



**Kenmore-Town of Tonawanda
Union Free School District**

Office of the Superintendent

March, 2017

Stephen Bovino
Interim Superintendent of Schools
1500 Colvin Blvd.
Buffalo, NY 14223
(716) 874-8400 ext. 20342
sbovino@ktufsd.org

Dear Families,

Spring is almost here, and students in Grades 3-8 across New York State will once again be taking the state math and ELA assessments. There has been a great deal of attention on these assessments in recent years and I wish to clarify for families how these assessments are used.

First, I wish to highlight some of the recent successes that our exceptional staff has celebrated:

- We have once again seen gains in our graduation rate. In 2016, the Kenmore West High School graduation rate increased 5 percentage points to 92%, the Kenmore East High School graduation rate held steady at 91% after seeing a significant increase last year, and the District-wide graduation rate increased 5 percentage points to 89%.
- The District and all of its schools achieved "Good Standing Status" last year by the New York State Education Department because of student success.
- The most recent Aspirational Performance Measure (APM) figures released by the state showed growth not only in APM but also in the District's ranking among school districts in Erie County.

These successes were made possible by the extraordinary work of all our teachers, support staff, and administrators. Every year, our talented staff of educators use information from the assessments to gain a greater understanding of how students are developing. They are able to identify areas of strength and ways the District can better support teachers in the classroom. **Assessment results are in no way a full measure of a child's abilities.** Instead, they are one tool, of many, educators use to measure progress and meet the needs of all students. The more that students participate in the assessments, the more reliable the information is, and the more effective the measurement tool becomes.

The majority of our students in grades 3-8 took part in last year's assessments. We have collaborated with parents who have elected to opt their children out of the assessments, and we will continue to respect that decision. For those who choose to participate, there were changes made last year that resulted in a better experience for test takers. The assessments were not timed so that students could complete the tests at their own pace. There was a decrease in the number of questions and greater teacher input in the development of questions.

If you have any questions regarding the assessments, please be sure to reach out to your child's teacher or principal. Thank you for your continued partnership with the Ken-Ton School District as we all work together to ensure the very best for our students.

Sincerely,

Stephen Bovino
Interim Superintendent of Schools

We educate, prepare and inspire all students to achieve their highest potential.

OUR MISSION: TO DEVELOP SELF-DIRECTED, LIFELONG LEARNERS OF GOOD CHARACTER.

Carmelina Persico, Principal
 Michelle Jaros, Assistant Principal
 Heidie Buffomante, Assistant Principal

Tel: (716) 874-8405
 Fax: (716) 874-8470

March 7, 2017

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As we near the start of the fourth marking period of the school year, I would like to take the opportunity to remind you of the timeline for upcoming assessments. This year, the NYS ELA and Math Assessments will take place in March and May, respectively. Our local exams will be given soon thereafter in May and June. (Please see below for a list of specific dates). Please continue to encourage your child to make their studies a top priority, to take advantage of our remedial opportunities, and to ensure that they are keeping on pace with their school work. We are also happy to support you and your child in any way possible to help them be successful with their academics. Please let us know how we may be of assistance to you.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact the school at 874-8405. I wish you all the best for a wonderful spring recess and successful finish to the school year!

Sincerely,



Mrs. Persico
 Principal

NYS Assessments (Given in Class)

March 28 th -30 th	NYS English Language Arts Assessments Grades 5, 6 & 7
May 2 nd -4 th	NYS Math Assessments Grades 5, 6, & 7
April 10 th - May 19 th	NYSESLAT -Speaking (English as a Second Language Assessments)
May 8 th -May 19 th	NYSESLAT -Listening, Reading, Writing (English as a Second Language Assessments)

Local Assessments (Given in Class)

Science

May 22 nd -25 th	Grade 5 Science Lab Practical
May 26 th (make-ups)	
May 29 th -June 1 st	Grade 6 Science Lab Practical
June 2 nd (make-ups)	
June 5 th -7 th	Grade 7 Science Lab Practical

Continued on reverse side.

Local Assessments (Given in Class) cont'dTechnology

June 5 th & 6 th	Grade 6
June 5 th and/or June 6 th	Grade 7
June 7 th & 8 th (make-ups)	Grades 6 & 7

Physical Education

June 5 th & 6 th	Grades 5,6, & 7
June 7 th & 8 th (make-ups)	Grades 5,6, & 7

Music

June 6 th -8 th <i>Includes make-ups</i>	Band, Chorus, & Orchestra-Grades 5,6, & 7
June 6 th -8 th <i>Includes make-ups</i>	General Music-Grades 5,6, & 7

World Languages

June 12 th -14 th <i>Includes make-ups</i>	Grade 7-French, German, and Spanish
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Digital Literacy

June 13 th June 14 th (make-ups)	Grades 5 & 6
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FACS

June 13 th	Grades 5, 6, & 7
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Art

In-class final art projects	Grades 5, 6, & 7
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**Local Final Exams for ALL Grade Levels 5, 6, & 7 (Given during half-days)

June 15 th	Social Studies
June 16 th	ELA
June 19 th	Math
June 20 th	Science

****NOTE: June 15th through June 20th - Dismissal at 10:45 and 11:45****

PTA NEWLETTER

Dear Hoover Middle Families,

It's hard to believe that we are approaching the last couple of months of the school year! We have some exciting events planned for the students, as well as some wonderful opportunities for you to volunteer and be involved.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- *Chipotle Fundraiser will be held on April 27 from 4pm-8pm
- *Pre-Sale Plant Sale will be held from April 24th-May 8th
- *Teacher Appreciation Week 5/1 - 5/5
- *Hoover Middle School LUAU Dance will be held on Friday, May 5th from 6pm-8pm
- *7th Grade End of Year Celebration June 9th

More information will follow for all of the above. **Make sure to sign up for our PTA Remind 101 to keep up to date on all of our events! Please refer to the information on the reverse side.**

The next Hoover Middle PTA meeting is on April 18th at 6:30 in the school's cafeteria. You can enter through door 11 in the rear parking lot.

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

- April 18th at 6:30
- May 11th at 6:30
- June 8th at 6:30

The meetings do not take long and you can voice ideas and opinions in a warm, welcoming environment. You also get to hear about our latest happenings in the school. We have over 800 families at Hoover Middle and only average around 15 people per meeting. We would love to see that number increase!

Thank you,
Hoover Middle PTA

If you would like to volunteer for our School Dance on 5/5 anytime from 5:30-8:30 please contact Kerri Gallivan at 435-4930 kerrigallivan@gmail.com. If you would like to help with the Plant Sale on May 23rd anytime between 1:30-6:00 please contact Mollie Johnson 875-2243 or Laura Kulys 876-6546. You can also just return this portion of the slip to school. We really do appreciate any help you can offer!

Name:	Phone number/email	Dance/Plants Sale	Times available
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Sign up for important updates from Kerri Gallivan, Hoover Middle PTA

Get information for Hoover Middle PTA right on your phone—not on handouts.

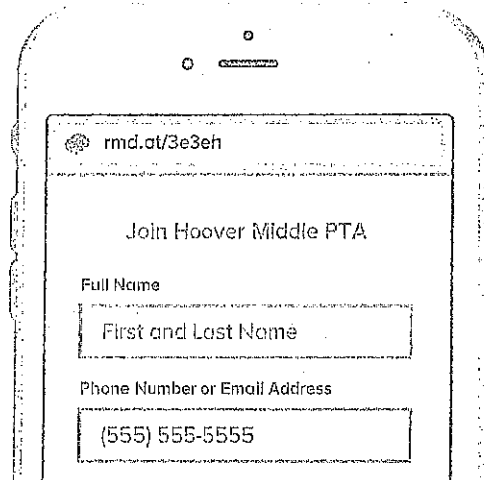
Pick a way to receive messages for Hoover Middle PTA:

A If you have a smartphone, get push notifications.

On your iPhone or Android phone, open your web browser and go to the following link:

rmd.at/3e3eh

Follow the instructions to sign up for Remind. You'll be prompted to download the mobile app.

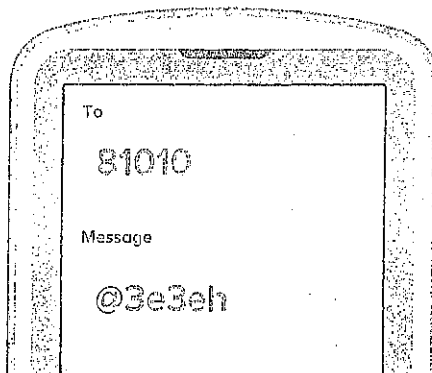


B If you don't have a smartphone, get text notifications.

Text the message @3e3eh to the number 81010.

If you're having trouble with 81010, try texting @3e3eh to (716) 602-3611.

** Standard text message rates apply.*



Don't have a mobile phone? Go to rmd.at/3e3eh on a desktop computer to sign up for email notifications.