



# High School Insider

April 20

Together We Make A Difference

Volume 13 Issue 8

## April Calendar

Day	Date	Time	Activity
Wed.	8th	6:00 pm	BOE Mtg. MSHS Auditorium
Fri.	10th	30 Week Marking	Period Ends

welcome  
*April*

LOOKING AHEAD	
May 19th	Art Show/Budget Vote
May 21st	HS Concert
May 22nd	35 week marking period ends

### Principal's Message

This last month has been one of the most challenging months of our lives. Uncertainty, fear, economic hardship, and closed schools are adding an incredible amount of stress to what was already stressful. My wife is at home trying to provide online instruction to international students who were attending Northwood School. I'm working from home on certain days, and our two children (ages seven and nine) are home with us. We are trying to keep some semblance of education going on with them. I feel your frustration with the limitations of online education and homework packets. Being home is getting old for all of us.

On a positive note, one of the most amazing sights during all this has been watching our school community build and run a student meal delivery program. I can't express how hard working, innovative, and positive our school family has been to make this happen.

I want to go over some information that I think will be helpful for parents with this new form of schooling.

#### Schooltool Parent Portal Info:

If you use the Parent Portal in Schooltool, and you see an "ABS" or absent code for an assignment, it means that the student has not yet turned in the assignment and should still complete the assignment and turn it in.

#### Google Classroom:

Google Classroom is the High School's main educational hub for class assignments and information. As a parent, I strongly encourage you to get the Google Classroom App on your phone and log into it with your student's credentials. This will allow you to see exactly what they see for every class.

Students should not rely solely on the "upcoming" box on the left of the main classroom or "Stream" page. Students need to read everything new in the "Stream" and go through the "Classwork" sections of each Classroom very carefully. Assignments may be in the "Stream" and/or the "Classwork" Sections. Assignments may not show up in the "Upcoming" box.

Some students are doing online work and then not turning it in. Please remind your students to turn assignments in to their teachers.

Additionally, if your student is having difficulty with a particular class or assignment, please reach out to the teacher. This fully online platform is as new to the teachers as it is to the students. Email is very effective. Also, you can call me or Mrs. Trybendis at the office and we can help get you connected with a teacher. Teachers may call you with a blocked or private phone number since they are using their personal cell phones. Please take these calls or clean out your voicemail so you can receive voicemails.

If you do not have internet access, we are doing our best to work with your student in other capacities like phone calls, text messages, emails through cell phones, etc. Please let me or the specific teacher know if your student isn't getting what they need because of a lack of internet or technology. We are doing our best to find solutions to these challenges.

#### Counseling:

School counselors are available for your students as well. Each grade's counselor has Google Classrooms set up for students. Counselors can be reached by email. Phone calls can be arranged.

I am confident that this unprecedented crisis will ultimately make us a stronger community and a better school. There is no doubt that we are facing some major challenges, but forced to be apart, we can still make a difference.

Chris Fey  
High School Principal  
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## Bus Note Procedures



When students are going to a friend's house, written notes must be received from both student's parent/guardian. If students are going to a relative's (i.e., grandparents,

aunts) house and/or workplace, only one note from the parent/guardian is required. These notes **must** be handed in to the Main Office by the end of **A-Set**. Bus notes can be picked up at lunchtime. Also, if an emergency bus note has to be called in, you must call the Main Office at 518-834-2800. Thank you for your cooperation.

## Junior/Senior Spring Gala

This year's Junior/Senior will be held on Saturday, May 16, 2020, The event will take place at the Altona Rainbow Banquet Hall in their new venue, The Barn, from 6:00 - 11:00 pm. Tickets are \$50 per person and include dinner, dessert, dancing, chocolate fountain, games, and many extras. The promenade will begin at 6:15 pm and parents are welcome to attend until the end of this portion of the event. In order to purchase tickets, all previous and current class dues must be paid in full.



## Honors Program Invitations

The Honors Program invitation letters for 2020-2021 will be sent out at the beginning of the fourth quarter. The criteria for receiving an invitation into the Honors Program is 90% average in A1; English, Social Studies, Math, or Science class and the recommendation of the current teacher. Students will need to maintain 90% through fourth quarter and final exams in order to be scheduled into the Honors class or classes for 2020—2021. The first time a student is recommended for one or more Honors classes they will need to write and submit an application essay. Information on the essay criteria will be included with your student's invitation letter. Once in an Honors class (8-11 grade), students will need to maintain an 88% average for the year to continue in that class for the next academic year. Honors applications and essays will be due to Mrs. Brown by May

## News from the Health Office

### HEALTH EXAMINATION/PHYSICAL

Mandatory physicals are required for all students entering pre-K or K/ New Entrants, 1st, 3rd, 5th, 7th, 9th, and 11th grades will be required to provide proof of a current Health Examination/Physical.

If you would like your child to receive a physical at school, please contact the Health Office at your child's school. Also, please inform your child that he/she needs to stop by the Health office to sign up for the physical.

### IMMUNIZATION REMINDER:

All students entering 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th and 12th grades will be required to provide proof of Meningococcal vaccine. Please check with your child's primary care provider for immunization updates.

**Life isn't about waiting for the storm to pass. It's about learning how to dance in the rain.**