Principal's News

Winter break means a well-deserved reprieve from homework and daily obligations. But before you know it, the holidays will be over and it will be back to the bus stop. To prepare for a smooth re-entry and a successful start to the New Year, don’t let school skills like reading, writing, and math slide completely during winter vacation. Try these family-friendly activities to keep skills sharp:

* Read for pleasure. Whether your child is in the mood for holiday stories or the newest installment from his favorite series, winter break provides the perfect opportunity to stash school-books and read for fun. Encourage relatives to give books as gifts or take turns reading from classic tales.

* Cook up an easy lesson. Invite your child into the kitchen to help you whip up a special dish — from cookies to pancakes. All of those half-tablespoon and quarter-cup measurements are great practice with fractions.

* Write thank-you notes. Penning notes of appreciation to gift-givers teaches gratitude and helps polish writing and spelling skills. One final tip: a mug of hot cocoa can make this task feel more festive!

* Make the most of car rides. Turn the drive to or from get-togethers into an opportunity to practice letters and numbers. You can look for license plates from different states, try to find the alphabet on the license plates, or count the number of red (or white or green) cars you see.

* Maintain reasonable bedtimes. With no school to get up for in the morning, it can be tempting to let kids become night owls. A few days before school starts up again, ease back into the regular bedtime schedule so your child can start the year bright-eyed.

* Ask for grocery list assistance. Have your child help choose what to buy, decide how much you need, check your supplies to see what you’ve already got, write or draw pictures on the list, and sort coupons.

* Let kids help with online shopping. Need a last-minute gift for Grandma or Uncle? Log onto your favorite shopping sites and let your child help you select presents. This helps children work on their computer and research skills.

* Have a family game night. Chances are many of your family’s favorite board and card games reinforce skills such as counting, reading, and drawing. Gather the group to play games you usually don’t have time for on school nights.

Finally, please take time to talk to your child about their future to keep them thinking about their future so they continue to refine their goals.

I look forward to seeing you at our parent-teacher conferences on Thursday, December 14 between 4:00-7:00PM.

Interested in AVID?

AVID is a class offered at Humboldt to all interested and qualifying 7-12 graders. AVID is a class that helps students prepare to succeed in college. AVID is for students who want to take challenging classes and who want support in those classes. In AVID, we learn to stay organized, we work through our questions from our classes, we work with tutors, and we learn the skills that are essential for college students to know.

If you are a student who is willing to do the work required to get prepared for college, then AVID might be for you! Please see Ms. Rekonen in room 2214 for an application.
Counseling Corner Highlights

What’s Been Going On

High School:
ACT Practice Test was on 11/29. Juniors in class that day participated and were able to get a sense of what to expect for the ACT. Financial Aid night was Dec. 7th. Please have students see someone in the College Career Center if they would like more information. Almost ALL seniors have already applied to at least one college and are continuing to submit applications to more colleges.

Middle School:
All students received counseling lessons in the classroom on bullying and how to report bully concerns to an adult. We also focused on how to be an “upstander” and help our friends or others if we see them being bullied.

6th graders received counseling lessons in the classroom on how to connect with adults at school when they need help and how to make friends.

7th graders received counseling lessons in the classroom on SMART goals. They learned how to build goals both academically and personally.

Upcoming

High School:
10th grade students will have counseling lessons in the classroom about how to write resumes.

9th grade students will have counseling lessons in the classroom about graduation requirements and what they need to expect and do as the continue through High School.

The ACT for all juniors is Feb. 27th.

Middle School:
8th graders will have counseling lessons in the classroom about effective communication. We will be discussing word choice, tone, topic, and non-verbal communication.

7th graders will have counseling lessons in the classroom on conflict resolution. We will be discussing both positive and negative techniques and choices on how to work out solutions for personal or academic conflicts.

6th graders will have counseling lessons in the classroom on study skills. We will be discussing time management, techniques, organization and how to ask for help.

Family Friendly SCIP

Humboldt High School School Continuous Improvement Plan 2017-2018

At Humboldt, our mission is to educate a global community to be active learners who are environmentally aware and college prepared. Our students and staff will explore, experience, and engage in the built, natural and social world through multiple perspectives. Our Schoolwide Improvement Plan addresses four main areas; Reading, Math, Climate and College Readiness. The following will address how our building plans to implement change in these area for our students.

Math
Students will intentionally connect math to college readiness skills through AVID strategies (Writing, Inquiry, Collaboration, Organization and Reading). Students in math classes help extend their preparation for higher math.

Reading
Students will work across all subject areas to improve reading skills by implementing researched-based reading strategies that include marking the text, reciprocal teaching, small group instruction and close reading. Teachers will focus on higher level questioning to push students to think more deeply.

Climate
Our goal is to keep students engaged and in their classrooms for as much class time as possible. All staff will use research-based strategies to increase engagement and decrease disruptive behaviors.

College and Career Readiness
Humboldt staff will use standards-based grading; messages to help families understand how it works will be in the newsletter and available through workshops.

- Students will participate in College and Career Readiness tasks during advisory.
- Teachers work in teams to intervene to prevent student failure.

11th graders take practice tests in preparation for the spring ACT exam.

A complete version of our School Continuous Improvement Plan can be found at: www.spps.org/scip

We are looking forward to a great school year as we work in partnership with our families and our community. We thank you for your constant commitment to your child’s educational success.
Sports Corner

Winter sports are starting—get all your forms in now! You must have an active physical on file with the school, along with your MSHSL form and your fee. ($20 for high school & $10 dollars for junior high)

All the sports schedules and results are on the St. Paul Public Schools Athletic Website.

www.sports.spps.org
Get signed up now! Turn in all forms and fees to the Athletic office:
651-744-5640 if you have questions

Start Dates
Junior High Girls Basketball – 10/30/17
Girls Basketball – 11/13/17
Boys Basketball – 11/20/17
Wrestling – 11/20/17
Junior High Wrestling 11/20/17
Boys Swimming and Diving – 11/29/17
Adapted Coed CI Floor Hockey – 12/12/17
Adapted Coed PI Floor Hockey – 12/11/17
Jr. High Boys Basketball - Tuesday 1/16/17

Congratulations Humboldt Boys Varsity Soccer! Senior, Me Dow, has been honored with the Class A first team All State Player and Coach Matt Osborne has been honored with the Minnesota State Class A boys Soccer Coach of the Year!

Attendence News

How To Report Absences

Attention Line
651-744-5533

Parents or guardians need to send a written note with the child stating the reason for the absence.

Please Keep In Mind:
Since September, families have been receiving Tardy Alert letters about your child. If your child has 5 or more combined tardies to school, a tardy letter will be mailed home. Please encourage your child to be on time to school and class to avoid letters and truancy action.

Winter is fast approaching and the season can be extreme. However, students are expected to attend school every day and on time unless the district declares a snow day or cold weather day closure. You can access school closures on the spps.org website. Please ensure that your contact information is up-to-date with the school to receive notifications regarding school closures.

Remember that cold and snowy day absences are NOT EXCUSED!

Humboldt Visitor Policy

All visitors are required to sign in at the front desk (main entrance).

At that time, you’ll receive a visitor badge and must report to the main office.

Visitors are NOT allowed to roam the building without a Humboldt Staff member present.

Everyone must follow the visitor policy in order to keep our students and staff safe.

If the Humboldt visitor policy is broken, a no trespass letter will be issued and the visitor would not be allowed to be on school property.

For additional questions concerning attendance, please contact the Attendance Intervention Specialist. 651-744-5547
Humboldt Secondary
30 E. Baker St.
St. Paul MN 55107
P: 651-293-8600
F: 651-293-8605
http://humboldt.spps.org

Small School Connections
Big Opportunities

Math Puzzle

CAN YOU SOLVE THIS?

Math Puzzle

Email Ms. Sivanich at charlotte.sivanich@spps.org if you come up with the solution!
First 5 correct responses will receive a prize from Ms. Sivanich in Room 2232.

TRIO ETS Hamline First Field Trip

On Saturday, Dec. 2nd, TRIO Educational Talent Search took 11 Humboldt 10th & 12th graders to attend Hamline University’s First Generation College Student event. Students received a warm welcome from the college representatives, sat in on a panel of first generation students attending Hamline, and received a tour of campus, along with eating lunch at the cafeteria.