



**HPS District  
Compass**

# MINUTE

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

Quarterly Newsletter

**VOLUME 1/ISSUE 2**  
January 2023

### Dates to Remember

#### January 2023

**23 SC Meeting**  
Vote to begin PreK - 6  
alignment during  
2023-2024 school year

**25 Jacobs 12:15 p.m.**  
student dismissal for  
teacher collaboration  
time

#### February 2023

**2 90-minute early**  
release middle & high  
school, parent/teacher  
conferences

**20 President's Day**

**20 - 24 February**  
Break



## Hull Pirate Pride - Together We Make A Difference

Welcome to the second edition of the district's quarterly newsletter. At the December 12 School Committee meeting, Principal Shaw and Principal Knybel presented preliminary reconfiguration possibilities of a Prek-7 and 8-12 model. Here is a link to their presentation [Reconfiguration \(hullpublicschools.org\)](https://hullpublicschools.org)

Tonight at the School Committee meeting, a discussion and vote is expected to be held as to whether the first phase of the Hull Public Schools reconfiguration will begin at the start of the 2023 - 2024 school year. If approved, for the 2023 - 2024 school year, the Jacobs Elementary School would house grades PreK - 6, Memorial Middle School would house grades 7 & 8 and Hull High School would house grades 9 - 12. School Committee meetings are held in the Exhibition Room at Hull High School and begin at 6:30 pm.

This continues to be an exciting school year in and out of the classroom. The positive atmosphere in each building is contagious. It is important to know that the Leadership Team, during their learning walks, continue to be impressed by the instructional practices of our teachers. A few of the practices observed across the district are that Hull teachers: believe in their students, set high expectations for students, plan thoughtful lessons with rigor, establish positive relationships with students, actively engage students, allow student choice, and so much more! The dedication of our teachers is reason to fill us with Hull Pirate Pride!

-Judy Kuehn

### District Calendar of School Events

Each school calendar has been linked to the District Event Calendar to streamline communication of school events for families. Continue to check your students school calendars for school specific information.

[Link to District Calendar of Events](#)





## Hull Public Library Student Opportunities

The Hull Public Library will hold two book clubs in February. The middle school graphic novel book club will meet Thursday, February 9 at 4 pm. The book will be *Zita the Spacegirl* by Ben Hatke. The grade 8 – 12 book club will meet Thursday, February 16 at 6 pm. The book will be *My Mechanical Romance* by Alexene Farol Follmuth. Books for both book clubs are available at the library.

For crafts, the library will hold a bouncy ball making craft on Saturday January 28 from 10:30 am - 1 pm (drop-in hours, craft takes about 30 minutes to complete). A drop-in Valentine's Day card craft is scheduled on Saturday, February 11 from 10:30 am - 1 pm. Come anytime - all ages encouraged! There will also be a teen craft on Saturday, February 18 at 11 am – 12:00 pm where friendship bracelets will be made! Feel free to also check out the Hull Public Library website, [hullpubliclibrary.org](http://hullpubliclibrary.org) for the calendar of events for future events and also to access databases for homework help!

## INTERFACE Referral Service for Hull Residents and Students

The Hull Public Schools is pleased to announce that the district was awarded grant funding to enter a partnership with INTERFACE Referral Service on behalf of all Hull residents and students. The William James INTERFACE Referral Service is a mental health resource and referral Helpline, available Monday through Friday from 9am to 5pm, to access outpatient mental health services. What makes INTERFACE unique is they do not merely offer a list of providers, but rather supply matched referrals to outpatient mental health professionals and practices from a database of over 9,000 licensed and vetted providers. The referral is based on who best meet the caller's concerns, insurance or fee requirement, preferences around therapist characteristics and treatment modality, location needs and available timeframes for appointments. After providing referral matches, Resource and Referral Counselors also contact callers within 1-2 weeks to see if the caller was able to connect with the provider(s), and if so, how it is going. INTERFACE Referral Helpline follows through with the caller to ensure they have connected with a suitable match.

It is our hope that INTERFACE will ease the pathway for residents seeking to learn more about mental health resources or to secure mental health services. The program will be launched on February 1 and more details will be shared on how to take advantage of this service.



## Professional Development Day Recap

Tuesday, January 17, was our district professional development day. The day was devoted to continuing curriculum map work at all levels, using our online curriculum mapping platform, Chalk. We offered two virtual workshops with a Chalk trainer to support teachers while using the Chalk platform. In addition to working on curriculum mapping, teachers collaborated with colleagues in their subject content areas.

Beyond our curriculum work, we provided training for our math teachers 6-12 on using IXL, an online learning platform that personalizes learning for each student. This subscription-based program provides students with skill-based practice in math. The Jacobs staff participated in training for field testing/piloting the Core Knowledge Language Arts (CKLA) curriculum. Foreign Language teachers reviewed three new Spanish programs presented by Vista High Learning. The day provides opportunities for staff to learn new programs and collaborate with colleagues.



## Elementary Literacy Curriculum Review Update

During November and December, all teachers at the Jacobs School reviewed the three literacy curriculums recommended by the Jacobs Literacy Committee. Following an extensive review process, the teachers recommended two of the three programs to be field tested/piloted. The two chosen, CKLA (Core Knowledge Language Arts), publisher Amplify, and Wonders, publisher McGraw-Hill Education, are top-rated curriculum materials on EdReports, an organization comprised of teacher experts who evaluate curricula for their alignment with state standards and their usability. Christine Cappadona, Director of Curriculum and Assessment, has worked with the two companies to coordinate field tests/pilots of each program for all teachers and students PreK-grade 5. The units selected to field test fit into what teachers will be teaching at that point in the year. Teachers will assess how students respond to new content while ensuring students are learning the "right stuff" in the school year during each field test/pilot. We will begin field testing CKLA on January 23 and Wonders on March 13. Each field test will last five weeks. Both CKLA and Wonders are robust curriculums and have the potential to meet the needs of our school. During our professional development day on January 17, teachers at the Jacobs school received training on the CKLA curriculum and resources. Training for the second curriculum, Wonders, will be held during our District's early release on March 8. We are excited to dive into these curriculum resources over the next ten weeks to see how teachers and students engage with the curriculum.

## Bullying Prevention



Students at the Jacobs Elementary School were recently reminded of the importance of being an upstander, someone who stands up against bullying. Being an upstander is an important message that is stressed across the district to help ensure that all students feel welcome and comfortable in school.

[Click here for the Bullying Report Form](#)



## Preschool 2023-2024

Families interested in enrolling their child(ren) in the integrated preschool program at Jacobs Elementary School are encouraged to contact Amy Hyde at [ahyde@town.hull.ma.us](mailto:ahyde@town.hull.ma.us) or 781-925-4400 ext. 1121. The district plans to expand the full day preschool program for children age four from one classroom to two classrooms for the 2023 - 2024 school year. It is important for parents to register their child(ren) soon to ensure a slot.

[Click here for more information and to register for preschool.](#)



## Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs)

There are two AEDs in each school: JES- Administration entrance of gym and outside nurse's office, MMS - outside main office and by nurse/gym, HHS - outside nurse's office and by fitness center. The devices walk you through what to do in the event of a cardiac emergency. Additionally, there are two portable AEDs at the high school. One the Athletic Trainer has with her at all times, the other is available to bring to practices and/or games when the trainer is not present.

Soon, in partnership with the Town, AEDs will be permanently installed at the high school field, at L street, and at Kenberma.

## HHS Athletics

Link to winter sports schedule

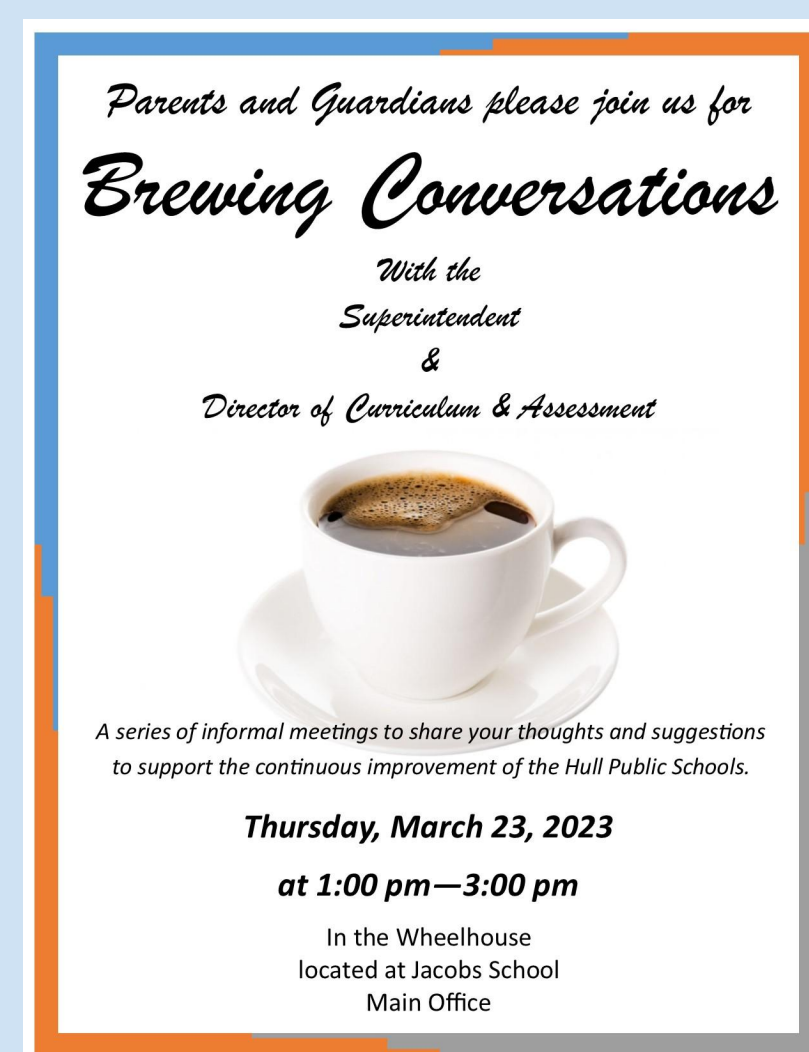
[School Details \(arbiterlive.com\)](https://arbiterlive.com)

Newly installed Hudl cameras in the HHS gym allow HPS to live stream indoor games. A Hudl camera was also installed at the press box for streaming of events on the field. Check out the link below to view a game in real time or a recently recorded game.

[Hull High School Athletics - YouTube](#)

## Communication

The Superintendent and Director of Curriculum & Assessment continue to host Brewing Conversations opportunities for parents/guardians to ask questions and hear updates about the district in a small group setting. The third Brewing Conversation session will utilize a drop in format. The session is scheduled for Thursday, March 23 from 1:00pm - 3:00pm at the Jacobs Elementary School.



Click picture to view flyer



## **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.



# Did You Know?

## Jacobs Elementary School

At the Jacobs Elementary School a determined effort has been made to safely bring back pre-pandemic, in-person events and programs during the 2022-2023 school year. Events such as Open House, the Winter Concert, the Turkey Trot, Jacobs Express, the Halloween Dance, and Pajama Story Hour have once again provided families the opportunity to enter the school and actively participate in school happenings. Our doors have also re-opened to educational experiences such as Fire Safety Week, the Brockton Public Library's Planetarium, and visits from Holly Hill Farm, with several more programs scheduled during the second half of the year. JASPER was reintroduced with a bang! Thanks to staff and families stepping up to provide students with the opportunity to participate in activities of their choice, over fifteen after school classes were offered and filled to capacity. Lastly, the reintroduction of in-person monthly assemblies has helped bring school spirit back to levels known only by those who attended the Jacobs before the pandemic! This, coupled with input and suggestions from the reestablished Student Council, have brought about an elementary school geared toward living our *One Word* for the year, TOGETHER.

## Memorial Middle School

Memorial Middle School offers a variety of after-school clubs. The late bus is available on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays at 3:40 pm for students who remain after school for clubs and activities. Please email the club advisor if you are interested in joining:

- Jazz Band - Mr. St. George
- The Diversity Club - Mx. Perla Castañeda
- Student Council - Ms. Reardon and Ms. Dillon
- Newspaper Club - Ms. O'Reilly
- Yearbook (Grade 8) - Ms. Cicalese
- Green Team - Ms. Weber
- After School/Open Gym - Mr. Fallon
- National Junior Honor Society - Ms. Cappadona
- Robotics Club - Mr. Sullivan
- Homework Zone - Ms. Tannuzzo and Ms. Reardon
- HHS Theatre Arts - Ms. O'Donnell

[Click here for descriptions of each club](#)

## Hull High School

The Class of 2023 is displaying a strong comeback to post-graduate plans after enduring the global pandemic during their early high school years. As of early January, the seniors at Hull High School had an increased percentage of students applying for college as compared to a year ago. The School and District Profile as published on the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education website displays Hull High School's Plans of High School Graduates for the Class of 2022 as 63.3% of our seniors planned on continuing their education. This year, 87% of the Class of 2023 has applied for college admission. The increase in the percentage clearly shows a welcomed shift in the confidence of our Hull High School students to continue their education. Here is the breakdown of the data collected by Nancy LeBlanc and Dan O'Donnell, our high school guidance counselors:

- \* 41% of our students applied Early Action College Admission (Early action runs from October 15 to December 15)
- \* 34.5% of our students applied Regular Decision Only (This is the percentage of our students who only applied Regular Decision)
- \* 11.5% of our students are interested in community colleges (HHS will host the On the Spot Admission with Quincy and Massasoit in February 2023). These are students only looking at community college
- \* 8% of our students are interested in trades and union work
- \* 5% of our students are interested in work – general

The Class of 2023 has spent most of their high school years in the middle of the greatest interruption to public schools ever experienced in our lifetime. So far this year, the Class of 2023 has done their part in making Hull High School the incredible educational and extra-curricular environment it has become and this is a sign of their ambition and resiliency. Of course these numbers may change as the Class of 2023 moves closer toward May, but our senior class has given us many reasons to be proud Pirates!