



Dr. Kevin M. Hurley

Middle School

650 Newman Avenue

Seekonk, MA 02771

(508) 761-7570



ALEXIS BOUCHARD

Principal

DEREK TEXEIRA

Assistant Principal

October 23, 2026

Dear HMS Families,

Tonight is the **Halloween Dance** that will take place in the gymnasium from 6:00-8:00 PM. Students are encouraged to come in **costumes** as there will be a contest that evening. **It is a \$10.00 admission and payment is to be made using the online UniPay system.**

Students are to be dropped off at 6:00 PM at the back Tower Lobby. Pick-up at 8:00 PM will take place in the front of school. Parents please follow the 2:30 PM pick-up traffic route around the school so you pull up curbside in the front school. Candy and treats will be available for purchase that evening as well. **Inflatable costumes, full head/face masks, and any prop that resembles a weapon is not allowed.**

Friday, October 30th is our **Pink Out Day** in support of Breast Cancer Awareness month. Students and staff are encouraged to wear pink in support of Breast Cancer Awareness month! Donations will be collected during the lunches and students will receive a pink ribbon to honor someone they know impacted by cancer. All proceeds will be donated to the Dana Farber Cancer Institute.

8th Grade Families: A message from Seekonk High School Principal Dr. Whalen: On October 29th at 6 PM Seekonk High School will host 8th Grade Family Night for students and their parents/guardians. The event will include an informational presentation about SHS academic and extracurricular activities, as well as an activities fair, and self-guided building tours. The event will begin promptly at 6 PM. **BLUE TEAM families should report to the AUDITORIUM by 6 PM! ORANGE TEAM families should report to the GYMNASIUM by 6 PM!**

This week, I met with grade level ELA, math, science, and civics teachers for in-depth data meetings to analyze results from the spring 2026 MCAS assessments and LinkIt Form A (math and ELA). Teachers did an outstanding job diving into the trends to inform their instructional planning and targeted support for students. Together, we celebrated key growth areas, identified target goals, and outlined action plans to tailor our curriculum to best meet the needs of our students.

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Yesterday all faculty and staff participated in a School Safety professional development session facilitated by SRO Alicia Kelly. Officer Kelly provided staff with an overview of the I Love You Guys Standard Response Protocol, Alice Protocol, calling 911, Stop The Bleed and tourniquets and juvenile law as it applies to your role in the school. I would like to thank SRO Kelly for yesterday's presentation and her partnership with the schools in keeping us safe on a daily basis!

Sincerely,

Ms. Bouchard, Principal

8th Grade Family Night

Seekonk Public Schools

Future SHS Warriors & families welcome!

Hear all about what Seekonk High School has to offer!

October 29th
6:00 – 8:00 PM

Seekonk High School Auditorium

What to Expect:

- ✓ Meet Our Team
- ✓ Academic Insight
- ✓ Programs Offered
- ✓ Extracurriculars Available
- ✓ Question & Answer

Follow us on Instagram @SeekonkHigh

Our Website www.seekonkschools.org

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Thanksgiving Basket Program:

Sharing Hope and Harvest with Those in Need

The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish in Seekonk, MA is available to help the community. Their mission is to help people in need. They are all volunteers and funded 100% by donations. Although they are a Catholic group, they help people in need without regard to any religious affiliation.

Currently, they are organizing Thanksgiving baskets for families in need, to help with the stress and costs of providing a Thanksgiving meal for their family. They do not require names and addresses, only the number of baskets needed and the number of members per family per school. We at the school will have the names in order to distribute the x

If you are in need and would like a Thanksgiving basket to help your family, please write the last name and # of family members.

This form is due by November 5th

Click on this link to register and receive [Thanksgiving Support](#)

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8th Grade News:

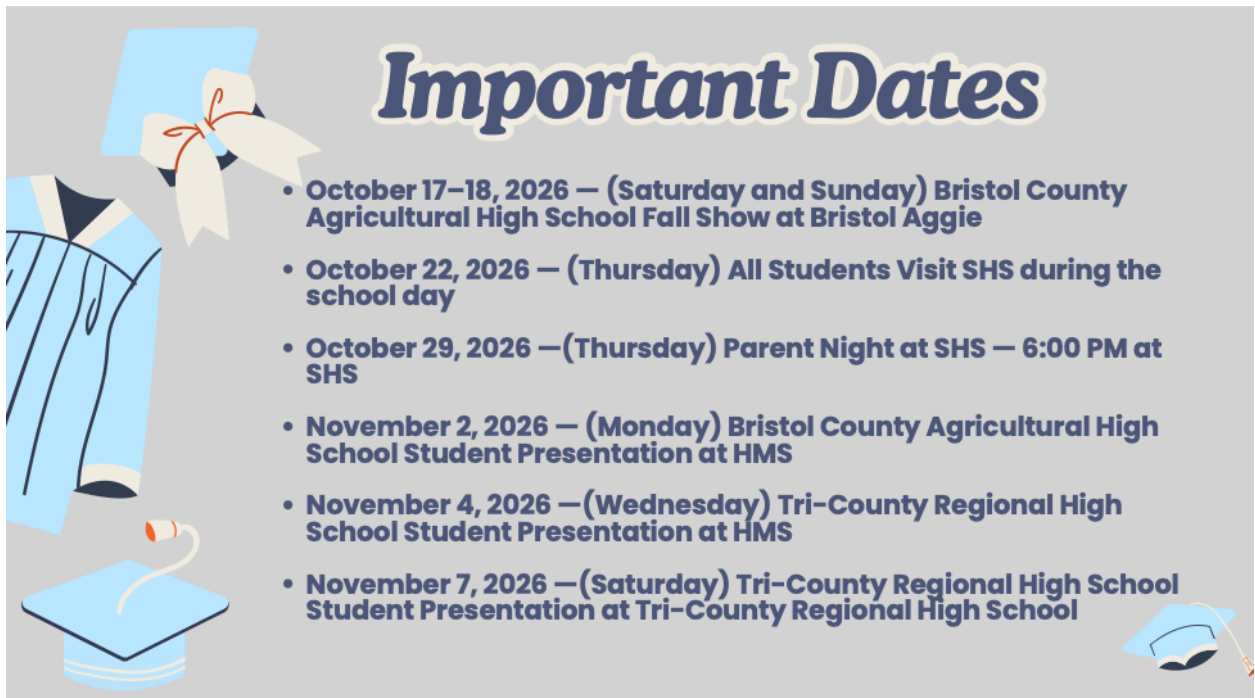
High School Information Sessions for 8th Grade Students

A representative from **Bristol Agricultural High School (Bristol Aggie)** will visit HMS on **Monday, November 2nd**, to meet with 8th-grade students who are interested in learning more about the school.

A representative from **Tri-County Regional Vocational Technical High School** will visit HMS on **Wednesday, November 4th**, to meet with 8th-grade students who are interested in learning more about Tri-County. Families who would like to learn more about the programs and opportunities Tri-County offers are encouraged to attend its **Open House on Saturday, November 7th**.

Registration is required for students who wish to attend either informational session at HMS. Mrs. Lehane has shared the registration link with students.

We encourage all interested students to take advantage of these opportunities to explore their high school options!



Important Dates

- **October 17–18, 2026 — (Saturday and Sunday) Bristol County Agricultural High School Fall Show at Bristol Aggie**
- **October 22, 2026 — (Thursday) All Students Visit SHS during the school day**
- **October 29, 2026 — (Thursday) Parent Night at SHS — 6:00 PM at SHS**
- **November 2, 2026 — (Monday) Bristol County Agricultural High School Student Presentation at HMS**
- **November 4, 2026 — (Wednesday) Tri-County Regional High School Student Presentation at HMS**
- **November 7, 2026 — (Saturday) Tri-County Regional High School Student Presentation at Tri-County Regional High School**

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This week, our 8th-grade students had the opportunity to tour SHS and get a firsthand look at the school, its programs, and what it has to offer. The visit was a great way for students to begin exploring their high school options and envision their next steps. We encourage all 8th-grade students and their families to attend **Family Night on October 29th** for another opportunity to learn more about SHS and ask questions as they prepare for the transition to high school!

TRI-COUNTY REGIONAL VOCATIONAL
TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL
OPEN HOUSE
SATURDAY NOVEMBER 7, 2026
10AM - 2PM
DISCOVER YOUR FUTURE!

JOIN US TO LEARN MORE ABOUT TRI-COUNTY, A
PUBLIC SCHOOL WHERE STUDENTS ENGAGE IN
CHALLENGING ACADEMICS WHILE RECEIVING HIGH-
LEVEL VOCATIONAL TRAINING!



MUST REGISTER TO ATTEND!
SCAN QR CODE OR VISIT:

[HTTPS://TINYURL.COM/Y8C5VDZ5](https://tinyurl.com/Y8C5VDZ5)



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Calling All Trick or Treaters!
Pre Register Today for The
5th Annual Aitken/Martin



Trunk or Treat

Pre Register by
Scanning the QR
Code

Sunday October 25 3-5 PM
Seekonk HS Parking Lot

Enter on Ledge Road
Park Near Football Field

2nd Entrance on Arcade Ave
Overflow parking if needed

FREE EVENT for Seekonk Students and Families

**Donations to Doorways will receive raffle ticket for Rocky
Silva's Karate Basket valued at \$250!**

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HARLEY

SCHOOL SPIRIT SHIRT



**\$25 CASH OR
USE QR CODE**



Seekonk Police Departments K-9 unit relies on community donations, local fundraisers, and public support for a large portion of its operating costs including purchasing the dogs, specialized handler training, veterinary care, food, and protective gear.

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Doorways Food Drive

Help the HMS Student Council celebrate the season of thankfulness by participating in the school's annual food drive!

How can I help?

To assist families in need, Doorways Food Pantry is looking for the following non-expired items:

- Canned Baked Beans
- Canned Beef Stew
- Cereal & Oatmeal
- Canned Progresso Beef Soup or Chowders
- Rice-a-Roni Products
- Canned Potatoes and Beets
- Pancake Mix
- Canned Fruit (Fruit Cocktail, Peaches, Pears, Pineapple, Etc.)
- Chef Boyardee Spaghetti & Meatballs or Ravioli
- Bake Mixes (Cake, Muffins, Cookies, Breads, Cupcakes, Etc.)
- Snacks (Crackers, Cookies, Jell-O's, Chips, Granola Bars, Etc.)

When can I donate food?

Food items will be accepted **Monday, November 2 – Friday, November 13!**

Where do the donations go?

All donated food items will be delivered to Doorways Food Pantry, where they will be distributed to families in the greater Seekonk area!



8th Grade Orange Team

Civics - Mr. Synan

The Articles of Confederation fell short of fulfilling the promises of the Declaration of Independence, including protecting Americans' rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. These shortcomings led the Founding Fathers to replace them with the Constitution. This week, Civics students learned about the weaknesses of the Articles and the challenges, compromises, and decisions involved in writing the Constitution. In addition to studying the Great Compromise, Federalism, and the Bill of Rights, students learned that the United States Constitution is the oldest written national constitution still in use today.

If you missed the conversation starters in this week's ParentSquare message, they are below.

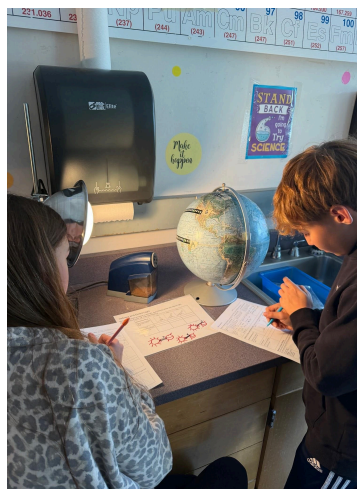
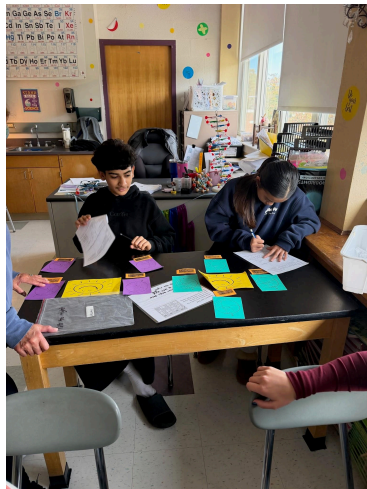
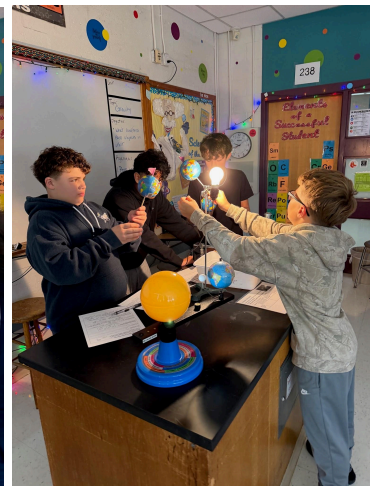
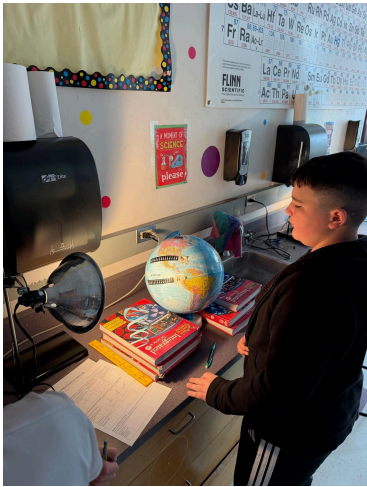
1. What role did Rhode Island play in the Constitutional Convention?
2. What was the disagreement between the large and small states?
3. Do you think the Great Compromise was the right decision? Why or why not?

Science - Mrs. Dieringer

Before getting into seasons last week, students were posed with questions as to how some places on Earth can experience 24 hours of daylight for months, though remain extremely cold, whereas places that only experience 13 hours of daylight remain very warm. This allowed us to understand the difference between *direct* and *indirect* light and how it affects temperature. Students were able to apply their knowledge and life experiences of different seasons in where we live, in order to determine that Earth's *tilt* and location in orbit around the Sun are the main contributing factors that cause the seasons. Students completed hands-on modeling and visualization activities, as well as a computer simulation in order to solidify and expand their understandings.

We ended the week analyzing data from a mystery location in the world. Based on the daylight hours and average temperatures, students needed to identify where Mrs. Dieringer was hiding (much like the game "Where in the world is Carmen Sandiego?"). Students used their knowledge acquired in the Seasons Unit to write a solid claim, evidence, and reasoning. Students did a great job working as a group and sharing their information. Many students picked the correct location.

The students will take a unit test on Monday. Study guides and kahoots are available to assist in studying. Next week we start our new unit on Matter and Weather.



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ELA - Mrs. Johnson

Essential Questions: How can one person's heroic struggles create change in their community?

How can learning about other cultures develop self-awareness?

We began reading *Amal Unbound* by Aisha Saeed. Students are questioning and discussing the traditions of Pakistani culture. The main character, Amal, loves school yet is unable to attend since she is the eldest child in her family. She must remain at home, caring for her younger sisters and newborn, and take over household chores while her mother recovers from childbirth. Her close and thoughtful friend, Omar, brings her books of poetry since the boys' school has a superior library. Though, Amal's dreams of becoming a teacher seem more distant and unattainable the longer she is absent from school.

Students completed a character analysis of the characters introduced thus far. They evaluated the characters' inner thoughts, actions, speech, and how their actions affect others. Citing textual evidence, they explained the character traits, the conflicts they experience, and how the resolution of those conflicts influences the plot.



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In one of our sixth grade English classes, we read Ray Bradbury's "All Summer In a Day" and the students were asked to respond to the following prompts: Rewrite the ending of the story from the point of view of one of the other children who locked Margot in the closet. Who are you and what happened? Why didn't you stick up for Margot?

OR

Rewrite the story from Margot's perspective! You are Margot! Why are you so frail? Why don't you want to be on Venus? How excited are you to see the sun and prove to the kids that you know what you are talking about? Please enjoy a few of our responses!

Elena Amaral

One rainy day on Venus, I am in a school with mean two-faced kids in my school the worst of all William! He is the worst! He pushes me and talks bad about me. I wish I could speak up but all I know is I'm just a quiet lonely girl.

One rainy day in the school, we are learning about the sun as the rain started to slow down a little. But now was the time to read poems. Kids after kids read their poems then it was my turn.

"Margot," called the teacher, "your turn" "ok" I called out...

This is my poem "I think the sun is a flower. That blooms for just one hour"

"That's not right," called out William, "The sun does not feel like that hahaha!" as he pushed me "(I know that because I was four years old when I saw the sun and the rest where two)

That is the sun as I thought back then...

"Look" one of the kids called out "the rain is slowing down..."

As everyone ran to the window I said in my seat "Hey Margot," William said "I still don't believe in your poem" and I didn't listen but you must be wondering why I am so frail. Well, I missed the sun and I was so weak and sad and pale without the sun.

"Hey Quirky! You listening? How do you know the sun is like that??"

"I - I," before I can speak. I get called out. "Well, we know she is a weak girl. Wait, I know what we can do: put her in a closet!!!" "No!!! Please," I cry but it was too late...

I cried for one hour. It was so unfair! Missing the sun was the worst part. I had no friends to help me. I remember I will have to wait 7 years for it to happen again. As the closet door opens up....

Nalieah DosSantos

Rewrite the ending of the story from the point of view of one of the other children who locked Margot in the closet. Who are you and what happened? Why didn't you stick up for Margot?

William was a person who used to get bullied by this kid named Jack. Jack bullied him his whole life. He talked about his clothes, shoes, even about how his hair looked. Everyone was scared of him. They did everything he needed. They never disobeyed him.

One day William got sick of him so he finally stuck up to him and said, "Hey I don't like how you are treating me! That's not nice!" and he started laughing at William and William started crying and that's the day William was embarrassed of himself. So that's how he became a bully.

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He thought about it his whole life, of how he was humiliated. So as William thought about it every single day, he thought that he could do it himself. So this new girl named Margot came in and she introduced herself and started telling the stories about how she lived on Earth and she saw the sun, even though it has not been sunny in 7 years. It's been raining there his whole life so he thought that she was lying. William thought that he could pick on her and name called her. He pushed her into the locker and said that she was a liar. That's how William became a bully.

Edward Kosowski Hogan

Hi, I'm in the same class as Margot. I come from Jupiter. I came to Venus because the red storm was getting too close. But anyway, I was there when William bullied Margot. It honestly was kinda sad because she was talking about the sun which no one has seen before, and if they had they'd have to be 2 years old. And it sucks that I couldn't help Margot out of the closet, I just really wanted to see the sun. And I felt even worse when I saw her condition when we came back inside and opened the closet. But the sun was really fun though, not gonna lie.

And Margot, sorry I didn't help you out of the closet, but I did believe you because back when I was going from Jupiter to Venus I really did see the sun. It was like a big ball of fire in space. Like a star but way larger. And that's why I BELIEVED Margot, is because I saw the Sun. And the color isn't really yellow or gold for the whole thing. It's like a yellow outline with a bright white center. And I chose not to say anything because my excitement for seeing the sun again overrode my sorrow for Margot.

Naziah DosSantos

Rewrite the story from Margot's perspective! You are Margot! Why are you so frail? Why don't you want to be on Venus? How excited are you to see the sun and prove to the kids that you know what you are talking about?

I hate this planet, it rains every single day! The rain never stops. I haven't seen the sun since I was four. If the other kids have seen it, they were too little to remember. But I actually saw the sun, with my own two eyes. I tried to tell the other kids, but they didn't believe me. They just think I'm some weirdo that thinks things, but I actually saw this on Earth. And I try to tell them that the sun is yellow like gold or it's yellow like the Crayon. But nobody believes me. I told William that the Sun comes out every 7 years. They just think I'm crazy. They don't believe me like I believe myself.

I'm always quiet because nobody likes to talk to me. I have no friends. I'm not in really good health right now but one exciting thing is that I get to go to the real world in a year. I was really excited to leave Venus but the other kids weren't because they thought I was bragging or spoiled. It did cost a lot of money for me to go back to Earth but I was excited. I need this for me and I want to get better.

But one day it was not a very good day because it just felt like a normal day. I thought nothing, that was until William and the other kids locked me in a closet. They were happy! They were excited that they didn't have to deal with me anymore. I started screaming, banging , and

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crying. I put all the force to try to open the closet door I thought I had no hope left I heard the teacher come.

The teacher said, “ Is everybody here?” At least that's what I thought I heard.

All the kids said,“Yes” but the teacher didn't count or say the names to see if everybody was there. I gave up. I heard the kids and the teacher leave so I thought I was out of luck. It felt like hours and hours went by . Then I had no energy to bang, scream, and to cry. I think the teachers forgot about me. Nobody came back. I passed out. I didn't have good health so I passed out from screaming, banging, and crying. I was tired so I fainted but while I was fainted I heard something but I didn't know what it was. I think it was somebody coming to save me. At least that's what I thought.

VISION OF SUCCESS



RESILIENCE



**CRITICAL
THINKING**



EMPATHY



COLLABORATION



SELF MANAGEMENT



INNOVATION

SEEKONK PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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