



February 21, 2023

Parent-teacher conferences are a valuable opportunity for parents and teachers to connect and talk about what students are learning at school, academic and social progress, and how to best support students. Last week, parents and teachers at HCS had an opportunity to do just that.

But why are parent-teacher conferences so important to the community here at HCS? It's all in the partnership. A partnership between parents and school where one supports the other in nurturing the faith of our children. God has entrusted parents to train up their children in the way they should go (Proverbs 22:6), so it is the parents' ultimate responsibility to guide their children to learn the Word of God and love and serve Him. But by choosing HCS, parents trust us to walk alongside them to deepen their child's faith and knowledge of God. As a parent and staff member of HCS, I am thankful for a partnership that shares core Christian beliefs and Biblical truth. What a blessing!

"I have no greater joy than to hear that my children are walking in the truth." (John 1:4)

Partnering together,

Jenny Gorter
Director of Educational Support Services

SCHOOL-WIDE NEWS

Busing

This Friday, February 24 **in the afternoon** HPS busing will be limited. The following 3 buses will run their regular route: 4, 57 & 61. If your HPS bus number is not mentioned in this limited busing list, you may use the west run option below, or you must provide your own transportation on this afternoon.

We encourage you to take advantage of the "limited busing west run" if your bus route is not running. Bus #36 will drop off students at Bauer Elementary School, Unity Christian High School & Forest Grove Elementary School in the afternoon on February 24.

Class Placement

Soon after spring break, staff will begin constructing next year's class lists. This is an involved process that requires input of all the staff members who know your child. Because parents have information that is important, we wish to provide an avenue for this input. If you have a request, you must fill out the online form to ensure that it will be considered throughout the process. [Class Placement Request Form](#)

The School Board policy is as follows:

A. Students are assigned to grade and class sections by the principals with the assistance of the child's current teacher(s). The child's teacher knows the circumstances under which your child will continue to grow. Factors considered by the principal and teacher in making class assignments are academic, social, and emotional needs, as well as the balance of boy/girl ratio.

B. Parents should request special consideration for their child's placement only if there are extenuating circumstances. Legitimate reasons for special requests in placement may be unique social or emotional needs in relationship to other students, especially those of which the school may not be aware. **Requests for a specific teacher will not be considered**; please focus on the concern for your child.

The procedure is as follows:

1. All requests must be submitted by Friday, March 10, 2023.
2. The administration will forward these requests with or without recommendation to the Education Committee for review, if necessary.
3. The Admissions Coordinator will notify the parents of the decision.

Parents' Club Board

As a parent/guardian of a student at HCS you are a part of the Parents' Club! Two times each year the Parents' Club Executive Board (PCB) hosts "General Assembly" meetings to provide updates and information specific to Parents' Club support services, events and fundraisers. The spring meeting will happen Friday, March 10 from 8:00am-8:30am in the elementary west conference room. We would love to see you there!

The PCB is looking to fill 3 board positions for the 2023-2024 school year. The mission and goal of the PCB is to display good stewardship as we raise and allocate funds that benefit our children in a Christ-centered education as well as to promote fellowship and the spirit of unity among parents, faculty and staff. Our 9-seat board is composed of current HCS parents that must attend monthly meetings and fulfill various assigned tasks. If you are interested in joining the Parents' Club Board for a 3-year term starting in the fall of 2023, fill out this [questionnaire](#). by March 8, 2023. Email pcb@4hcs.org with any questions.

8th Grade Play

The Hudsonville Christian 8th graders will be presenting the play *Rise of Robin Hood* by Brian D. Taylor on March 9 and 10 at 7:00 pm and on March 11 at 2:00 pm in the middle school south gym. Who is Robin Hood? Where did he come from? Is he the greatest archer in all the land? This year's 8th grade play, *Rise of Robin Hood*, attempts to answer these questions and more as we meet Robin Hood and his sister Hazel as orphaned youth arriving in the bustling town of Nottingham. *Rise of Robin Hood* is a family friendly play that takes the audience through the ups and downs of Nottingham. The Sheriff, Lady Blackwood, and their spies tax the people into poverty, while Robin Hood and his new friends, Friar Tuck, Little John, and Sayra vow to restore Nottingham to a land of hope and prosperity. Ticket prices are \$5.00 each. All seats are reserved. Click [HERE](#) for a ticket order form and ordering information or call the middle school office at 616-379-0338.

Moms in Prayer

Find community, find purpose. We are mothers who, together, bring all our concerns before our Heavenly Father. In prayer, we know that we are not alone and that gives us reassurance and hope. Let us stand with you in prayer for your children and for HCS. This week Friday we will be meeting at the Middle School 8:00-9:00 a.m. Check in at the main office and they will direct you where to go. We will be focused on praying for the staff and students in grades 5 and 6 this week. See you there!

Tuition Assistance – FACTS Program

Hudsonville Christian will again be participating in FACTS, a grant application program. Families who wish to apply for tuition assistance will need to use the FACTS application format online via their confidential website. The application fee will be paid by HCS. The FACTS organization will analyze the information of each applicant. Through FACTS, HCS has the ability to more evenly distribute available tuition assistance funds based upon factual information the families provide in the application. Please note that any additional information provided in the Comments section at the end of the application is very helpful when making the decision for distribution.

Parents who have children in more than one EOCS school need only to fill out the application one time — the information will be available to the schools where their children attend. The FACTS online website application is available now. Parents should login to FACTS under the School Login / Tuition Management / Grant & Aid tab at the top. Please contact FACTS at 1-866-315-9262 with any questions. The deadline for submitting this application is March 31. For registration please go to www.factsmgmt.com.

ELEMENTARY NEWS

Chapel

All elementary students will gather in the east gym for chapel each Friday from 10:00-10:25 AM. Parents are welcome to join us and may enter through the kitchen doors.

Hot Lunch

The menu as well as other information on the Elementary Hot Lunch Program provided by JenHud Food Service can be found on the [JenHud Food Service website](#).

Cookies

This week Friday morning students will have the opportunity to purchase freshly baked chocolate chip cookies for \$.25 each to support the work of our Global Awareness Committee.

5th Grade Boys Sex Ed

An invitation was emailed home about an opportunity for 5th grade boys and their fathers, or male role models, to attend the 5th grade boys Sex Ed night. The event will be happening on Tuesday, March 7 at 7:00pm. This special evening will take place at the Middle School in the Band room and details were included in the email. Jon Huisman and Shane Schaap will be leading this informative time that will hopefully start a conversation that can be continued with your son in the days and years to follow.

Girls with a Goal

Girls With a Goal, or GWAG, is an after school running club for girls in 4th & 5th grade that builds spiritual and physical fitness as girls train to run a 5k. Practices begin on Tuesday, March 7 and will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2:50-4:00 pm. This year our goal will be to run the Rivertown Races 5k on Saturday, April 22. Registration is \$40, and this includes a GWAG shirt, the Rivertown Races 5k registration, a race shirt, and a finisher's medal. Your 4th or 5th grade daughter will be bringing home more information and [registration forms](#) this week. If your daughter is interested, please return the form and payment to the main office by Friday, March 3.

Second Grade Parents

Does your child easily master classroom math? Or write for fun? Or read above grade level? SOAR is a program designed for students who easily master the goals of the classroom. Students receive enrichment instruction at their level with like ability peers in language arts and/or math. Each spring, 2nd grade students are identified for the program on the basis of parent nomination and additional testing at HCS. Forms to nominate your child are available to pick up at the elementary school office. The forms are due by Friday, March 17. Contact Lisi Remy (lremy@4hcs.org or 460-7686) with any questions.

Save the Date!

Get ready to Shake, Rattle and Roll at the HCS Father/Daughter or Mother/Son Sock Hop! This event will be for students in Y5s - 5th grade. We will be warming up the jukebox with music and games and have treats at the popsicle stand. Father/daughter will be held on Friday, March 17 from 6-8. Mother/son will take place on Saturday, March 18 from 6-8. More information is coming soon!

MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS

Chapel

Students and staff will gather in the south gym for chapel from 7:55-8:25AM. Parents are welcome to join us! If you would like to view the Middle School Chapels at a later time, you can also find recordings on our website- [Chapel](#).

- Tuesday, February 21 - Chapel Team leading chapel
- Thursday, February 23 - Mr. Brower's Homeroom leading chapel

Hot Lunch

Hot Lunch this week will be Chick Fil A \$4.25/sandwich and chips/pop (limit 1) \$.50 each. The hot lunch [menu](#) is available on our website.

Exploratory Week

This week is Exploratory Week! This is an awesome week of Out-of-the-Box-Learning for our Middle School students. Be sure to ask them about their days. Keep in mind that we won't be adhering to typical class times/schedules.

Cookies

This week Friday morning students will have the opportunity to purchase freshly baked chocolate chip cookies for \$.25 each to support the work of our Global Awareness Committee.

Ski Club

Weather permitting; there will be a Middle School Ski Club outing this week Friday, Feb. 24. An online sign-up will be sent to Ski Club members. Students should complete the signup form by Thursday at noon if they plan to attend. We will leave from the Middle School at 3:00 and return by 9:30 pm.

Parents of Grade 6 Students

An email was sent out with information regarding the opportunity for 6th grade students to apply for the **ELAI Language Arts** class, which is offered as an option to them in 7th grade. The code to join the Google Classroom where materials are submitted is 3akldna, and all materials are due by Friday, March 24. If you did not receive the letter or have any questions, contact Joy DeWindt at jdewindt@4hcs.org.

Sensational Science Day

Sensational Science Day is coming to the Middle School - **Friday, April 21, 2023**. This year our special focus is on the fields of Science. Soon all the middle school students will choose topics of research and investigation. Experiments will be designed and completed; in-depth research will be done on topics of interest. All of this will culminate on Friday, April 21. During the morning on that day we have a variety of speakers/presenters at school interacting with small groups of students. We are starting to contact people who are involved in any area of the science field who would be good talking with middle school students. Speakers would repeat their presentation for four sessions. Their time at the middle school would be from 8:30 - 11:35 a.m. with lunch following. We would love to get 20 - 24 speakers and would like to get all the speakers in place soon. If you are that person, or if you know someone that you think would be great at this, please connect with Chris Achterhof at cachterhof@4hcs.org and provide the name of the person, their science field, and their contact information.

AUCTION UPDATES

HCS Auction

The 2023 Auction is coming March 4! Start watching our [Facebook Page](#) for all the latest details about the auction and to get sneak peeks at some of the amazing items we have for this year! You may also win some auction bucks!

"Peas Out Tuition, We've Got You Beet!"

Lettuce remind you that "Peas Out Tuition, We've Got You Beet!" Presale discount tickets end on February 24! Please use this link for the ["Peas Out Tuition, We've Got You Beet!"](#) form to purchase your tickets. Please note that tickets are 5/\$100 or \$25 for one. After February 24, tickets are \$25 each and you can purchase them through the link or our website until March 2. They will be available the night of the auction at the Buy-a-Line table. Don't get Beet on this opportunity!

Calling All Bakers!

We need lots of delicious sweets & baked goods (brownies, cookies, cakes, pies, cupcakes, treat jars, etc.) for our "No Veggie Vendors" Dessert Stand at the upcoming HCS Auction on March 4. Please contact Jessica Hughes (email: jessicaellenhughes@yahoo.com or text/call: 616-292-3425) to sign up. Thank you!

COMMUNITY NEWS

Children's Clothing and Toy Sale

The Heritage Christian School Spring Children's Clothing and Toy Sale will be held on Saturday, March 4, from 9am to 12:00. Items for sale include infant to teen clothing, outdoor/indoor toys, books, games, shoes, baby equipment, maternity, and more. Delicious baked goods are also for sale! Located in the large gym at Heritage Christian at 6340 Autumn Dr., Hudsonville. Hope to see you there!

Middle School Bowling Team

Unity Christian is pleased to offer a Middle School Bowling team for boys and girls in grades 6 - 8. This program will run after school on Mondays and Wednesdays from March 6 – 29, and will consist of instruction and skill building, intra-squad matches, and a match formatted like high school with individual and baker games. It will be held at Hudsonville Lanes, and all experience levels are welcome! The cost to participate is \$70, and the deadline to register is March 1. Please go to <https://unitychristianathletics.org/main/otherad/contentID/39913716> for more information/schedule and an on-line registration link.

3 on 3 Basketball Tournament

Allendale Christian School will be holding their 16th annual 3-on-3 basketball tournament on Saturday, March 18, at Allendale High School! There will be divisions for boys and girls for each grade level in 3rd through 8th grade. Please visit www.facebook.com/ACS3on3/ for more details and to access the online registration form. Registration deadline is March 8, with an early registration discount through February 6. We hope to see you there!

Jenison Lacrosse

Come play the fastest game on two feet! Take advantage of Saturdays in February for free sessions to learn to play and practice this fast paced and exciting sport! Sign up for Saturday sessions [HERE](#). Are you ready to play this spring? Visit <https://www.jenisonlacrosse.org> to create an account and sign up. Cost for 3rd-4th grade is \$100 and 5th-8th grade is \$150. Signups for spring end February 28—register your spot today!

SON-Life Camp & Retreat Center

Spring work week - May 8-12, 2023

Come out and help us get ready for another amazing summer of ministry! Fellowship with others, do some projects and camp for free! We're looking for anyone willing to lend some time and energy to help camp get ready for summer. Perfect for retirees, home school families, college students and anyone in between. Serve for one day or serve for the week! Be sure to contact us to let us know you will be joining us. Call the office at 269-792-2081 or email us at office@son-lifecamp.org.

Job opportunities-

SON-Life Camp & Retreat Center is looking for a HEALTH OFFICER, SENIOR COUNSELORS, AND HEAD COOK for our summer camp program. Must be 18 yrs. or older to apply. Please check our website, www.SON-LifeCamp.org for job descriptions. Apply online or email: Ben@son-lifecamp.org for more information.

CALENDAR

February 24	HPS Limited Busing PM only
February 24	Middle School Ski Club
March 4	HCS Auction
March 7	5th Grade Boys Sex Ed Night
March 9,10,11	8th Grade Play
March 14	MS Orientation for 5th Grade Parents
March 17	Early Release
March 20	School Board Monthly Meeting
March 20	HCS Society Meeting
March 21	5/6/7/8 Orchestra Fiddle Fest at Fair Haven Church
March 24	End of Third 9 Weeks
March 31	Report Cards Posted
March 30-April 7	Spring Break

QUICK LINKS

- [School Calendar – 2022-2023](#)
- [HCS Parent Handbook - 2022-2023 \(Includes Middle School Handbook\)](#)
- [Middle School 2020-2021 Chromebook Use and Contract](#)
- [Preschool \(3 School, 4 School and NB 4 School\) Handbook - 2022-2023](#)
- [Kids' Corner Parent Handbook - 2022-2023](#)
- [TRIP Order Form](#)
- [TRIP On Demand Form](#)
- [Jen-Hud Food Service Information](#)
- [Middle School Sports Schedule](#)