



Homestead High School

Rick G. Smith, Principal

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Dear Students and Parents/Guardians:

I hope your summer has been enjoyable. Please take a few moments to look at the following information, for important procedures, changes, and dates.

Our staff spent last year refocusing their efforts on student learning. Keeping “the greatest amount of success per student” as the guiding principle, the faculty worked toward building relationships/connections with students that foster relevance and rigor in the classroom. We plan to continue our work in this area for the upcoming school year, utilizing our teacher training and collaboration opportunities to develop strategies that support student success.

Please feel free to contact our teachers regarding questions you have about your son/daughter’s classroom performance. It’s much better to communicate with teachers early, rather than late. My door is always open but please remember your first line of communication is the classroom teacher. For questions about programs, curriculum, or student activities, please contact our counseling department. Other communication tools that will prove very helpful include:

- **PowerSchool:** our district student management software that provides current student grade and attendance information, (sacs.k12.in.us , “SACS Schools”, “Homestead”, “PowerSchool Parent/Student Login”).
- **Web sites:** teachers keep homework and other class related information on their web sites, (sacs.k12.in.us, “SACS Schools”, “Homestead”, “Academics”, then select teacher name).
- **Principal’s Newsletter:** The Principal’s Newsletter is posted monthly on our HHS web site, providing you with information about important events and activities.
- **If you do not have access to a computer at home,** a computer kiosk is located in the back of the Apple Glen Walmart store where you will have access to the SACS websites, PowerSchool. Please contact your respective school to obtain login information for PowerSchool access.

I am very excited about the new school year and am looking forward to working with you and your student(s). Best wishes to you and your student(s) for an exciting, enriching and productive school year.

Sincerely,

Rick G. Smith
Principal

Together We Make a Difference

Please note that 1st semester common assessments/finals will occur prior to winter break from December 16th through December 18th. We cannot stress enough the importance of making sure that your student does not miss these assessments; or the preparation/study time prior to assessments/finals. Also, the last day of school for the 2009/2010 school year will be June 10th, however we typically end up having to add extra days on to the school year. Please plan on an extended year when scheduling summer vacation, so that your student does not miss end of school year assessments/finals.

- **Student Pictures & IDs:** ALL students, including seniors, must be photographed for student IDs. If you were not able to attend Registration, please watch for an announcement of picture re-take day. Please remember that these pictures will be used for other purposes throughout the school year. **It is important that all students wear appropriate school dress code clothing.**
- **Student Parking:** Reminder to all students and parents; please read the rules in the Parent/Student handbook regarding parking. First infraction is a warning; second infraction—VEHICLE WILL BE TOWED.
- **Medical Information** **It is imperative that each student have their medical information form on file.**
- **First Day of School:** **Wednesday, August 26, 2009**
Students report to their advisor at 7:50 a.m.
- **School Times:** **7:50 a.m. - 2:35 p.m.**
- **Class Schedules:** **MUST BRING CLASS SCHEDULE WITH YOU ON 1ST DAY OF SCHOOL.**
- **Locker/Advisor Assign:** Locker/ combo and Advisor name/rm. # is on class schedule.
- **Physical Education 1&2** A PE shirt is required for these classes – Cost: \$5.00.
- **SNAP Lunch Account:** Each student has a SNAP lunch account. This is a debit account, not a credit account. At mealtime, the student enters their student ID number and the computer accesses his/her account. If there is money in the account, the purchases are deducted. You can add money to your account with a weekly, monthly or yearly check. If you pay daily, any remaining change will go into your child's account. **No change will be made.** If the student is eligible for the free/reduced meal program, the computer knows the status automatically. Remember if you are eligible for meal benefits, you still need money in your account for ala carte items.

Additional dates of upcoming events to mark on your calendar:

August

24 New Family Orientation 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. Community Room, Homestead

September

7 No School - Labor Day

9 Back to School Night

21-25 Homecoming Week

15-17 ISTEP+ Fall GQE Retest – only for grade 11 & 12 students who need to retest

We request that all parents and students review the copy of the Homestead Parent/Student Handbook that you received at registration (parents may pick up a handbook from the Treasurer if you did not receive one at Registration). By reading it, you have a better understanding of the specifics of our policies and procedures. We also ask that parents discuss the dress code, attendance/discipline policies and the implications with their children and help them understand our full expectations for student behavior.

Parents, please remember that you are required to sign a form acknowledging your receipt of the handbook prior to it being issued.