



Hempfield
School District

SPRING 2023

ROUNDTABLE

#BLACKKNIGHTPRIDE

▼ EPES students create art with students in different schools through an Art Pen Pal Program. **PAGE 3**



▲ CES sixth graders created unique works of art after learning pour painting techniques from former HHS graduate and guest artist. **PAGE 7**

28 HSD team members received a surprise visit from a black knight informing them they were selected as a Black Knight Award recipient. **PAGE 4**





Message from the Superintendent



Dear Hempfield School District Community,

The 2022-23 school year has wrapped up and planning and preparations have already begun for the upcoming 2023-24 school year. So much of the school year is cyclical in nature with key events happening about the same time of year, year after year. And yet, each school year also has a uniqueness to it.

This past school year was relatively smooth and had a feeling of “we’re back to business” to it. Events and activities that either haven’t been held for a few years — or felt very different due to COVID felt familiar again. Activities were back and gatherings were larger

and more spirited. I witnessed firsthand the increase in the level of energy and engagement in the buildings and individual classrooms. You could see it, you could feel it, and it was noticed by many.

I would like to think that this undeniable change in the tone of the overall school environment this year was not by chance. Students, teachers, staff, and administrators showed up with a renewed spirit. They brought a brighter outlook, a positive attitude, and a good heart.

In last year’s letter, I wrote about the need to reset and refocus, and I believe that is what we did. We used the summertime to refresh, and we came back with a renewed sense of energy to focus on what is important — the education and well-being of our students. We continue to monitor the impact the last few years have had on our students both academically and behaviorally and implement plans to help students grow and succeed.

In this edition of the Roundtable, we feature the educational opportunities and successes of students; highlight the partnerships that the district has with local businesses and organizations to serve the community; and showcase the hard work and dedication of our retirees and award-winning team members. You also get a sneak peek at the new district logo and branding coming this summer!

Thank you for your continued support of our students & staff.
Have a safe and enjoyable summer!

Michael J. Bromirski, M.Ed., M.B.A.
Superintendent of Schools



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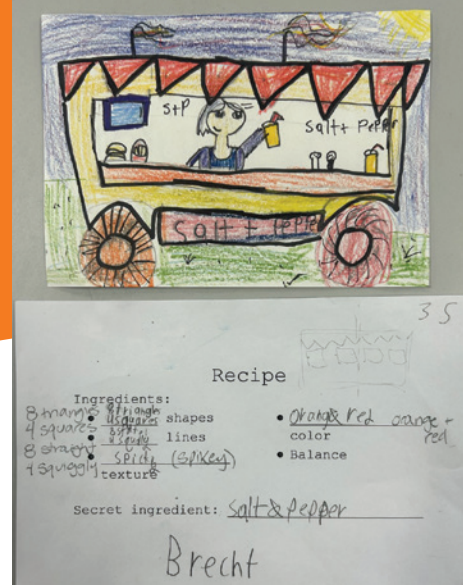
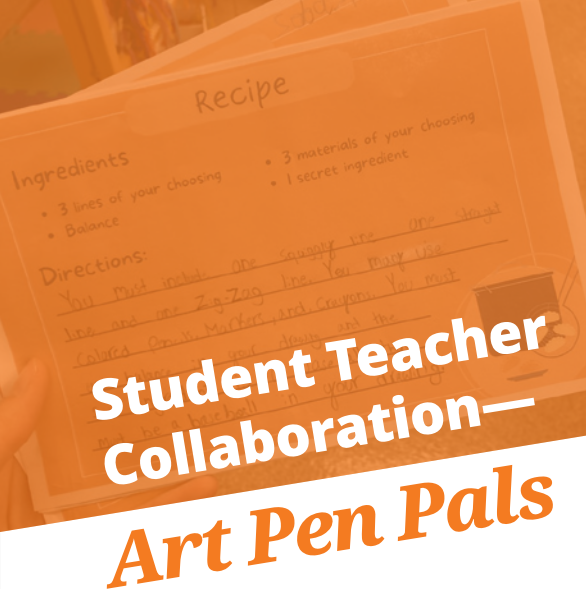
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Macy Bui, Art Teacher at East Petersburg Elementary, and Elisa Hannay, Art Teacher at Manheim Township School District, have a history of working collaboratively across neighboring school districts. Since studying together at Kutztown University, the duo has worked together on countless presentations, professional development opportunities, and innovative and hands-on art lessons with their elementary school students.

During the 2022-23 school year, both experienced teachers hosted preservice art education students from Millersville University in their art classrooms. To keep with the tradition, Macy and Elisa tasked their mentees with creating a collaborative lesson of their own.

Brooke Goodman and Emily MacNair, currently studying Art Education at Millersville, put their creative minds together to form an “art pen pal” program. Their 3rd and 4th grade students would create a piece of artwork together, but from separate schools.

They started by learning about what a recipe is and the important components of what makes a recipe successful. Like a recipe that a chef might use to prepare a meal or

bake a dessert, artists follow their own recipe to create a successful work — the elements and principles of design. To solidify their understanding, the students followed a recipe to make their own Play-Doh!

After studying the elements and principles of design, the students then wrote a “recipe” that included ingredients and directions such as what materials, colors, shapes, and textures were to be used. The two schools traded the recipes and followed the directions of their “art pen pal” to create an art postcard. After finishing their artwork, students wrote a note to the artist on the back of their postcard for it to be delivered back to the original artist and recipe author.

The students were overjoyed with the challenge of initiating an original work that embodied the elements and principles of design, while incorporating all the aspects of their given recipe. Not only did each student gain a new “art pen pal” and a special piece of shared artwork, but they learned the importance of collaboration and communication — a very useful skill, proven by Mrs. Bui and Ms. Hannay, in the teaching profession.

The students were overjoyed with the challenge of initiating an original work that embodied the elements . . . incorporating all the aspects of their given recipe.

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28 Staff Members Receive **BLACK KNIGHT AWARDS**

Twenty-eight Hempfield School District team members were recognized by their peers with Black Knight Awards for their outstanding attributes and performance. The awards process begins with a peer nomination period in which every employee in the district is eligible to be nominated based on the identified attributes. Final selections are made based on a narrative that describes how the nominee demonstrates and lives out the attributes. There are teaching, non-teaching, and substitute categories for each of the district's buildings.



Centerville Elementary School

Cory Good, Custodial Building Supervisor
Brenna Hazlett, Speech & Language Pathologist

East Petersburg Elementary School

Julie Ernst, Special Education Paraprofessional
Rebecca Pershouse Olson, Elementary Band Teacher

Farmdale Elementary School

Allison DeArment, School Counselor
Alicia Jay, Elementary Principal Secretary

Landisville Primary Center

Kristi Miller, Reading Specialist/Literacy Coach

Landisville Intermediate Center

Lori Greenly, Special Education Paraprofessional
Kim McCabe, Learning Support Teacher

Mountville Elementary School

Stephanie Fitzgerald, 4th Grade Teacher
Jean Fritsch, Custodian

Rohrerstown Elementary School

Julie Miller, 4th Grade Teacher
Deb Polizzi, Building Aide

Centerville Middle School

Kyle Oster, Technology Education Teacher
Alicia Tverberg, Special Education Paraprofessional

Landisville Middle School

Michelle Valeri-Groff,
Special Education Paraprofessional
Janelle Witter, Exceptional Student Specialist

Hempfield High School

Karen DiGilio, Special Education Paraprofessional
Donna Freydlin, Learning Support Teacher
Dr. Kate Hough, English Teacher
Gary Taft, Custodial Building Supervisor
Lauren Troop, Special Education Paraprofessional
Debby Walburn, 12th Grade Principal Secretary
Danny Walck, Business Education Teacher & Dept. Coordinator

Landisville Education Center


Natalie Stoudt, Emotional Support Teacher

District Substitutes

Keri Kubatov, Substitute Teacher
Ryan McCracken, LTS, Health & Phys. Ed. (LPC)

Admin/Tech/Maintenance

Sharon Rambler, Admin Assistant & Tax Collector



HEMPFIELD FOUNDATION

Celebrating 30 Years and over \$900,000 in grants to Hempfield School District staff!


Founded in 1993, the Hempfield Foundation is an independent not-for-profit organization that supports the educational mission of the Hempfield School District through grants and scholarships.

Join us for a day of golf!
June 2, 2023 — Four Seasons Golf Club

Support the Hempfield Foundation while enjoying a round of 18. Entry fee also includes lunch, in-tournament skill challenges, the 19th Hole Celebration and Awards Reception (beer & wine included). For more information—including how you can become a hole sponsor—visit hempfieldfoundation.org. Registration ends May 24.

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE FOUNDATION

hempfieldfoundation.org
[@hempfieldfoundation](https://www.facebook.com/hempfieldfoundation)
[@hempfieldfoundation](https://www.instagram.com/hempfieldfoundation)





Celebrating our Retirees

Congratulations to our 2023 Hempfield School District retirees!

These individuals include elementary and secondary teachers, food service employees, paraprofessionals, secretaries, nurses, school counselors, custodian and maintenance staff, support staff, and substitutes — all of which are integral parts of the day-to-day operations within our buildings. We thank all of the retirees for their years of service and wish them a very happy and healthy retirement!

Centerville Elementary School

Kathryn Arnold, Custodian

Wendy Coombes Hallowell, 6th Grade Teacher

Laura Sangrey, 4th Grade Teacher

East Petersburg Elementary School

Michael Grube, Custodian

Julie Miller, 3rd Grade Teacher

Landisville Intermediate Center/ Rohrerstown Elementary School

Margaret (Peggy) Bupp, Certified School Nurse

Landisville Primary Center

Mary Kay Mulcahy, 3rd Grade Teacher

Marianne Yoder, 3rd Grade Teacher

Centerville Middle School

Patrice Hazlett, Gifted Support Teacher

Landisville Middle School

Lynette Huber, School Counselor

Amy Kressley, Learning Support Teacher

Laura Moser, Special Education Paraprofessional



Hempfield High School

Greg Bierly, Performing Arts Center Coordinator

Deborah Bowman, Special Education Paraprofessional

Kristin Douglas, Librarian

John Herr, Custodian

Theresa Holton, Science Teacher

Victoria Marrolli, Social Studies Teacher

Danny Walck, Business Education Teacher

District Administration/Substitutes

Mark Brooks, Chief Financial & Operations Officer

Neysa Callahan, Food Service Accountant

Wendy Hilt, Support Staff Substitute

William Larson, Custodial Building Supervisor

Diana Myers, Support Staff Substitute

James Zeigler, Substitute Teacher

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Three HHS Students Named National Merit Scholarship Finalists



Congratulations to Hempfield High School seniors Daniel Hufnagle, Riana Ramani, and Jenna Yaeger for being recognized as 2023 National Merit Scholarship Program Finalists. Finalists represent a very small percentage of the students across the country who enter the program.

The National Merit Scholarship Program is an annual academic competition for recognition and college undergraduate scholarships, based on students' SAT/ National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/ NMSQT) scores.



(above) Superintendent Mike Bromirski and School Board President Dylan Bard present Jenna Yaeger and Riana Ramani with certificates at the April School Board Meeting to recognize their tremendous academic accomplishments.

(left) Daniel Hufnagle was unable to attend.



Amy Secor

New HHS Assistant Principal

Amy Secor joined the HHS administrative team in May as a grade-level principal. She will be the 11th grade principal starting in the 2023-24 school year.

In prior districts, Amy has served as an assistant principal at both the middle and elementary school levels, as well as held other positions including high school instructional coach, middle school IST coordinator, middle school teacher, certification coordinator, and instructional designer. Most recently, Amy worked for Instructional Empowerment as a school turnaround consultant and leadership & faculty coach.

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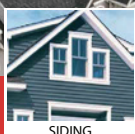
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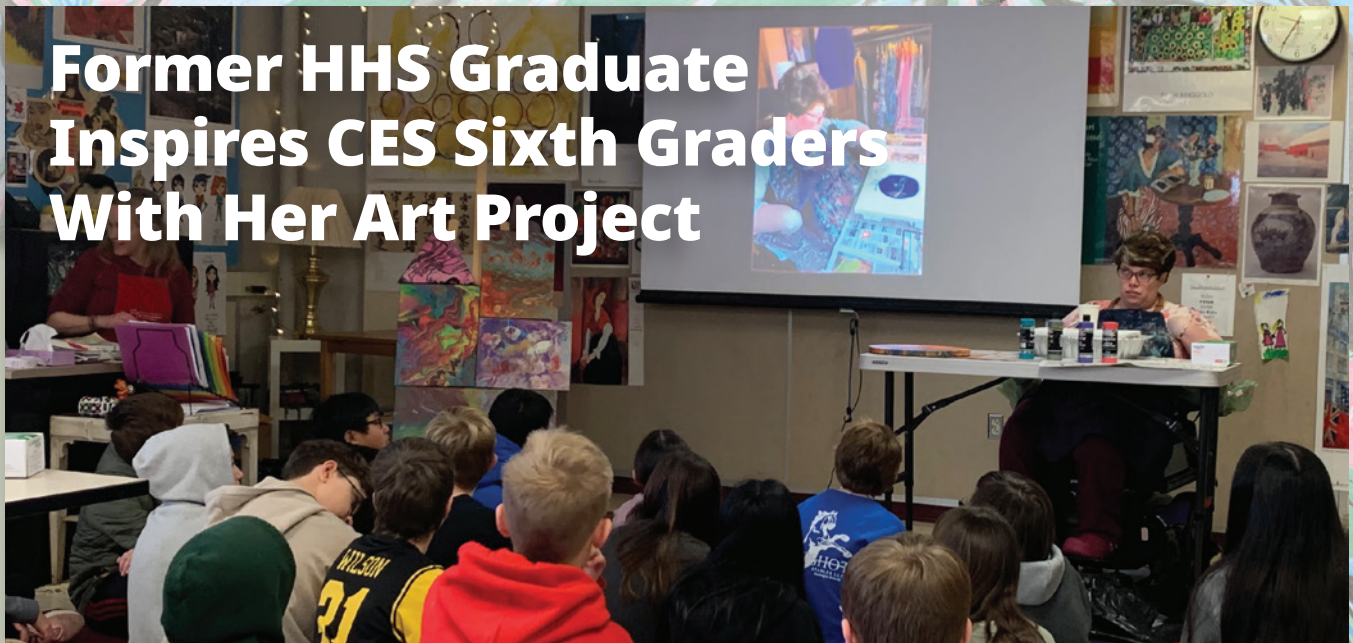
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Former HHS Graduate Inspires CES Sixth Graders With Her Art Project



Through a grant from the Hempfield Foundation,

Centerville Elementary School art teacher Elizabeth Burns was able to introduce sixth-grade students to a new painting technique taught by Miss Kate Manners.

Kate, who is legally blind and was born with cerebral palsy, is a HHS graduate and enjoys sharing her love of art and demonstrating her pour painting techniques with the students. Ms. Burns arranged for Kate to come into the school over the course of a few Fridays to teach her students how to create art by using this technique.

Kate was accompanied by her mother who assisted her with the supplies as she demonstrated how to paint by first layering a variety of paint colors in a jar, and then pouring it over the canvas while using various techniques to spread the paint around. The students were attentive throughout her demonstration and asked great questions. At the end of the lesson, the sixth graders were excited to try their hand at creating their own masterpiece. After selecting the colors of paint they wanted to use, they poured the paint over their canvas and tipped, twirled, and tapped the canvas to create their artwork. Some even used straws to blow the paint to create different effects.

Kate has been pour painting for about three years and estimates that she makes about six per week, or 300 paintings a year. She sells her paintings and gives half of the proceeds to charity.

The Hempfield Foundation awards grants every school year to members of the HSD staff who have terrific ideas for providing new and exciting learning/performing/competing opportunities for their students. The Foundation was pleased to provide this grant to fund bringing artist Kate Manners to CES to help students learn new painting techniques.

Connecting with the Community to Curb Food Insecurity

With the generous help of our united and supportive community, Hempfield School district was able to make strides to curb food insecurity among our students and their families.

To kick off the new year, we teamed up with the Centerville Road GIANT store on two annual initiatives – the “Round Up” and the “Fill-a-Plate” programs. During an 8-week period, the “Round Up” program allowed shoppers to round up their grocery bill to the nearest dollar (or more) and in turn, GIANT would match the total donation of up to \$250,000. For a 10-day period, shoppers were also able to donate non-perishable food items as part of the “Fill-a-Plate” program. Items could be brought in or purchased while shopping and dropped off near GIANT’s check-out area.

After the partnership with GIANT wrapped up, we jumped right into the 13th Annual Hempfield Food Drive, presented by J.K. Mechanical. Throughout the month of February, each of our school buildings worked

together to collect non-perishable items to benefit the Hempfield Area Food Pantry. The food pantry is a completely volunteer-based organization and provides meats, fresh produce, and non-perishables, based on family size, to over 2,400 families in a six-month period.

Because of our community’s willingness to support one another, the success of these programs was astounding! GIANT presented the district with a check for \$6,655 that will directly support food assistance initiatives. The “Fill-A-Plate” donated items were sorted and packed by the Social Services department to be dispersed to approximately 15 identified families in need. And finally, after making stops at each building where students and staff helped pack three J.K. Mechanical vans, 6,038 lbs. of food were weighed and delivered to the Hempfield Area Food Pantry. This amount surpassed last year’s food drive total by more than 1,400 lbs.!

Hempfield School District sincerely thanks all who were involved and looks forward to connecting on many more community initiatives.



GIANT presented the district with a check for \$6,655 that will directly support food assistance initiatives.



REMINISCE WITH *The Flash* ARCHIVES

With the help of a teacher grant from the Hempfield Foundation, HHS Librarian Kristin Douglas led a nearly year-long process to preserve the paper copies of Hempfield High School’s student-run newspaper. Archives of *The Flash*, dating back to the early 1930s, have been digitized and preserved for alumni and future generations to read and enjoy.

Douglas and her colleagues spent hours researching and locating decades-worth of newspapers, and finally, partnered with a company in Bethlehem, PA to convert and organize the 500+ issues. The result is an organized system of past editions of *The Flash* available for anyone to access. If you wish to reminisce through your days at Hempfield, find the archives link under the “Resources” heading at hempfieldsd.org/library.



Family Engagement Breakfasts at Mountville Elementary School

With the help of a \$12,000 grant from the Steinman Foundation and the Lancaster STEM Alliance, Mountville Elementary School implemented a new program this year focused on increasing parent engagement.

The grant money was used to host Family Engagement Breakfasts which began in late winter and continued through the spring. During these events, parents and students came together to eat breakfast, hear from a speaker, and learn tips from educators that they could use at home. MES 2nd-grade teacher, Brittany Bertoli, obtained the grant from the Steinman Foundation through her summer work in STEM.

The first breakfast event was for parents/guardians of K-3 students in late February. Students ate breakfast with their parents and Tess Wales,

MES Literacy Coach, talked about automaticity when reading. She taught parents and students how to play the game Spot It! to help with automatically identifying the same picture. Everyone who attended received the game Spot It! to take home. Dr. Stephanie Baxter from IU13 spoke about the Zones of Regulation and shared helpful language around self-regulation, expected and unexpected behaviors, and how parents can apply the language at home with their children.

The second breakfast was held in late March for parents of students in grades 4-6. Mrs. Wales provided a literacy tip for how to have conversations at home about books that children have read by using fiction and non-fiction question cards. Ms. Bertoli shared a STEM tip and resource links for coding at home, and each



of the 35 families in attendance went home with a UNO game. The keynote speaker was Ryan Landis, Director of Athletics and Activities at Hempfield, who spoke about perseverance and grit, and the growth experiences children get from picking themselves up when something goes wrong and thinking "next play!"

Additional engagement events made possible through the grant were held in April and May.



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WHAT IS MY CASE WORTH?

By: Anthony M. Georgelis, Esquire, HHS Class of '88

As a personal injury attorney, one of the most common questions I get asked, by clients and non-clients, alike, is, "How do you know what a bodily injury claim is worth?" Before I endeavor to give and explain my answer, I always preface it with the same caveat: Each and every case is unique, as there are a host of variables that factor into a valuation, such that there is no specific formula for calculating the amount of financial compensation awardable to an injured party.

One of these variables is the individual, or body, who/which is making this assessment—i.e., a judge, jury, attorney or insurance claims adjuster. Another is whether or not there is any comparative negligence on the part of the injured party, which reduces the value of a claim proportionately. Yet another factor that can ultimately influence how much compensation an individual receives is whether, and how much, insurance coverage actually exists and is available (for instance, in the context of a motor vehicle accident, the injured party's tort designation—limited versus full—can play a significant role in the outcome of a claim).

But for purposes of this article, I am going to focus on the factors that are largely within the purview and under the control of an injured party and their legal counsel. These variables, or types of legal damages or losses, can include, but are not limited to: the nature and severity of the injuries; the type and cost of presently necessary, and potentially future necessary, medical treatment; any income loss sustained; out-of-pocket medical and other expenses incurred; the existence and amount of any health insurance, workers' compensation or other liens/subrogation interests/rights of reimbursement; past, present and potential future pain and suffering endured; and, any loss of life's pleasures. This information and evidence, and how it is presented, will go a long way in determining the value of a bodily injury claim.

Giving the vast permutations of these factors their due explanation would go well beyond the confines of this writing. In closing, however, there is one more important point I will make. In my opinion, there are extremely few instances where an injured party can resolve their bodily injury claim on their own for more money than they would receive if the right attorney was involved on their behalf, even after taking the lawyer's fee into consideration. In other words, by involving a skillful, well-reputed and experienced personal injury attorney to handle your bodily injury claim, in a timely manner (the sooner, the better following an accident)—again, in my opinion—you are almost assured of putting more money in your pocket when all is said and done. This, I believe, is the case even after paying the lawyer's fee (which, in almost all personal injury cases, is contingent upon, and a percentage of, the ultimate financial recovery).

So, in the unfortunate event of an accident, consider seeking out the right personal injury attorney to represent you. You really have nothing to lose but the compensation that is rightfully yours.

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- △ First Student Day - August 22, 2023
- ▽ Last Student Day - May 24, 2024
- ◇ New Teacher Orientation
August 9, 10, 14, 2023
- Teacher In-Service Days
August 16, 17, 18⁹, 21, 2023 (ACT 80)
September 22, 2023 (ACT 80)
October 20^{**}, 2023
March 8, 2024 (ACT 80)
May 28, 29, 2024 (AIS)
- ⊗ August 18 is scheduled as a faculty work day and may be fulfilled on any date after August 1 with consent of the building principal.
- **Elementary Parent/Teacher Conferences
October 18 & 19, 2023 - (5:00 pm - 9:00 pm)
October 20, 2023 - (9:00 am - 11:40 am)
- Vacation Days/Designated Holidays
September 1, 4, 2023
October 9, 2023
November 22, 23, 24, 2023
December 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 2023
January 1, 15, 2024
February 19, 2024
March 29, 2024
April 1, 2024
May 27, 2024
- / Early Dismissals (ELEMENTARY)
October 18, 19, 2023^{**} (1:00 pm)
^{**}Parent-Teacher Conferences
November 21, 2023 (1:30 pm)
December 22, 2023 (1:30 pm)
January 12, 2024 (1:30 pm)
February 16, 2024 (1:30 pm)
March 7, 28, 2024 (1:30 pm)
April 19, 2024 (1:30 pm)
May 3, 23, 2024 (1:30 pm)
May 24, 2024 (1:00 pm)
- \ Early Dismissals (SECONDARY)
November 21, 2023 (12:50 pm)⊔
December 22, 2023 (12:50 pm)⊔
January 12, 2024 (12:50 pm)⊔
February 16, 2024 (12:50 pm)⊔
March 7, 28, 2024 (12:50 pm)⊔
April 19, 2024 (12:50 pm)⊔
May 3, 23, 2024 (12:50 pm)⊔
May 24, 2024 (12:00 pm)⊔⊔
- ⊔(CMS/LMS - 12:40 pm/HHS - 12:50 pm)
⊔⊔(CMS/LMS - 11:40 am/HHS - 12:00 pm)

Snow Days will be Flexible Instructional Days (FIDs). If there are more than five FIDs, days will be added beyond May 24, 2024.

Last Student Day and Last Teacher Day are Tentative

ELEMENTARY MARKING PERIODS			MIDDLE SCHOOL & HIGH SCHOOL MARKING PERIODS		
1 st Trimester	08/22/23-11/20/23	60 Days	1 st Quarter	08/22/23-10/30/23	45 days
2 nd Trimester	11/21/23-02/27/24	60 Days	2 nd Quarter	10/31/23-01/12/24	45 days
3 rd Trimester	02/28/24-05/24/24	60 Days	3 rd Quarter	01/16/24-03/21/24	45 days
			4 th Quarter	03/22/24-05/24/24	45 days

2022-2025 Comprehensive Plan Approved

Hempfield School District's 2022-2025 Comprehensive Plan has been approved and work has begun on the 3 main goal areas.

Mission: To provide safe and supportive environments, engaging experiences, and rigorous educational opportunities that inspire all students to excel in their chosen pathway and grow as lifelong learners and contributing citizens.

Vision: Personal growth, achievement, and success for everyone.

2022-2025 Plan Goals:

- **Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment:**
HSD will engage learners in standards-aligned, relevant, and authentic learning experiences designed ultimately to prepare them to be successful in their chosen post-secondary pathway.
- **Reducing Barriers to Learning:**
HSD will reduce barriers between school and students; school and families; and school and community; in order to foster all students' social and emotional well-being and academic growth.
- **Operational Excellence.**
HSD will develop and continually improve operational systems and practices to create a strong infrastructure that supports and enhances teaching and learning.

www.hempfieldsd.org/compplan

The complete Comprehensive Plan can be found on the district website.



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2023-24 Health Forms & Immunizations

For the 2023-24 school year, parents/guardians should plan ahead for the required health documents and immunizations. Being prepared allows Hempfield School District nurses to better serve our students.

The following exams must be conducted for the listed incoming grades, as required by PA Public School Code. Printable copies of the forms can be found at hempfieldsd.org/healthservices.

- Kindergarten Students: **Private Physical Examination*** and **Dental Screening**
- Grade 3 Students: **Dental Screening**
- Grade 6 Students: **Private Physical Examination***
- Grade 7 Students: **Dental Screening**
- Grade 11 Students: **Private Physical Examination***

Certain immunizations are also required for all children attending Pennsylvania schools, specifically for entrance, 7th grade, and 12th grade, in accordance with PA Public School Code. Get details about which vaccines are required to attend public school at hempfieldsd.org/immunizations.

* Private Physical Examinations can happen anytime during the 2023-24 school year or during the prior year.

**SAVE
THE
DATES**

Back to School NIGHTS

Centerville Elementary School

August 29
7:00-8:00 p.m.

Centerville Middle School

September 5
7:00-8:30 p.m.

East Petersburg Elementary School

August 29
6:30-8:00 p.m.

Farmdale Elementary School

September 6
6:30-8:00 p.m.

Hempfield High School

September 7
7:00-9:00 p.m.

Landisville Intermediate Center

August 30
6:00-7:30 p.m.

Landisville Primary Center

August 30
5:30-7:00 p.m.

Landisville Middle School

September 5
7:00-8:00 p.m.

Mountville Elementary School

August 30
6:30-8:00 p.m.

Rohrerstown Elementary School

September 6
6:30-8:00 p.m.