



The Richard H. Hungerford School

February 2020

Parent Connection



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Message from Principal–Kristin McHugh

Happy February! We have been extremely lucky this winter with our nonexistent snow, I am very grateful for this. I also noticed that the days are getting longer and the sun is getting brighter signaling the end of the winter. To give you an update on our new school building on the Petrides complex, they have informed me that the ground has been broken and digging has begun. This has been a long time coming and we are so excited to get this project off the ground. We are still on target to be open in September 2021.

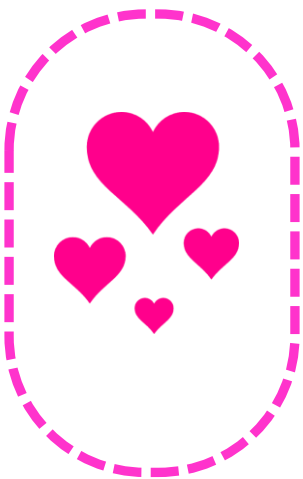
I want to give you an update on some exciting things going on in school. Our teachers are actively using new vocabulary in their lessons. They are bringing in hands on activities to help our kids learn. Our teachers are looking for new and different opportunities to prepare them for their lives after Hungerford.

We are hosting a parent workshop titled "Promoting Independence" at our Main Site on Tuesday, April 21 at 10 am and on Thursday, April 23 at 6:30 pm. We will have guest speakers from parents of students who have graduated as well as parents of our current students. Refreshments will be provided.

I want to remind everyone that our Parent Teacher Association is Hosting a "Hungerford Night Out" on February 27 at the Staaten. Tickets are \$65 and the time is 7pm to 11pm. The PTA is actively looking for baskets to raffle off that night. Hope to see you there!

Warm regards,

Kristin McHugh



Reminder...

No School

Mid-winter Recess from
February 17th to 21st

Parent-Teacher Meetings

March 12 – Parent-Teacher Conferences @ Main, JPC, Lifestyles, CR & Project Search @ 5:00 pm-7:30 pm

March 13 – (½ day) Parent-Teacher Conferences @ Main, JPC, Lifestyles, CR & Project Search @ 1:00 pm-3:00 pm

March 19 – Parent-Teacher Conferences @ **McKee & THS** –

6 pm – 8:30pm

New Dorp HS -

4:30pm-7:00 pm

March 20 - (½ day) Parent-Teacher Conferences @ McKee, THS & NDHS 12:30 pm-2:30 pm

PTA Meetings

February 11 – 9:30 am

February 13 – 7 pm

March 19 – 7 pm

March 24 – 24 – 9:30 am

Important Dates

- **February 11** – PTA Meeting @ 9:30 am Main
- **February 12** – SLT Meeting @ 5:30 pm Main
- **February 13** – PTA Meeting @ 7 pm Main
- **February 14** – Wear RED or Pink day!
- **February 17-24** – Midwinter Recess
- **February 27** – PTA Hungerford Night Out at the Staaten from 7 pm-11 pm.
-Wear clothes from your favorite decade – 50's, 60's, 70's, 80's or 90's
- **February 28** – ½ day – Professional Dev
- **February 29** – Transition Fair @ Main Site – 10 am – 12 noon
- **March 2** – Dr. Seuss Day – Wear your favorite character
- **March 12** – Parent-Teacher Conferences 5 pm-7:30 pm (Main Site, LFST, Project Search, CR & JPC)
- **March 13** – ½ day – Parent Teacher Conferences 1 pm-3 pm (Main Site, LFST, Project Search, CR & JPC)
- **March 17** – St. Patrick's Day – wear GREEN
- **March 18** – SLT Meeting @ Main 5:30 pm
- **March 19** - Parent-Teacher Conferences @ McKee & THS 6 pm-8:30 pm. NDHS 4:30 pm – 7 pm. PTA Meeting 7 pm
- **March 20** -- Parent-Teacher Conferences – ½ day - @ McKee, THS & NDHS 12:30 pm-2:30 pm

Community Events/Workshops:

- ❖ **Person Centered Care Services** – February 12, 2020 – 10 am – 12 noon - JPC - This workshop is an introduction to self-management and a breakdown of its many components. Attending this workshop does not mean you are committed to becoming a self-directed family, it just means you are interested in learning about services.
- ❖ **Transition Fair** – February 29, 2020 – 10 am 12 noon – This fair will host over 18 agencies that will provide our families with valuable information that can assist them with services, child care, weekend programs, and many other services.
- ❖ **Promoting Independence** – April 21, 2020- 10 am & April 23, 2020- 6:30 pm – This workshop will provide parents with valuable information on the importance of promoting independence for your child before they graduate.
- ❖ **Guardianship – AHRC** – April 30, 2020 – 10 am-12 noon will provide our families with an attorney to help them fill out guardianship forms.

School Highlights:

❖ **NDHS:**

Student of the Month Ceremony-On February 7, 2020 Hungerford at NDHS celebrated our January Student of the Month in a ceremony. The ceremony included presentation of awards and prizes, a performance by our Hungerford Chorus, and reflection from various students highlighting achievements they have been proud of in the past month. We also kicked off "Respect for All Week" by having students share out ideas of how they can demonstrate respect in our school community.

The Lion King Jr.-We have begun production of our first ever play at Hungerford at NDHS, The Lion King Jr. The performance includes students from our 6:1+1 and 12:1+1 and inclusion classes. Students have been practicing singing, choreography and acting to prepare for our show in May.

Hungerford Buzz Radio Station- Students from various classes within Hungerford at NDHS participate in an internship for our Hungerford Buzz Radio Station. Students have been interviewing staff members, discussing the content presented in lessons, daily events, and their achievements. Please tune in and listen to us at: <https://www.hungerfordschool.org/>

Hungerford Snack Store-Students from multiple classes have been participating in our school snack store located on the Ground and 1st floor of NDHS. This provides our students the opportunity to learn valuable functional skills and connect with the NDHS students. Our snack store has expanded to include breakfast and lunch items. It is a big hit with the NDHS community. Students are consistently thinking of ideas to attract new customers!

❖ **IS24:**

Inclusion for Music-The students from S2 have been participating in inclusive music classes with the IS24 students. On February 6, 2020, the students performed multiple Broadway songs including "Hard Knock Life" and "A Whole New World."

Hungerford Snack Cart, "Beesmart"- The students from S1 participate in the Beesmart, a snack cart that travels around IS24. This provides our students the opportunity to learn valuable functional skills and interact with the IS24 community.

Promoting Least Restrictive Environment-A foundation of IS24 is preparing students for their High School experience in Hungerford. This includes providing students with more independence and the opportunity to trial inclusion classes. This year, we have had a record number of students transfer to a least restrictive environment!

Recycling Program-The Related Service Providers at IS24 started a recycling program this school year focused on the nationwide efforts at reducing waste and ensuring our environment is safe and clean. Students collect recycling items from various classes within IS24 and go on a monthly trip to a local community store to recycle cans and bottles and collect money.

❖ **Lifestyles:**

Student Internships- Hungerford at Lifestyles prepares our students for the post-secondary world beyond Hungerford. The teachers at our Lifestyles site are consistently working on getting the students involved in community projects, the Café, and creating new opportunities to enhance their vocational skills. Hungerford at Lifestyles will be opening a "Coffee Cart" to provide students with employable and transferable skills necessary to transition to become successful members of society.

School Highlights: cont'd

❖ **Jerome Parker Campus (JPC):**

Grub Hub- Students in V21 take orders from staff in each classroom and fulfill these orders at restaurants in the food court. Then students deliver lunch orders throughout JPC. Students practice communication skills, counting money and making change while taking orders and making deliveries

Cafe Buzz- Students in V20 work on communication skills taking orders from staff and students within our unit. Students shop for the ingredients and prepare the meals to deliver to their customers. Students practice communication skills, counting money and making change while taking orders and making deliveries.

Hungerford Snack Cart- Students from V20 travel around the Jerome Parker Campus to sell snacks to staff and students. This provides our students the opportunity to learn valuable functional skills and socialize with their peers from CSI and McCown. Students take inventory and fill the snack cart daily, thus practicing math skills.

Respect for All with McCown 2/13/20- Kindness includes everyone. Students learn that kindness is a language that everyone understands. Through kindness, we celebrate diversity. 2/13/20 Students from McCown High School will buddy up with our students to assist them in interactive games, a photo booth and dance celebration. Showing an act of kindness is the JPC way!

Respect for All @ JPC 2/14/20- Kindness is a vital, lifelong, interpersonal skill. Kindness includes everyone. Students learn that kindness is a language that everyone understands. Through kindness, we celebrate diversity. Students will work as a team throughout different stations and activities. Students learn to collaborate and work as a team

❖ **Community Resources:**

We continue our adventure here at Hungerford @ CR! We spend our days learning and participating in work-study internships (Auto, Special-Tees, Clerical & Food Prep/ Food Service). We are preparing for our post-secondary life (developing critical thinking, problem solving, organization, time management, learning job skills). We are focusing on our "next steps"! Our Auto team has been busy building and prepping for the cars/vans for oil changes, sanding, checking and changing brakes. We are looking forward to a productive February as our Clerical internship has been participating in organizing a mass mailing for the Community Resources Pasta Bowl in March. Our food prep internship are preparing daily side dishes for lunch for the staff and participants here at CR. We are also going to be cooking for the Valentine's Day Celebration on February 14. Our Special tees internship works on developing work readiness using inventory skills, sorting orders by size, garment and color to prep for orders and working on specialized equipment such as the dryer. We are busy daily. We have monthly "Employee of the Month" parties where we recognize the most outstanding employee with a t-shirt and certificate. We love to go on trips too! Our next trip is to the Staten Island Mall where we will be given a fictitious budget and will need to assemble an outfit for a job interview. We will be gearing up for our spring mock job interviews with the personnel manager of CR. Life is not all work and no play here at Hungerford @ CR!

School Highlights: cont'd

❖ **Main Site:**

Annie Jr.-We have begun production of our rehearsals for our fifth play at Hungerford at the main, Annie Jr. The performance includes students from our 6:1+1, 12:1+1 and 12:1:4 classes. Students have been practicing singing, choreography and acting to prepare for our show in June.

Promoting Least Restrictive Environment- A foundation of Hungerford junior high, high school, and beyond is preparing students for their transition into the community when they leave us. This includes providing students with more independence and the opportunity to trial in house vocational classes and work-study classes in the community. We are also promoting student independence by reducing the number of students who have a full time or part time para to prepare them for their post-secondary experience.

Recycling Program- Our class Y29 started a recycling program last school year focused on the nationwide efforts at reducing waste and ensuring our environment is safe and clean. Students collect recycling items from various classes within the main site and go on weekly trips to a local community store to recycle cans and bottles and collect money. This also promotes peer to peer and peer to adult conversation for the students.

Valentine's Dance- We have been hosting season dances 7th period in the MPR for our students. Students have the opportunity to listen to music, dance, and socialize with their peers in a friendly environment.

Transition Fair- Saturday February 29 from 10:00am-12:00pm, Hungerford will host providers for families to learn about services available to the such as, Day/Community Habilitation, Medicaid Service Coordination, Respite, Family Support Services, Camp, Financial Planning, OPWDD Services, and Recreation/After School Services.

❖ **McKee:**

McKee is getting in gear for Respect for all week February 10-14. All teachers are encouraged with their classes to participate in a door-decorating contest. The GSA group will be judging the doors and declare a winner.

