



## Family Newsletter

September 19, 2025

### HELLO HPJH FAMILIES!

I hope this message finds you well and you are enjoying the start of a new school year. I want to take a moment to thank you for your continued partnership and to share some of the great things happening at Hazel Park Junior High.

Our classrooms are full of energy and learning! Our dedicated teachers are working hard each day to engage students with meaningful lessons and opportunities to grow both academically and personally. We're seeing students ask great questions, collaborate with peers, and tackle challenges with creativity and perseverance.

Our teaming model—which groups students with a consistent team of teachers—is going well and helping us build stronger relationships and provide more personalized support. We believe this structure is a powerful tool in helping every student succeed.

As we move further into the year, I am asking for your help and support at home to reinforce some important messages. Specifically, we need your partnership in talking with your child about their academic goals and reminding them of our behavior expectations here at school.

While many students are focused and working hard, we are seeing a growing number of students distracted by conflict and social drama, including fighting. This behavior takes away from learning, impacts school safety, and is not aligned with who we are as a school community.

At Hazel Park Junior High, we are committed to being a school centered on safety, respect, and learning. We ask that you regularly speak with your child about how they can contribute positively to our school environment. A few ways you can support us at home include:

- Talking about your child's academic goals and progress.
- Encouraging respectful behavior and peaceful conflict resolution.
- Helping your child feel confident using their combination lock on their locker.
- Making sure they remember their student ID everyday.
- Ensuring they arrive at school on time and are ready to learn.
- Promoting a positive mindset for learning each morning.

At school, we expect all students to:

- Be in class and on time, every period.
- Walk appropriately and respectfully in the halls.
- Follow directions from teachers and staff.
- Be role models for one another.

At Dismissal

- Please be patient in the car line and respect the expectation that students may not cross the driveway and go into the parking lot.
- Remind your student to be watching for you to pull up so the line moves quickly. Your child should enter your vehicle quickly so the line can move forward.
- Students may not loiter at the school, they must start walking home at dismissal. Students should always check in at home before going back out into the community. Please do not let your students wait at Scout Park or loiter at Taco Bell.

By working together, we can ensure that Hazel Park Junior High remains a place where all students feel safe, respected, and ready to learn. Thank you for everything you do to support your child's success. Please don't hesitate to reach out if you have questions or need support—we are here to help.

Sincerely,

Dr. Julie Kaminski  
Principal  
Hazel Park Junior High School

### **STUDENTS AFTER SCHOOL**

Parents and guardians, please make sure your students know that they need to walk directly home when school is dismissed. They may not hang out at the school, Scout Park or Taco Bell.

### **8th GRADE WASHINGTON DC INFORMATION NIGHT**

There will be an information night for 8th grade parents regarding the field trip to Washington DC on Wednesday, September 24 in the HPJH auditorium. It will be from 6:00-7:00. There will be more information, in addition to what you learned at Meet the Teacher Night. Please see the flyer below!

### **CORNHOLE FUNDRAISER**

Please see the flyer below regarding a cornhole tournament this weekend to raise money for our seniors at the high school! FUN!

## UPCOMING AFTER-SCHOOL CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES

- **Michigan Stage** - please see the flyer at the end of this email.
- **Cross Country** - students can still join cross country! Ask in the office or see Ms. Breshgold
- **Culinary Club** - will start October 15. Students will learn about healthy eating, portion size, and reading labels. A flyer with information on how to register is coming soon!
- **Homework Club** - We hope to get homework club starting soon! It meets in the media center Monday through Thursday, 3:00-4:00. Watch for more information

## DATES TO REMEMBER!

Here are some important dates to get on your calendar!

Sept 24	6:00-7:00	8th Grade Washington DC Information
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
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](#)



# WASHINGTON DC

## 8th Grade

### PARENT INFORMATION MEETING



*Wed. Sept. 24, 2025*

**Hazel Park Junior High Auditorium  
6:00 PM - 7:00 PM**



*Come Learn About*

Dates of travel, the total cost, financial assistance, what's included in the price, the itinerary, and a memorable hands-on learning experience and history about our Nation's capital.



*Trip Registration Info*

Tour Company: WorldStrides  
ID # 224670

**BOOK TODAY**



Email [vinette.cephas@myhpsd.org](mailto:vinette.cephas@myhpsd.org)



800-468-5899



[worldstrides.com/register](http://worldstrides.com/register)



**CLASS OF 2026 SENIOR PARENT GROUP**

# **CORNHOLE**

## **TOURNAMENT**

**4  
PM**

**SUNDAY, SEPT. 21, 2025**

**4  
PM**

**FUN, FOOD, RAFFLES**

**\$20  
PER  
PLAYER**

**PRIZES**

**FIRST  
SECOND  
THIRD**



**Come and  
have a fun  
time, for a  
great cause  
... our Class  
of 2026**

**SMOKED LOTUS BBQ**  
21509 JOHN R RD, HAZEL PARK

**CONTACT**

**REBECCA**  
248.284.3533

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**LAKESHA**  
313.310.9728

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**DAWN**  
248.930.3310

**FOR TICKETS**



**NO BARRIERS.  
NO AUDITIONS.  
NO MEMORIZATION.  
NO PRESSURE.  
JUST CREATIVITY.**



**EVERY CHILD BELONGS ON STAGE  
—REGARDLESS OF EXPERIENCE,  
ABILITY, OR INCOME.**

**MPLAY  
LABS**  
MICHIGANSTAGE.ORG

**EVERY THURSDAY STARTING ON 9/18/25!**

**After-School Program Opportunity!**

We're offering a special program for 6th–8th graders but hurry, there are only 20 spots available on a first come, first serve basis!

Families are encouraged to use the “Pay What You Can” donation option but there is no donation required if it's not possible!

Don't miss out on this chance for your child to join!



***SCAN ME!***



# **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

