

# GREAT MEADOWS REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

## Jaguar Journal

December 4, 2018



David Mango, Superintendent  
Dawn McPeck, Administrative Assistant  
Timothy Havlusch, Business Administrator/Board Secretary  
Business Office  
Telephone: 908-637-8672



### Early Dismissal/Closings

Fri, Dec. 7—EARLY DISMISSAL

Fri, Dec. 21—EARLY DISMISSAL

Mon., Dec. 24– Tues., Jan. 1—NO SCHOOL



### IMPORTANT DATES

\*\*\*\*\*

#### **BOE Meeting**

Tues., Dec. 18, 7:00 pm, GMMS

\*\*\*\*\*

#### **Central School, Grades 1 & 2 Winter Concert and Art Show**

Wed., Dec. 5, 7:00 pm, GMMS

\*\*\*\*\*

#### **GMMS Winter Concert**

Wed., Dec. 12, 7:00 pm, GMMS

\*\*\*\*\*

#### **Liberty School, Grades 4 & 5 Band and Chorus Concert**

Wed., Dec. 19, 7:00 pm, GMMS

\*\*\*\*\*

#### **Principal Forum, PreK-5**

Wed., Jan. 16, 6:00 pm, Central

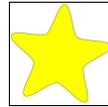
\*\*\*\*\*

#### **GMMS 6th-8th Grade Get Together**

Fri., Jan. 18, 6:00-8:00 pm,  
GMMS



**Here's what's  
happening!**



Pretzel and Pizza Sales \_\_\_\_\_ Page 2

Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser canceled \_\_\_ Page 2

HHS Cookies & Games with Santa \_\_\_\_\_ Page 3

Food & Toy Drive \_\_\_\_\_ Page 4

Yeti Fundraiser \_\_\_\_\_ Page 5

Parent's Night Out \_\_\_\_\_ Page 6

GMMS Volleyball Sign-Ups \_\_\_\_\_ Page 7

District Information \_\_\_\_\_ Pages 8-11



## Pretzel Sales

Every Friday

\$1.00

Benefit 8th Grade  
Class of 2019

THANK YOU INDEPENDENCE

VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT!!

Thank you for your visit to Central School. You are all true heroes who not only protect the community but educate us as well. The students learned so much from your presentations and enjoyed the fire truck. Your visit was the highlight of our Fire Prevention week.

Sincerely, Central School Students and Staff



## Pizza Sales

Half Days

\$2 a slice

Drinks \$1-\$2

Benefit 8th Grade  
Class of 2019



**Has been Canceled**



Happy Holidays



# HHS Cheerleading Presents...

## Cookies & Games

### With Santa

Please join the HHS Competition Cheer Team for lots of FUN and Games with Santa. Each child attending will decorate a cookie, play some fun holiday games, get their own personalized Santa hat, and have the opportunity to share their Christmas list with SANTA! Your children will have a blast while you are supporting the HHS Competition Cheerleaders in their quest to make it to Nationals in Disney World this February.

Saturday, December 15th  
10:30am - 12:30pm  
Independence Fire House  
Cemetery Road, Independence Twp.  
Cost: \$15.00

For Ticket Information Contact:  
Roe Stone 908-752-5076  
Christine Alegria 201-600-0192  
or  
Coach Amanda 908-296-5452





## **TOY AND FOOD DRIVE**

**Hosted by:**

**INDEPENDENCE TWP VOLUNTEER  
FIRE DEPARTMENT**

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2018**

**FROM 5 TO 8 PM**

**AT THE**

**INDEPENDENCE FIRE HOUSE**

**24 CEMETERY ROAD**

**GREAT MEADOWS, NJ**

**Girl Scouts will do the annual Christmas tree Lighting and Dance Expression will perform**

Bring an unwrapped toy and any non-perishable food item or grocery store gift certificate during the above time and join us for refreshments.

This is to help our local food bank continue their efforts in providing people in our community, who need food now, and for the upcoming holiday season.

Also a drop off box will be placed at the Independence Municipal Building, 286B Route 46, Great Meadows. If you have any questions, call the municipal building 908-637-4133 ext. 1012

# SUPPORT

## HHS GIRLS LACROSSE

### YETI FUNDRAISER

20 oz. Silver Rambler



PRE-ORDER YOURS TODAY!

**\$30 EACH!**

ORDER DUE MONDAY, NOV 26<sup>TH</sup>

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Quantity: \_\_\_\_\_

Total cost: \_\_\_\_\_ (\$30 each)

Checks can be made to: HHS Lady Tigers Lacrosse BC

Return to: Stevie Klie at the High School

OR

Mail to: Jessica DeNicola, 935 County RD 517, Hackettstown, NJ 07840

# PARENTS' NIGHT OUT



**DEC. 7 6:30 - 9 P.M. @ HHS GYM**

## PARENTS!

It's that time of year again, and we know Santa is procrastinating! The Hackettstown Boys Basketball Program is giving the parents a night off and will be hosting a game and movie night at the high school for kids of all ages! While the parents are out shopping for presents or enjoying a quiet dinner, the kids will be hanging out with Coach McDonagh and the Boys Basketball Team playing basketball, playing board games, and watching movies. We look forward to seeing you there! Please call Coach McDonagh if you have questions!

COACH MCDONAGH (908) 472-2320 [MMCDONAGH@HACKETTSTOWN.ORG](mailto:MMCDONAGH@HACKETTSTOWN.ORG)

# \$10

CHECK MADE PAYABLE TO  
"TIGERS BASKETBALL"

**Parent /Guardian Consent:** We/I hereby give our consent and approval for our son/daughter to participate in all activities at the camp. We certify that our son/daughter is in good health and will abide by all camp rules.

Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Campar \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

179.023.0014.08

©2011 Hackettstown Boys Basketball Program. All rights reserved. Hackettstown, NJ 07834. 908.472.2320. [www.hackettstown.org](http://www.hackettstown.org)

# Volleyball Sign-ups

We are excited about beginning another volleyball season this winter. Any boy or girl in grades 6-8 interested in playing volleyball must return the attached permission form. Also, each player must have a Physical Exam before they are able to practice. The physical forms are attached and can be found on the Middle School's homepage. Practices will begin Feb. 4, 2019 and will run from 2:30-3:30 on Mondays and Wednesdays for the boys' team and Tuesdays and Thursdays for the girls' team. Our season runs from Feb. 4 until March 21. The schedule for games has not yet been determined. All forms must be returned to the Nurse's office by Wednesday Jan. 17, 2018.

**Participation in middle school extra-curricular activities requires good academic standing (passing grades). Any student on disciplinary probation (20 points or more) may not participate.**

-----  
(cut on the line and return the bottom portion)

Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Grade/HR \_\_\_\_\_

I give permission for my child to participate in the 2019 Great Meadows Middle School Volleyball program. I understand that he/she may not participate until the Pre-participation Physical forms are submitted to the school nurse. I will also have transportation from practices and games for my child at the end of practice at 3:30 or games at 4:00.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

T-shirt size: Circle one: Adult Small, Adult Medium, Adult Large, Adult Extra Large

# GREAT MEADOWS REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWS

## INDEPENDENCE TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPT.

Cemetery Road,  
Great Meadows, NJ

Join us every second  
Sunday of the month  
from 8am - 11am for  
a hot buffet style breakfast.



**All you can eat for just \$7.  
(Seniors \$6, Children \$5)**



## Student Dress

Please remember to check that your children have dressed appropriately before they leave in the morning.

**Please be sure that students do not wear the following:**

- Hanging accessories that could cause a safety hazard
- Skirts, dresses and shorts length must be no shorter than 5 inches above the kneecap
- Clothing designed for beachwear; extremely low-cut, tight-fitting or transparent clothes; bare mid-riffs; enlarged armholes; exposed undergarments (tank tops must cover undergarments); excessive make up.
- No clothing imprinted with vulgar, profane and double-meaning pictures or slogans.
- No ripped or torn clothing or clothing with holes in it
- Unsafe footwear (backless shoes, rubber flip-flops, open-toes, etc.)

Remember that children run on the playground – sneakers are preferred over sandals and should be worn every day.



There have been several reports of vehicles using the bus entrance at the Central School/Middle School campus. Please be advised that the **bus entrance is for buses only.**

In addition, there have been several reports of vehicles speeding through the school speed zone while the yellow speed zone lights are active. The Independence Township Police Department has asked that we notify all parents that law enforcement will be monitoring and strictly enforcing the school speed zone limit.

Thank you.

Great Meadows Regional School District Administration

# GREAT MEADOWS REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWS

## THE RULES OF THE GAME

Keep the Great Meadows Regional School District Schools Safe and Friendly!

### **BULLYING/ FIGHTING/THREATENING**

Help make Great Meadows Regional School District safe for everyone. No rowdy behavior or running in the school. No disruptive behavior. No defacing or destruction of school property. No fighting or pretending to fight with another student. No threatening other students. No fooling around in ways that could harm another student.

**ELECTRONICS:** NO student radios, CD players, Walkman, or tape recorders on the school campus or on the school buses. Exceptions may be made by teachers or bus drivers for field trips and other special occasions. Also, pagers, beepers, and **cell phones may not be used during school hours (and must be turned off during school hours).**

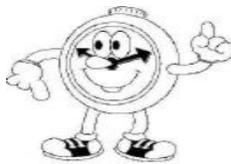
The use of personal electronics is not authorized for any purpose during the school day.



## Parent Pick Up

If you are planning to pick up your child at the end of the day or before the end of the day, a note must be submitted to the office stating the time of the pick up and who will be picking up your child. Your child will receive a pass to be dismissed and waiting for you in the office. If you are picking up your child everyday, one note will be sufficient. All requests must be received by 1 p.m. on the pick up day. If you need to pick up your child and a note has not be sent in, please call the office before you arrive and your child will be called down.

**Thank you.**

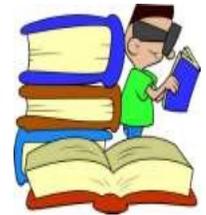


## CENTRAL / LIBERTY BUILDING HOURS

Please remember that students are not able to gain access to classrooms after 4:00PM.

## Central, Liberty, and Middle Schools Homework Requests

When requesting make-up work for an absent child, please remember that teachers require 24-hour advance notice to compile the assignments.



## NOTICE



Please observe all road signs around the Great Meadows Middle School and Central School when driving on the driveway. We do not want any of our students or parents getting injured due to not observing the road signs or paying attention.

Also please observe the school bus lanes and do Not walk between the buses.



**Thank you!**



## BOX TOPS For Education

Please save your BOX TOPS and send them in with your child to the school that they attend. **Thank you!**



## Children Ages 3 – 5 years Attention Parents of Children Ages 3-5 years



Children ages 3-5 that experience physical, sensory, emotional, cognitive, and/or social difficulties may be eligible for special education and related services. Please contact the GMRSD Child Study Team at 908-637-6020 to schedule an appointment. Babies from birth to age 3 who are thought to have a developmental delay, may receive assistance from the Project First Step at the Warren County ARC at 908-689-4542.

**Reminder:** The Great Meadows Regional School District is **electronic**". The traditional method of sending hardcopy paperwork home with students is substantially diminished. If you do not have access to email or the internet, please inform the school that your child attends.



**Thank you!**

# GREAT MEADOWS REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWS



## ATTENDANCE CALLS

### Central, Liberty, Middle

#### ATTENDANCE

For the health and safety of our children, please call the School Nurse when your child will be late to school or absent for any reason. Leave a message on the voice mail detailing your child's name, homeroom, and **specific** reason for the absence.

Please Do not call the school secretary or classroom teacher and leave a message on her voice mail regarding absences.

**Central:** Mrs. Hendershot: 908-637-4041, x203

**Liberty:** Mrs. DeCostanza: 908-637-4790, x202

**Middle:** Mrs. Wilson: 908-637-4349, x206

#### MEDICATION POLICY

All medication (with the exception of rescue inhalers and Epi-Pens) must be transported to and from school by a responsible adult and given directly to the School Nurse.

All medication, prescription and over-the-counter, must have a written doctor's order detailing the type, dosage, purpose of the medication, and date to be discontinued. All prescription changes must have a new order from your physician

All medication must be in an original, labeled pharmacy container.

Please call your school nurse with any questions about medications.

#### ILLNESS OR INJURY

Please do not send your child to school if he/she has been vomiting, had diarrhea, severe headache, or a fever >100 degrees **within the last 24 hours**. Please do not send children with painful untreated injuries or undiagnosed rashes. Students who develop an illness, fever, pink-eye, diarrhea, vomiting, or rash will be excluded from school pending treatment.

**Thank you!**

## School Closings and Delayed Openings



*This year GMRSD has switched to the Realtime Alert System. You will receive messages via telephone, cell phone, text messaging, email (whatever way you choose) to notify you of school closings, events, etc., happenings in the district.*

With winter approaching, it is likely that there will be school closings and delayed openings as a result of inclement weather. Our telephone system allows you to get the latest announcements by simply dialing the auto attendant. The Principal, of each school, will leave a message on the auto attendant if there is any change to the normal schedule.

**GMMS Auto Attendant – 637-4349**

**Central School Auto Attendant – 637-4041**

**Liberty School Auto Attendant – 637-4790**

*The auto attendant number is the only school number that will have emergency closing, delayed opening or early release information.*

**Announcements will also continue to be made on the local radio station: WRNJ-AM 1510/AM and on the school website –scrolling banner**  
**Early Release**

On the days when risky weather arrives unexpectedly and the children are in school, you may **call the auto attendant number** for information. If an early closing has been decided, the message will state the time of dismissal and any other pertinent information. The auto attendant number is the only school number that will have emergency closing, delayed opening or early release information. Although we make every effort to keep children in school for the full session once they have arrived, some circumstances may require an early release.

**PLEASE ENSURE THAT YOU HAVE A PLAN IN PLACE TO CARE FOR YOUR CHILDREN SHOULD IT BE NECESSARY FOR SCHOOL TO DISMISS EARLIER THAN NORMAL.**

Our constant fear is that a child goes home to an empty house or locked house and has no idea what to do.

**PLEASE PLAN AHEAD.**

If special arrangements are made, please inform your school principal. **We want ALL CHILDREN SAFE.**

**Again, PLEASE PLAN AHEAD!!**

# GREAT MEADOWS REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWS

## Great Meadows Middle School Information

### Student's Homeroom begins at 7:50 a.m.

The buses arrive at the middle school at 7:45 am and students enter the building. Homeroom starts at 7:50 am. If a student arrives at school after 7:50 am, he/she will be marked tardy. Homeroom is over at 8:00 am, therefore, students must be in homeroom on time (7:50 am) Thank you!

**Student Drop-Off Before 7:45 a.m.** If you must drop your child off at school before 7:45 a.m., PLEASE do so at the gym entrance. Students are not to arrive at the middle school earlier than 7:45 am. Students are to enter the building through the gymnasium lobby. Due to bus arrivals, we must keep the front entrance clear.

**Building Hours:** Please remember that the office closes at 3:30 p.m. Students will not be permitted to access their lockers or classroom after this time. This allows our custodians to complete their tasks without numerous interruptions throughout the evening.

**Dismissal Policy:** If your child is being picked during the course of the day, s/he must bring a signed note from a parent to the office in the morning to get a green Dismissal Pass. Parents must come in to the office and sign students out when they are picking them up.

If you are picking your child up at the end of the day, he/she must have a note stating same and the student will be called down at 2:30 p.m. and is to be picked up/signed out at the gym entrance.

Please be aware that children are not allowed to change their normal busing procedure to visit friends for play dates.

**Homework Policy:** If your child is going to miss school for any reason, please allow at least 24 hours notice for the teacher(s) to prepare missed assignments. A teacher cannot prepare missed assignments without proper notice. Parents/students can call the homework hotline, 908-637-4349 and enter the teacher's ext. number or check Realtime online.

### **When Dropping Off School Related Items to the Main Office**

Please have the student's name/homeroom/grade on the item. The student will be contacted by the office one time—it is their responsibility to check the office for the item they are missing. Please note that our students should not be using their cell phones to call home. They should get their teachers' permission to use the classroom/office phone.

## GREAT MEADOWS REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

### Parent/Visitor

Please report to the school office upon entering Central, Liberty, or the Middle School. Every visitor is required to register in the school office. S/he is expected to sign in and out as well as provide a reason for the visit. A visitor's badge must be obtained and worn for the duration of the visit. An appointment should be arranged ahead of time for the visit. Please be aware that teachers are extremely busy at arrival/dismissal time.

Please do not visit classrooms without registering in the office first.

Thank you for your cooperation.



## CENTRAL AND LIBERTY SCHOOLS

When dropping-off your child for school in the morning, please remember that students may not enter the school building prior to 8:45AM. Adult supervision does not begin until that time.

*No one may visit classrooms without prior approval from the teacher and the office.*



### Central School

**If you are picking up your children from school or delivering your children to school, do not interfere with our buses. We ask you to park in the lot behind the school. If your child is tardy, please come to the office for a late slip.**

**When picking your child up in the PM, it is necessary for you to come the office between 3:10-3:20 p.m. You must sign your child out and put your child's name on the call list. He/she will meet you in the lobby after his/her name has been called. Please do not wait outside of the classrooms for your child to be dismissed.**

**Liberty School** Any parent who will be picking up their child on a regular basis must notify the school office in writing. If a parent wishes to pick up a child that is not a regular pickup, the parent must notify the office in writing or call prior to 12:00 noon. When picking up your child at dismissal, please use the side entrance of the school directly to the left of the front door. Parents should park their car in any one of the "Pick-Up/Drop-Off" spots and use the crosswalk which leads to the side entrance. There will be a staff member present beginning at 3:10pm to assist you in signing your child out prior to their dismissal at 3:17pm.

# GREAT MEADOWS REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWS



## CENTRAL SCHOOL COMMUNICATION

School hours are 8:15 a.m.-4:15 p.m.

MAIN OFFICE 908-637-4351

You may call the school at any time. It is important that you feel comfortable in keeping the lines of communication open and call with any questions or concerns you may have.

To reach someone on this list,

dial **908-637-4041**

and enter the extension number. To reach someone not listed here, please visit the website

Mr. Mai, Principal	Ext. 201
Mrs. Ascolese, Secretary	Ext. 200
Mrs. Denicola, Secretary	Ext. 280
Mrs. Hendershot, Nurse	Ext. 203
Mrs. Ackerman, Guidance	Ext. 234

## GREAT MEADOWS MIDDLE SCHOOL COMMUNICATION

School hours are 7:50 a.m.—3:30 p.m.

MAIN OFFICE 908-637-4584

To reach someone on this list, dial **908-637-4349** and enter the extension number. To reach someone not listed here, please visit the website.

Mr. Marmolejos, Principal	Ext. 204
Mrs. McDonagh, Assistant Principal	Ext. 205
Ms. Kilbourn, Guidance Counselor	Ext. 254
Mrs. D'Aconti, Secretary	Ext. 200
Mrs. Denicola, Secretary	Ext. 201
Mrs. Wilson, School Nurse	Ext. 206

CHILD STUDY TEAM 908-637-6020

Mrs. Gesumaria, Director	Ext. 267
Mrs. Castiglia, Secretary	Ext. 202

### BULLY HOTLINE

Ext. 900

Calls can be anonymous



## CELL PHONE POLICY

Great Meadows Middle School  
**This cell phone policy will be strictly enforced.**

Students are permitted to have cell phones in their lockers only. Any student with a cell phone on his or her person during school hours will receive an automatic after-school detention.

**NO EXCEPTIONS!!**

If you need to speak to your child in school, please call the main office and we will allow you to speak to your child.

## LIBERTY SCHOOL COMMUNICATION

School hours are 8:15 a.m.—4:15 p.m.

MAIN OFFICE 908-637-4115

To reach all extensions and the voice mailbox of the staff dial **908-637-4790** and enter the extension number. You may visit the school website for the number.

Ms. Macones, Principal	Ext. 200
Mrs. Lanzarone, Secretary	Ext. 200
Mrs. Denicola, Secretary	Ext. 204
Mrs. DeCostanza, School Nurse	Ext. 202
Mrs. Ackerman, Guidance	Ext. 283

