



**HPS District  
Compass**

**MINUTE**

**A MINUTE TO SEE WHAT IS HAPPENING  
IN THE Hull Public Schools**

Quarterly Newsletter

**VOLUME 2/ISSUE 1**  
November 2023

**Dates to Remember**

**November**

- 13 Community Outreach Forum – 5:30 pm
- 13 School Committee Meeting – 6:30 pm
- 15 MMS Parent/Teacher Conferences– 5:30 to 8:30 pm
- 16 90 Minute Early Release MMS & HHS Parent Teacher Conferences – afternoon
- 16 HHS Parent/Teacher Conferences–5:30 to 8:30 pm
- 17 MMS Geography Game Show – 8:00 – 11:00 am
- 17 HHS Theatre Arts – Urinetown – 7:00 pm
- 18 Urinetown – 2:00 and 7:00 pm
- 19 Urinetown – 2:00 pm
- 21 HHS Powder Puff Game – 4:00 pm
- 22 JES Turkey Trot – 9:00 am
- 22 HHS Thanksgiving Rally – 10:00 am
- 22 Early Release – No lunch
- 23 Thanksgiving – No School
- 24 No School
- 27 School Committee Meeting 6:30 pm
- 28 HHS National Honor Society Induction – 6:00 pm
- 29 Jacobs Early Release Teacher Collaboration – 12:15 pm

**Hull Pirate Pride - Together We Make A Difference**

Next year at this time, our reconfiguration project will have reached completion, marking the commencement of an exciting new chapter for the district. Just as we demonstrated unwavering commitment during Phase 1, we are dedicating significant time and effort to meticulous planning for Phase 2. The leadership team convenes weekly to strategize and coordinate efforts for the upcoming Phase 2.

The High School Principal has been proactive in reaching out to 7th and 8th grade families, fostering communication and understanding. To gather valuable input, a survey will be distributed to these students and families in November. Additionally, a transition meeting is scheduled for January 9th at Hull High School, for parents of 7th and 8th graders, providing an avenue for communication.

Simultaneously, a noteworthy change will occur as we welcome a new superintendent. As I enter this season of gratitude and reflection, I am profoundly thankful for the many years I have had the privilege of working in such a caring, kind, and supportive community. This season evokes appreciation for the enduring memories forged during my time in Hull. I wish you and your family a happy holiday season filled with Joy. – Judy Kuehn







We are excited to announce that our district has adopted the use of IXL in grades 6 through 12, specifically for content areas in English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics. IXL is an innovative and effective online educational platform designed to support and enhance your child's learning experience in these critical subjects.

### Why IXL?

IXL offers a range of benefits that align with our commitment to providing the best possible education for your child:

**Adaptive Learning:** IXL adapts to your child's individual skill level, ensuring they receive practice exercises that are just right for their abilities. This personalized approach helps them build confidence and achieve success.

**Comprehensive Curriculum:** With a wide array of lessons and practice exercises, IXL covers a broad spectrum of topics within ELA and math, allowing your child to explore and strengthen skills in various areas.

**Instant Feedback:** Immediate feedback after each question helps your child understand their mistakes and learn from them. This constructive feedback is invaluable in the learning process.

**Progress Tracking:** Teachers can easily track student progress over time. By monitoring strengths and weaknesses, we can provide additional support where needed and celebrate achievements.

**Motivation and Engagement:** IXL incorporates gamification elements, such as awards and certificates, to keep students motivated and engaged in their learning journey.

### How Will IXL Be Used?

IXL will serve as a supplemental resource for both in-class and at-home learning. Teachers may assign specific IXL exercises to complement classroom instruction, reinforce learning, and prepare for assessments. This tool will also be available for your child's independent study and practice.

### Accessing IXL:

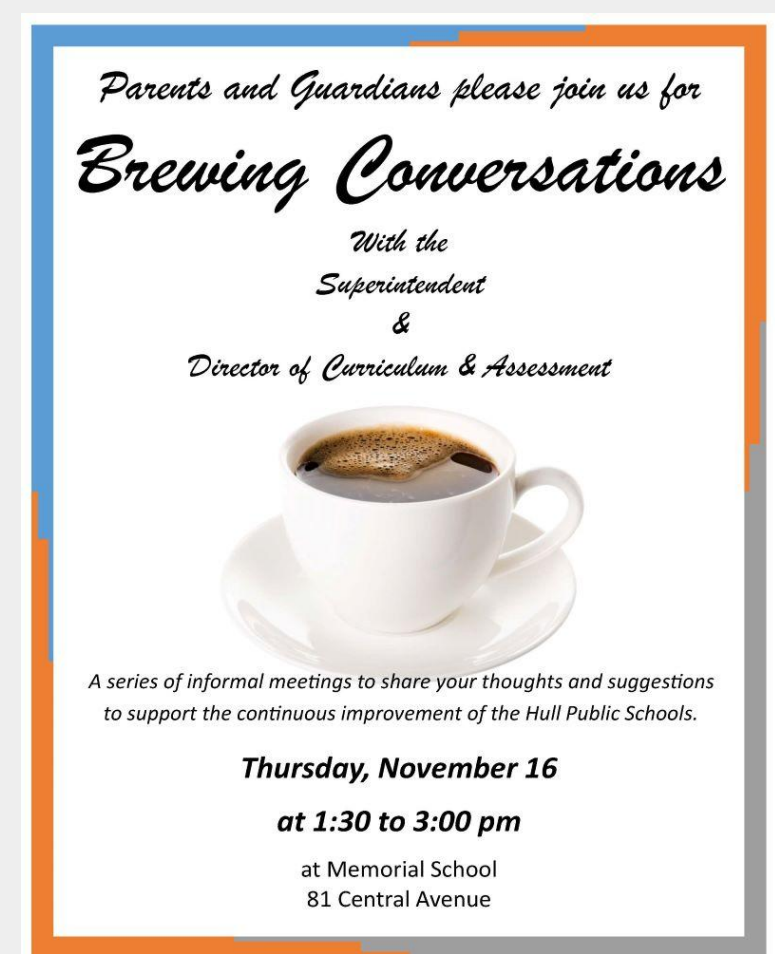
Your child can access IXL on various devices, including computers, tablets, and smartphones, both at school and at home.

We believe that IXL will be a valuable addition to our educational program, supporting your child's growth and success in ELA and Math. If you have any questions or require assistance with IXL, please don't hesitate to reach out to your child's teacher.

## Communication

The District Leadership Team is committed to fostering open communication and actively engages in thoughtful conversations with various stakeholders. Through dedicated and attentive listening, decisions are thoughtfully crafted to prioritize the best interests of all students.

To ensure voices are elevated and heard, the Superintendent and Director of Curriculum & Assessment are hosting Brewing Conversations opportunities for parents/guardians to ask questions and hear updates about the district in a small group setting. The next Brewing Conversation is scheduled for Thursday, November 16 at 1:30 pm at Memorial Middle School in the library.



Click picture to view flyer

## District Calendar of School Events

Each school calendar has been linked to the District Event Calendar, located on the District Homepage of the HPS school website, to streamline communication of school events for families. Continue to check your students school calendar for school specific information.

[Link to District Calendar of Events](#)







## INTERFACE

Hull Public Schools has partnered with William James College to bring INTERFACE, a free outpatient mental health referral service program, to students in the district and all Hull residents. The program is designed to easily connect students and residents with outpatient mental health and wellness resources and providers.

Students and residents who choose to take advantage of the program will go through the following process:

- **Intake:** Participants will speak with an INTERFACE resource and referral counselor for 15-20 minutes and provide important information to ensure a successful match with outpatient mental health provider options.
- **Making a match:** A resource and referral counselor assigned to the participant will review a database of over 9,000 licensed and vetted providers to find a match. INTERFACE strives to match participants with mental health professionals and practices that best meet their needs, insurance or fee requirement, specialty request, location, availability and more.
- **Providing matches:** Once a provider match has been identified (generally within 3 weeks of the initial call), the resource and referral counselor will give participants the provider's information so they can schedule with this provider.
- **Following up:** The resource and referral counselor will follow up within one to two weeks of participants receiving the match to ensure they've been able to connect.
- **Closing a referral:** Once there is a successful match, the resource and referral counselor will close the referral process. If participants need additional support in the future, they can always call the helpline again.

The service is available Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m and Tuesday and Thursday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. To access the service, which began Feb. 1, call 888-244-6843. The Helpline is staffed by mental health professionals.

Funding for this initiative was provided to Hull by a Supporting Students' Social Emotional Learning, Behavioral and Mental Health and Wellness grant from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

Click [here](#) to view a helpful flyer to learn more about the program.

**Please note that the referral service is not a mental health hotline. In case of an emergency, dial 911.**



**SOUTH SHORE COMMUNITY  
ACTION COUNCIL, INC.**  
PROVIDING ACCESS TO OPPORTUNITY

**We're here to help!  
Here's how:**

## FUEL ASSISTANCE

The fuel assistance program helps eligible low income households with their heating bills in the winter. We assist with oil, kerosene, propane, gas, electric, or wood/pellets. For information about the fuel assistance program or to apply call us at 508-746-6707 or go to our website [www.SSCAC.org](http://www.SSCAC.org).

## WEATHERIZATION

**Is your home cold and drafty in the winter and hot in the summer?**

**Want to save \$\$ on your electric bills?**

To see if you qualify for this **FREE** program call the Energy Conservation Dept. (508) 747-7575 x6221.

## HEATING SYSTEM REPAIR AND REPLACEMENT

**Does your heating system need to be repaired or replaced?**

# of household members	Yearly household gross income limit
1	\$45,392
2	\$59,359
3	\$73,326
4	\$87,294
*	Call for limits for larger households, income levels change annually







## Community Resources

### Wellspring Food Pantry

Open Monday, Wednesday and Friday

Please contact Anne Stenfors, at [astenfors@wellspringmultiservices.org](mailto:astenfors@wellspringmultiservices.org) or 781-925-3211 ext. 122 to schedule a personal shopping time.

### Thanksgiving Dinner Boxes Available

Please contact Anne Stenfors at [astenfors@wellspringmultiservices.org](mailto:astenfors@wellspringmultiservices.org) or 781-925-3211 ext. 122 before **November 17<sup>th</sup>** to order. Supplies are limited. Pick up is "Turkey Tuesday", **November 21<sup>st</sup>**.

### Fuel Assistance

As the winter months approach, please do not hesitate to contact Jenny Gerbis at 781-925-3211 ext. 127 or [jenny@wellspringmultiservice.org](mailto:jenny@wellspringmultiservice.org) for more information regarding fuel assistance and support to complete an application.

### Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

Should any family require information or assistance to complete an application for SNAP, please contact Jenny Gerbis at 781-925-3211 ext. 127 or [jenny@wellspringmultiservice.org](mailto:jenny@wellspringmultiservice.org).

### Free Thanksgiving Hot Dinner

Free Thanksgiving hot dinner with all the fixings, pies and 2 additional grocery bags of food.

To have meals delivered please call Jim Richman 617-688-0303

To eat in at Daddys Beach Club please call 781-925-3600

Any questions contact Craig Wolfe 781-771-6416. [89edge@comcast.net](mailto:89edge@comcast.net)



## Attention MassHealth Families



You need to renew your coverage this year.

All MassHealth members will need to be renewed this year, including children.

Your child may still be eligible for MassHealth coverage even if the adults in your household may not be.

Take three steps to renew your coverage:

1. Call to update your contact info
2. Check your mail
3. Respond to MassHealth

Take steps now to make sure your family stays covered.

Call (800) 841-2900 (TDD/TTY: 711), visit [www.masshealthrenew.org](http://www.masshealthrenew.org) or scan the code to learn more about what steps you need to take.

If you or your family have recently lost MassHealth coverage, contact us! Call us within 90 days and your coverage may be reinstated without a new application.

**Act now. Stay covered.**



[masshealthrenew.org](http://masshealthrenew.org)  
(800) 841-2900 (TDD/TTY: 711)



Click picture to view flyer

**MassHealth reminder:** On April 1, 2023, MassHealth, the state's Medicaid program, began redetermining the status of all 2.3 million members.

1. Does your child have MassHealth? If so, listen up! You may need to take action to keep your child covered. Learn more at [www.mass.gov/masshealthrenew](http://www.mass.gov/masshealthrenew)

2. Are you a MassHealth member? MassHealth needs to renew all of their members! Don't wait – update! Make sure MassHealth has your current contact information by calling 1-800-841-2900.

3. Attention MassHealth members! You will need to renew your coverage this year. Here's how you can stay covered:

- Update your contact info
- Check your mail
- Respond to MassHealth



Find more information here:

[www.mass.gov/masshealthrenew](http://www.mass.gov/masshealthrenew)

4. Lost your MassHealth coverage? Reapply now by calling MassHealth customer service at 1-800-841-2900 or going online to [www.mahix.org/individual/](http://www.mahix.org/individual/)





## Superintendent Search Timeline

**October 10:** NESDEC Orientation by Dr. Frieswyk at School Committee meeting

**October 19:** Dr. Frieswyk lead focus groups in Hull to gather input from parents, principals, teachers, and community members. She shared a summary of input gained from the focus groups to School Committee and added their input

**October 20:** Finalized results of focus groups, School Committee input and online survey results for Successful Candidate Profile, to be used by screening committee

**November 1:** Ms. Kyle Conley officially extended offers to join the Screening Committee

**December 4:** The screening committee will review applicants and determine who to interview

**Between December 11 and 15:** The screening committee will interview candidates

**January 2:** The School Committee will receive an orientation prior to interviews with the final candidates

**Between January 8 and 12:** Final interviews with School Committee

The 12 member Screening Committee is inclusive of multiple perspectives, experiences, and current roles in our community. They represent (people can represent more than one group):

- 2 HHS Staff
- 2 MMS Staff
- 2 JES Staff
- 3 District Admin
- 3 Parents
- 4 Community Reps
- 1 School Committee Member



## Flu Shots are available in all schools

See your school nurse to receive your flu shot.

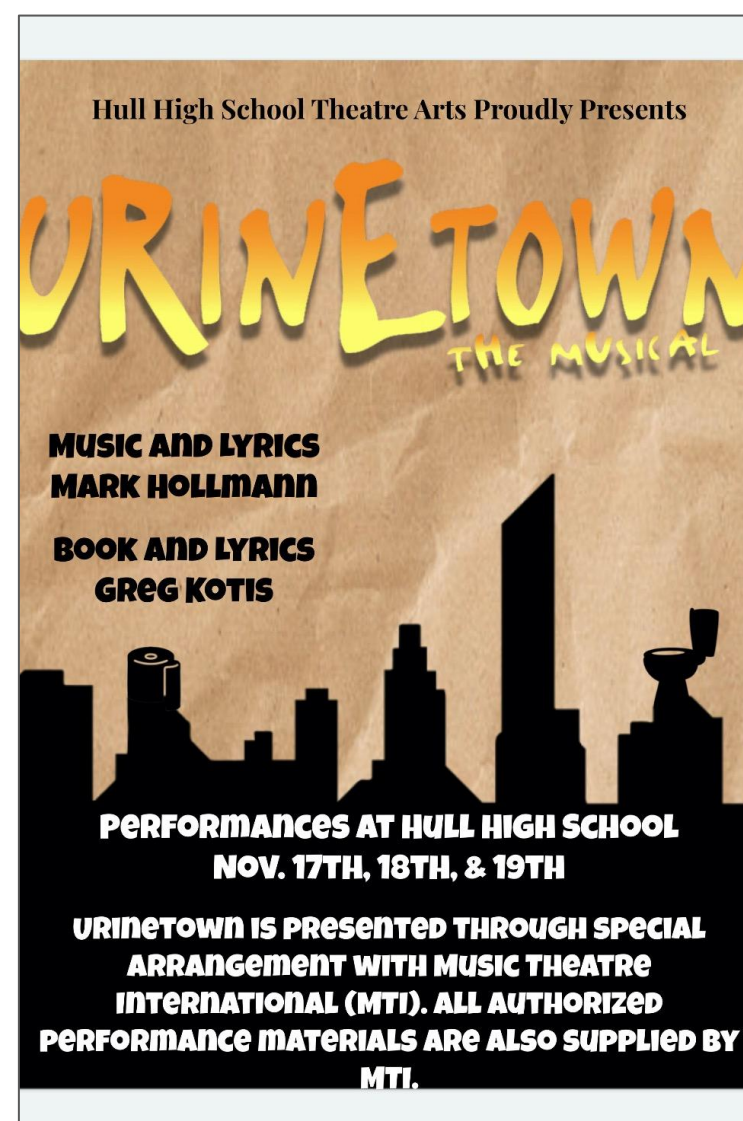
## Universal Free School Meals

- One breakfast and lunch provided free to students daily.
- Milk and a la carte items are offered for purchase.
- Second meals will be charged to students accounts.
- Please login or create an account to check your students meals account balance at [www.myschoolbucks.com](http://www.myschoolbucks.com). Students may not be permitted to purchase a la carte items or second meals without a positive meals account balance.

Please contact Patty Gardiner at 781-925-4400 x1112 if you need your students ID or need further assistance.

[Breakfast and Lunch Menus](#)

[A la Carte Offerings.](#)



Hull High School Theatre Arts presents *"Urinetown"* The Musical on November 17, 18 and 19.

[Click here to purchase tickets](#)

## STRETCH your food budget

The Stretch Your Food Budget (SYFB) program is a service project of the Nantasket-Hull Rotary. Its goal is to help Hull citizens stretch their food dollars by enjoying free, nutritious, delicious dinners packaged in easy-to-prepare kits. The meal kits contain all the necessary ingredients for the recipe, along with simple directions. The prepared dinners provide 4-6 servings—enough to feed a family! [Click here](#) for more information.