Hanshew Happenings

10121 Lake Otis Parkway Anchorage, AK. 99507
Main Number 349-1561 Fax 349-2835
January 2008

Principal
Sherry Ellers
Ext. 201

Assistant Principals

Peggy Huscusson
8th
Ext. 218
Brendan Wilson
7th
Ext. 202

Attendance
Lynn Caputo
Ext. 205
Registrar
Lisa Schleusner
Ext. 204
Financial Data Clerk
Debbie Pool
Ext. 223

Special Ed.
Denise Helkenn
Ext. 212

Nurse
Mary Luken
Ext. 217

Counselors
Karol Benroth
Ext. 227
Jean Pollard
Ext. 226
Moriah Huseman
247

PTA President
Pauline Haas

From the Principal's Desk

Welcome to 2008 and a new semester. Hopefully everyone was able to enjoy a break and is rested up for the remainder of the school year. Many activities take place during the second semester and time seems very short. Please keep informed with up-to-date information on our school website at: http://www.asdk12.org/schools/hanshew/pages/

Student achievement is a high priority for all students. Several opportunities will be available for students to demonstrate their skills and knowledge. In February, all seventh graders will take part in the CAT testing. These tests are norm-referenced tests that show students' progress as compared to other similar students in a standardized reference group. Test days will be Tuesday and Wednesday, February 5th & 6th.

In April, all students will participate in the standards based assessments, known as the SBAs. These assessments look at individual performance as compared to a specific set of criteria or standards. These assessments demonstrate if an individual is proficient or not in preparation towards the High School Qualifying Exams. For eighth graders, this will be the last standards based assessment before high school. Testing will be Tuesday – Friday, April 1st – 4th. Friday will be for eighth graders only with the new science standards.

Again this year we are fortunate to be able to provide some intensive classes to help strength skills before the assessments. We have targeted students close to the proficiency level in order to help them move into a higher skill level range. Students will work on specific writing skills during the third quarter in a small group setting. Past years have shown that these classes help with strengthening some fundamental skills and boosting individual self-confidence.

Please mark the testing dates on your calendar so you don't make any out of school appointments. It is important for your child to be here during all of the assessment days!

CAT – 7th graders only
Tuesday, February 5th
Wednesday, February 6th

SBA – 7th & 8th graders
Tuesday – Friday (Friday 8th grade only)
April 1st – 4th

Assistant Principal's News

Welcome back to Hanshew Middle School! As we begin our second semester … please note that we still have 3rd and 4th nine semesters ahead of us, if grades need to be improved … now is the time to hit those books, prepare for class, return all completed homework assignments, and resolve to strive to do your best and improve academically. Additionally, winter sports, such as, cross country skiing (Coach Mittelstadt and Coach Wottlin), interscholastic wrestling (Coach Pomerleau and Coach Niclai), and intramural girl's basketball (Coach Brown) are underway for Hanshew Middle School athletes. Other school activities, such as, Geography Bee, Spelling Bee, Student Council, Jazz Band, Music Concerts, and Math Counts are additional choices that HMS students have available to them. Remember that Hanshew Middle School Memory Books sales are ongoing. Special kudos go to our PTA parents who are working to publish a fantastic book!

Research indicates that successful students focus on achieving academically, attending school on a regular basis, and being involved in a variety of school activities. Setting goals and investing the time and energy to make dreams come true are vital aspects in model students' lives. Being good citizens, appreciating efforts made by others, and showing respect for peers and adults are equally crucial for success. Finally, successful students embrace diversity. Statistics show that a diversified work force enhances a company's economic foundation. I believe that showing appreciation for others is monumental in enhancing our school home.

Safety is a huge priority at Hanshew Middle School. As our winter weather goes into full swing, please be aware of the traffic patterns where students are dropped off and picked up from HMS. Barriers have been raised in front of our school to afford guidance and they must be acknowledged. Additionally, HMS's back avenue is to be accessed by busses in the afternoons. Note that 8 of our HMS busses actually leave via the back street, enter traffic by turning left thus transporting students who live south of our school.

In conclusion, I would like to remind all parents that we started our second semester when we returned from the holidays. Therefore, each and every student has approximately 90 days to improve his/her grade. Also, Spring Semester is chock full of sports, academic, and music activities. Please contact Hanshew Middle School's counselors, security, or administrators for ways to assist you and your child in making this a very successful Spring Semester. We can be reached at 349-1561.

Regards,

Peggy Huscusson
Assistant Principal-7th Grade
Brendan Wilson
Assistant Principal-8th Grade

9th Grade Registration

On February 12, Service High School counselors will be coming to Hanshew to meet with the 8th grade Social Studies Classes. They will be providing information about completing your registration for High School. Students can speak with counselors and find out information about elective choices.

Battle of the Books

The 7th and 8th grade teams are hard at work reading all of the Battle of the Books. The 7th grade meets in Room 100 and 8th grade in Room 112 every Tuesday and Thursday during lunch. Bring your lunch. If you have hot lunch, stop by the library for a special pass. Hanshew will hold the local battle on January 31. The winning team will compete in the district Battle of the Books in February. It's not too late to join if you're interested. Check with Chantal Davis for 7th grade and Steve Wottlin for 8th grade.

X-Country Skiing

Hanshew X- Country Skiing has started and ends February 21. Mr. Mittelstadt and Mr. Wottlin are coaching. Practice is everyday from 3:00 to 4:30, weather permitting. Get you paperwork in as soon as possible for a spot on the Hanshew Ski Team. There will be 5 days that the team will be bussed to Hilltop for additional practice. See either coach if you have questions.

Journalism

The Hanshew Hawk Journalism group will be selling Valentines for $1.00 each, to be published in the February issue of the Hawk. Seventh and eighth grade students will have a table available during lunch time to purchase a valentine for that someone special. Our next meeting will be Thursday, January 24 from 2:45 to 3:30 to discuss the upcoming sale. See Mrs. Lemery, Room 115, if you are interested in participating.

Hanshew Student Council will be meeting on Wednesday morning at 7:30 on January 16th. We will be discussing our next community activity. See Mrs. Lemery (Room 115) if you are interested in joining Student Council.

Wrestling begins....

Wrestling has started. You should have all of your paperwork turned in to Mrs. Pool, our Stock Clerk. If it is not turned in, do so ASAP. This includes a Participation Form, Current Physical Form (physicals are good for 1 year) and Fee Form including $80.00. Any student on free or reduced lunch is eligible to join without the fee. All students are encouraged to participate. Hanshew is the defending City Champions. If you have questions see Coach Pomerleau. Wresting practice lasts until 4:30 everyday. Pick up your student by 4:45.

Girls Basketball

Girls' Intramural Basketball begins in January. Participants need to have their PHYSICAL and PARENT'S CONSENT FORM turned into the Stock Clerk, Mrs. Pool.

Date: January 9 thru February 8
Time: Monday through Friday from 3:00-4:30

Students are expected to be at practice everyday unless the parent/guardian sends a note or calls the school office excusing the student. Practice is over at 4:45 p.m. Students are to be picked up at this time.
To participate, students must wear gym clothing, t-shirt & shorts or sweats and sneakers. For Safety: NO JEWELRY MAY BE WORN DURING PLAY.
Any questions call Mr. Brown 349-1561, ex 262.

Blue Pass

If you need to pick up your child for an appointment, send a signed and dated note with pertinent information. When she/he delivers the note to the Attendance Office she/he will be given a Blue Pass to leave at the requested time.

Hanshew Hawks

Memory Book

$35.00

We Need your orders to keep the memory book
As part of our school spirit

Order Your Memory Book Now!!!

Gold, Sapphire, Outback, Jade,
Orange, Teal, Aqua and
Platinum

Thank you for supporting our Memory Book!

_____

Cut out and place in an envelope to bring to Hanshew M.S.

Name (last)_____ (first)_____	4th hour Teacher: _____	Grade: 7th or 8th Circle one
Quantity: ____	Price: $35.00	Total Amount $_____

Make checks payable to: Hanshew PTA.

Name of parent/guardian: _____

Dates to Remember

January 07	3rd Quarter Starts
January 11	Spelling Bee
January 15	Geography Bee
January 21	Martin Luther King Day
January 31	Battle of the Books
CAT Testing, 7th Grade Only	February 5th and 6th
SBA Testing, 7th & 8th Grade	April 1st – 4th

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