



# The Focus

Issue: May 28, 2021

## From the Desk of the Superintendent

This WEEKLY communication is intended to streamline communications between school and home by providing one regular update on topics of general interest, reminders, etc. We hope this helps to reduce the number of duplicate emails you currently may be receiving from multiple district sources.

**NOTE:** This is an official communication from the Hopewell Valley Regional School District. Information that is not directly related to the staff or students will not be included in this email. In addition, it is not affiliated with the email list services maintained by individual school PTOs (i.e., Dog Byte, WolfFlash) and other parent organizations.

[Click here for the latest update from HVRSD](#)

**Superintendent Search Update** - Please [click here](#) for the last update from the Board of Education regarding the search for a new HVRSD Superintendent.

**Website Survey (2 minutes!)** - This summer we will be reformatting our district and school websites to be more user friendly. As part of this process, we are asking for your input on why you access our website [here](#).

### Helpwell Request

Helpwell is looking for someone to help collaborate on building a mosaic sundial at Toll Gate Grammar School. This volunteer's participation could include helping develop the school-wide design, speaking with students about patterns of the sun and how sundials work, and, once constructed, help with placing the sundial outside with the students. If interested, please contact us ASAP at [sherihook@hvrdsd.org](mailto:sherihook@hvrdsd.org).

### Broadway is Back in HVRSD!

CHS students will be performing the musical *Little Women* June 4 and 5. All performances will be streamed through a filmed on stage experience with performances limited to only two shows. Tickets are \$5 per household at [www.showtix4u.com](http://www.showtix4u.com). Show times are June 4th at 7:00 p.m. And June 5th at 7:00 p.m. Additional information can be found through the MTPA [Facebook](#) or [Instagram](#) pages.

### REMINDERS:

- **PLEASE CHECK YOUR CHILD DAILY FOR COVID [SYMPTOMS](#)**
- **SCHOOLS ARE IN SESSION ON MAY 28 (OFF on May 31)**
- **Kindergarten Registration for Fall 2021 is open!** Registration Forms and further information can be found [here](#). The District will be holding an optional in-person Kindergarten Camp at the elementary schools in July. Information and the registration form can be found [here](#).

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# HOPEWELL VALLEY CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL

**June Schedule** - We are excited to welcome our students back to [full-day instruction](#) beginning on June 1! Based on feedback from our students and staff, we will maintain our current schedule rotation, and shift recitation to the session adjoining lunch, in order to provide two separate lunch periods. Please review the email sent on 5/25 by Ms. Riley for additional information.

**Drill Information** - As you saw in Ms. Riley's email on 5/26, next week we will be conducting an active intruder/evacuation drill in conjunction with the Hopewell Township Police. We will ensure that during the emergency announcement, it will be reiterated that this is a practice exercise, and not a true emergency situation. We want to make you aware of our plans, in the event that you see staff and students leaving the building quickly, with police presence. We ask that parents and community members allow us to perform this drill without interruption, so that all involved can learn the process, routes, and procedures that need to occur during this type of situation. Each time we perform any safety and security exercise, we learn and improve our protocols and responses.

**End of the Year Events** - We have finalized our plans for all of our [traditional end-of-year activities](#), including concerts, awards ceremonies, proms, and commencement. We're excited to be able to hold the large majority of these events in person and we appreciate your cooperation in following the district and state guidelines regarding COVID19 protocols during your attendance at the events.

**Student COVID-19 Vaccination Information** - If you have chosen to have your child vaccinated with one of the COVID-19 vaccines and would like to share that information confidentially with our school nurses, please consider completing [this form](#). Vaccination information may be helpful as the nurses update student medical records or conduct contact tracing and determine required quarantine periods.

**Pomptonian Food Service** - The USDA and HVRSD have combined to provide free lunches for all students on school days. If you are interested, please pre-order your child's meal and it will be available for pick-up during our 12 p.m. dismissal. You can order online at [www.payschoolscentral.com](http://www.payschoolscentral.com) or download the Payschools Central app.

**What's Happening at HVCHS?** Please follow us on Twitter: @HVCentralHS and Instagram: hopewell\_valley\_central\_hs for pictures, updates, and fun facts!

## \* Dates to Remember \*

May 31 - Schools/Offices Closed  
June 1 - MTPA Virtual Banquet  
June 2 - ACappella & Jazz Concert  
June 4 - Spring Musical Premiere  
June 7 - National Honor Society Induction  
June 8 - Outdoor Band Concert  
June 9 - Academic Awards Night  
June 10 - Senior Athletic Awards Night  
June 11 - All Students Remote  
June 11 - Junior Prom  
June 12 - Senior Prom  
June 14 - Senior Awards Night  
June 17 - Commencement

# TIMBERLANE MIDDLE SCHOOL

**8th Grade Fun Day: Friday June 11:** We have a day planned full of fun, food and camaraderie and activities to aid in the transition to high school. Since this may be the only time we can have our entire 8th grade class together, we have made careful arrangements to ensure an environment where all feel safe. All sixth and seventh grade students, as well as all high school students will be remote this day, providing lots of space for social distancing all day. We would love for our remote students to join us on this day. Students will engage in a rotation of activities as a team, such as Transition Day at the CHS, Field Day, Food Trucks, Moving up Rehearsal and a Scavenger hunt. Each activity will have our students in smaller groups to allow for social distancing. More information will be shared soon.

**Moving Up Celebration:** Monday June 14 (Rain Date: Tuesday, June 15) The final event of the year will be the Middle School Moving Up Celebration. This year, we will offer three different in-person ceremonies, to accommodate social distancing. Each student will receive two tickets for two special adults in their life. While this is not a graduation, our ceremony celebrates the accomplishments of our students. The program will culminate with the presentation of the 8th grade class to the CHS high school principal, Ms Patricia Riley. Ms Riley will then conclude the ceremony by officially welcoming your children as high school freshmen.

**PAKSEAT** - Looking for a comfortable seat for outdoors? Need to carry lunch, sunscreen and water too? The TMS PTO is selling a new product called the PAKSEAT. Order online at <https://timberlane-middle-school.square.site>

TMS June Calendar: [June Calendar](#)

**TMS Updates** - For additional information about TMS, please visit our [webpage](#), or follow us on [Twitter](#) @Timberlane\_HV, or Instagram @timberlane\_timberwolves.

## \* Dates to Remember \*

**May 31 - Schools/Offices Closed**

**June 11- Full Day but all Remote for 6th and 7th grade**

**June 11-8th Grade Transition Day**

**June 14- 8th Grade Moving Up**  
**9:00 am- Titanium**  
**11:00 am-Platinum**  
**1:00 pm- Mercury**

**June 15- Rain Date-8th Grade Moving Up**

**June 16- Early Dismissal**

**June 17- Early dismissal**

# BEAR TAVERN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

**BT Changes In Students' Dismissal** - Families, if there is a change in how students will be going home (pick up, take the bus, after school program, etc.), please be sure to call or email the main office, as teachers do not always have an opportunity to check their email. 609-737-4005

[joannemarkulec@hvrsd.org](mailto:joannemarkulec@hvrsd.org) and [laurenjordan@hvrsd.org](mailto:laurenjordan@hvrsd.org)

**Absences & Late Arrivals** - Parents/Guardians should call our TeleSafe number 609-737-4005, Ext 2, by 8:00 am to report an absence or late arrival. Thank you.

**June Calendar** - Please click [here](#) to access the calendar for the month.

**Expanded Lunch Menu** - Complimentary lunch for students is being offered to all interested families. Our [new online form](#) with expanded options is now available. Orders for next week must be placed by Sunday night.

**BT Student Classwork/Supply Pickup** - Must be done by 4:00 pm. Any pickups after 4:00 pm must be planned with your student's teacher.

**TMS Presents High School Musical Jr.** - Disney Channel's smash hit movie musical comes to life in video form this weekend. Follow the antics of East High's students as they come alive in this fun-tastic, family-friendly show. There will be six streaming performances on 5/27, 5/28 at 7 PM, and 5/29, 5/30 at 3 & 7 PM. TIX are available at [showtix4u.com](http://showtix4u.com). [Here](#) is a sneak peek!

**BTPTO Meatless Monday Cookbook** - The deadline to order is **Friday, June 4, 2021**. Click [here](#) to order on the membership toolkit website. Cookbooks will be distributed during the last week of school. Remote student pickup will be emailed shortly.

**BTPTO** - Has open volunteer positions for the 2021-2022 School Year. Please join us at our All Parent PTO meeting **on June 2nd at 10:30 am** via Zoom to learn about open volunteer positions. Have an idea that would be awesome for next year? We need to hear from you! Any questions or suggestions, please contact BTPTO President Leah Donato at [leahd2007@mac.com](mailto:leahd2007@mac.com)

**Kindergarten Registration** - Students who will be 5 years old on or before Oct.1, 2021. Registration forms are [here](#). In addition the District will be holding an optional Kindergarten Camp at each Elementary school in July. More information and registration form can be found [here](#).

**HV Mobile Food Pantry** - Please see the [FLYER](#) on how you can help the pantry.

**BTPTO Travels With Titus** - Bear Tavern families are invited to participate in a spin on the Traveling Teddy Bear with **Travels With Titus**. Print, draw, craft, or grab your favorite look-alike teddy bear. Please take a photo of Titus sharing an in-home activity and post it to Twitter or the BTPTO Facebook page.

Don't forget to tag [#BearTavernPride](#) & [#TravelswithTitus](#)

Be Creative with props and locations; have fun.

**BTPTO Box Tops of Education** - By clipping or scanning on everyday items throughout the year, Box Tops provides our school with money to help teachers and students get the supplies they need. You can find more information and instructions right [here](#).

## \* Dates to Remember \*

**May 31 - Schools/Offices Closed**

**June 2 - GOTR**

**June 4 - Deadline to Order Meatless Cookbook**

**June 8 - Bear Tavern Day (a.k.a Field Day)**

**June 10 - 5th Grade Pool Party (Raindate 6/11) Preschool Graduation**

**June 15 - 5th Grade Step Up Ceremony**

**June 16 - Early Dismissal Preschool AM Only**

**June 17 - Early Dismissal Preschool PM Only 5th Grade Clap Out**

**BT Textile Drive** - Ever wonder what the collection bin is for in the school parking lot? It is for the district's year-round textile drive. Support your school, your community, and your environment. The Textile Drive is a **HUGE** fundraiser for the BTPTO and a great way for you to get rid of old clothing and other items. Please drop off bagged textiles (clothing, shoes, handbags, hats, blankets, linens, towels, stuffed animals, etc.). Stained and ripped items are OK for donation.

**BT Membership Toolkit** - All volunteer opportunities, Spirit Wear, and your class lists can be found on MembershipToolkit. Click [here](#) to register. Please email [beartaverndirectory@gmail.com](mailto:beartaverndirectory@gmail.com) with any questions.

**What Did Your Child Do In School This Week?** - Find out! To see pictures of all the great happenings at BT, please be sure to follow the Bear Tavern Twitter feed @BearTavernES ([here](#)) and #BearTavernPride ([here](#)). Our teachers update this feed daily. It is a great way to see all the wonderful things your students do all day. For important flyers and forms, check out the BT Virtual Backpack ([here](#)).

# HOPEWELL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

**5th Grade Completion Ceremony** - Attention 5th grade parents: We look forward to our special event on Monday, June 14th at 5:30 pm. Please remember to RSVP via the Google form by the end of today.

**Expanded Lunch Menu** - Complimentary lunch for students is being offered to all interested families. Our [new online form](#) with expanded options is now available. Orders for next week must be placed by Sunday night.

Each day, students will have access to a warm option and garden salad with chicken. We're also proud to feature a vegetarian (black bean burger with lettuce and tomato) and vegan option (garden salad with hummus and pita wedges) daily.

**Asian Pacific American Heritage Month** - We are proud to be celebrating APAHM at HES. Click [here](#), [here](#) and [here](#) to see what we've been up to.

**HES Teacher Book Club** - Each month, interested HES staff members explore a different genre, vote on a book, read it and then [meet to discuss](#). This month's genre is [Modern Classics](#). The HES Teacher Book Club was established over a year ago and continues to be popular among staff.

**Kindergarten Registration** - Students who will be 5 years old on or before Oct.1, 2021. Registration forms are [here](#). In addition the District will be holding an optional Kindergarten Camp at each Elementary school in July. More information and registration form can be found [here](#).

**May Calendar** - Kindly click [here](#) to access our May calendar.

**Lost and Found** - Please ask your child to check the Lost and Found table, located near the cafeteria, if you are missing any items. All uncollected items will be donated at the end of each month.

**Weather Reminder** - As temperatures have dropped, please remember to have children dressed appropriately for outdoor weather. We try to ensure that our students are outside daily. Jackets, hats, gloves, and appropriate footwear are necessary, and all should be **labeled** with your child's name.

**HV Mobile Food Pantry** - Please click [here](#) to learn how you may support the HV Mobile Food Pantry.

**HES Updates** - For additional information about HES, please visit our [webpage](#) or follow us on [Twitter](#) @HopewellES

**\* Dates to Remember \***

**May 31 - Schools/Offices Closed**



# STONY BROOK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

**TMS High School Musical Jr-** This year's production takes the form of a movie that can be streamed for viewing on any device. It's the perfect thing to do on this rainy weekend. [Here](#) is a sneak peek! Streaming dates are listed below, and tickets can be ordered at [showtix4u.com](http://showtix4u.com). Congratulations to the cast! Enjoy the show!

Thursday, 5/27 at 7 pm

Friday, 5/28 at 7 pm

Saturday, 5/29 at 3 pm and 7 pm

Sunday 5/30 at 3 pm and 7 pm

**Changes In Students' Dismissal** - Families, if there is a change in how students will be going home (pick up, take the bus, after school program, etc.), please be sure to call or email the main office, as teachers do not always have an opportunity to check their email.

**Order a Complimentary Lunch** - Please order lunch for the week of June 1 by 11:59 on Sunday. Order one meal per child only. Remote students need to select FULL REMOTE at the Grade prompt and pickup meal between 1:15-1:30. Thank you. [LINK](#)

**PTO Bingo Winners** - Thanks for joining us for family fun night! If your family won a round of bingo from the family fun night, please contact the main office so we can arrange to send home your gift card.

**Save the Date-Field Day**- Field day will be on June 11. More details to follow.

**Moving?** - If you are moving and leaving Stony Brook for next school year, please contact the Registrar, Ms. Loughery at 609-737-4000 Ext. 2304 or email [catherineloughery@hvrssd.org](mailto:catherineloughery@hvrssd.org). Also please let the Main Office know. Thank you.

**Still a few Copy left of the 20-21 Yearbook!**

There are still yearbooks available. Price is \$30 via cash or check (payable to Stony Brook PTO) while supplies last. Please send the order in with your child or drop off in the box outside the main entrance between 8:00-4:00.

**Kindergarten Registration for Fall 2021 is Open-** Registration Forms and further information can be found [here](#). The District will be holding an optional Kindergarten Camp at the elementary schools in July. Information and the registration form can be found [here](#).

**Textile Bin** - Ever wonder what the black collection bin is for next to the building in the South lot? It is for the district's year-round textile drive. Support your school, your community, and your environment. The Textile Drive a great way for you to get rid of old clothing and other items. Please drop off bagged textiles (clothing, shoes, handbags, hats, blankets, linens, towels, stuffed animals, etc.). Stained and ripped items are OK for donation. If the bin is full, please don't leave items on the ground outside the bin. The bin is emptied once per week so come back when you see it has room.

**Lost and Found** - Please ask your child to check the Lost and Found table by the

## \*Dates to Remember \*

**May 31 - Schools & Offices  
Closed/Memorial Day**

**June 11 - Field Day**

**June 14 -Flag Day Ceremony**

**June 16 & 17-Early Dismissal  
12:45**

**June 17 - Last Day of School!**

Main Office, if you are missing any items. All uncollected items will be donated at the end of each month.

TOLL GATE GRAMMAR SCHOOL



**TMS Presents High School Musical Jr.** -Several TG Alumni have roles in the TMS production of Disney's High School Musical Jr. which comes to life in video form this weekend. There will be six streaming performances on 5/27, 5/28 at 7 PM, and 5/29, 5/30 at 3 & 7 PM. TIX available at [showtix4u.com](http://showtix4u.com). We hope you'll tune in.

**Lost and Found** - If parents would like to check our Lost and Found for items that have disappeared over the past few months we are relocating the Lost and Found to our front hallway. Parents may access it by ringing the doorbell. Unclaimed items will be donated to charity at the end of the school year.

**Pollinator Garden** - Ms. Muzzy (our wonderful STEM Teacher) has been hard at work for the past few weeks planning, fundraising, educating our students, designing, and finally building and planting our new pollinator garden. In addition special thanks to Ms. Kampe and the Green Team for all their time and hard work both on the school grounds and with the garden installation. Because of these efforts along with Mrs. White (our wonderful Media Specialist) our students learned about the plants they planted, their purpose in the garden, and what elements are needed for proper growth and development. They will continue to learn about the various species attracted by the pollinating plants and how these species are important to the continued food production in our area. Sincere thanks to Ms. Muzzy and company. Click [here](#) for more detailed information.

**Parent Reminder** - Please return all **cases** and chargers with their chromebooks. We are experiencing a shortage of chargers. Your assistance is most appreciated.

**TG Outdoor Movie Night** - We had a great turnout and the event was very successful. Thanks to our PTO for organizing such a fun event.

**Kindergarten Registration** - continues for future Toll Gators who will be 5 years old on or before Oct.1, 2021. Registration forms are [here](#). In addition the District will be holding an optional Kindergarten Camp at each Elementary school in July. More information and registration form can be found [here](#).

**TGWHYYOUMATTER Campaign** -The #TGWHYYOUMATTER campaign aligns with our school theme, our commitment to an inclusive community and building meaningful and lasting relationships in this new year. The basic premise of this project is a simple question: "Why do you matter?". We want students to look inside and find their purpose and to really examine their positive attributes, the characteristics that make them unique, and the reason why the world is a better place because they are in it.

**Pomptonian Food Service** - A reminder that lunches are being provided free of charge to all students. See the flyer posted [here](#) for more information.

## \* Dates to Remember \*

**May 31 - Schools/Offices closed - Memorial Day**

**June 15 - Gr. 5 Promotion Picnic/Ceremony**

**June 16 - 12:45pm - Early Dismissal**

**June 17 - 12:30pm - Grade 5 Clap-out. Last Day of School**

# COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES & EVENTS

**NEW! Hopewell Valley Come Outside & Play!** is June 10-12. SAVE THE DATES! This Hopewell Valley community-wide event was established to increase awareness of nature and an appreciation of time spent outdoors in Hopewell Valley. A full list of activities will be posted [here](#) shortly! If you would like to receive a copy of the activities newsletter as soon as it's released, please click [here](#).

**Weekly Parent Program: Empowering (You)th** is being offered every Thursday (via Zoom) from 12:00PM-1:00 PM by the Prevention Coalition of Mercer County. Topics vary weekly. For May program information and to register see their Thursday event calendar [here](#). For recordings of previous programs click [here](#).

**New!** Join Kids-N-Hope Foundation and Riders for a Cause at our 1200 Spokes for Hope Tour Bike-A-Thon! This local event will take place from Sunday, August 15, 2021 through Sunday, August 22, 2021. Details are available by [clicking here](#).

**New! Safety Town needs student volunteers!** Safety Town is a one-week summer program (June 28-July 2) for rising Hopewell Valley School District kindergartners and first graders offered through the HV YMCA. If your student is 14 years or older and would like to volunteer during this program, have them sign up [here](#).

**Hopewell Township Recreation Department** Spring Sockeye® registration for grades 1-5 is open! Weekly themes have just been announced for "Rec Camp in the Park" grades 1-6. Information on these programs, summer camps, spring programs, clinics and trips for children and adults can be viewed [here](#). To join their email list, click [here](#).

**New! Pennington Public Library** In partnership with [Hopewell Valley Heritage Week](#) (May 22-31, 2021), Pennington Public Library presents a Community Story Scavenger Hunt. Click [here](#) for more details. Other library programs and events can be viewed [here](#).

**Hopewell Valley Single Parenting Together** is a newly formed parent group where people can find the support they need through the power of connection. To learn more click [here](#).

**New! Hopewell Valley YMCA** Announcing a new Summer Extended Care program for ESY and Gen Ed families attending summer school. For more information click [here](#). Summer Camp registration is still open! Click [here](#) for details.

**Local non-profit #NotOnMyWatch** is offering free women's self defense classes for women and teenage girls every Wednesday evening at 6PM through their "Stand Up" program. For more information on this -- including registration -- and other programs offered to our community, click [here](#).

**Mercer County Park Commission** in-person programs for families and students of all ages. The current month's activities can be viewed [here](#).

**Hopewell Branch - Mercer County Library System** programs and events can be viewed [here](#).

**Hopewell Valley Mobile Food Pantry** To register to receive assistance click [here](#). To donate food items click [here](#). Please see the [flyer](#) on how you can help the pantry.

**The Chubby's Project** has a website! They deliver nutritious meals and weekly groceries to neighbors in need. If you or someone you know needs assistance or you would like to donate contact Liz at [foundation@auntchubbys.com](mailto:foundation@auntchubbys.com). For more information visit their new website: [www.thechubbysproject.org](http://www.thechubbysproject.org)

