



# William S. Hackett Middle School



## THE HAWK'S NEST School Newsletter • May 2018

518-475-6475 • [mpaolino@albany.k12.ny.us](mailto:mpaolino@albany.k12.ny.us) • [hackett.albany.k12.ny.us](http://hackett.albany.k12.ny.us)

### Principal's Message

It's hard to believe we are entering the last few weeks of school. Please review the following information carefully and also note that we will hold regular sessions (7:50 a.m. to 3:05 p.m.) through the last day of school, Thursday, June 21.

Enclosed is your child's fourth quarter interim report card. Please review it, and if you have any questions or concerns, you may call the Guidance Office at (518) 475-6486 for assistance.

As we rapidly approach the end of the 2017-18 school year, we will continue to enforce behavior expectations in order to maintain a safe and orderly environment. We expect all students to arrive at school and each class period on time. While this is not a new expectation, it is one that we will continue to enforce in order to maximize academic time and minimize

disruptions and disturbances.

At this time of the year, maintaining a safe and orderly environment is a critical issue. Attending the Moving-Up Ceremony, the Eighth-Grade Dance, school trips and other events are privileges, not requirements. Therefore, our administrative team and/or academic teams will determine if a student's behaviors are consistent with school expectations. Students who have engaged in ongoing disruptive behavior, have poor attendance and/or are not achieving academic success will not be allowed to participate in these events.

We would like to commend our music staff and students on their wonderful performance at our annual Spring Concert which took place on May 7. We thank them for sharing their beautiful sounds with us at our final concert of the school year.

During our annual locker clean-out, students will be given the opportunity during their eighth-period class to remove all unnecessary items and materials from their lockers and return textbooks. The following dates have been tentatively assigned for each grade level: grade 6, June 21; grade 7, June 20; and grade 8, June 19. When school ends on June 21, ALL lockers must be cleaned out completely, and students must bring home all personal items. The school will not be held responsible for items left behind after June 21.

In these final weeks of school, I ask for your assistance in reinforcing appropriate dress with your child or children. Students are not allowed to wear brief garments such as strapless tops, crop tops, net tops, halter-tops, tanks with spaghetti straps, etc.

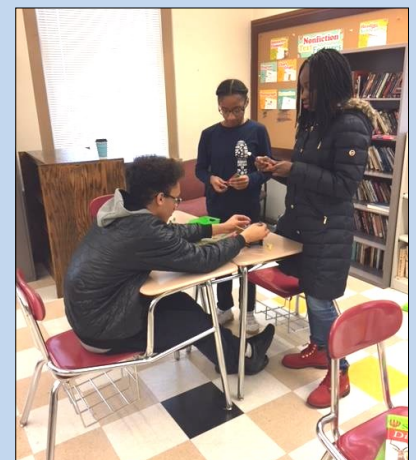
*Continued on page 2*

### Saturday School a Success

For the 2017-2018 school year, Hackett piloted a Saturday School program that supported the academic needs of our students and provided a time for parents to get together and collaborate with the school in a variety of activities.

Twice a month, students, families, and staff got together for our program. A delicious breakfast was served, catered by Eugene's Catering. From there, students participated in hands-on

activities meant to engage them in their learning, targeting specific reading, math and STEM skills. Parents could participate in Parent University classes, arts and crafts, cooking classes, and much more! At around 10:30 a.m., all participants headed to the cafeteria for a grab-and-go lunch and an opportunity to chat with other Hackett families. Please join us for our last Saturday School session on May 12!



# Honor Roll and Grade 8 Moving Up

On April 25, we celebrated our final Honor Roll ceremony of the school year. Approximately 285 students achieved honor roll for the third quarter, many of whom maintained an average of 84.5 percent or higher for the entire year! We applaud their outstanding academic success and continue to provide positive reinforcement that will inspire all students to perform at their highest level.

Thank you to the many parents who came to support their children. On Friday, June 22, we will celebrate our Class of 2018 Moving-Up Ceremony. The ceremony is scheduled to begin at 9 a.m. and will be held in our auditorium. In order for an eighth-grade student to participate in the ceremony, (walk across the stage), he/she must pass ALL core and special area courses and be in good

behavioral standing. Mandatory rehearsals will be held during school on Wednesday, June 20 and Thursday, June 21 during periods 1-4. Students who meet graduation requirements MUST be in attendance at BOTH rehearsals in order to walk across the stage. Anyone dismissed from rehearsal due to poor behavior will NOT be permitted to participate in the ceremony.

## Attention all Eighth-Graders ...

**Albany High Orientation.** There will be a New Family Orientation and Creative Arts Festival at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, May 16 for eighth-grade students and families planning on attending Albany High School next school year. The evening will begin with comments from Albany High School Principal Jodi Commerford and Family Engagement Coordinator Faith Skervin. There will be time to meet with and talk

to representatives from each academy at the high school, along with a building-wide scavenger hunt.

The **Eighth-Grade Dance** will be held on Friday, June 15 from 7-10 PM at Hackett. This is a semi-formal affair and students should be dressed appropriately. More information and a permission slip will be made available at a later time. Students

must meet academic and behavioral requirements to participate.



### Principal's message, continued from page 1

Shorts and dresses must be of a moderate length and should not be shorter than fingertip. In addition, students are required to wear appropriate footwear at all times. Slippers, flip-flops, platforms and heels of an unsafe height pose a safety issue and are unacceptable. Students identified as being dressed inappropriately will be referred to their respective administrator. If additional clothing or footwear is not available to the student, parents will be called.

Students who must attend summer school in order to be eligible for grade 9 will not be allowed to attend the graduation ceremony. Students must successfully complete the program in order to be promoted to the next grade. Please note there will not be a summer school graduation. Summer school for students in grades 6-8 will be held at Myers Middle School July 9-Aug. 10 from 8:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m. The program will run Monday-Friday with breakfast and lunch served daily. For more information, contact either Ms. Allisen Brodie or Mrs. Meghan D'Alessandro at (518) 475-6475 or via email at [abrodie@albany.k12.ny.us](mailto:abrodie@albany.k12.ny.us) or [mdalessandro@albany.k12.ny.us](mailto:mdalessandro@albany.k12.ny.us).

As the end of the school year approaches, our students get very excited about summer vacation. If we remain vigilant in these last few weeks, I am confident that the end of the year will be as positive as the beginning.

Thank you for your cooperation and assistance. If you have any questions or concerns, please call me at (518) 475-6475.

## Mark Your Calendar

May 7-18	NYSESLAT listening, reading and writing tests
May 13	HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY
May 15	NO SCHOOL – School Budget Vote
May 16	Eighth-graders-New Family Orientation at Albany High School, 6 p.m.
May 23-June 1	NYS science performance tests (Grade 8)
May 28	NO SCHOOL – Memorial Day
May 31	Parent University Year-End Celebration at Albany High, 5:30 p.m.
June 4	NYS science written test (Grade 8)
June 6	Final PTA meeting, 5:30 p.m.
June 7	Talent Show, 6:30 p.m.
June 8	High Honors Luncheon
June 15	Eighth-Grade Dance, 7-10 p.m.
June 17	HAPPY FATHER'S DAY
June 18	Seventh- and eighth-grade field trips
June 19	Eighth-grade locker clean out
June 20- 21	Mandatory moving up rehearsal
June 20	Seventh-grade locker clean out
June 21	Sixth-grade locker clean out
	LAST DAY OF SCHOOL
June 22	Eighth-grade Moving-Up Ceremony, 9 a.m.