

T-Bird Times

March 7, 2024



Calendar

March:

8 - No School - Professional Development Day

11 - 15 - No School Spring Break

18 - No School - Professional Development Day

19 - 8th Grade Uniform Check Out/Meeting (Students Only) - 3:10 pm

20 - 7th Grade Uniform Check Out/Meeting (Students Only) - 3:10 pm

21 - District Middle School Theater Festival @ BVW - 9:30 am

21 - BVNW Area Orchestra Festival (5th - 12th grades) @ BVNW - 3:00-9:00

25 - Track Practice Starts - 3:10 pm

25 - Track Parent Meeting - 4:45 pm

26 - Track Parent Meeting - 4:45 pm
26 - BVNW Area Jazz Festival @ OMS- 7:00 pm
28 - MNU Jazz Festival - 9:00 am-1:00 pm

PRINCIPALS NOTE

HMS Families,

We made it to Spring Break! It is hard to believe we have completed the 3rd quarter and only have one quarter left in the 2023-24 school year. Our students and staff have been so successful throughout the year, and we cannot wait to see the great things they accomplish the remainder of the school year. Our hope is that all students and families have an enjoyable Spring Break and come back on March 19 ready for the 4th quarter. As a reminder, April 1 is now a school day for students. If you have not already done so, please adjust your family calendars. We look forward to seeing students back in the building on March 19!

Below this note you will find the following information:

- End of Quarter Information
- Summer Explorations
- Help Wanted: Paraprofessionals
- Games on District Devices
- Carline Reminders
- Safe Schools Reporting
- Student Code of Conduct
- Game Atmosphere
- Athletics
- Clubs
- Band, Choir, Orchestra
- GoFan Passes/Ticket Information
- Harmony Middle School Handbook
- PTO News
- Student Services Update

As always, thank you for your support of HMS. I hope everyone has a wonderful break.

Sincerely,

Nate Winslow
Principal
Harmony Middle School

END OF QUARTER INFORMATION

End of Quarter Information: Canvas Courses

At the end of each quarter, most courses in Canvas will conclude and will no longer be visible on the Canvas app. A concluded course is only visible through the Canvas website by selecting All Courses on the Courses tab and scrolling down to the Past Enrollments section. Courses for this quarter will conclude TONIGHT March 7th, 11:59 pm. Report cards will be generated and viewed on ParentVUE at the end of the school day on March 22nd. At the start of the new quarter, teachers will publish new Canvas courses. As courses are published, students and families will again be able to see current courses on the Canvas app and Canvas website. For Canvas parent resources, visit www.bluevalleyk12.org/canvas.

*CANVAS TIP: Be sure you have downloaded the latest version of the Canvas Parent App (download in [iTunes](#) and [Google Play](#)).

SUMMER EXPLORATIONS

Blue Valley Summer Explorations enrollment opens March 18

Is your child looking to break out of summer boredom? Does your child want to learn more about football? Is your child looking to create harmony this summer? Sign your child up for Blue Valley's Summer Explorations program, designed to engage students in learning through hands-on experiences and lots of fun. Enrollment for the one-week sessions will begin at 8 a.m. March 18 and closes 4 p.m. April 3. All summer programs take place in person unless otherwise noted. For more information about the Summer Explorations program, visit www.bluevalleyk12.org/summerprograms.

HELP WANTED: PARAPROFESSIONALS

Come help us out at HMS!!

**WANTED:
HARMONY MIDDLE
SCHOOL
PARAPROFESSIONALS**

*Come help us out at HMS and assist students
throughout the school day with academic
support!*

**PARA I AND PARA II OPENINGS
7.75 HOURS PER DAY
FULL BENEFITS AVAILABLE**

For more information, see copy/paste the links below:

Special Education Para I:
<https://www.applitrack.com/bluevalleyk12/onlineapp/default.aspx?Category=Para+Educator&subcategory=Special+Education+Para+I&ApplitrackJobId=10555&ApplitrackLayoutMode=detail&ApplitrackViewPosting=1>

Special Education Para II:
<https://www.applitrack.com/bluevalleyk12/onlineapp/JobPostings/view.asp?Category=Para+Educator&subcategory=Special+Education+Para+II&ApplitrackJobId=10824&ApplitrackLayoutMode=detail&ApplitrackViewPosting=1>

**CONTACT NATE WINSLOW-
JNWINSLOW@BLUEVALLEYK12.ORG
OR
EMILY WILSON-
ESWILSON@BLUEVALLEYK12.ORG
FOR ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS**

GAMES ON DISTRICT DEVICES

In an effort to reduce distractions in the learning environment for all of our students, beginning on January 4, 2024, all students will have general gaming websites blocked on district devices (examples include: Fortnite, crazygames.com, recreational games, arcade-like games, etc.). Educational games will still be allowed.

CARLINE REMINDERS

Please remember to follow our carline rules at all times to ensure efficiency for all.

1. Use the east entrance to the front circle. The west entrance is for buses only.
2. Pull forward all the way before allowing your student to exit the car.
 1. This is extremely important. Do not stop until you have pulled all the way up as far as you can in front of the school.
 2. Please have your student exit the car quickly. One slow car can back up the entire carline.
3. Pull to the left after your student exits your car. (this is extremely important to ensure traffic continues to flow)
4. Turn right only when exiting the parking lot. Waiting to turn left completely halts our carline.

Also, please DO NOT park along 141st street during pickup or dropoff. This is a no parking zone as it is a safety issue for our students trying to use the crosswalk. Please enter the HMS parking lot to pick up your student after school.

SAFE SCHOOL REPORTING

Blue Valley Schools is committed to promoting and fostering a safe environment in and around all of our schools. Through the convergence of physical and intellectual security measures, we are continuously working to prevent, mitigate, respond to and recover from a wide range of emergencies. Please check out [available ways to report safety concerns](#).

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

The Blue Valley Board of Education approved updates to Board Policy [3500](#) - Behavior and Discipline at the August 14, 2023 Board of Education meeting. As part of this approval, there is a [Student Code of Conduct](#) document. We ask all families and students within our school community to review the contents, policies and procedures within this [Student Code of Conduct](#).

Administrative actions taken as a result of a violation of the code of conduct are determined following proper investigation, review, and/or consideration of the age/grade of the student, context, and situation in which the behavior in question occurred. The scope of authority of the Blue Valley Student Code of Conduct applies at all times when students are on school buses or other vehicles used by the district to transport students, school district property, or engaged in official school activities. Additionally, **this code of conduct applies to any student whose conduct at any time or place has a direct and immediate effect causing substantial disruption impacting the order of school operations and/or the sense of student and staff safety that exists in the school or school-related environment.**

Students at HMS will be made aware of behavioral expectations and the Code of Conduct through grade level talks next week. Every student at HMS also has our handbook in the front of their student planner.

HIGH SCHOOL GAME ATMOSPHERE

Blue Valley families,

We are excited to have your families come to support our high school activities and athletics. It is great to see the entire community at these events. It is imperative that our parent community partner with us as we work to encourage positive elementary and middle school behavior at high school games or events.

We are asking that all elementary and middle school students enter the game with an adult and sit with that adult throughout the game. Please do not drop your child off at a district event without supervision as they will not be allowed to enter. It is challenging to monitor and keep all students safe without the help of our parent community. Thanks for your help with this protocol to make district events a great experience for all who attend. We hope to see your family cheering for our Blue Valley teams this school year.

Matt Ortman
Director of School Administration, Athletics and Activities
Blue Valley School District

MIDDLE SCHOOL GAME ATMOSPHERE

As a reminder for all fans and spectators, please be considerate of our workers running clock, supervising, and keeping score. All of the workers at the middle school games/meets are volunteers who are giving up their time after school to support HMS students and athletics. The goal is to continue to have volunteers to run the events, so please be kind :).

ACTIVITIES/ATHLETICS

Athletics

7th and 8th Grade Track-

Track season is right around the corner! Please make sure to complete the registration and upload student physicals by **Friday, March 22nd**. Practice will begin on Monday, March 25th.

<https://bluevalleysd-ar.schooltoday.com/familyaccounts/autopopulate/160>

CLUBS

Club info is [here](#) ! You can also check out the HMS All School Canvas tile→Clubs.

BAND, CHOIR, ORCHESTRA

If your student is taking a music course at any point this year, please complete the registration information in rSchool. **No physical is needed (unless participating in athletics)**, but completion of the registration will allow us to access emergency information/use as a permission slip when traveling to festivals and field trips.

When signing up, the system will say athletic registration. Please click continue as band, choir, and orchestra are KSHSAA sponsored. There will be a section for you to select band, choir, or orchestra.

<https://bluevalleysd-ar.schooltoday.com/familyaccounts/autopopulate/160>

Tutorial links for rSchool- <https://bluevalleysd-ar.schooltoday.com/>

GoFAN PASSES/TICKET INFORMATION

Passes/tickets to high school games now available online

Blue Valley is pleased to announce that we will partner with GoFan for all athletic passes and individual high school event tickets for the 2023-24 school year. Fans can purchase passes or tickets online through their high school's GoFan page. This new pass and ticket process allows Blue Valley to operate a more efficient and professional ticket gate while elevating the fan experience.

[Purchase athletic pass/ticket today.](#)

HARMONY MIDDLE SCHOOL HANDBOOK

Please use this link to view the [HMS Student Handbook](#). This handbook will be available for students through our All School Canvas page and can be found at the beginning of the student planner.

PTO

HMS PTO COMMUNICATIONS & VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR OPENING:

The HMS PTO is looking for a parent to take on the Communications & Volunteer Coordinator position for the 2024- 2025 school year. This is a very rewarding volunteer opportunity and you don't have to attend any PTO board meetings! The position involves managing the HMS PTO Sign Up Genius Account (creating and sending out sign ups), the HMS PTO Gmail account, HMS PTO Concession Stand volunteers, and the PTO information for the weekly T-Bird Times. If you are interested - please reach out to Katie Scheibel at katie_scheibel@hotmail.com.

STUDENT SERVICES

New Resource available online for parents from [Understood.org](https://www.understood.org)

Are you wondering why your child is struggling? Figuring out what's going on can feel overwhelming. That's why we're here to help. Introducing a simple step-by-step tool to help you spot signs of learning and thinking differences

This tool is not a replacement for a diagnostic evaluation; instead, it's designed to empower you to gather the information you need and seek support from practitioners.

<https://www.understood.org/en/take-note>

Harvesters Collection

HMS once again outdid themselves with the most amazing Harvester's collection ever! Our student council led our assembly last week to kick a food drive with Harvesters and showed up every day to collect items and money from their peers. Daily drawings motivated students for a healthy competition among grade levels for most donations and today culminated in Color Wars between grade levels where students wore school colors to show spirit.

HMS collected 1,665 dollars and 1,873 items totaling 3,429 for Harvesters. Our students also had a lesson on food insecurity to help understand how their donations positively impacted fellow Kansas Citians. This year's totals far exceed last years! We are such a generous school community! Thank you to those parents who helped remind their student or brought items in themselves to help! We appreciate you.





Website:

<https://district.bluevalleyk12.org/schools/middle/hms/Pages/Calendar.aspx>

Location: [10101 West 141st Street, Overland Park, KS, USA](#)

Phone: [913-239-5200](tel:913-239-5200)

Twitter: [@HMSTBirds](#)



Lori Younger

Lori is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters

