



Family Newsletter

August 28, 2025

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I hope this letter finds you and your family well and enjoying the final days of summer. On behalf of the entire faculty and staff, I am thrilled to welcome you and your child back for an exciting new school year at Hazel Park Junior High School.

This year, we are proud to take an important step forward in how we support our students—by moving to a teaming model. This approach is centered on one clear goal: ensuring every student feels connected, supported, and seen each day.

In this model, students will be part of smaller learning communities, or “teams,” with a consistent group of classmates and a dedicated team of teachers across core subjects. This structure allows for stronger relationships, improved communication, and greater collaboration among staff to meet individual student needs—both academically and socially. We believe this shift will make a meaningful difference in how students experience middle school and will create a more personalized, connected, and supportive learning environment.

This positive change reflects our continued commitment to putting students first in everything we do. Middle school is a time of rapid growth and change, and we want to ensure that every student has a consistent group of adults and peers who know them, care about them, and are invested in their success.

We are energized and enthusiastic about this school year—not only because we get to welcome our students back, but also because we are building something that will truly enhance their school experience. Our team has been working hard over the summer to plan and prepare for this transition, and we can’t wait for you and your child to see it in action.

As always, we value your partnership and look forward to working together to make this school year a success. Please don’t hesitate to reach out with any questions or thoughts as we begin this exciting journey.

Sincerely,

Dr. Julie Kaminski

Principal

Hazel Park Junior High School

“Success is the sum of small efforts, repeated day in and day out.” –Robert Collier

HELLO HPJH FAMILIES!

What an amazing couple of days at HPJH! The team schedule has maximized instructional time and provided teachers with much needed time to collaborate for instruction. It is going to be an amazing year for student growth in mindset and academics!

We hope you have a wonderful weekend, and a safe, happy Labor Day. School resumes on Tuesday, September 2

PICTURE DAY!

Just a friendly reminder that picture day is September 8. On that day, students will receive the school ID badge on a lanyard. Students will be expected to wear their student IDs with the Hazel Park Schools lanyard daily. They are \$2 to replace.

MEET THE TEACHER NIGHT

We invite everyone to join us for Meet the Teacher Night! Learn more about our team model and what to expect for this school year. 8th grade parents will have a second meeting in the auditorium at 7:00 to learn about the trip to Washington DC.

DATES TO REMEMBER!

Here are some important dates to get on your calendar! We look forward to seeing everyone on one of the three Schedule Pick Up Days.

Aug 29-Sept 1		NO SCHOOL - Happy Labor Day Weekend
Sept 2	7:55-2:55	School Resumes
Sept 8	8:00-2:30	School Pictures
Sept 9	6:00-7:30	Meet the Teacher Night!
Sept 26	7:55-11:05	Half Day of School
10-13-25		NO SCHOOL
10-14-25		Picture Retake Day
10-27 thru 10-31		Boo Grams - Student Council
10-31-25	7:55-11:05	HALF DAY - records in afternoon
11-4-25		NO SCHOOL - Institute Day
11-12-25	6:00-7:30	STEM Night

11-13-25	Until 7:00	Half Day for Students, Conferences
11-26-25		NO SCHOOL - Institute Day
11-27 thru 11-30		Thanksgiving Break
12-15 thru 12-18		Spirit Week
12-19-25	7:55-11:05	Half Day
12-20 thru 1-4		Holiday Break
1-5-26		School Resumes

Sincerely,

Dr. Julie Kaminski, Sheila O'Kane, Ed.S., Bobby Kiger

HELPFUL LINKS

[Hazel Park Junior High School Calendar, 2025/2026](#)

[Hazel Park Junior High School website](#)

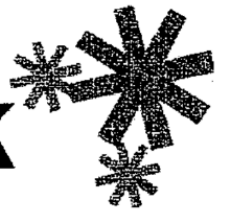
[Hazel Park Schools Student Handbook, 2025/2026](#)

[Hazel Park Vikings Gear](#)

[Hazel Park Junior High School Gear](#)



BUILD UP THE PARK A PARENT SERIES



2025-2026

Join us for Build Up the Park, a district-wide parent series open to all Hazel Park Schools families! Each event includes dinner and free childcare, so you can relax, connect, and participate fully. We're excited to host this year's events, offering support, resources, and connection for families across the district. Two of our featured events—Choose Your Own Adventure and Hometown Huddle—are specially designed for children and parents to enjoy together. We can't wait to see you there!

Aug. 28, 2025, 5 to 6:30 PM @ High School
Hometown Huddle

Sept. 23, 2025, 6 to 7:30 PM @ Junior High
Choose your own Adventure

Oct. 7, 2025, 5:30 to 7 PM @ Webb
Family First: Tools to help Students thrive

Nov. 20, 2025, 5:30-7 PM @ United Oaks
Dinner and Data

Dec. 9, 2025 5:30 to 7 PM @ Hoover
Cocoa & Conversation

Jan. 13, 2026, 5:30 to 7 PM @ Webb
Navigating Tech & Child Wellness

Feb. 7, 2026, 11 am to 2 PM
@ Junior High
Family Resource fair and Chili Cookoff

March 24, 2026, 5:30 to 7 PM
@ United Oaks
Dinner and Data

April 21, 2026, 5:30 to 7 PM @ TBD
From Here to Hired

May 12, 2026, 5:30 to 7 PM @ Hoover
Safe at Home

