homework routine. It's never too early or late to teach our children the importance of effective time management skills. Prevent procrastination.
2. Have your children set goals for the school year. Focus should be on self-improvement, rather than competition with others.
3. Get involved if time allows. Parent network can provide you with important information.
4. Learning should be fun. When at home, let your child show off his/her new knowledge or skills. Encourage practice at home.
5. Gift of time is precious. We all will continue this trend. Interest and enthusiasm from all will motivate and inspire.



We welcome to our list of afterschool clubs and activities, Homework Club. This club is new to our district and commencing on October 19th. While we have sent letters home, again, referral to HC will occur via I&RS, 504, and CST referral. Teachers may refer any student as well, but data collected by building principal will be deciding factor. We are excited to bring this additional support to our students.



We have recently been recognized by the state as a Go-Green School District. Along with the Township of North Haledon who have been involved in this program in recent years, our schools are now members. With the help of Mrs. Maree Padula, along with our Supervisor of B&G, Mr. John McGuire, as well as our custodial staff, we are in the beginning stages of the process. During the summer, we had a head start as we beautified our garden and bringing in cleaning products safer and more conducive to the environment.



Once again, we want to welcome our newest families to Memorial School. As you begin this journey, we do look forward to our collaboration over the years. Not to fast forward, but all the best to the Graduation Class of 2025-2026! That's Grade 8... oh-my!



TOWN LIBRARY

The North Haledon Free Public Library offers programs and activities for residents of all ages. Open six-days a week year round, activities range from after school story time, craft & science workshops, to book groups, computer instruction, & trips to shows/movies.

In future volumes, we will be including event & activity dates. Do take advantage of the library's offerings!

Board of Education

Meeting Dates (7:00)

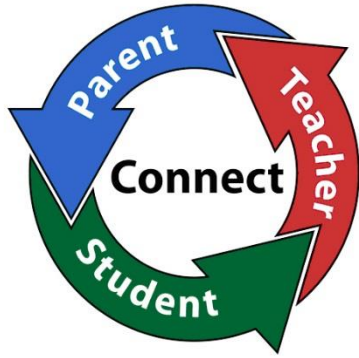
@ Memorial School:

October 18th – Regular Mtg.

November 8th – Work Session

November 29th – Regular Mtg.

December 20th – Regular Mtg.



Our PTO & NHEF continue to be instrumental in the acquisition of grants and funding so that valuable resources and supports can be utilized by our staff for instructional benefit. Along with our BOE, our focus is to assist, maintain, and sustain 21st Century Learning for our students. Thank you!

PTO Events & Dates

10/10 Fall Fundraiser
Cherrydale due

10/21 Memorial School's Trunk & Treat
2pm-4pm RSVP required

11/6 NHPTO Mtg. @ HMS 7pm

11/15 Pick-up Fall Fundraiser
3pm-6pm Memorial Cafeteria

12/4 NHPTO Mtg. @ HMS 7pm

Please go to www.nhpto.org to join PTO!

Reminder to register your Stop & Shop card at site below. % of total will go to PTO. www.stopandshop.com to register.

NHEF

Meetings are 2nd Tuesday every month & in HMS Media Center:

10/10, 11/14, & 12/12

Alex & Ani Fundraiser
12/3

Casino Night
12/9

Breakfast with Santa
12/16

Box Tops for Education year-round!

Want to be a member? Come to a meeting. contactnhef@gmail.com



BOOK FAIR

Memorial School
10/16-10/20

Family Preview on 10/16
From 6pm-8pm

GRADE 8 COMMITTEE

8th Grade Parent Mtg.
11/6 at HMS
8:00pm

Meetings will follow PTO meetings on the first Monday of the month.

Grade 8 Parents are selling 50/50 tickets. Also, Save Around Books, coupons for all major & local stores with on-line app.

Email 8th Grade Committee
Re: Photos
8thgradedvd2017@gmail.com

Holiday Shop is coming!

12/4-12/8
@ Memorial School

Remember: All are invited to do holiday shopping at the HMS Grades 6-8 TREP\$ Market Place on 12/8



As we continue our emphasis on 21st Century Learning, our BOE, PTO, and NHEF will partner and collaborate in bringing the most effective resources and materials to our students. Currently, HMS is 1:1, as well as our HMS staff receiving Chrome Books for this school year. We have provided Memorial School students with extra lab tops and desktops as well. Our PD has focused on Google Apps and Smartboard training so that instructional strategies will focus on all learning needs and styles.

“Let’s meet some staff members!”

For this issue, we will meet our new Director of Curriculum, Instruction, Assessment (CIA) & Student Services... Mrs. Antonella Lind.

- Started in district July 1, 2017;
- 11th Year in Education;
- Undergraduate Degree in Special Education & History (Montclair University);
- Master’s Degree in Early Childhood Education & Inclusion (Montclair University);
- Second Master’s Degree in Educational Leadership (Felician University);
- Married with children...two girls: LuciaRosa and Benedetta Ava;
- Started career as a Middle School Resource teacher, and was responsible for launching the district’s first preschool disabled program, as well as an inclusive early childhood program;
- First Leadership Position: Curriculum and Testing Coordinator (K-8); and
- Selected by the NJ Dept. of Education to lecture at state level with regard to Professional Learning Communities (PLC’s).

STATEMENT: *“I am extremely grateful to be part of North Haledon’s Learning Community. I pride myself on having an open door policy and contributing to a school culture of happiness. My goal in education is to help families and colleagues service students with emphasis on the excitement for discovery and moral character. My leadership philosophy is grounded in motivational collaboration, community outreach, student success, and a respectful environment for all.”*

FAVORITE QUOTE: *“If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more, and become more, you are a leader...” John Quincy Adams*



Policy Reminder:

- Attendance in school is important to the academic growth of your child. Please have child attend school on a regular basis. It is truly a delicate balance since children should not attend school if there is an illness (fever, cough). When a child is absent, they are to make-up work missed. Long-term absence, please communicate with school so that we can have work prepared for any particular child. A medical note must be provided clearing student for a healthy return. As indicated, absenteeism can hinder academic progress. Our staff thrives on student preparation. With your cooperation, we can achieve at the highest level.

