

August, 2021

Dear Parents and Guardians of HHS Students - Back to School Newsletter

The Hastings High School staff is looking forward to a great 2021-22 school year! This is a school built upon bedrock with a solid foundation. We are planning for positive experiences, solid learning, safety for all and creating lasting relationships. We are proud that “Hastings High School” includes students that attend HHS in-person and students that attend the Hastings Online Academy. The Values of HHS are the pillars on which we build our school - both in-person and virtually.

The Values of Hastings High School in Partnership with our Community

The finest school in our area.

Known regionally for three keys to our school:

1. strong and varied academic offerings,
2. strong involvement in fine arts & activities and
3. strong involvement in athletics.

Positive staff-student relationships and school climate develops a safe, trusting and supportive learning environment.

Promotion of the value of service to others.

Masking Update From RaiderUpdate Many of you are watching the changing landscape with regard to the pandemic, and it is causing continued anxiety for some concerning what school will look like for our students in Hastings - masking in particular. We watch developments closely daily and communicate with [Dakota county health officials](#) regarding the latest data and recommendations. While we are planning for a continuum of contingencies, our school board is hoping for more information closer to the start of the school year and will be discussing the masking topic. Please continue to look for and read the RaiderUpdate sent out to all families via email.

How will HHS continue to mitigate the risk of spreading COVID-19 at HHS?

1. Be committed to healthy personal behaviors and wash your hands frequently!
2. Hastings Public Schools will continue to thoroughly clean our schools after each school day. Hand sanitizer stations will still be available and everyone is recommended to continue practicing good hand hygiene.
3. Following guidance from the Center for Disease Control (CDC) and the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH), Hastings Public Schools recommends but does not require face coverings in our schools and facilities. However, the CDC and Hastings Public Schools still require face coverings for everyone on school buses at all times.
4. Hastings Public Schools will continue to follow the guidance from MDH for all COVID-19 exposures. In accordance with current CDC guidelines, only people who test positive for COVID and their unvaccinated household members will be required to quarantine.

First Day of School for Grade 9 HHS and HOA students

- Wednesday, September 8 - 7:50 a.m. to 2:31 p.m.

We will continue our strong tradition of welcoming our Freshman students to HHS and HOA on their first day of high school with the “Link Crew” day! Freshman students will be welcomed to school by HHS staff members and junior and senior “Link Leaders.” This day is filled with positive energy, getting to know HHS and our building, school pictures, meeting teachers, eating lunch and receiving Chromebooks.

Transportation for students will run at the regular times. Please be sure your student has either money in their lunch account or brings a lunch from home **AND** they bring the Chromebook Agreement Form to receive their Chromebook. Parents, guardians and students need to follow the Acceptable Use and Expectations for Chromebook Use.

Please print, sign and return when picking up your child’s Chromebook

- [Hastings Public Schools Agreement & Pledge for Chromebook Use](#)
- (tinyurl.com/ISD200Chromebook)

School for all Students Grades 9-12 HHS and HOA - Thursday, September 9

Parents, guardians and students need to follow the Acceptable Use and Expectations for Chromebook Use - please print, sign and return the form above on September 9.

New Parent Orientation – Parents, please mark Thursday, August 26 on your calendars as this is your orientation! The parents (**ONLY PARENTS/GUARDIANS**) of incoming 9th grade and new students are cordially invited to attend an orientation meeting at 7:00 p.m. in the high school auditorium. Information will be presented to parents regarding the first day of school, course offerings, student services and school policies. Administrators and counselors will break down into small groups with parents to answer questions and give a tour of the building for those who are interested. **This orientation is for parents/guardians only.** Remember, the new and ninth grade student orientation is Wednesday, September 8, 2021.

Back-to-School “Open House” – On Thursday, September 23 HHS will host an Open House giving parents the opportunity to follow their child’s schedule and meet each teacher. The annual Open House at HHS is very popular with parents. It is a great way to get to know teachers at the beginning of the school year, be introduced briefly to the content, experience “passing time” between classes and see the classrooms in which your child will learn. Here is a brief outline of the evening:

6:45 to 7:00 p.m. – Welcome in the HHS commons, Yearbook purchase

7:00 to to 9:00 p.m. – Follow your child’s schedule on a mini-schedule – report to your child’s period 1 class by 7:05 p.m., attend each class for 10 minutes with 5 minutes passing between periods, meet each of your child’s teachers

Student Portal, Parent Portal, Class Schedules – Student class schedules will be available

online on August 23 for those parents and students who have an established Infinite Campus Portal account. Through the Portal, parents and students will have access to student schedules, bus information, attendance, health information and grades on-line. The Student Portal includes information just for that individual student. The Parent Portal allows parents to see information for all their children.

Student's Hastings Middle School Portal accounts will be the same account for Hastings High School. For some of you, I am sure that over the summer you have forgotten your username or password. Please use the self-service feature in the Portal to reset your password or look up your username at <https://hastingsmn.infinitecampus.org/campus/portal/hastings.jsp> If you do not have Campus Portal accounts, please email Sue Beskau at the Hastings High School Main Office at sbeskau@isd200.org Activating your Campus Portal parent portal account is easy. All you need is your Campus Portal Activation Key that will be e-mailed to you.

VERY IMPORTANT!! Beginning in mid-August, parents will be asked to log into their Parent Portal Account and complete a new "Annual Update" process. Please watch your email for more information and instructions on Annual Updates. The annual update process will allow you to review and update your personal contact information, emergency contact information, and to review and sign off electronically on annual forms.

Schoology - Schoology is an integrated learning management solution that provides course management, mobile learning, and support for system-wide communication in Hastings Schools in grades 5-12. Schoology enables our students and teachers to engage with learning materials and their school community from the classroom and beyond.

We look forward to continuing the use of Schoology in our classrooms to enhance connectivity and communication across our district. You will see major assignments, projects and assessments posted to the events calendar and teachers will be using the updates feature to alert students to upcoming events. Students in need of a Schoology account and login will receive them during the first week of school.

If you do not have a Schoology parent account, please email Sue Beskau at the Hastings High School Main Office at sbeskau@isd200.org Activating your Schoology parent portal account is easy and instructions will be e-mailed to you.

Change of Schedule – Courses on your schedule represent selections which you made and your parents approved. Since the master schedule was built based on these requests and classes are full, we are not able to make schedule changes to other elective courses or specific teachers unless an obvious error has been made. In some cases, an elective choice was either full or did not fit in your schedule - so you may have one study hall. This is not an error.

Schedule Correction – If students have errors or questions regarding their schedules they are encouraged to contact their counselor via e-mail. Please note that school counselors will be back working at HHS August 23. New student registrations and meetings may make it difficult

for students to stop by and see a counselor without an appointment. Therefore, students are encouraged to first email their counselor with questions. If email is not an option, you can call 651-480-7488 to make an appointment.

Student last names A-F	Kim Hoff	khoff@isd200.org
Student last names G-L	Naomi Marietta	nmarietta@isd200.org
Student last names M-R and ALL AVID Students	Drew Cooper	dcooper@isd200.org
Student last names S-Z and ALL EL Students	Steve Peterson	speterson@isd200.org

New Class Schedule for the 2021-22 school year - We are excited that all HHS students will be part of an Advisory every day and it will be on each student's schedule. Advisory is that "school family" that schedules about 20 students with one teacher. The students in Advisory stay together with that teacher for all four years of high school. Advisory is 15 minutes each day and includes high-energy school spirit activities, interpersonal relationship development and college and career planning.

Period 1	7:50 to 8:36 a.m.
Period 2	8:41 to 9:27 a.m.
ADVISORY	9:32 to 9:47 a.m.
Period 3	9:52 to 10:38 a.m.
Period 4	10:43 to 11:29 a.m.
Period 5 A Lunch	11:34 to 11:59 a.m.
B Lunch	11:59 to 12:24 p.m.
C Lunch	12:24 to 12:49 p.m.
Period 6	12:54 to 1:40 p.m.
Period 7	1:45 to 2:31 p.m.

Grading for 2021-22 School Year - Reporting of semester grades and credits will return to the pre-COVID system of A, B, C, D and No Grade (A-NG). Students will not have the choice of a grade of PASS.

Lockers - Lockers will be assigned to all incoming grade 9 students. HHS students grades 10-12 may choose to have a locker and the location within the school. If you would like a locker, please go to the Student Office to select one in the building.

School Supplies for the 2021-22 school year - This is a general list of supplies for the first week of school – individual teachers or departments may require additional supplies. For most classes students will need a notebook, pen or pencil, and a three-ring binder with individual, removable folders.

Calculators - We highly advise you to purchase a graphing calculator as most upper level math classes will utilize the graphing functions on them. We highly advise selecting the Texas Instruments TI-84 Plus CE. It is the newest model introduced a few years ago from Texas

Instruments. This calculator has a faster processor, color display, rechargeable battery and software upgrades supported by TI. The other models of TI graphing calculators are many years older and typically cost the same amount as the preferred TI-84 Plus CE when found on sale. In years past, the sale price in late July to early August will often be below \$100.

<p>a) Texas Instruments: TI-30XS MultiView Scientific Calculator</p>  <p>b) Texas Instruments: TI-30X IIS</p>	<p>Algebra, Algebra Essentials</p> <p>Honors Geometry, Geometry, Geometry Essentials</p>
<p>a) Texas Instruments: TI-84 Plus CE (color graphics)</p>  <p>b) Texas Instruments: TI-84 Plus Silver or TI-84 Plus</p>	<p>Honors Algebra 2, Algebra 2, Algebra 2 Essentials</p> <p>Algebra 3</p> <p>Honors Pre-Calculus, Pre-Calculus</p> <p>AP Calculus AB, AP Calculus BC, Calculus</p> <p>AP Statistics</p>
<p>Please Do Not purchase a TI-83 Graphing Calculator or any model of a Casio Graphing Calculator.</p>	

School Lunch Program. FREE breakfast and lunch will be provided to all students during the 2021-2022 school year due to the extension of the USDA meal waivers. Students will be charged for milk (if not getting a meal from school), second meals and ala carte items.

Fill out an Educational Benefits Form (Free & Reduced Application) to learn if you're eligible for free or reduced cost meals, as well as assistance for other school-related activities. Applications will be processed beginning in August. Your Educational Benefits Form helps not just your family, but kids across the district in many ways. Just one form ensures continued funding to support ALL kids in our schools. Families MUST fill out a new application for benefits at the beginning of each school year or benefits will expire! Applications will be processed beginning in August

Here are some of the reasons why -

School Funding: Increased funding for our schools to ensure kids receive support they need

Technology Funding: Increased funding to schools to improve internet access, wireless and

network services

College Application & Testing Fees: Discount on fees associated with applying for college and for participating in academic testing such as SAT, ACT and Advanced Placement

School Meals: Free or reduced prices on our delicious and nutritious meals

Field Trips: Free or reduced costs to attend field trips with your class

Sports and activities: Reduced fees to participate on school teams or clubs

Instruments, equipment and other supplies: Free or reduced costs to rent musical instruments or purchase equipment or supplies needed for activities or sports

Utility help: Some companies will offer reduced fees on utilities, such as electricity and internet

Student Pictures – HHS Students. Students in grade 9 and all HOA students will have their picture taken on September 8. Students in grades 10 and 11 will have their pictures taken on September 21. Student pictures will be taken by Dan Rother Photography & Cahill Studios. An email specific to student pictures and how to order pictures will be sent to all parents and guardians. Picture retakes will be on October 26.

Yearbooks – Purchase your 2022 Yearbook [here](#) for the lowest price of the year! Yearbooks are a wonderful keepsake for any student that highlights each year uniquely. Our HHS Yearbook Staff will also be taking orders for yearbooks at the HHS Open House as well as passing out order forms during our homeroom time. If you have any questions about the ordering process, please contact Taylor Phillips at tphillips@isd200.org

Submitting A Senior Photo

Greetings from HHS Yearbook! We are excited to help you start your son/daughter's senior year by providing you all the help and information you need to have them included in the 2022 yearbook! **Please submit a senior photo by October 23rd, otherwise they will not be included due to our deadlines with our printing company.**

Requirements:

- Senior photos must be vertical
- Should have similar dimensions to a 5x7 photo OR 1MG or larger file
- Cannot be a picture of a picture (Meaning, you took a picture of the physical picture with your phone)
- No screenshots or selfies (quality of photo is compromised).
- No text messages. If you are submitting a senior photo by email from your phone, you must click "actual size" when the screen directs you.

Avenues to Submit:

1. Email your picture to hhsyearbook@hastingsapps.org - please put your son/daughter's

legal first and last name as the FILE NAME (last name, first name)

2. If your photo is being taken by one of the major photographers in Hastings, the photographer will submit the photo directly to our staff (Please make sure to follow up with your photographer)
3. Send a flash drive to school with your senior to drop off at C129. We will help you directly

To Help Alleviate Confusion:

- Our yearbook staff will have a running list available on the school website under our class page of each senior who has submitted a senior photo and a baby photo for the senior slideshow. We will also include links for additional yearbook promotions and information. We will update regularly.

Submitting a Baby Picture for Seniors

At the end of the year, all seniors will be featured in a slideshow that will feature their senior photo, baby photo, and their future plans. Please submit **a baby photo by March 11th to ensure inclusion**. It is easiest to send this along with your son/daughter's senior photo; however, we will keep a running list online under our yearbook page of the students who have submitted their materials in order to address any confusion.

How to Submit:

1. Take a picture of the picture (quality will not be compromised because it is not being printed, what you see is what will be seen on the slideshow)
 - Email picture to hhsyearbook@hastingsapps.org with your son/daughter's name as the FILE name (last name, first name)
 - When it pops up on your phone, select "actual size" for the image size being sent (for quality purposes)
2. Scan image and send to hhsyearbook@hastingsapps.org with your son/daughter's name as the FILE name (last name, first name)
3. Send a picture with your son/daughter to bring to C129 for us to scan for you- we will return promptly.

Attendance – HHS students. Attendance policies for HHS students return to pre-COVID expectations of attending school in-person every day. Students attending HHS do not have the option to "work from home" or "learn by distance learning."

Attendance - Hastings Online Academy Students. Attendance is required for HOA students and the expectation is that students will be logging in to their online classes and fully participating in their learning activities.

Attendance in school is required by law and as such, will be reported to the county truancy officials if it becomes problematic. If your child will be absent, we ask that you call the Attendance Office at 7:00 a.m. at 651-480-7477 with your child's name, the nature of the

absence and the length of time your child will not be in school. Please leave a message if asked. In some cases, absences will be verified by office personnel or principals, as we believe regular attendance in school is crucial to the academic success of students.

Anytime a student comes late or leaves early from school they are to sign in or sign out at the greeter station, even if they have a pass. Please send a note or call the attendance office if your child is late to school. Medical appointments, religious commitments or family issues are excused absences – waking up late, a late ride or traffic delays are not excused absences and may result in disciplinary consequences.

Dental and medical appointments should be scheduled during non-school time whenever possible. Appointments that are not verified in writing will be treated as an unexcused absence (truancy).

It is school district policy that in order for students to participate in extra and co-curricular activities (sports, clubs, fine arts events, etc.) outside of the school day, the student must be in school at least half of the school day.

If your child needs to leave school early for a medical, religious or family reason, please send a written note to school with your child. With nearly 1,400 students in school, it is very difficult to send passes and messages received on the phone to students in a timely manner. In some cases, calling in for a pass to leave early results in the student actually missing the appointment as it can be difficult to find students if their class has moved to the media center, computer lab or outside for physical education classes. Students are to go to the greeter station before school with the note to receive a pass to leave school early. When the time comes to leave school, the students are to show their teacher the pass to leave class then sign out at the greeter station. It is very important that students sign out and then sign in when they return, as this helps both the school and parents know if the student actually left from and returned to school.

Health Services – The mission of Hastings School District Health Services is to promote student health for student success. The Health Office is available for immediate medical care of students who become ill or injured during the school day, need medications or treatments, or have other medical needs. We encourage students to visit the Health Office between classes, only leaving class for emergencies. If your child has a Health Plan please be sure that a copy of it is on file in the Health Office. The phone number of the Health Office is 651-480-7486.

Medication and Immunizations – Please contact the Nurse's Office at 651-480-7486 if you need to have medication distributed during the school day, including both prescriptions and over-the-counter medications. Please be sure your child's immunizations are up to date. "NO SHOTS – NO SCHOOL" is the law in the State of Minnesota and students will not be allowed to attend classes until their immunizations are up to date.

Illness or Injury at School – If your child becomes ill during the school day, they are to come to the Health Office to be assessed and to call parents. We have had a problem with students

calling parents from classrooms or from cell phones when they are ill. Parents then call the school requesting their child be given a pass to leave school. It is extremely disruptive to academics when we call into a classroom to summon a student. To support student learning, we ask for your help. If your child calls you from somewhere other than the Health Office, please tell them to go to the Health Office and we will assist them and contact you.

Emergency information in Infinite Campus must be kept current to provide the school with home, work and emergency contact phone numbers. If your child is ill, they are to come to the Health Office for nursing assessment and care. If they are too ill to be in school, parents will be contacted by school nursing staff. Transportation home and medical care are the responsibility of the parent/guardian. The school district does not carry any type of health or accident insurance for injuries incurred by your child at school.

Dress Code – The Hastings High School Dress Code is detailed below. It is a common sense approach to a difficult issue; however, it will be enforced and we ask for everyone’s cooperation.

Students are to use common sense and good taste concerning their dress. State health regulations require footwear (shoes, boots or sandals) be worn at all times. Any clothing which causes a disruption to the normal learning process or which constitutes a health or safety hazard will not be permitted. Some examples of restricted clothing and accessories are: Clothing and accessories with sexual (direct or implied) messages, profanity, gang affiliation, tobacco-drug-alcohol messages, Confederate flags and symbols, and clothing which put down/harass groups of people for their gender, look, ethnicity. No undergarments displayed or visible.

This list includes, but is not limited to, dress that will not be allowed. Students whose dress is deemed inappropriate by school officials will be required to change immediately. Any special “dress up” days must have prior approval of the administration. It is understood that many types of clothing are appropriate for events outside of school, but not for school itself. We will provide an atmosphere that promotes common sense and a good learning environment. Some specific school activities approved by the administration will be exempted from this policy. An example of this would be prom.

Student Parking 2021-22. Student parking semester permits and daily permits will be purchased online using EPayTrak. Students need to stop in the school on August 25 & 26 or September 1 & 2 to pick up their semester parking stickers. Parking rules and expectations apply and there will be a paid parking lot security officer. During the school day students may choose to park in both the student parking lot as well as the parking lot by the auditorium and gym. This is a change from previous years and will help alleviate on-campus student driving after school, for those students who want to park closer to the gym. Please note that only the student entrance doors are open during the school day of 7:50 a.m. to 2:31 p.m. - the athletic doors and staff/visitor doors will be locked during the school day. Further information can be found at: [HHS Student Parking 2021-2022](#)

We look forward to a GREAT 2021-22 school year. Thank you for your continued support! Mike Johnson - HHS Principal