



HURRICANE MIDDLE SCHOOL
RESPECT - RESPONSIBILITY - KINDNESS

July 18, 2025

Dear Hurricane Middle School Parents and Students,

I hope all of you have found (and are still finding) fun activities to do that make Summer such a great time of the year. We are excited for the upcoming school year and look forward to welcoming students back to campus. The first day of school is Monday, August 11th (A-Day). The first bell will ring at 8:13 am. Please plan on paying fees and picking up schedules starting Wednesday, July 30th through August 8th, in person or on the PowerSchool Parent Portal. Office hours are 7:30-2:30 July 30th-August 8th. We will have extended hours two days - August 5th, 7:30 am to 6:00 pm, and August 7th, 7:30 am to 6:30 pm. You have likely already been emailed information regarding registration. Our back to school night is Thursday August 7th from 5:00-6:30 pm, open format. Come and see the school, talk with teachers, and meet the staff. We hope to see you there.

We are excited for the opportunity to have a positive impact on each of our students. They are at an age of self-discovery where they are trying to figure out who they are and what they want to become. This age group is also prone to being immature, not thinking of consequences for actions, are sometimes mean to each other, and more. It is just the age. You may have seen some of these behaviors at home and/or in your neighborhood. You might be wondering why we like this age group of students so much? It is because at this time of adolescence, adults can have the biggest impact on students setting/reaching goals, or changing behaviors for the better. We feel we can help students alter their course in life in a more positive direction. Our mission at Hurricane Middle School is to ensure high levels of learning for each student in a safe and caring environment that promotes our three core values – Respect, Responsibility, and Kindness.

As the principal of HMS, the top three things I think about every day are; 1- Safety of Everyone in the Building. 2- Educational Advancement and Growth. 3 – Happiness of Students, Faculty, and Staff. There are a lot of moving pieces to running a school, but all can fit somewhere into these three categories. I know that students have a different priority list, maybe with happiness as number one, and that is okay. With safety at the top of our list, we ask that you talk with your child about school being a safe place, a place that is better than out on the streets or other questionable locations. Students need to help us keep it a safe place by following the motto “See Something-Say Something”. Visits to the office to help keep us safe are kept confidential. We will do everything in our power to keep everyone safe at HMS.

Our building and campus look outstanding. This is due to our custodians putting in a tremendous amount of work this summer. The teachers and staff members have prepared themselves for another year of helping students succeed and are excited about the adventure of a new school year. We will do our best to help your child have the best experience they can have and advance educationally. I feel we have the best combination of faculty and staff that any parent or student could hope to have in one building. I am proud to be a part of the team that is assembled here at HMS.

We have made a few changes on our staff. Some teachers will have new assignments, others have moved on to the next chapter in life. Here is a list of our changes for the 2025-2026 school year:

Jon Conner (Sped)	Cheryl Hawkins (Sped)	Cassidy LaFemina (PE, Volleyball Coach)
Luming Cao (Chinese)	Ren Danyi (Intern/Chinese)	Rafael Novoa Meneses (ESL, Spanish)

It seems like we always have a need for paraprofessionals to help at HMS. If you are interested in working at HMS please let us know. We also have a Community Council that meets periodically

throughout the school year. If you have any interest in helping with Community Council or wish for more information, please send me an email.

We look forward to working with your children and will do our very best to ensure they are reaching their potential. The three pillars that must be in place to maximize student growth are **1-** Student effort and involvement, **2-** Teachers and school working with each student, and **3-** At home parent involvement in their child's education. Each pillar must be as strong as the others to reach full potential. Here are a few suggestions that we feel will help you, and your student, optimize time here at Hurricane Middle School:

- Help us manage your student's phones and electronic devices. These can be a huge distraction, disruption to the educational process, and/or used to harass/bully. Phones should be turned off and stored in backpacks while at school from start to finish (bell to bell). Please help support our device policy. It is a new revised policy by Gov. Cox. The policy can be found on the WCSD website: <https://procedure.washk12.org/policy/3000/3740>
- Make school attendance a priority. Arrive on time and come prepared to learn. Poor attendance is the number one reason for low grades.
- Encourage and support daily reading, which improves literacy skills. Improvement in literacy will help in all classes and phases of your child's education, as well as job skills and life.
- Parent use of PowerSchool weekly, or more, to monitor your students grades and attendance. It is an amazing tool that all parents can and should use to help their children be successful. If you need help using PowerSchool, please let us know.
- Parent communication with teachers for clarity. Relying on students to relay information from school/teacher to parents sometimes is not clear or accurate. I know from going through this as a parent, as a teacher, and now administrator. All humans like self-preservation and to avoid negativity. Also, check your phones periodically to make sure a teenager hasn't blocked the schools phone number. You may laugh, but we find this happens every year.
- Jody's weekly email to parents gives a lot of info in a short email. Please read this to stay informed. You can also check the HMS website and calendar often to stay in the loop – <http://hms.washk12.org>
- Please be mindful of the WCSD dress code policy 2200 as you shop for school clothes. Our school board has revised this policy to make it more clear. Our District Office has sent out emails with these changes. The policy can also be found on the district website <https://procedure.washk12.org/policy/2000/2200> Help us keep it about education and not about getting attention.
- Encourage your students to get involved in extracurricular activities – Student Council, National Junior Honors Society, Hope Squad, Music, Sports, etc. More involvement in school helps students feel like they belong and they usually do better in school.
- Checking students out of class/school. As per state and district requirement, we will need a parent in the front office with ID and signature. We know this is an inconvenience, but we are concerned for the safety and wellbeing of all of our students. Thank you for your understanding.

I have been a part of Hurricane Middle School for nine years now. I enjoy my job tremendously and truly enjoy being around our students. I love the Hurricane Valley and feel like we have the best community. We still have that small town feel where we care for each other and look to help others when we see a need. I look forward to working with your children and to help them grow in all aspects of their lives. If you ever need anything, I am here to help. I look forward to another great year. I appreciate all you do to support us here at HMS.

Sincerely,

Shaun Jaggi
Principal