



HILLSBOROUGH MIDDLE SCHOOL

A National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence

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Principal

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August 24, 2020

Dear HMS Students/Parents:

We are in the final stage of preparations to launch the 2020-21 school year, and there is still much to do. This will be a year like no other in every way imaginable. We will have lots more information to share in the coming days, but for now, I want to update you on our schedule for the start of school and the month of September.

Individual student schedules should be visible in Genesis on or about August 31st. September 1, 2 and 3 will be district-wide staff in-service professional days as we prepare for opening day. Students should look for emails from their teachers on September 3rd providing links to Google meets that will allow them to connect virtually with their classes on the first day of school - Friday, September 4th.

As noted in earlier communications from Dr. Antunes, all Hillsborough schools will be operating under remote or virtual learning conditions from September 4th - 25th. Our first day of school, Friday, September 4th, will be virtual/remote learning for all students following the schedule below in which all classes will meet for abbreviated 25 minute periods:

HMS - All Students Virtual-Day Bell Schedule - FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2020

	Time	Minutes
HR	8:30 - 8:35	5
1	8:35 - 9:00	25
2	9:05 - 9:30	25
3	9:35 - 10:00	25
4	10:05 - 10:30	25
5	10:35 - 11:00	25
6	11:05 - 11:30	25
7	11:35 - Noon	25
8	12:05 - 12:30	25
9	12:35 - 1:00	25

As we go forward after Labor Day, HMS will follow the bell schedules as described in the ‘hybrid’ model although we will not be bringing students into school for in-person instruction as part of either the red or gold cohorts until September 29th.

Our schedule has been reimagined based on feedback from students, parents, and teachers last spring to better accommodate the experience and needs of students at the middle and high school levels while learning and working remotely. We have intentionally divided the class rotation schedule into A and B days to allow teachers and students to focus on fewer subjects per day and have more time in which to engage with topics via on-line resources as well as through Google Meet or other video conferencing and collaboration tools.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
A-Day	B-Day	All Classes Day	A-Day	B-Day

HMS - A/B-Day Bell Schedule

(Typically Mon-Tuesday & Thurs-Friday)

A-day	B-day	Time	Minutes
HR	HR	8:30 - 8:40	10
1	6	8:45 - 9:30	45
2	7	9:35 - 10:20	45
3	8	10:25 - 11:10	45
4	9	11:15 - Noon	45
5*	5*	12:05 - 12:30	25

*Note that period 5 is split over both A and B days to accommodate all 9 instructional periods as well as to facilitate distribution of take-home meals that can be delivered to the period 5 classes for those who wish to order/receive take-home meals once in-person instruction resumes on September 29.

HMS - All Classes Day Bell Schedule

(Typically Wednesday)

	Time	Minutes
HR	8:30 - 8:35	5
1	8:35 - 9:00	25
2	9:05 - 9:30	25
3	9:35 - 10:00	25
4	10:05 - 10:30	25
5	10:35 - 11:00	25
6	11:05 - 11:30	25
7	11:35 - Noon	25
8	12:05 - 12:30	25
9	12:35 - 1:00	25

Students and teachers will follow the specific class schedule for the day to accommodate synchronous instruction using Google Meet or chats in addition to accessing online instructional resources as posted in their Google Classrooms.

NOTE: Although the “scheduled” instructional components of each day as shown in the diagrams above conclude around 12:30 on A/B days or 1:00 pm on the all-classes Wednesdays, the expectation is that **students will continue with their independent work on specific assignments during the afternoon until 3:00 p.m.** Students should expect to have work to be done outside of class that will include reading assignments, research & writing tasks, practice problems, projects, and group collaborative work.

The afternoon is flexible for teachers to follow-up with individual students or groups of students working from home who may have additional questions or needs that day via email, chats, or Google Meets, as well as to be available to conference with parents or colleagues.

The rotation of classes for the month of September is shown below. Notice that for weeks that include only four school days due to a scheduled holiday (such as Labor Day), the “all-classes day” schedule on Wednesdays will be dropped to allow us to complete full A/B cycles in that week. The schedule for the entire first marking period will be shared in a future message and posted to the HMS website soon.

September

October 2015						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30	31	1 Teacher Inservice Day	2 Teacher Inservice Day	3 Teacher Inservice Day	4 All Classes Day	5
6	7 Labor Day No-School	8 A-day	9 B-day	10 A-day	11 B-day	12
13	14 A-day	15 B-day	16 All Classes Day	17 A-day	18 B-day	19
20	21 A-day	22 B-day	23 All Classes Day	24 A-day	25 B-day	26
27	28 No-School	29 A-day	30 B-day	1	2	3

I hope this preliminary information is helpful. I will have many more details to share via School Messenger and posted to the HMS website (www.hms.htps.us) in the days ahead.

Sincerely,

Joseph Trybulski, Ed.D.
Principal