

October 13, 2009

Dear Parents:

Did you know that our students are transported to and from school each day on 25 Hudsonville Public buses? In addition, many students are transported by their parents by way of vehicles and some students walk to school. I'm very appreciative of the cooperation and help we receive from Hudsonville Public Schools in transporting our students. Buses are the safest transportation we can have to and from school.

At the same time, I want to ask that as you pray daily for Hudsonville Christian School, for your children, for their teachers, that you also pray for the safety of our students. Every time one of our school board members has the opportunity to pray, he prays for the safety of our students. I really appreciate his prayers because we cannot take for granted the safety of these children and young people. When I think of over 900 students coming to and from school each week, I'm grateful for God's care and protection for them. I'm grateful for safe buses. I'm also grateful for a group of parents who diligently help students cross the corner of Hillcrest and 36th. I am grateful for parents who follow the safety directions in bringing their children to school and picking up their children from school. I'm thankful that parents take their time and are patient when there are traffic jams. These efforts in providing safety for our students are important, as well as praying that accidents will not occur.

So again, I'm grateful for the safe transportation that's provided. Let's continue to pray for our students, for their growth and development, and for their safety each day they come to school.

Serving Christ Together,



Bob Vander Laan, Administrative Principal

SCHOOL WIDE NEWS

LATE START DAY TOMORROW!

Tomorrow will be our first late start day of the school year. School will begin at 9:45 a.m., and regular buses will be running but will be approximately two hours later.

FOCUS GROUP PARTICIPANTS NEEDED

On Monday, November 9, at 7 p.m., the Search Committee for candidates for the next Administrative Principal of Hudsonville Christian School will meet with members of the school community who are interested in offering input on the process and vision for this important position. Small groups will be facilitated by members of the Search Committee who will solicit responses regarding various specific aspects of leadership at Hudsonville Christian School. The meeting will be held in the elementary school all purpose room, and is open to anyone interested in Hudsonville Christian School.

FOUNDATION DINNER

This is the last week to make your reservation for the HCS Foundation Dinner at The Pinnacle Center on Monday, October 26. Just give the school office a call at 669-6689 to reserve your spot!

INTERNET MEDIA EXPERTISE NEEDED

The HCS Promotions Committee met recently and is looking for ways to promote Hudsonville Christian School via internet media. If you have an interest or expertise in this area and are willing to help, please contact Bob VanderLaan.

CEA CONVENTION

There will be no school for students on Thursday, October 22 and Friday, October 23 due to the Christian Educator's Association Convention. The offices at the elementary and middle school will also be closed on these dates.

ANNUAL ORDER FORM

An order form for the 2010 HCS Annual was sent home last week. The cost is \$15 per book. Please note that your payment must be turned in along with your order form. Complete a form for each of your children who desire to order a yearbook and have them return the form and payment to their homeroom teacher by October 27. Additional order forms are available by both school offices.

HUDSONVILLE HOLIDAY PARADE

The Hudsonville Holiday Parade will take place on Saturday, November 21. We are looking for individuals, families or groups to help design, build and monitor a float for our school to enter into the parade. If you would be willing to join some others and use your talents to promote our school, please call Bob Vander Laan at 669-6689.

MOVIE MAKING CLASS

A movie making class will be offered on Mondays after school starting October 26. This is for students in 5th and above. Information sheets can be picked up by the school offices.

PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES

Please note that the slips for Parent/Teacher Conferences sent home last week must be returned to school by **Friday, October 16**. Note: If you will be on vacation at conference time, please still turn in the form and write that you will be on vacation.

HALLOWEEN

Hudsonville Christian School's policy on Halloween is that we do nothing to support it in classroom activities or decorations. We will celebrate Reformation Day at school.

HCS HOME EXPO FUNDRAISER

We are currently looking for home party representatives who are interested in participating in a fundraising event on Monday, November 16 from 4—8:30 p.m. The HCS Home Expo Fundraiser will support the Crisman, Koning, and VanRijs families in their fight against cancer. For more information and to reserve your spot, please contact Heidi Grasman at 662-9946 or Deb Kooienga at 669-5325 by October 26.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWS

COLOR/DAY SCHEDULE

<u>Oct. 14</u>	Adjusted Day	<u>Oct. 19</u>	Blue/Day 4
<u>Oct. 15</u>	Yellow/Day 2	<u>Oct. 20</u>	Red/Day 1
<u>Oct. 16</u>	Green/Day 3	<u>Oct. 21</u>	Yellow/Day 2

HOT LUNCH

Hot lunch this week Wednesday will be pepperoni pizza, Cheddar Sun Chips, potato chips, frozen Gogurt, and doughnuts.

POPCORN

Popcorn will be sold to students this Friday morning for \$.25 a bag. Team #3 will be working.

HARVEST STILL LIFE

The elementary Art classes need fall produce (i.e. gourds, Indian corn, corn stalks, squash, broccoli, etc.) from bountiful gardens! If you can spare a bit, please have your son or daughter bring items to the Art room this week. Thank you!

HUDSONVILLE HOLIDAY PARADE POSTERS

Hudsonville Parade poster entries for grades 1-4 must be put in the box outside the Art Room by Wednesday, October 21.

MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS

HOT LUNCH this week will be Arby's Roast Beef Sandwich \$1.50. Chips \$.25 each. Pop \$.50 each.

CHAPEL HAPPENINGS

Friday, October 16: Mrs. DeJong's homeroom leads chapel
Tuesday, October 20: Chapel presented by *Teen Challenge*

Middle School News — Continued

MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENT DROP OFF & PICKUP

Just a reminder, please do not park in the parking lot driveways when you drop off or pick up your middle school student. If you need to come into school for any reason, or need to wait for your student to run in and out of the school building, please make sure you pull into a parking space. Thanks, other parents will appreciate your consideration too!

7/8 MUSIC CONCERT NEXT WEEK!

We are eagerly looking forward to listening to our 7/8 grade choir, band and orchestra groups for the first time this year. The concert will be at our middle school south gym next week Tuesday evening, October 20 and will begin at 7:30 p.m. Immediately following the concert we will be taking photographs of the music groups for our annual.

FALL FITNESS FEAT NEXT WEEK!

The middle school Fall Fitness Feat is happening next week Wednesday, October 21. Our goal is to get all of our middle school students out and exercising at the same time! Parents are invited to come out and watch, cheer or participate with the students in this two mile fitness FUN walk/run! The event begins at 11:15 a.m. To view a map of our route, you can stop by the middle school and check out the bulletin board in the east hallway.

AFTER SCHOOL STUDY HALL

After school study hall will begin at the middle school on Tuesday, October 27 and Wednesday, October 28. This study hall time is an opportunity for middle school students to work on their homework from 3 – 4 p.m. in our school library on Tuesday and Wednesday each week. There will be a teacher available to assist students during study hall although it will not be a small group or one on one tutoring session. This opportunity will be free of charge to students.

6th GRADE BAND/CHOIR/ORCHESTRA CONCERT

Our 6th grade music groups are planning their first performance for Thursday afternoon, October 29 in the middle school south gym at 2:00 p.m. Please plan to join us for this mini concert event!

6/7/8 SWIMMING

Swim signups are complete and what a large number of middle school student swimmers we have! We will be practicing at the Hudsonville and Jenison High School pools. Mrs. Doll our coach will be meeting with swimmers in the next few days and will hand out a schedule. The first practice is on Saturday, October 31 from 12:30 – 2:00 p.m. at the Hudsonville High School pool. Please look for the letter for more details. The Middle School Swim Meet is scheduled for Saturday, November 14 at 9 a.m. at Ottawa Hills Pool in Grand Rapids.

7/8 SOCCER GAME SCHEDULE

Tuesday, October 13

3:45 p.m. 8th Boys HOME vs. Grand Rapids Christian

4:45 p.m. 8th Girls HOME vs. Grand Rapids Christian

Thursday, October 15

3:45 p.m. 8th Boys HOME vs. Heritage Christian

3:45 p.m. 8th Girls AWAY at Jenison Christian

4:45 p.m. 7th Boys (squad 2&3) AWAY at Jenison Christian

Friday, October 16

3:45 p.m. 7th Girls AWAY at West Side Christian

4:45 p.m. 7th Boys (squad 1&2) AWAY at West Side Christian

Monday, October 19

4:00 p.m. 7th Boys (squad 2&3) HOME vs. Ada Christian

5:00 p.m. 8th Girls HOME vs. Ada Christian

Tuesday, October 20

3:45 p.m. 8th Girls HOME vs. Calvin Christian

4:45 p.m. 8th Boys HOME vs. Calvin Christian

6th GRADE BASKETBALL

The 6th grade girls have a basketball practice planned for Tuesday, October 27 after school until 4:15 p.m. The 6th grade boys have a basketball practice planned for Thursday, October 29 after school until 4:15 p.m. The boys and girls will be invited to a league “play day” at Grand Rapids Christian High on Saturday, October 31 with game times for the girls beginning at 9:00 a.m. and games for the boys beginning at 11:30 a.m.

7/8 BASKETBALL SIGNUPS

Signups for our seventh and eighth grade basketball teams are taking place at school this week and will remain up through October 15. Please talk to your child about this opportunity. If you have any questions, please call Dan Pott at 669-7487.

Middle School News — Continued

MEAP TESTS

MEAP testing takes place this year from Tuesday, October 13 through Thursday, October 29. Please make an effort to keep from scheduling appointments for students during these test days. If students miss any of the MEAP tests they will need to stay for MEAP makeup tests. MEAP tests will be administered as follows:

October 13 – ELA(#1) 7

October 14 – ELA(#1) 6, 8

October 15 – ELA(#2) 7, 8

October 19 – ELA(#2) 6

October 20 – MATH 6, 7, 8

October 26 – Social Studies 6, Language Arts Writing 7, Science 8

MEAP MAKEUP TESTS

MEAP makeup tests times for middle school students are scheduled for October 27 and 28 in the middle school from 3 – 5 p.m. All students who miss MEAP tests during the scheduled times in the school day should plan to stay after school on the makeup days until their MEAP tests are complete.

GROWTH GROUP

Every year we have a number of middle school students who struggle from time to time with a variety of changing situations at home. As teachers and staff, we strive to be supportive of each child and see their needs. At the same time, we can't meet every need. This year we are again planning to have a “Growth Group”, comprised of students who express a desire to be with fellow Christian classmates who share similar situations at home. In this setting, the group leader can provide Christian guidance and encourage support, while allowing each student to see they are not alone. Mr. Dave VanNoord, our middle school counselor, will once again lead this group. If you wish to have your son or daughter involved in this group, please have them stop by and talk with Mr. VanNoord or call the middle school office (669-7487) and talk with Mr. Pott by Friday, October 16. A letter with more details will be sent out the week of October 19 to all parents of students who will participate. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Mr. VanNoord or Mr. Pott.

PARENTS' CLUB NEWS

PARENTS' CLUB GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING

Parents' Club is **your** club. Learn about potential new fund raisers and programs, share your ideas, and meet some new people! Plan on attending the Fall General Assembly Meeting on Tuesday, October 20 at 9 a.m. in the orchestra room at the elementary building.

LOVE BAZAAR

The Love Bazaar is quickly approaching! Please start saving boxes of all shapes and sizes and bring them to school on the shelves by the gym. We would appreciate donations of bubble wrap, gift bags, wrapping and tissue paper. We also need volunteer shoppers, cashiers, and wrappers for both a.m. and p.m. shifts. Please call Deb Klein at 669-3261 if you are interested. If you signed up for a shift at last year's love bazaar, you will be receiving notification soon. This special day could not happen without your help!

BOX TOPS

Thank you to everyone for cutting and saving Box Top for Education coupons for Hudsonville Christian. We just turned in those Box Tops for Education coupons and a check for \$1,269.10 will be delivered to Hudsonville Christian from General Mills. Please continue to save those box tops and turn them in to area churches or at the elementary or middle school.

CASH FOR CLASS

Cash for Class is coming soon at D&W and Family Fare stores. Just shop during the dates listed below, give the cashier our school code (87580), and we will receive two percent back on total purchases. The dates for D&W Cash for Class are October 11—17, and Family Fare dates are October 18—24.

COMMUNITY NEWS

WEST SIDE CHRISTIAN 3 ON 3 BASKETBALL

West Side Christian is hosting their 12th annual 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament on November 6 & 7 for 4th - 8th grade boys and girls. Registration forms are in the school office or on the WSC website at www.3on3@wscsgr.com, and are due by October 20. If you have any questions, please contact Brett DeHaan at 262-8441.

UPCOMING EVENTS AT HUDSONVILLE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Oct. 13 & 15	6th Grade Dunes Trip	Oct. 22-23	CEA Convention (no school for students)
Oct. 13—29	MEAP Testing for grades 3—8	Oct. 26	Education Foundation Dinner
Oct. 14	Late start for students — 9:45 a.m.	Oct. 29	6th Grade Music Program, 2 p.m.
Oct. 20	M.S. 7/8 Music Concert	Oct. 30	End of First Nine Weeks
Oct. 21	M.S. Fall Fitness Feat	Nov. 6	Report cards sent home