



SICKLES UPDATE 10-12-2025

We start a new academic quarter this week and see the start of post-season play in fall sports. Here's a look at the week ahead:

Monday, Oct. 13

- Early Release Schedule (2:25 p.m. dismissal)
- Girls Soccer Tryouts (3:30 p.m., Practice Fields, info below)

Tuesday, Oct. 14

- NHS Club Day
- Cross Country County Championship (at Mary Help of Christians School)
- Volleyball District Semifinals home vs. Gaither (6 p.m. or 7:30 p.m. - TBD; please note county passes are not valid for admission in the postseason)
- Swim vs. Tampa Bay Tech and Middleton (at Temple Terrace, 7 p.m.)
- Golf vs. Robinson (MacDill Air Force Base, 3:30 p.m.)

Wednesday, Oct. 15

- PSAT Make-up Testing
- Early Action College Application deadline

Thursday, Oct. 16

- Orange Club Day
- Dual Enrollment info meeting during club time (info below)
- Chorus Fall Movie Concert (5:30 p.m., info below)
- Volleyball District Championship at Sickles (7 p.m.)

- Swim vs. East Bay (Apollo Beach, 6:30 p.m.)
- Golf vs. Wharton (The Eagles, 3:30 p.m.)

Friday, Oct. 17

- Varsity Football at Leto (7:30 p.m.)

Saturday, Oct. 18

- ACT at Sickles (for pre-registered students)

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EMPLOYEE OF THE WEEK: We want to thank School Social Worker Alexis Patel for her tireless efforts in support of our students! Ms. Patel works hard to help in need, from connecting them with resources to talking through challenges life can present. This year she is co-chairing our Problem Solving Leadership Team, in which school leaders aim to identify students who need additional support related to attendance, academics and behavior. Thank you Ms. Patel and congratulations on being recognized as our Employee of the Week.

SOCKTOBER: This month we are collecting new socks and underwear to support families in need. Students can bring the donations to Student Affairs.

WINTER SPORTS TRYOUTS: Girls Soccer tryouts begin on Monday, Oct. 13. Boys Soccer starts next week; basketball and wrestling tryouts are in the next few weeks. Visit [Sickles Athletics Online](#) for more information.

CHORUS CONCERT: Sickles Choral Department presents their Fall Movie Concert on Thursday at 5:30 p.m. in the Auditorium. This will be a free event followed by a showing of the movie “Coraline” afterward. Feel free to bring blankets, enjoy snacks at our concession area and celebrate the Halloween season with us!

JROTC MARKSMANSHIP: Congratulations to our JROTC marksmanship medalists who hosted more than 20 teams from around the state last week here at Sickles. The Precision team took 1st place with the Sporter team finishing fourth out of 23 teams - tough competition from throughout the state!

END OF THE QUARTER: Friday was the end of Quarter 1. Remember in high school, semester grades are what ultimately appear on a transcript and affect GPA. These are calculated by combining the first quarter grade, second quarter grade and semester exam grades. Everyone resets today with a fresh start in their classes.

SEMESTER EXAMS SCHEDULE: Mark your calendars for semester exam week. These tests are worth 25-30 percent of students' total semester grade. No exams may be taken prior to the exam window, so students who must miss these days will need to make up missed tests in early January.

- Monday, Dec. 15: Period 7 exam 12:25-2:25 p.m.
- Tuesday, Dec. 16: Period 1 and Period 2 exams, dismissal at 12:50 p.m.
- Wednesday, Dec. 17: Period 3 and Period 4 exams, dismissal at 12:50 p.m.
- Thursday, Dec. 18: Period 5 and Period 6 exam, dismissal at 12:50 p.m.
- Friday, Dec. 19: Make-up exams, dismissal at 12:50 p.m.

AP AND AICE TESTING DATES: Students enrolled in AP and AICE courses should mark their calendars for April-May testing dates listed on [THIS CALENDAR](#).

COLLEGE DEADLINES APPROACHING: The Early Action application deadline for multiple colleges is this week and our counselors want to remind students that they should aim to have applications complete by this week so the counselors can complete their portion of the application prior to that Wednesday, Oct. 15 deadline. Each counselor will have dozens of applications in their queue so please be considerate of their time and apply ASAP!

DUAL ENROLLMENT INFO: Students who are planning to take HCC, USF or UF spring dual enrollment classes should observe the deadlines listed [ON THIS FLYER](#), which also contains information about upcoming interest meetings during Oct. 16 club times. HCC is also hosting online info sessions including one this Thursday. [CLICK HERE FOR INFO ON HCC SESSIONS](#).

FAFSA/FINANCIAL AID HELP: Families of seniors can receive help completing the FAFSA Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) during upcoming FAFSA nights throughout the district. Assistance will be available in both English and Spanish. [CLICK HERE](#) for the schedule of nights and additional information on what to bring. While Sickles is not one of the meeting locations, parents can attend any school – with Oct. 30 at Alonso and Dec. 2 at Steinbrenner the closest locations for our families.

PTSA INFO: We invite you to join the Sickles PTSA (Parent Teacher Student Association)! This is a fantastic opportunity to get involved in your child's education and contribute to our school community. [JOIN US](#) in making a lasting impact!

NEED GRYPHON GEAR: Check out the new Designs for 2025 and stock up on classics as well in our online store! [CLICK HERE FOR STORE](#)

TUTORING SCHEDULE: If your student needs additional support – or someplace to spend their morning starting as early as 7 a.m. – [CLICK HERE](#) to check out our full tutoring schedule.

DOG TREAT SALES: Students with special needs sell dog treats EVERY week. Students are learning job skills by making and selling dog treats each week. They cost \$1 a bag and they are made fresh each week with spent grains, flour, eggs and peanut butter. Please email lisa.gaspar@hcps.net or send the student to Room 306 to pick up a bag Wednesday-Friday.

ATHLETIC GAME TICKETS: Don't wait at the gate. Order pre-paid event tickets. You can also purchase student punch cards (valid for 10 events) or student all-sports passes now. These are valid only for students. [CLICK HERE TO ORDER](#).

REPORTING YOUR CHILD'S ABSENCE: The preferred method for reporting your child's excused absence is via email. Send a message to sickles.high+attendance@hcps.net to let us know and/or attach doctor's notes for excused absences. Please use this email rather than emailing a specific staff member.

GO GRYPHONS!