

# HAVERFORD SCHOOL DISTRICT

*Produce a community of empathetic and resilient learners with skills to socially and emotionally flourish.*



## ELEMENTARY SPOTLIGHT

*At Chatham Park, first-grade teacher Mrs. Bush incorporates daily brain breaks into her daily schedule. Brain breaks allow students the opportunity to move and help them refocus. During this brain break, students listened to music as they read sight words aloud. After every few words, a movement slide appeared, prompting students to take part in a movement (jumping jacks, run in place, etc.).*

## MIDDLE SCHOOL SPOTLIGHT

*Team building social connection web created during one of Mrs. Kwoczak's seventh-grade art classes.*



## HIGH SCHOOL SPOTLIGHT

*Mrs. Yocavelli's 9th-grade homeroom snaps a photo to hallmark their growth throughout the next four years. Through homeroom/advisory, students at the high school will learn how to develop a community-style learning atmosphere, in a family-style environment.*



# ELEMENTARY SCHOOL UPDATE



## SAME PROGRAM, NEW NAME

This year the elementary school counselors are implementing the SEL curriculum in our elementary schools. Follow this [link](#) to read the September issue of "Counselors Connection".



## MORNING MEETING

Click [here](#) to see a slideshow of student feedback on Morning Meeting.

**CLICK THE APPLE TO TRY  
MORNING MEETING AT HOME**



# ELEMENTARY RESOURCES

## ELEMENTARY SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING



THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF HAVERFORD TOWNSHIP

### WHAT IS SEL?

SEL is a process of acquiring a skill set to manage emotions, set and achieve positive goals, feel and show empathy for others, establish and maintain positive relationships, and make responsible decisions.



### DID YOU KNOW?

Haverford has had an elementary SEL (guidance) program since ...

1989

By the end of 5th grade, students will have over

100

SEL lessons taught by their school counselors!

### HOW?

- Explicit SEL Instruction through bi-weekly (guidance) lessons in grades 1-5 and Kindergarten as scheduled
- Individual and group counseling
- Responsive Classroom
- School Wide Emphasis on Character Building
- Service learning projects
- Family Nights
- Mindfulness Discussion and Practice
- Access to SEL literature
- Kindness Week



Research shows that SEL not only improves achievement by an average of 11 percentile points, but it also increases prosocial behaviors (such as kindness, sharing, and empathy), improves student attitudes toward school, and reduces depression and stress among students (Durlak et al., 2011).

ALL ABOUT...

## MORNING MEETING

A Family Resource Guide from the School District of Haverford Township

For the first 15-20 minutes of every day, students gather in a circle with their teacher.

The goal of Morning Meeting is to build a strong classroom community and to start each day on a positive, welcoming note.

The meeting includes 4 parts:

### GREETING



Purpose:

- Sets a positive tone for the day
- Provides a sense of recognition and belonging
- Helps students learn and use everyone's name
- Lets students practice hospitality and friendliness

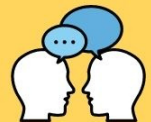
How does it look in the classroom?

- Use a Whisper Voice or a funny voice to say "Good morning!"
- Greet in another language
- 1 Minute Greeting: Greet as many people as you can in 60 seconds

### SHARING

Purpose:

- Helps students to know each other
- Builds connections
- Enables the teachers to weave students' interests into academics
- Develops important social and emotional competencies (speaking, listening, asking questions, responding with empathy)



How does it look in the classroom?

- Tell about a book you recently read
- Share your favorite meal and tell who makes it
- Teach one thing about your favorite sport or hobby

### ACTIVITY

Purpose:

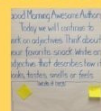
- Builds positive community by developing a repertoire of songs,
- Games, chants, and poems
- Fosters active and engaged participation
- Heightens the class' sense of identity by having fun together
- Strengthens social & emotional skills
- Enhances the learning of curriculum content through play



How does it look in the classroom?

- Hot and Cold: Partners hide an item in the room and give clues to find it.
- Choral read a poem and act it out
- 4 Corners: Find a corner and hope the guesser doesn't pick your corner number!

### MORNING MESSAGE

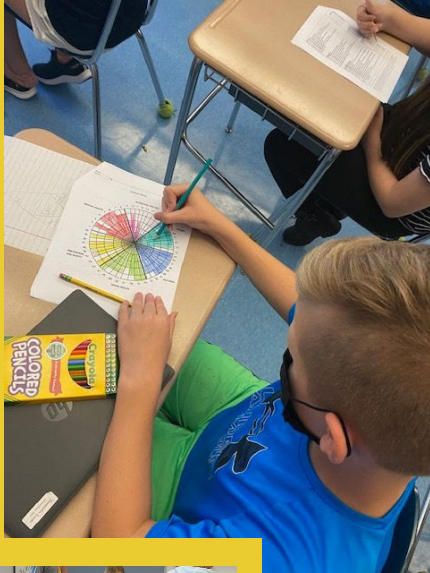


Purpose:

- Develops and reinforces language, math, and other skills in a meaningful and interactive way
- Builds community through shared written information
- Reinforces social-emotional academic skills
- Helps students make the transition from Morning Meeting to the rest of the day and gets them excited about what they'll be learning



# MIDDLE SCHOOL UPDATE



## OPENING DAYS!

Students are enjoying hands-on lessons and building new relationships with their peers and teachers.



## DAILY ADVISORY/WELLNESS

Daily wellness activities are being incorporated to the end of each lunch period. It's a perfect time to get to know one another just like Ms. Soucek's group is doing here with their blind folded puzzle building game.



## PRIDE DAY!

Spirit days will be happening throughout the school year. Sixth graders showing off their H-PRIDE by wearing shirts representing what they are proud of.



# HIGH SCHOOL UPDATE



## HEALTH ROOM AT HHS

Students are given time to decompress by utilizing the new whiteboards in the health room after they complete and in-class assignment.

## ALTERNATIVE SEATING FORMAT

Mrs. Monaghan's Spanish classes have been introduced to an alternative seating format that takes away desks and encourages more conversation, dialogue, and positive peer relationship building within the classroom.



## MINDFULNESS MONDAYS

Mrs. Malligan's Health classes start with Mindful Monday's where students are given various mindful activities to ease into the week.