



Knightly News



Hollis Brookline Middle School

August 2004

A Message from Administration



This abbreviated *Knightly News* is written to supply you with basic information to assist your child's transition back to school this fall.

First, I'd like to begin by **thanking parents** for their cooperation and understanding of the team placement process. Placement decisions are carefully made to ensure that all teams are equally balanced. At this point in our scheduling process, team changes cannot be honored.

Again this year we have chosen to reprint in this mailing our **Dress Code**. Although there are no changes we felt it would be advantageous for you to review with your child prior to the opening of school.

Please welcome the following **new staff members** to the Hollis Brookline Middle School:

- ✓ Mr. Rick Melillo, Guidance
- ✓ Mrs. Nancy Spencer, Music
- ✓ Ms. Janice Ellerin, Math/Science
- ✓ Mrs. Lauren Corliss, English
- ✓ Mrs. Jean Filer, Secretary
- ✓ Ms. Jeanne Hayes, Coordinator of Special Education (COOP)

Welcome back Mrs. Karen Coutu, Team 2 Case Manager!

In addition, the following paraprofessionals will be supporting students:

- ✓ Mr. Chris Cieto
- ✓ Mrs. Judith VanSicklen
- ✓ Mrs. Cheryl Ulm
- ✓ Mrs. Carol Hamilton

We have full confidence their skills will serve to enhance our educational program.

The Best Schools Leadership Initiative completed its third year of work with the implementation of a school-wide advisory program, **ROCK**. **ROCK** is the acronym of our skill-based program; **R**eading, **O**rganization, **C**ommunication and **K**nowledge. We have made slight adjustments to our advisory based on student and staff input. Students will continue to begin their first 20 minutes of each day in groups of 10-11 students with one adult. Feedback has been positive.

Again this year **Mr. Dean Jahns** will assume responsibility for the **HBMS website** (www.hbms.k12.nh.us). The *Knightly News* is routinely posted as well as daily announcements students receive, reminders of upcoming events and much more. We hope you will access our site routinely.

Calendar Of Events

- August 25th—New Student Orientation (10-11:30 AM)
- September 1st—6th Day of School—7th Grade
- September 2nd—ALL STUDENTS Sports Tryouts (see article on page 2)
- September 6th—No School—Labor Day
- September 9th—Volunteer Orientation, 9:00—11:00 AM, Library
- September 14th—No School—Teacher Workshop Day
- September 20th—Open House—Grade 7—6:45 PM
- September 22nd—Fundraiser Kick-Off
- September 22nd—Open House—Grade 8—6:45 PM
- September 23rd—School Pictures
- October 11th—No School—Columbus Day
- December 15th—Generations Parent/Student Workshop Day-Grade 8

The **HBMS Building Committee** has met each Thursday during the summer. Although not totally observable at this time, considerable planning, preparation and site work has been completed. Of particular note, we will continue to have two routes of exit, in front of and behind the school, both reaching Love Lane. During the morning arrival (7:00-7:20) and afternoon dismissal (2:05-2:20) parents (and driving siblings) are directed behind the school. The car pool lane will continue to be at the north side of the main building.

September 1 is our first day of school. We are enthusiastic about greeting only seventh grade students on Wednesday, September 1. (Thursday, September 2 is the first day for eighth grade students.) Several teachers participated in a planning session to create a special orientation for incoming seventh graders. We expect the day will reduce anxiety and increase knowledge of our school and ultimately student confidence.

We anticipate that there will be many announcements to share as our expansion project progresses. Please pay particular attention to the *Knightly News*, notices distributed from school via your child and our website. We will use all means to communicate important information and adjustments to our routines.

Please read carefully the **Calendar of Events**. This fall will be extremely busy. We hope that early notification will ensure your participation. You are an important member of our educational community. We look forward to your input as we move forward.

Sincerely,
Patricia Lewis Goyette, Principal