

Nettle News

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



February 16, 2025

Important Dates

Monday - Friday, February 17-21

No School, Feb break

Monday, February 24

PTO Meeting in person at Nettle 4:00pm

Tuesday, February 25

6:00 - 7:00 (online)

Site Council Meeting (6:00 pm online)

Thursday, February 27

Valentine's Dance (4:00-6:00)

Friday, February 28 (5:30pm - 8:30pm)

Community Event at YMCA (parents and kids)



Volleyball tryouts have been completed. Stay tuned for practice schedules. The First game is March 11th against Sacred Heart at Nettle (boys' team plays first).

Message from the Principal

I am sure you are all looking forward to the February break. It is an opportunity to catch up on missing classwork (which is posted in Google Classroom), homework, and sleep! If you didn't get a chance to meet with your child's teachers during Parent Conferences please call the school to get a copy of their progress report. Thank you for all your hard work - I know it is very difficult to get a middle school student out of bed, showered, and shove a couple of pencils in the backpack before they miss the bus!

Beginning March 24th, 4 weeks after students return from February break, we will start MCAS testing. I understand there is some confusion about why we are still taking the MCAS and why it matters to you, your child, and our school. MCAS testing started in the 1990's in response to data that indicated many students were graduating from high school without basic reading, writing, and math skills. Massachusetts created a standard, or minimum skills that students need to acquire before graduating, and the test was a way for schools to make sure their students were on the right track to meet the minimum standards. The [report card](#) published by the state uses MCAS data to let taxpayers know if their local schools are meeting the students' needs. At the school level, we use the test to make sure our curriculum and teaching methods are helping students reach their goals. We evaluate the data by student, grade, economic status, race, and disability to make sure we are not underserving or missing the education needs of any student or group of students.

Art Class

Do you (or a family member) have any art or craft supplies you would like to donate? The art room at Nettle is looking for donations from now until the end of March! If you would like to donate please drop off your supplies in the office.

We welcome traditional donations of colored pencils, brushes, crayons, paper, and unusual supplies like stencils, spray paint, and paper crimpers! Thank you!

Health Class

Hello Homeroom 205! When we return from break we will finish our Managing Anger unit and begin our Reproductive Systems unit. During this unit, we will identify the components and functions of the reproductive systems. You should have received a notification at the start of the school year about this unit. The notification letter can be found in the google classroom, under the topic: Information for Adults at Home. If you have any questions please email me at maeve.torres@haverhill-ps.org. Thank you!

News from Community School

Please remember we have free winter jackets in the front of the lobby and if anyone needs anything else please contact Nimcy Guerra at nimcy.guerra@haverhill-ps.org.

Some staff members have volunteered to host a crochet club on Wednesdays after school. The classes will start on February 26, permission slips are in the main office. Yoga classes for staff and parents are every Tuesday in the library from 3:15 to 4:00.

Yearbook

The yearbook committee needs baby photos of your 8th grade student for the yearbook. Please email Ms. McVey at angela.mcvey@haverhill-ps.org.

PTO

PTO's next meeting is February 24th at 4:00 at Nettle, in person. They are looking for new members and 8th grade parents interested in supporting 8th grade graduation activities. Hope to see you there!!

ELA Coach

Looking for some good reads during vacation? Checking out Barnes and Noble's website for some book recommendations. Haverhill's public library has some great recommendations also and there are even passes for museums and other things for members! It's easy to become a member if you aren't already, just head to the [library website](#) for applications and information on all their free resources! Reading the same book as your child is a great way to connect!

Washington DC news

Fundraisers are happening right now! Register ASAP!

Please contact melanie.hodson@haverhill-ps.org or Elizabeth.mccarron@haverhill-ps.org

Clubs

The Academic Bowl Senior Team (7th and 8th graders) will be meeting after school in room 203 with Mrs. McCarron on Tuesdays from 2:45-3:30 starting January 7th! Any questions please email me at elizabeth.mccarron@haverhill-ps.org or text me at 978-361-0659. We have a Google Classroom setup for the senior team, email me if you want to be added!

GSA meets on Tuesdays during 7/8 lunch & recess and Wednesdays after school from 2:45pm-3:30pm. I will post on our Google Classroom if there is a staff meeting and GSA is cancelled. Any questions reach out to Mrs. McCarron at elizabeth.mccarron@haverhill-ps.org or by text at 978-361-0659.

Chess Club will meet on Thursdays from 3-4 PM. Come to room 505 to join.

Drama club will meet on Thursdays from 2:45 to 3:45.

Guidance: From Mrs.Crowley

8th Grade Students & Families

The Whittier Tech. interviews have been completed. All applicants will be notified of their acceptance status by email by April 1st. If you have any questions, please contact Whittier Tech directly.

The CTE interviews for Haverhill High School will take place on March 10th and March 11th at Nettle School. Mrs. Crowley will be giving all CTE applicants their specific interview date and time after February vacation.

A big thank you to our community partners Fantini Bakery, Valley Logistics, 411 CARES, The Barber Academy, Gourmet Specialty Foods, Bloom by Nancy, Firehouse Center of the Arts, Riverside Church, Union Installations and Crystal Engineering

*Please continue checking the Nettle Middle School website for updates. nettle.haverhill-ps.org
Contact Eileen Doherty eileen.doherty@haverhill-ps.org.*