



Hmong Language and Culture Middle School

Tsev Kawm Ntawv Qhia Hmoob Keeb Kwm Txuj Ci

February Newsletter 2023 -Daim Ntawv Xov Xwm Rau Lub Ob Hlis Ntuj 2023

Calendar News from Hmong Culture Middle School (HLCMS):

February, 13, 2023 (NAAPID) Parent Involvement Day from 12:19 PM-12:44PM

Feb 16, 2023 - Career Day with St. Paul City Council Member Nelsie Yang 9:45AM-10:30AM

Feb 20, 2023 NO SCHOOL President's Day - Tsis muaj kawm ntawv

Feb 22, 2023 - Ordway Field Trip to Latehomecomer Play from 11:30 AM-1:30PM

Feb 22, 2023- Permission Slips to Buckhill due. They will be going out Feb. 9th

Feb 23, 2023- Parent Meeting from 5:30PM-7:00PM

Feb 24, 2023 - Como Planetarium Field Trip

School Safety and Security

Students and families are often aware of situations before adults, so please remind your child that it is important for them to immediately report concerns to a trusted adult. This helps us take quick action to ensure the safety of all students. Concerns may also be submitted on the Tipline on the MySPPS app or online at <http://www.spps.org/safety>.

There are serious consequences for students who violate SPPS rules and policies. We will follow our discipline procedures as outlined in the [Student Rights and Responsibilities Handbook](#).

If you have any questions or other concerns about school, please call me at 651-744-2569. Thank you for supporting your child and Saint Paul Public Schools.

In Partnership,
Veu Thor, Principal

School Buses - Transportation Department

- On snowy days buses may be running late. You may check on the status of your child's bus by calling 651-696-9600 and provide the follow:
 - Your child's full name
 - CIF Number/Lunch Pin
 - School name

- **Bus Route Letter**
- **Bus Stop Corner Street Names**

You may also download the **Bus Status** App in the App store on your cell phone. Then Click on Saint Paul as the school district. Phalen Lake as the school or bus route.

- This is the same information provided to all Saint Paul Public Schools.

PBIS Team

PBIS Assembly: HCLMS celebrates students monthly for displaying the 4Bs of Being Safe, Being Responsible, Being Respectful, and Being a Learner. Please talk to your children more about our 4Bs and how they are displaying the 4Bs at HLCMS. Congratulations to our students who received the 4Bs award for last month. The next awards assembly will be on January 30th, from 9:45-10:10 to recognize students for the month of December.

February Spirit Week:

Monday Feb. 13th - **Hoodie Day**

Tuesday Feb. 14th - **Valentines Day**

Wednesday Feb. 15th - **Crazy Hair Day**

Thursday Feb. 16th - **Twin Day**

Friday Feb. 17th - **Culture Day**

News from our School Counselor:

Hello! Quarter 2 has ended, and your student's final grades are available. You can check grades by logging on to Schoology (Directions in English, Hmong, and Karen can be found here):

<https://www.spps.org/Page/44301>). You can also check final grades by logging on to Infinite Campus (<https://spps.infinitecampus.org/campus/portal/parents/stpaul.jsp>). If you would like a paper copy or an emailed version of your student's grades, please let me know. You can email me at morgan.schmitt-morris@spps.org.

I am also hoping to start Personalized Learning Plans (PLPs) with students in the coming weeks. PLPs “give students opportunities to identify their strengths, skills and interests and connect them to careers that may interest them. The PLP helps students explore and identify post-secondary options that will lead them to achieve their goals.” Although usually done in 5th, 8th, and high school grades, we have a small school so I am able to connect with our 6th graders on PLPs! For more information on PLPs:

<https://www.spps.org/domain/10231>.

Please reach out if you have any concerns or questions about your student. Phone: 651-744-1489 Email: morgan.schmitt-morris@spps.org.

News from our School Social Worker:

With spring coming up, if you have any social emotional concerns with your child, please do not hesitate to contact me. My role is a link between home, school and community. As a member of the education team, I promote and support students' academic and social success by providing specialized services such as:

- Assessment of student needs and strengths through observation, interviews, and testing.
- Individual and group therapeutic services.
- Crisis prevention and intervention.
- Working with students in both general education and special education settings.
- Information and referral.
- Collaboration and consultation with community agencies, organizations, and other professionals

You can contact me by email: sheng.thao@spps.org or call at 651-744-6430.

News from our School Nurse:

If you have any questions regarding health concerns, please reach out to Nurse Feven and Health Assistant Mai at 651-888-7655.

"**Handbook of the Streets**" is a resource guide for people in need, published by Agate Housing and Services. Click [this link to access this great resource.](#)

-Flu and COVID-19 Vaccine clinics:

SPPS continues to host clinics where students ages 5 and older and adults can receive flu shots and COVID-19 vaccines. Families can make appointments by using the registration links at spps.org/covidvaccine. Walk-ins welcome!

News from Home-School Family Liaison:

Please reach out to Mr. Jeremy Moua if you have any concerns or need any family services. Mr. Moua is here to help our families and students feel welcome at HLCMS. Please join us for our monthly meeting dates below. Parents/Guardians are welcome to visit your child's classroom any time and I strongly encourage every parent to contact the main office or your child teacher to schedule prior to you visit your child classroom.

February, 13, 2023 (NAAPID) from 12:19PM-12:44PM: Parents/Guardians were invited to join their child during lunch and get to know HLCMS staffs.

News from MN Studies:

We will be learning about how MN became a state. This process includes learning about how America used treaties to take land from the Dakota and Ojibwe. This would eventually lead to the US Dakota War. We will have a quiz on Feb. 22 / 23.

News from Hmong Language Class:

Students in Hmong Immersion class are diving deep into life in America once they arrive during the different waves or timeframes. XF Paaaj and XF Teeb Leej shared some of their struggles when they arrived during wave 1. On 2/9/23, XF Chivouayi's mother was invited to come and share about her journey.

In Exploratory Hmong, we are on Unit 4 (Finding Me), now learning about shopping such as common questions and answers to use, how to say clothing in Hmong (shorts, pants, skirts, shoes), colors, and numbers.

Please continue to speak Hmong with your child and praise them when they speak and practice Hmong at home. Should you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to me. deeh.chah@spps.org

Art:

Our artist in residence, Katrina Knutson, from the non-profit art organization, COMPAS, is with us from February 7th - 17th. Students will be learning about social justice through printmaking.

As a reminder, Q3 is toward the end of the month here. Please make sure students are submitting or redoing assignments. If there are any questions, please connect with me via my email. va.lor@spps.org

Math 6:

We are wrapping up on Unit Percents/Decimal/Fractions and will start on the Unit Rates/Ratios. Please continue to encourage and support your child on their math facts. If they need resources, have them come see Ms. Xiong.

Readers and Writers Workshop:

Students are currently reading and writing about social justice. Students will be reading a book in small groups. Students will be reading a book called Front Desk as a whole class.

Library

Physical Education:

We have completed our Baseball Unit and will move into our Basketball Unit as we prepare for the "March Madness" competition between our foundation classes. Students will further their development in teamwork and sportsmanship. It also fosters competitiveness and encourages students to participate in team sports. The March Madness champions will be awarded a Trophy for their classroom, a gift and a pizza party. Students will then vote for their peers to represent the student body in a "Students VS Staff" basketball game.

We also have a planned field trip to Buckhill for skiing. The cost is \$21 and we are only able to take cash at this time. It will take place on March 9th. Permission slips are due by February 22nd.

Science News:

In science, our 6th graders recently wrapped up their light & matter unit. With the start of Q3, they are currently learning about the Universe & Solar System. In this unit, students will explore how different characteristics affect how space objects interact, analyze models, and use data to explain concepts. Concepts we will cover in this unit are sizes, distances, and compositions between the planets, how gravity and inertia affect orbital paths, revolution, and rotation. As always, students will finish out this unit with a planetary research project.

This is another reminder that on Feb 24, 2023, our 6th graders are scheduled for a lesson at the Como Elementary [Planetarium](#). Please make sure your students have returned the permission slip prior to Feb 22, 2023.

News from EL:

2022-2023 ACCESS Test for English Learners–

State and federal laws require that all English Learner (EL) students are assessed annually to measure their proficiency and progress in reading, writing, listening and speaking in English. SPPS uses the ACCESS 2.0 (Assessing Comprehension and Communication in English State-to-State) test as its annual assessment. EL students who receive special education services and who meet certain guidelines may take the Alternate ACCESS test instead. These tests are used to see if students are meeting the WIDA English Language Development Standards and determine if a student is ready to exit from SPPS's EL program.

All SPPS EL students in grades K-12 will be provided the ACCESS or Alternate ACCESS tests between January 30-March 24, 2023. Please reach out to Padee Thao (EL Teacher) at 651-744-2634 if you have any questions.

For more information on English language proficiency assessments and the MDE Parent/Guardian Participation Guide and Refusal form, please go to:

- SPPS Family Testing Information website: spps.org/Page/33916
- MDE Family Testing Information website: education.mn.gov/MDE/fam/tests/

Flipside News:

Flipside now offers transportation home for students who reside in Saint Paul and live a distance of 1 mile or more from school. Flipside After School programming is on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4:15pm-6pm. We also offer Flipside Morning programming on Mondays and Wednesdays from 7:15am-9:15am.

You can sign your student up for Flipside here:

- https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdrel6iz8onnXnKDwH5HOQazLRSSKNSKppS_pWsR8q234sv6w/viewform

Please contact Flipside Coordinator Mai Nhia Thao for more information or if you have any questions:
651-632-3705 or mainhia.thao@spps.org

Monthly Parent Meetings for School Year 2022-2023

February 23, 2023

March 30, 2023

April 27, 2023

May 25, 2023

For more information about HLCMS Calendar and Upcoming Events please visit spps.org/hlcms or
[HLCMS Calendar](#)