



# William S. Hackett Middle School



## THE HAWK'S NEST School Newsletter • October 2022

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### Principal's Message

Welcome back to school! It is hard to believe the first five weeks have come and gone so quickly. Since we have reached the half-way point of the first marking period, it is time to talk specifics about your child. Enclosed is your child's first quarter interim report. Review the interim report, and if you have any questions or concerns, contact your child's guidance counselor at (518) 475-6486.

As you know, we use **student photo ID** cards for access to lunch and bus privileges for those students eligible to receive free transportation. All students should have received their ID cards and should be wearing them around their necks during the school day. Replacement cards due to loss or theft will have a \$5 replacement fee. Your child should report to the main

office if they have not been issued an ID or if their card does not have a photo.

Hackett's annual **Open House** took place on Sept. 29. We would like to thank all parents and guardians who attended and participated.

On Oct. 7, the annual test of **City School District of Albany's Early Dismissal Plan** was carried out. Each year the State Education Department requires this test for all schools. All students were released 15 minutes earlier than their normally scheduled time in order to test the early dismissal response procedures of our emergency management plan.

In an effort to broaden access to parent-teacher conferences by our families, we will hold **two parent-**

**teacher conference days** on Oct. 28 and Feb. 10 and offer both daytime and early evening sessions to families. Early evening appointments will be held on Thursday, Oct. 27 from 4-7 p.m., while Friday, October 28 will offer morning appointments from 8-11 a.m. Please note that Wednesday, Nov. 23 is now a recess day for all students and staff.

Hackett's **Picture Day** will take place Oct. 19-Oct. 20, with all students being professionally photographed by Lifetouch Studios during their physical education classes. Oct. 19 will be a "Day 1" and Oct. 20 will be a "Day 2." An information flyer was previously sent home.

Thank you for your support and we hope to see you at some of our upcoming events.

### Great start to new school year

Our annual **Hackett PTA Fun Day Barbecue** took place on Sept. 9 during lunch. It was a great success! We extend our appreciation to Stewart's Ice Cream Shops for donating ice cream for dessert. A special thanks to the Hackett Middle School PTA for their help cooking food and serving ice cream sundaes to all students. Their support ensured a great kick-off to the beginning of the school year!



# After-school programs underway

The Hackett Middle School **Extended Learning Time (formerly known as the Extended Day Program)** has kicked off for the 2022-23 school year.

In this after-school program, students participate in a variety of recreational and apprenticeship programs Mondays through Thursdays from 3-5:30 p.m.

The goal is to provide students and families with an after-school program that not only supports students and their academics, but emphasizes clubs and outside programming as well.

For more information or to sign up your student, contact program coordinator Darien Lewis at (518) 475-6501.

Available programs include:

- Arts and Crafts
- Athletics
- Cooking Club
- Cosmetology
- GSSA (LGBTQ)
- Judo
- Lego
- Library Club
- Lyricism
- UpState Gamerz
- SWAG (Entrepreneurship)
- STEM
- Swimming

## Breakfast of Champions

On Sept. 22, Hackett hosted a “Bring an Important Person to School Day.” Thank you to the 50 adults who attended our morning breakfast. We celebrate all adults who are involved in a child’s education and who have a positive impact on a child’s growth and development!



## Halloween Teen Night

Our first Teen Night of the school year will be held on **Friday, Nov. 4 from 6-8:30 p.m.!** This Teen Night will have a Halloween theme, so **costumes are welcome.**

Teen Nights provide an opportunity for Hackett students to participate in various activities, as well as to connect and relate in a positive and fun manner in a safe environment. If you are interested in helping to supervise this event or run a particular activity such as the game room, face painting, etc., please contact our PTA.

Please note that this event is for Hackett students only. Guests and students from other schools are not permitted to attend. Also, all students must have their school ID badge to enter. Although costumes are permitted to be worn at Teen Night, costumes, masks, etc. are not to be worn during the regular school day.

## Upcoming Events

- Oct. 19** Early Release Day. School ends at 1:30 p.m.
- Oct. 27** Parent-teacher conferences, 4-7 p.m.
- Oct. 28** **No school for students**  
Parent-teacher conferences, 8-11 a.m.  
Staff professional development, noon-3 p.m.
- Nov. 2** PTA meeting, 7 p.m.
- Nov. 4** Teen Night, 6-8:30 p.m.
- Nov. 11** **No school, Veterans Day**
- Nov. 16** Picture Retake Day
- Nov. 23-25** **No school, Thanksgiving Recess**

## Read to Succeed

On Oct. 4, Congressman Paul Tonko visited Hackett and donated books to our library from the Library of Congress Surplus Book Program. A special thanks to Hackett Librarian Sonji Greenaway, who requested the books on behalf of our school.

