

# Nettle News

Nettle Middle School... *Home of the Knights!*

February 1, 2021

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## Attendance Notes

Please call the school at 978-374-5792 if your student is going to be absent. Students should be in homeroom (remote or in-person) at 8:30am Monday-Friday. If your address or phone number has changed please call and let us know!

## From the Guidance Counselors

We will be meeting with all 8th graders over the next two weeks during their Specials to do an interview preparation lesson. Interview skills are important life skills as many students begin to interview for schools, programs, and first-time jobs. We will also be holding a virtual interview preparation workshop on Wednesday, February 10th at 2pm for any 8th grader who would like to ask specific questions. The link to join this session will be in our Grade 8 School Counseling google classroom.

Essex Tech. will be conducting virtual interviews for applicants on **Friday, February 26th**. Whittier Tech. will be conducting virtual interviews on Monday, March 1st and Tuesday, March 2nd. We will pass along more specific information as we receive it.

The Classical Academy will continue to accept applications **over the next two weeks** due to the pandemic. For any student who has already applied to Classical Academy, the advisors from Haverhill High School will be emailing you to schedule interviews for next week during the evening hours. The CTE Program at Haverhill High School is still accepting applications for the Information Technology Program and Programming and Web Development program. All applications are available on the HHS website.

## Masks for sale!

Nettle masks are for sale in the office. Families can stop by during school hours or students can get them from the office during lunch/recess. \$10 for one mask, \$18 for two masks. Proceeds go to the Nettle PTO! Get yours while supplies last!



## **Pool Testing FAQs**

You may have started to hear about the new classroom COVID-19 tests known as “pool testing.” Haverhill is participating in a pilot program to bring pool testing into schools for Cohorts A, B, and C. Two permission slips (one for group testing, one for individual testing) have been emailed to you and will be sent home when students return to school.

### *What is pool testing?*

Pool testing is a way to test a group of people at the same time. That group is known as a “pool.” At Nettle, there will be one or two pools per classroom.

### *How long will it take to get results?*

Results from the pool come back in 2-5 days.

### *What if the pool comes back positive?*

If the pool comes back positive then each person in the pool needs to take an individual test. We have these tests available at school and results come back in **20 minutes!** A positive pool *does not mean* that the class is put into quarantine for two weeks, we just need to follow up with individual tests.

### *What if my student gets a positive individual test?*

If your student’s individual test comes back positive your household should begin quarantine immediately, get tested, and follow all guidelines from the CDC and Department of Public Health.

### *Why should we do this? Is it mandatory?*

We want students in school as much as possible. While it is not mandatory for your student to participate, routine testing is an important tool for getting kids back in school.

The plan is to have Cohorts A and C test on **Tuesdays**; Cohort B and staff test on **Thursdays**. You will only be notified of the results if the pool comes back *positive*.