



HARBOUR POINTE

A Message from the Principal...

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Dear Families,

We have had a great start to the school year! What a wonderful group of students we have! This year, we are very focused on implementing some of the key components of International Baccalaureate's Middle Years Program (MYP). Our main focus is providing academically rigorous curriculum and assessment that is in line with MYP's international standards. In addition, we hope to develop a climate for students where students achieve more. We hope to attain this climate by promoting the following:

- Inquiry-based classrooms, where students are expected to apply their knowledge and solve problems in group settings, rather than being "spoon-fed" information.
- Intercultural awareness, where students consider the perspectives from other nations and cultures when contemplating global issues.
- Holistic approach to learning, where students are able to make logical connections among their subject areas and apply learning to real-life situations.

Another important aspect of the Middle Years Programme, is the development of characteristics illustrated in the IB Learner Profile:

- Inquirers - they develop their natural curiosity.
- Knowledgeable - they explore concepts, ideas and issues of local & global significance.
- Thinkers - they exercise initiative in applying thinking skills critically & creatively.
- Communicators - they understand and express ideas confidently and creatively.
- Principled - they act with integrity and honesty, with fairness, and dignity for all.
- Open-minded - they understand and appreciate cultures, perspectives, and values of all.
- Caring - they show empathy, compassion, and respect to others.
- Risk-takers - they approach unfamiliar situations with courage and forethought.
- Balanced - they understand the importance of intellectual, physical, and emotional balance.
- Reflective - they give thoughtful consideration to their own learning and experiences.

To help support the development of The Learner Profile and a positive school culture, help your students at home by making connections between life in school, life at home, and life in the real world. By promoting the development of the attributes of the learner profile both at school and home, we will help our students devise their own personal values which contribute to a whole culture of compassionate, intelligent, and culturally-sensitive, young learners.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Sincerely,

Nikki Cannon

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HPMS School Improvement Plan

Harbour Pointe Middle School's Improvement Plan: Last spring, we collected teacher feedback about our School Improvement Plan (SIP). The Collaborative Decision Making Committee modified the 2007-2009 SIP, using International Baccalaureate evaluation information and teacher feedback. Some of the changes involve:

- Using achievement data from the upcoming Measurement of Student Proficiency, instead of the WASL
- Emphasizing intercultural

awareness, along with academic rigor

- Eliminating extra offerings of reading classes due to elimination of I-728 funds

Our three SIP goals now appear as:

GOAL: Each cohort in 6th, 7th, & 8th grade will show reduction of students who do not meet standard in Reading, Writing, Math, and Science, as measured by the MSP, by 15% each school year. In addition, there will be a reduction

of special education students who do not meet standard in Reading, Writing, Math, and Science by 15% each year.

GOAL: Develop curriculum and culture with emphasis on academic rigor and intercultural appreciation through the Middle Years Programme principles and practices.

GOAL: Increase student, parent and school collaborative involvement to improve student learning.

Get Ready for Flu Season!

What are the signs and symptom of the flu? Symptoms of the flu include fever (100 degrees F or 37.8 C degrees or greater), cough, sore throat, a runny or stuffy nose, body aches, headache, feeling very tired, vomit or diarrhea.

What can families, students and teachers do to keep from getting sick and spreading the flu?

- Wash your hands often with soap and water.
- Cough or sneeze into your elbow or shoulder or into a Kleenex (not your hands).
- Stay home if you are sick.

What is the best way to practice good hand washing?

- Wash your hands for at least 20 second (Sing "Happy Birthday" twice).
- Alcohol-based hand cleaners containing at least 60% alcohol are effective.

How can schools help to keep

students and staff from getting sick?

- Remind everyone to cough into their sleeve or shoulder.
- Remind everyone to wash their hands often with soap and water.
- Easy access to good hand washing with soap and water.
- Send sick students and staff home.
- Sick student and staff will need to stay home until at least 24 hours after they no longer have a fever or signs of a fever without using fever lowering medicines like Tylenol or Motrin.
- Clean surfaces with frequent hand contact with regular cleaning agents.
- Keep sick students and staff separate from well students and staff.
- Encourage sick students and staff at higher risk of complications from flu to get a medical evaluation as soon as possible. (Taking anti-viral

medicine early might prevent severe complications from the flu).

How do I recognize a fever or signs of a fever?

- A fever is a temperature taken with a thermometer that is equal to or greater than 100 degrees F (38 degrees Celsius).
- If you do not have a thermometer, a sick person with a fever might feel warm, appear flushed or sweat and shiver.

How long should a sick person with a fever stay home from school?

- The sick person should stay home for at least 24 hours after they no longer have a fever or do not feel feverish, without using fever lowering medicine like Tylenol or Motrin.
 - If the flu condition becomes more severe, the sick person should stay home for 7 days, or until they no longer have symptoms for 24 hours.
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Counselors' Corner - College Bound

Attention parents of 7th and 8th graders! We want to let you know about an amazing opportunity for some students.

The College Bound Scholarship provides hope and incentive for students and families who otherwise might not consider college as an option because of its cost. The Washington College Bound Scholarship is a commitment to 7th and 8th graders whose families are unable to pay for college. To receive the College Bound Scholarship, which promises annual college tuition and a yearly \$500 book allowance, students must graduate high school, be accepted to college, meet the income requirements, and be crime free.

A student is eligible for the scholarship if they meet one of the following conditions:

- They are eligible for the free and reduced-price lunch program
- They receive basic food/TANF benefits
- They are a foster youth
- They meet the family income standards – see website below

The amount of the scholarship will be based on tuition rates at Washington public colleges and universities and will cover the amount of tuition and fees (plus \$500 for books) not covered by other state financial aid awards.

7th and 8th grade students who sign a pledge by June 30 of their 8th grade year are eligible. Students promise to graduate from high school, demonstrate good citizenship, apply for financial aid by submitting a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) in their senior year of high school, and seek admission to a college or university. Family income will be re-checked and college admission confirmed after the student graduates from high school.

You may get more information by visiting your student's counselor or going to the following website www.hecb.wa.gov/collegebound You may get applications in Student Services or apply online through the website.

HPMS Mission Statement

Harbour Pointe Middle School aims to:

- Develop inquiring, knowledgeable, and lifelong learners to foster a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect.
- Collaborate to develop authentic learning environments and challenging programs of international education and rigorous assessment.
- Partner with our community to encourage the development of active, responsible citizens who establish a compassionate connection to a diverse society.

The IB Mission Statement

The International Baccalaureate aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who help create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect.

To this end the organization works with schools, governments and international organizations to develop challenging programmes of international education and rigorous assessment.

These programmes encourage students across the world to become active, compassionate and lifelong learners who understand that other people, with their differences, can be right.

Red Ribbon Week - Oct. 26-30

During the week of October 26-30, we'll celebrate Red Ribbon week. Do you know why? Enrique "Kiki" Camarena grew up in poverty, but always hoped and dreamed of making a difference in the world. When he decided to join the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, his mother told him not to. "I'm only one person, but I want to make a difference in the world" Kiki stated. The DEA sent Kiki to Mexico to investigate a major drug cartel. On February 7, 1985, 37 year old Kiki left his office for lunch when five men shoved him in a car. A month later, his body was found in a shallow grave. He had been tortured to death. In honor of Mr. Camarena's memory and his battle against illegal drugs, friends, and neighbors began wearing red ribbons. Coalitions across the U.S. joined them as a

symbol that one person can make a difference. Students are asked to join in this celebration to visibly take a stand against alcohol, drug use and abuse.

What can parents do to influence their children to make drug-free choices? Actually parents can be the single greatest influence upon their children and can have a major role in determining whether or not their children will experience alcohol or drug related problems. During their pre-teen and teenage years, kids are exposed to an ever-widening variety of people and influences. Know their friends as well as their friend's parents. Know your kids' routines and set curfews. One of the most effective drug deterrents is for parents to stay involved and connected to their

child. Through their pre-teen and teenage years, this is not always easy. However, research shows us that kids still want this to happen, even as they are exploring and growing into their own individuality. Here are a number of ways to stay connected. Tell your kids that you care about them. Tell them often! Praise them when they do well, no matter how small the accomplishment. Set aside time to talk and listen. This is not a time to talk about misbehavior or chores, but a time to listen to what is going on in your child's life that is fun and interesting. Set dates to do fun things together and plan routine activities (Saturday lunches, Sunday afternoon drives) where you can catch up on what is happening with your child.

Mukilteo Schools Foundation

Mukilteo Schools Foundation supports Mukilteo schools in the following ways: During the past 17 years, the classroom grants program has literally put thousands of dollars into our schools for classroom enrichment. Scores of teachers have used those grants to purchase books, supplies, community outreach projects and field trip support-all with the focus of enriching the educational experience for children.

Please attend our Annual Fall Breakfast simply go to: <http://mukilteoschoolsfoundation.org>

The Annual Fall Breakfast is the main fundraiser and supports classroom grant giving as well as the classroom book set donations.

The Breakfast is November 11, 2009 at 7:30 am held at the Kamiak High school commons. The cost will be \$35.00 per person or \$250.00 for a table of eight. The guest author is Robert Dugoni. Bob is a local New York Times Best selling Author. Some of his works include The Cyanide Canary, The Jury Master, Damage Control and Wrongful Death. In addition to writing novels,

Bob teaches the craft of writing throughout the United States and practices law in Seattle.

In addition the emcee is Jesse Jones of King 5 News. Jesse joined KING 5 in November 2005 as a reporter and member of the Investigators team. He has worked in Seattle, Baltimore and Cincinnati. In 2000 Jesse won Reporter of the Year from the Association of Black Media Workers. While working in Cincinnati he won Emmy Awards for investigative reporting three years in a row.

**Don't forget to Mark your calendars
Nov. 11, 2009 - Mukilteo Schools Foundation Breakfast
7:30 am at Kamiak High School**
