

# T-Bird Times

May 16, 2025



## Calendar

### May:

- 19 - 8th grade musical - 1:00 pm
- 20 - Marching Band (for 8th graders participating in Marching band only) kick off party - 4:45 pm
- 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

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## PRINCIPAL'S NOTE

HMS Families,

We only have one more week of school left. Please encourage your student(s) to follow the Honor Code and finish the school year successfully. We want all students to head into summer break in the most positive way possible.

Below this note you will find the following information:

- Yearbooks for Purchase
- Last Day Announced for 2024-25 School Year
- End of Quarter Information
- Register for the 25-26 School Year
- Construction Update
- Attendance/Tardies
- Athletics/Activities
- HMS HONOR Code
- 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

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## Yearbooks for Purchase

Yearbook signing is next Friday! If you have not purchased a yearbook and would like to, please bring cash or check in the amount of \$30 to the front office as soon as possible. If you are wondering if you purchased a yearbook for your student, we have a list and can let you know. You can also check your previously paid fees on ParentVUE to see if you purchased a yearbook for your student.

**Yearbooks will not be distributed prior to Friday, May 23 for any reason.** If your student will not be at school on Friday, May 23, their yearbook can be picked up at a later date.

# Last day Announced for 2024-25 School Year

Please make sure you have transportation arranged for your student on the last day of school. **School dismisses at 10:50 AM** and our teachers are involved in end of year meetings starting at 11:00 AM. We appreciate you making sure your student has a ride at 10:50 AM.

## End of Quarter Information - Viewing Canvas Courses and Quarter Grades

At the end of each quarter, courses in Canvas will conclude and will no longer be visible on the Canvas app. However, a concluded course remains visible through the Canvas website by selecting ALL COURSES and then PAST ENROLLMENTS.

Important dates for families:

	Courses Conclude on Canvas	Grades Viewable on ParentVue (after 4pm)
Quarter 1	Friday, October 11	Friday, October 18
Quarter 2	Friday, December 20	Friday, January 10
Quarter 3	Thursday, March 13	Friday, March 28
Quarter 4	Thursday, May 22	Wednesday, June 4

Please note: The dates are subject to change based upon calendar updates or technology needs.

How do I view my child’s report card?

- Log in on [ParentVue](#).
- Select the student’s name
- In the left navigation bar, choose Report Card

Each new quarter, classroom teachers will publish the next quarter’s Canvas course. As courses are published, students and families will again be able to see current courses on the Canvas app and Canvas website. For Canvas parent resources, visit [www.bluevalleyk12.org/canvas](http://www.bluevalleyk12.org/canvas).

## 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](http://www.bluevalleyk12.org/registration).

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## Construction Update

The new gym is coming along! There is a roof and they have poured cement floors. We can see many things happening as construction starts to look like a usable space more and more!

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## 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](mailto:AttendanceHMS@bluevalleyk12.org)

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

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## Athletics/Activities

### Track Recap

We ended up with some great weather and some personal records set in our track season. We had a record breaking, 162 students participate this season. Natalie O. was the girls district champ and the 4x2 team of Haylie R., Bailey S., Natalie O., and Madison J. were district champs at our 8th



grade meet. We had two 25 year old school records broken- Madison J., in the 200 meter dash and the 4x2 team of Ian C., Evan K., Ezra K., and Henry R..

## Important Update on Physicals and Paperwork for the 2025–26 School Year

Each year on May 1, Blue Valley begins collecting physicals and required paperwork for the upcoming school year. For 2025–26, we're transitioning to a new system to manage this process—but it won't be available until **June 1, 2025**.

**\*\*Please wait until June 1 to submit physicals and paperwork through our new system. We'll send out detailed instructions once it's live.**

Please note: to be eligible for any **KSHSAA activity** during the 2025–26 school year, physicals must be dated **after May 1, 2025**.

You can access the official **KSHSAA physical form for 2025–26** [online](#)

## HMS HONOR Code



### Harmony Middle School A Community of Honorable Thunderbirds

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

# 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](#).

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# 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.

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## PTO

### 8th GRADE ICE CREAM BAR - ICE CREAM TOPPINGS AND VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We need your help providing toppings for the 8th Grade Ice Cream Bar. Please review the available slots below and click on the button to sign up. Please bring all donations to the HMS Front Office by Thursday, May 22nd at 12 PM. We also need volunteers to help from 12:30 - 2 PM. You will be able to see the parade around the track if you volunteer. Thanks in advance for your help and time!



#### 8th Grade Ice Cream Toppings Sign Up

We need your help providing toppings for the 8th Grade Ice Cream Bar. Please review the available slots below and click on the button to sign up. Please bring all donations to the HMS Front Office by Thursday, May 22nd at 12 PM. We also need volunteers to help from 12:30 - 2 PM.

[🔗 signupgenius.com](https://signupgenius.com)

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## Student Services Update





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.jccogov.org/mental-health-training](https://connect.jccogov.org/mental-health-training) or scan the QR code below:



For more information or questions, please contact [JCMHEvents@jccogov.org](mailto:JCMHEvents@jccogov.org) or 913-715-7880.

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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](https://screenagersmovie.com)

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### 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](http://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](https://twitter.com/HMSTBirds)



**Lori Younger**

Lori is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters