

T-Bird Times

April 25, 2025



Calendar

April:

28 - 8th grade iReady testing Math

29 - 7th grade iReady testing Math

May:

1 - 7th grade iReady testing (Math)

1 - Track Meet @ HOME vs PSMS - 3:25 pm

5 - Track Meet @ HOME vs LMS - 3:25 pm

5 - Orchestra Rehearsal - 6:00 pm

5 - Northwest Area Percussion show case (6th, 7th & 8th) @ BVNW 7:00 pm

5 - 6th grade Stax of Wax Choir performance - 7:30 pm
6 - Career Day - 8:00 am
7 - 6th grade Band Rehearsal - 3:00 pm
7 - Track Meet @ OTMS - 3:25 pm
8 - Husky Showcase School Day @ BVNW - 9:00 am
8 - 8th grade Community Service field trip - 9:00 am
8 - 6th grade Band Festival @ OMS - 10:00 am
9 - 5th grade visit - 9:50
10 - Orchestra Worlds of Fun Trip
12 - 7th grade after school rehearsal - 3:00 pm
13 - 8th grade Theater/Choir Elementary Tour - 1:00 pm
13 - 25/26 Cheer Meeting (Rm 135)- 3:00 pm
13 - Spring Band Concert (6th, 7th & 8th) - 7:00 pm
14 - 8th grade Track Meet (TBD)
15 - 7th grade Musical - 8:30 am
15 - MS/ES Spring Orchestra Concert @ HMS - 7:00 pm
16 - Band Main Event trip (7th & 8th)
16 - 8th grade Theater/Choir Elementary Tour - 9:00 am
19 - 8th grade musical - 1:00 pm
20 - Marching Band (8th graders only)
21 - 8th grade PTO lunch
21 - 8th grade class picture - 1:00 pm
21 - 8th grade formal ceremony rehearsal - 2:00 pm
22 - 8th grade formal ceremony - 8:00 am
22 - 8th grade trip to Dave and Busters - 9:45 am
22 - 8th grade Track procession - 1:30 pm
23 - Last Day of School - students will be released at 10:50 am

PRINCIPAL'S NOTE

HMS Families,

It was another busy full week of school in the spring! Students are working hard and have been focused during our diagnostic testing. We appreciate your help at home to help students get a good night's sleep and eat a good breakfast on these days. We still have iReady math testing coming up so please see below for dates and please continue to support us!

Below this note you will find the following information:

- Last Day Announced for 2024-25 School Year
- HMS Spring Testing Information
- Register for the 25-26 School Year
- Food and Nutrition Meal Payments
- Construction Update
- Attendance/Tardies
- Athletics/Activities

- HMS HONOR Code
- Carline Reminders
- Do you have a question or concern?
- Community Celebrations and Observances
- Proactive School Safety
- Harmony Middle School Handbook
- PTO News
- Student Services Update

As always, thank you for your support of HMS. I hope everyone has a wonderful weekend.

Sincerely,

Nate Winslow
Principal
Harmony Middle School

Last day Announced for 2024-25 School Year

With the fourth quarter underway, the district has determined the last day of the 2024-25 school year for students. Assuming no unforeseen circumstances cause us to cancel school, the last day for students at HMS will be May 23 with a dismissal time of 10:50 AM.

HMS Spring Testing Information

See the remaining testing schedule below to ensure that your TBird is present and ready to show what they know!

****Please make sure that your student charges their chromebook the night before testing****

iReady (aMath if Alg) (6-8th)- taken during math class period

These dates may change

6th grade- 4/28-5/1

7th grade- 5/6-5/12

8th grade- 4/28-5/1

Fastbridge- taken during ELA class period

These dates may change

7th grade- April 22nd

Register for the 25-26 School Year

[Middle school registration](#) for the 2025-26 school year is now open for current students. At this time, you can also pay all required fees except course fees, which will be assigned in September. Registration is required annually and is the time to update your child's information (phone, email, emergency contacts, health information, etc.). Beginning in 2025-26, all 6th and 9th graders will be required to provide proof of residency (a current purchase contract, lease or utility bill, within the attendance area for your address) as part of the transition to a new level .

Completing registration confirms your child's attendance in August and helps the district appropriately staff classrooms. Thank you for providing this important information as part of the registration process. For more registration information, visit www.bluevalleyk12.org/registration.

Food and Nutrition Meal Payments

Blue Valley's Food and Nutrition Services team has shared an important update regarding changes to meal payments.

Beginning May 1, ACH/e-check payments will no longer be accepted as our payment processing system offers limited support for this payment method. Any ACH or e-check recurring payments will be disabled after April 30.

Families still have multiple payment options:

- Cash or check— Your child can bring cash or a check to school. Please make checks payable to "BVFNS" and include your child's full name and student ID number on the memo line.
- Credit Card via LinqConnect — If you haven't already, visit <https://lingconnect.com/main> to set up an account and make payments via credit card. A \$3 transaction fee applies each time you use a credit card.

If you have questions, please contact studentnutrition@bluevalleyk12.org.

To ensure you continue receiving important Food and Nutrition Services updates, please add noreply@lingconnect.com and noreply@titank12.com to your email contacts to prevent messages from going to your junk or spam folder.

Construction Update

We have our precast cement walls up! Also, plumbing for the restroom inside the new gym was connected over spring break as well. It is very cool to see how quickly it went from a dirt hill to looking like an addition to our school.

Attendance/Tardies

Students should be in the building by 7:45am, as classes start at 7:51am.

If your student is running late, we will always work with you, you just need to communicate with us each day that they are late. As indicated in our handbook and website, **make sure to let us know that your student is arriving late before 8:10am or it will be unexcused/marked as an absence.**

Students are allowed three (3) tardies each quarter and on the fourth tardy, will receive a lunch detention. Teachers will use the same tardy policy for class periods two-nine. This is a BV district policy.

There are several ways to communicate with us to make it easy to report an absence or late arrival:

*Call our office (913) 239-5200

*Send an email to our office attendance account- AttendanceHMS@bluevalleyk12.org

*Use the ParentVue app/website (click 'Report an Absence')

Athletics/Activities

PR's have been met and races have been won! Come out and support our TBird Track Stars 🏃🏃🏃🏃

Check out next week's events:

May 1 @ HOME- 3:25pm

HMS HONOR Code



Harmony Middle School

A Community of Honorable Thunderbirds

	H Honesty	O Optimistic	N Neighborhoodly	O Ownership	R Respectful & Responsible
Passing Periods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report behaviors that are not honorable 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Speak kindly and positively to and with others 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Treat others with care and kindness If something does not belong to you, please let it be 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Be on time and prepared Get to your class using the most direct route. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keep hands and feet to yourself Use an inside voices Walk to class
Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Make positive choices inside and outside of the classroom Complete your own work Be ethical with computer programs Follow personal device policy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Model ways that are safe, legal, and ethical Communicate positively 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Be mindful of what you say Treat others with care and kindness, in person and online Use headphones when around others at an appropriate volume 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use device when prompted Being engaged in classroom learning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keep track of device, charger, and case by labeling items with name (first and last) Chromebook should be charged Handle your chromebook with care
Before/After School & Assemblies/Events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stay in assigned areas Get permission to go to library and/or breakfast Sit with your assigned group (assemblies/shows) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Show compassion to others, especially visiting teams and spectators Speak positively about yourself and others Accept and celebrate growth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Be inclusive of others Communicate positively 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follow adult directions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use appropriate volume while walking the hallways Keep hands & feet to yourself Contribute positively to school community Positively support the activity
Cafeteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eat only my food Only purchase what you will consume/use 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Taking pride in ourselves and school (Clean up after yourself) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Be inclusive of others Clean your table/floor with cleaning tools 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stay seated while eating Ask for adult permission to leave the table 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use appropriate volume Treating others with care and kindness Leave the area better than you found it Wait patiently in line
Classrooms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete your own original work Take accountability for your actions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain positive attitude Encourage yourself and others Practice a 'growth mindset' 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advocate for needs of ourselves and others Accept and celebrate differences Leave learning areas ready for the next class 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Be on time for class Actively listen and participate Give your best effort 100% of the time 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use appropriate volume Be on time and prepared for class with materials Follow rules and routines

Carline Reminders

Please remember to follow our carline rules at all times to ensure efficiency for all.

- Use the east entrance to the front circle. The west entrance is for buses only.
- Pull forward all the way before allowing your student to exit the car.
 - This is extremely important. Do not stop until you have pulled all the way up as far as you can in front of the school.
 - Please have your student exit the car quickly. One slow car can back up the entire carline.
- Pull to the left after your student exits your car. (this is extremely important to ensure traffic continues to flow)

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Do you have a question or concern? We want to help.

If you have a question or concerns, we want to help! Many times by starting at the building level, you will work with the person who is closest to the situation and will usually have the most information. If you feel further discussion is warranted, the following chart can be used as a guide for whom to call when questions arise on the most common topics.

ADDRESSING QUESTIONS & CONCERNS

Families and patrons should use the matrix below to address questions or concerns. Topics should be addressed beginning at Level 1. If the matter cannot be resolved, it is appropriate to move to the next level with the inquiry.



AREAS OF CONCERN	1 LEVEL 1	2 LEVEL 2	3 LEVEL 3	4 LEVEL 4	5 LEVEL 5	6 LEVEL 6
Academics, Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment	Teacher	Assistant Principal	Principal	Exec. Director Curriculum, Instruction & Innovation	Deputy Superintendent/ Superintendent	Board of Education
Activities & Athletics	Coach/Sponsor	Activities/ Athletic Director or Asst. Principal	Principal	Director of School Administration	Deputy Superintendent/ Superintendent	Board of Education
Discipline	Teacher	Assistant Principal	Principal	Executive Director of School Administration	Deputy Superintendent/ Superintendent	Board of Education
Facilities, Grounds & Maintenance	Assistant Principal	Principal	Coordinator Facilities & Operations	Director Facilities & Operations	Deputy Superintendent	Board of Education
Food Service	School Kitchen Manager	Principal	Coordinator Food & Nutrition Services	Director Food & Nutrition Services	Deputy Superintendent/ Superintendent	Board of Education
General Concerns	Teacher	Assistant Principal	Principal	District Level Directors	Deputy Superintendent/ Superintendent	Board of Education
SEL & Mental Health	Teacher	School Counselor, Social Worker or Psychologist	Principal	Exec. Director Curriculum, Instruction & Innovation	Deputy Superintendent	Board of Education
Special Education	Teacher	Assistant Principal	Principal	Assistant Superintendent Special Education	Superintendent	Board of Education
Transportation	Assistant Principal	Principal	Transportation Coordinator	Director Business Operations	Deputy Superintendent/ Superintendent	Board of Education

Community Observances and Celebrations



Community Celebrations and Observances - to promote awareness and appreciation of our Blue Valley families.

Some May Celebrations & Observances:

- Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) Heritage Month - recognizes the achievements and contributions of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders to American society, culture, and history.
 - Jewish American Heritage Month - celebrates the achievements and contributions of Jewish Americans to American society, culture, and history.
 - Mental Health Awareness Month - aims to raise awareness about mental health by fighting the stigma, providing support, and advocating for policies that support people affected by mental illness.
 - Vesak - May 12 - one of the most important Buddhist festivals celebrates the birth, enlightenment, and death of Gautama Buddha. A time of joy, peace, and reflection, some Buddhists will wear special white clothing, attend temple, and perform charitable acts.
 - Memorial Day - May 26 - a national day of remembrance to honor the more than one million military veterans who have died in service to the United States.
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Proactive School Safety

Proactive School Safety: How Blue Valley Addresses and Assesses Threats

At Blue Valley Schools, student safety is our top priority. Our approach to safety blends proactive prevention, fostering strong adult-student relationships and maintaining robust physical security measures. Central to our strategy is understanding and addressing potential threats.

What Constitutes a Threat?

A threat includes any expression of intent to harm, whether spoken or written. Identifying and responding to these expressions is crucial to the safety of our school community.

The Role of Threat Assessments

Blue Valley's comprehensive threat assessment process has two primary objectives:

- Preventing Violence: We work to intervene before potential threats escalate.
- Resolving Underlying Issues: By understanding the reasons behind a threat, we can resolve conflicts and provide necessary support.

Structured, Evidence-Based Approach

Blue Valley Schools follows the Comprehensive School Threat Assessment Guidelines (CSTAG), a nationally recognized, evidence-based program. This approach ensures that we not only prevent violence but also support individuals in need.

Since the fall of 2023, Blue Valley building leaders have been trained in and actively using this Threat Assessment approach. This consistent use of CSTAG has equipped leaders with a common vocabulary and protocol, enabling them to resolve situations more effectively when threats arise.

By staying committed to this structured and compassionate approach, Blue Valley Schools ensures that students and staff are supported, safe and able to focus on what truly matters—learning through extraordinary educational opportunities.

More information about Blue Valley's threat assessment process is available on the [district website](#).

Harmony Middle School Handbook

Please use this link to view the [HMS Student Handbook](#). This handbook will be available for students through our All School Canvas page and can be found at the beginning of the student planner.

PTO

Track Concessions

We need 3 - 4 parent volunteers to work at the outdoor track concession stand for each track meet held at HMS. Meet starts at 3:30 and we like to have the stand open 15 minutes prior so please arrive to set up at 3:00 PM. Track parents will be able to watch their student's events and races. Please contact Erin Albright at Erin.albright@hotmail.com if you have any questions.



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📅 signupgenius.com

Student Services Update

National Fentanyl Awareness

Tuesday, April 29 is National Fentanyl Awareness Day.

Fentanyl is involved in more deaths of Americans under 50 than any other cause, including heart disease, cancer, homicide, and suicide. Talk to your children about their mental health and the risks of encountering illicitly manufactured fentanyl.

Click the link below to download graphics and visuals, view speakers addressing the epidemic via free virtual webinars, browse a list of partners, and review the risk of potential scenarios in which fentanyl may be encountered.

[Learn More](#)





JOHNSON COUNTY
KANSAS
Mental Health

Parenting Skills Class

An nine-week class to make you a more confident, empowered parent



This class, created by parents and mental health professionals, is designed to empower caregivers to feel more confident in their parenting journey. Parenting can be a mix of joy, challenges, and exhaustion, and we're here to help. In this class, you'll gain practical skills and effective strategies to support your children and strengthen your family as a whole.

Are you navigating the complexities of parenting strong-willed children or children facing challenges such as:

- Managing screen time and behavioral outbursts
- Defiance or refusal to help with tasks at home
- Feeling disconnected from your child
- Screaming, profanity, or physical aggression
- Impulsive or unsafe behaviors
- Concerns about drug or alcohol use

Join us for a 9-week class to connect with fellow caregivers going through similar experiences and creating a safe space to learn ways to better connect with your child and become confident in areas like parent-child attachment, establishing expectations, parent burnout and self-care, managing crises, and much more.

Class Information:

In-Person Option

Sessions will be held **In-Person** on Mondays from 6 - 7:30 p.m. starting **June 2**

Virtual Option:

Sessions will be held on **Zoom** on Wednesdays from 12 - 1:30 p.m. starting **June 4**

For more information or to register, visit connect.jocogov.org/mental-health-training or scan the QR code below:



For more information or questions, please contact JCMHEvents@jocogov.org or 913-715-7880.

If you haven't seen the powerful Netflix show *Adolescence*, our mental health team recommends it. To read more about the show and lessons for parents, this article is a great resource!



Screenagers Blog | What Parents Can Learn from Netflix's Adolescence About Teens and Tech

Recently, the Netflix series Adolescence became one of the platform's most-watched limited series. It tells the fictional story of a 13-year-old boy whose descent into online misogyny and emotional isolation ends in tragedy. I've heard from many parents who watched it in one sitting - and others who said, "I can't bear to watch, but I want to understand what it's about."

🔗 screenagersmovie.com

DEI Rx Take Back

Save the Date: April 26 Is National Prescription Drug Take Back Day



Save the Date: April 26 Is National Prescription Drug Take Back Day

National Prescription Drug Take Back Day is just around the corner. On Saturday, April 26, 2025, individuals will have the opportunity to dispose of unused or expired prescription drugs at locations in communities throughout the country in a safe, convenient, and responsible way.

🔗 content.govdelivery.com

Harmony Middle School Family Resources:

Catholic Charities of Johnson County - Northeast Kansas

Address: 9806 W. 87th Street

Overland Park, Kansas 66212

Phone: 913-384-6608

Hours of operation: Monday - Thursday 9:00-4:00

Salvation Army in Olathe

Address: 420 E. Santa Fe Olathe, Kansas 66061

Phone: 913-782-3640

Hours of operation: Monday - Friday 9:00-12:00; 1:00-4:00

Village Church Food Pantry and Clothes Closet

Address: 9900 Mission Road Overland Park, KS 66206

Phone: 913-671-2315

Energy Assistance: DCF office: 1-888-369-4777, or www.dcf.ks.gov.



Harmony Middle School

Website:

<https://district.bluevalleyk12.org/schools/middle/hms/Pages/Calendar.aspx>

Location: [10101 West 141st Street, Overland Park, KS, USA](#)

Phone: [913-239-5200](tel:913-239-5200)

Twitter: [@HMSTBirds](#)



Lori Younger

Lori is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters

