



Hampton Cove Middle School
A Center of Excellence for Leadership and Learning
A Blue Ribbon Lighthouse School of Excellence
A PTA School of Excellence

2019-20 Student Handbook

School Colors: Red, Black and Gold
School Mascot: Bull
Phone: 256-428-8380

School Theme: "Life is Good"
School Hours: 8:00-3:00
Address: 261 B Old Hwy 431

This student handbook is designed to give specific procedures which are applicable to Hampton Cove Middle School. It is not meant to supersede the Huntsville City Schools' Parent Information Guide which can be found on the Huntsville City Schools website. Updates will be made to the handbook as needed based on changes to the HCS Behavior Learning Guide. Any questions or concerns about this handbook should be directed to the school principal, Amy Van Allen.

Advisor/Advisee Period – Students at HCMS are assigned an advisor each school year. The advisor meets with a group of students before the first class every morning and serves as a mentor for the group of students. Leadership, character development and other topics that affect young teens are covered in this class as well as the review of study skills and test taking strategies.

Arrival Procedures – Students are encouraged to arrive at school well before 7:50 every morning so they can eat breakfast and visit their lockers to get prepared and organized for the day. Students will enter the school through the front of the building (7th/8th grade through gym lobby doors and 6th grade through the main lobby) or the designated door at the rear of the school (end of Band/Choir hallway). Students who arrive at school before 7:30 will report directly to the AV room via the doors at the end of the sixth-grade hall for an independent study hall time. Students will remain in gym area until 7:50 a.m., unless they choose to visit the library or attend a school activity or meeting (with a pass from a teacher).

At 7:50 a.m., students will be dismissed to go to their lockers, visit the restroom and head to their advisory class. School begins **promptly** at 8:00 a.m., regardless of the weather. If it is raining, please leave home early in order to have your child at school in plenty of time to visit their locker before school begins at 8:00am.

Students arriving at school after 8:00 a.m. must come to the front office to be checked in and receive a check-in pass to class. **When students arrive to school late, parents must accompany the student to the front office and sign the student into school. Parents will be called to return to school should a student enter the school unattended.**

Parents who drop students off in the front of the school are asked to pull as far down as possible when dropping off. This makes room for as many cars as possible and allows the car line to run efficiently from 7:30-8:00. Middle school parents may drop off middle school students in elementary car line ONLY if there is an elementary sibling. Parents should NOT drop off elementary students in the middle school car line as younger siblings are not supervised as they travel to the elementary school. Park and Walk is another option for dropping off students. Families should park in a designated parking space in the side parking lot and walk student to cross walk in the mornings. Students cannot be dropped off in this parking lot. Further, families should not use the teacher parking lot as a loading/unloading zone. (See below in **Carline** and **Park and Walk** for more details.)

Athletics – The Alabama High School Athletic Association allows 7th and 8th grade students in middle school to participate in the school-sanctioned sports. HCS has chosen the following sports for middle school students: cheerleading, volleyball, football, basketball and track. School athletic schedules and other information can be found on the school's website each year. Middle school students may try out and play on Huntsville High School sport teams, but those arrangements must be made directly between student/parent and the high school coach. Students participating in high school athletics will be allowed to have early dismissal for games, tournaments and events. However, HCMS students cannot be excused for practices. For more information on athletics, contact our assistant principal and athletic director, April Clark. april.clark@hsv-k12.org

Attendance – Good attendance habits translate to good academic progress and a good attitude toward learning. Students are expected to attend school every day and family trips should be planned around the HCS school calendar. HCMS is expected to maintain a 95% attendance rate every school day, in addition to a tardy rate lower than 5%. A student must attend school at least ½ day to be considered "present" for the day. (11:30am is considered the ½ day point)

When a student has an excused absence, teachers will provide an opportunity for the student to make up missed assignments and/or tests. Class syllabi will be distributed at the beginning of the year and teachers will explain individual class procedures and expectations to students.

The absence of a student must be explained by the parent/guardian of the student. This should be done by emailing the school or by sending a written statement from the parent or guardian giving the date(s) and reason for the absence(s). Parents should email the front office at marquita.lewis@hsv-k12.org. Excuses should be submitted as soon as possible for accurate record keeping. After one unexcused absence, families will be contacted by a faculty or staff member. At three unexcused absences, families will receive a phone call from the principal and a letter from the school. After ten excused absences with a parent excuse, a doctor's excuse will be needed. The Early Warning Program out of the District Attorney's Office will be implemented through HCS after five unexcused absences or ten unexcused tardies. Parents are encouraged to support both the short and long-term benefits of a student learning the importance of responsible living, which includes regular, committed attendance at school.

Other than being sick, excused absences may be given for:

- Inclement weather which would be dangerous to the life or health of the student if he/she attends school
- Legal quarantine
- Death in the immediate family
- Emergency conditions as determined by the superintendent or the principal
- Legal requirements (court appearances)

Students having a doctor or dentist appointment during school hours must bring or send an excuse from that office upon returning to school. To be excused, a student must bring in a note explaining that the student was at a medical appointment. If a medical note from the doctor's office is not brought, the check-out/in will be marked as unexcused/tardy.

Please take note of a new HCS policy regarding absences due to family vacations.

Absences Due to Family Trips – Absences due to family trips or vacations are unexcused and a student will not be allowed to make up daily class work, assignments, and homework upon the student's return to school. The student will be allowed to make up all tests and exams. Huntsville City Schools encourages students and families to review the Huntsville City Schools' online calendar and to schedule family trips and vacations when school is not in session. Parents are reminded that consistent student attendance is critical to enhancing learning and improving academic performance. The purpose of this policy is to ensure that students remain in school and do not miss out on valuable instructional time and important learning opportunities.

More information on attendance can be found in the HCS Parent Information Handbook.

Bell Schedule – The following is the regular bell schedule to be followed on most days. Modified bell schedules will be implemented on half-days, pep rally days, or Toro time days.

TIME	Angus	Brahman	Dexter	Hereford	Longhorn	Watusi
8:00-8:10	Adv	Adv	Adv	Adv	Adv	Adv
8:14-9:03	1	2	3	4	6	7
9:07-9:56	2	3	4	6	7	1
9:56-10:05	<u>Locker Time</u>	<u>Locker Time</u>	<u>Locker Time</u>	<u>Locker Time</u>	<u>Locker Time</u>	<u>Locker Time</u>
10:09-10:58	3	4	6	7	1	2
11:02-11:51	4	6	7	1	2	3
11:55-1:17	5	5	5	5	5	5
1:21-2:08	6	7	1	2	3	4
2:12-3:00	7	1	2	3	4	6

Bikes – Students are permitted to ride bikes to school. All bikes should be secured to the bike rack provided in front of the middle school. Students are not allowed to ride a bike on the sidewalks or entrances to the school building. Bike helmets must be worn by students riding bikes to and from school and all bikes should be locked to the bike rack.

Breakfast – Breakfast will be available in the cafeteria each morning from 7:30-7:50. A student meal is \$1.50. Students will remain in the cafeteria until they have finished eating. After cleaning up their area, they may proceed to the gym (7th/8th grade) or AV room (6th grade).

Bullying – Bullying is defined by HCS as repeated, unwanted, aggressive behavior among school-age children that involves a real or perceived power imbalance. Bullying will not be tolerated at HCMS. Please check with HCS Behavioral Learning Guide for additional information.

Campus Visits Before/After School (Students) -- Students are encouraged to stay on campus for supervised before and/or after-school clubs/events. Families are also welcome to visit the campus fields to ride bicycles, play pick-up sports, etc. if no other scheduled sports are occupying the space. However, skates, skateboards, bicycles, etc., may not be ridden on school property except for the paved track area. Families who bring dogs on campus must clean up any dog waste.

When families visit the school from 3:05-4:00, we ask that you stop by the office for a visitor's badge before going to classrooms. This is not necessary for athletic or other school wide events.

Carline--The safety of the children has been and will always be the primary concern when establishing procedures. Every day we attempt to complete the loading process as quickly as possible. With that being said, there seems to be two reoccurring factors that slow down the loading/unloading process.

First, please pull forward as directed by the teachers and staff on duty. When all cars move to the end of the carline, it maximizes the number of students that can be loaded and unloaded. Stopping in front of the main entrance to wait for your child or drop your child off creates delays for hundreds of families.

Secondly, loading and unloading should only happen once you have passed the main crosswalk. The line gets backed up when students are getting in and out in the limited space between the corner of the elementary drop off and our main cross walk.

HCMS has added a few features over the summer to help the process run as quickly as possible. Additional seating has been installed so that students can move down the side walk to sit and wait rather than congregate near the main entrance. Further, large signs reminding drivers to pull forward as directed and signs to mark no loading zones will be used in August.

Celebrations – School celebrations for good student behavior will be held at the end of each semester. Guidelines for school celebrations will be developed by student leaders under the guidance of faculty and administration. Students will be expected to follow the HCS dress code

and obey all rules and directions of the supervising faculty during the celebration. Parents are always welcome to attend school dances.

Cell Phones – HCMS has many landline phones located throughout the school that students may use with teacher permission. Students may also use the phones in the front office with permission from a teacher. With teacher permission on an as needed basis, students may use their cell phones to call home. However, to maximize instructional time and reduce distraction for students, HCMS requires students to lock cell phones in their locker in the mornings and leave them until dismissal. Students should not have phones with them in bathrooms, locker rooms, classrooms, or hallways during the school day.

Violation of the cell phone policy will result in the following consequences at HCMS (all documented in BLOOM):

- **First offense**: Teacher will collect cell phone and turn in to the front office. The student may collect the cell phone at 3:05.
- **Second offense**: Teacher will collect the cell phone and turn in to the front office. Only the parent/guardian may collect the cell phone at the end of the day during a brief conference to discuss the consequences if the behavior continues.
- **Third offense**: Teacher will collect the cell phone and turn in to the front office. Only the parent/guardian may collect the cell phone at the end of the day. Student will be assigned ½ day of ISS for repeated infraction.
- **Fourth offense**: Teacher will collect the cell phone and turn in to the front office. The student will be assigned a full day of ISS per HCS policy of accumulated Level one (1) offenses. Only the parent/guardian may collect the cell phone at the end of the day.
- Subsequent offenses will be handled between parent/guardian and administration following the BLG.

HCMS will not investigate lost or missing cell phones or personally-owned technology. All technology is to be locked in the students' lockers every day.

Community Service (Service Learning) – Service learning (providing service to the community) is an important leadership component at HCMS. Teaching students the importance of recognizing needs in our community and finding ways to make improvements helps mold our young people into being contributing adults. Every student at HCMS is encouraged to provide at least 10 hours of community service every year (outside school hours) and should record service hours on an **HCMS Community Service Form**. Parents are asked to support their children and the school as we get involved with various service projects. Community service does not include 'chores performed at home' nor can students 'be paid' for community service completed. Special recognition is given at the end of the year to students volunteering at least 10 hours during the school year. Additional levels of recognition will be given for students who go above and beyond this minimal requirement. Although recognition is not the ultimate reason for serving the community, we do want to positively recognize our students who serve others with nothing expecting in return. Click here for more ideas on volunteering. <http://www.volunteennation.org/>

Conferences -- In middle school, parent-teacher conferences are held at the request of the parent or the teacher to address concerns. Parents should contact the teacher to schedule conferences. In addition to parent-teacher conferences, HCMS asks that parents participate in student-led conferences between students and parents. More information can be found at

http://www.educationworld.com/a_admin/admin/admin112.shtml and will be sent home via newsletter.

Contacting the School/Teachers – Feel free to contact the school at any time. Our office staff will be glad to answer any questions you have as well as refer you to teachers that can answer your questions or address your concerns. You may also contact a teacher through email. The email address of faculty/staff members at HCMS can be found on the school's website or on each teacher's individual class syllabi. If a faculty member cannot speak to you when you call, they will return your call or respond to your email within 48 hours. Teachers will schedule parent-teacher conferences at your request. When possible, a child's team of teachers will meet with parents at one time to address concerns or answer questions. If you have a concern with a teacher, please contact him/her first for a resolution. If parents do not hear back from a teacher that they have attempted to contact, the parent should send a second email to the teacher and copy an administrator. Parents and teachers are encouraged to meet in-person to solve recurring issues. Check the last page of this handbook for quick links to additional resources.

Discipline – Hampton Cove Middle School, in compliance with the Huntsville City Schools Official Student-Parent Handbook, requires students to conduct themselves in a manner that facilitates the educational process. Rules are necessary when a group as large as ours works together for a school year. *Hampton Cove Middle School has adopted a positive approach to discipline.* This positive approach focuses on good decision-making skills, leadership, and the importance of setting a positive example at school. Middle school students who consistently follow school rules, may earn special privileges and opportunities to celebrate.

Schoolwide Expectations—Be An "Awesome Bull!"

B - Be Respectful
U - Use Good Judgement
L - Listen and Learn
L - Lead by Example
S - Show Accountability

Sometimes, behavioral expectations are not met by students. As defined by the HCS Behavioral Learning Guide, Level one (1) infractions will be addressed by classroom teachers. These include such things as:

Unexcused tardiness	Lack of self-discipline
Chewing gum/eating candy	Not following directions
Excessive talking in class	Not completing assignments
Inappropriate language	Disruptive behavior
Dress code violation	Cell phone violation

Students committing a Level 1 infraction may be assigned a silent lunch or a working lunch. If a child is assigned to silent lunch, the parent will be notified by phone or email.

Repeated violations of offenses may result in additional consequences as outlined by the BLG including an office referral to an administrator.

More serious discipline situations will be referred to the administration immediately. These offenses may result in suspension at school or at home. If you have questions about discipline, please contact the HCMS Assistant Principal, April Clark at 256 428-8380, extension 202.

Dismissal Procedures – Students in the middle school will be dismissed at 3:00 pm. Car riders will exit through the front doors of the school while walkers may exit out the rear school doors (end of 8th grade hallway). Bus riders report to the AV room where they wait for their buses to arrive. Students must be off campus by 3:25 every afternoon unless they are involved in after-school supervised activities.

Parents may pick up their children in one of two ways:

1. Drive through the car line. Parents may begin lining up for middle school pick-up as soon as elementary car line is over. The middle school car line begins at the intersection of the middle/elementary school. (See **Carline** described above for more details.)
2. Parking in the side lot...Park and Walk. Students may wait at the bike rack at dismissal for an adult to meet them and walk them out to the parking lot. For safety reasons, students may NOT wait for families under the tree or in the grassy area near the parking lot.

Students that stay after school to attend athletic events or other programs or practices must be picked up immediately following that event. Failure to leave campus in a timely manner may result in lost participation or privileges in after school events.

Copies --Students may visit the library/media center before or after school to make copies. A charge of \$0.10 per page will be charged for copies/printouts.

Dress Code – We are committed to preparing our students for college and careers beyond high school. To be successful in either arena, students must dress in a neat, clean and appropriate manner and in clothing that encourages an atmosphere conducive to learning, work and discipline. Students will not wear any article of clothing or display any insignia or sign that shows disrespect for any person, creed, race, color, sex, or nationality, or that may lead to a disruption of the learning environment. Our goal to prepare students for the future aligns with state educational authorities and court decisions which have determined that style of dress and hair should not disrupt classes, interfere with learning, prevent instruction, and should comply with state health and safety standards. Parents/guardians are expected to be our partners by monitoring students' dress, and the District will annually re-evaluate the dress code and survey parents and students about the dress code. See below for this year's updated HCS dress code policy.

As teachers and administrators enforce this dress code, they should be aware of HCS's desire to keep students in the classroom to the maximum extent possible. Therefore, if a student's dress is non-conforming to the dress code but not disruptive to the learning environment, the teacher or administrator should address this issue discreetly with the student in a way that minimizes lost instructional time.

• **Hat/Head Coverings:**

- Hats, visors, and other head coverings (including sunglasses) may not be worn in school buildings.

Exceptions:

- Head coverings that have religious significance (approved by an administrator) ▪ Head coverings worn for medical reasons (approved by an administrator)
- Special events and/or circumstances that receive administrative approval
- Non-gang related head scarves/bandanas may be worn as an accessory

• **Shirts, Tops, Blouses, T-Shirts, Hoodies:**

- Shirts, tops, blouses, T-shirts, and hoodies that are too tight or revealing are not permitted

- Oversized shirts must be tucked in (an oversized shirt/hoodie/sweatshirt/top is defined as an excessively large and long)
- Hoodies and sweatshirts must fit appropriately. Hoods may not be worn in school buildings
- Shirts may not bare midriffs, including when arms are raised
- Halter and spaghetti strap tops and dresses are not permitted, unless covered
- Undergarments must be completely covered
- Sleeveless shirts with revealing armholes are not permitted
- **Pants, shorts, skorts, skirts and dresses:**
 - Hemlines of all shorts, skorts, skirts, and dresses (including slits) must not be higher than the middle of the thigh
 - Pants or jeans that have holes above the middle of the thigh may only be worn if opaque tights, leggings, or shorts are worn beneath. Holes in pants may not reveal the student's hips, bottom, or undergarments
 - Yoga pants, leggings, or jeggings are permitted. However, the top must cover the student's bottom
 - Students may not wear pajamas (except for special events and/or circumstances that receive administrative approval)
 - Pant legs may not drag on the floor
 - Pants must be secured at the waist
- **Other:**
 - Clothing that displays illegal behavior is not permitted. Any article of clothing, jewelry, or haircut depicting gangs, violence, sex, drugs, alcohol, mutilation or language that could be considered obscene or vulgar will not be permitted.
 - All clothing should be worn as designed. Examples: belts buckled, no underwear as outerwear, no underwear exposed, suspenders over the shoulders
 - "Slides" or flip flops may not be worn during P.E. House slippers are not permitted
 - Jewelry that could be used as a weapon is not permitted

We encourage you to think about what you are wearing and how it reflects on you. You will be seen by other students, teachers, staff, and the community. Put your best foot forward and show the world you respect yourself and your school. We encourage your individuality, but we also encourage you to dress for success.

Parents/guardians are expected to be our partners by monitoring students' dress, and the District will annually re-evaluate the dress code and survey parents and students about the dress code.

Should you wear items that violate the dress code, you may be asked to change into clothing available at the school or wait in ILC while a parent or guardian brings a change of clothes. Disregard for the dress code will lead to disciplinary action, in accordance with the Behavioral Learning Matrices.

Drop Off/Pick Up Procedures – Parents dropping off and picking up students in front of the school are asked to drive through the front driveway and pull up to the end of the covered canopy in front of the middle school. The school's side parking lot is a parent parking lot only. Students will not be allowed to walk from/to that lot unless accompanied by a parent. (See **Carline** and **Park and Walk** for more details.)

End of Year Awards – HCMS students are celebrated at the end of each school year at annual awards programs. Each student at HCMS will receive a certification of completion and has an

opportunity to be recognized in multiple areas in which he/she demonstrates outstanding performance.

Grades On-Line – Progress reports and report cards should never be a surprise. Parents and students are encouraged to check academic progress regularly during the school year through INOW. HCMS teachers input grades twice a week into INOW and update homework assignments every week in Canvas. A hard copy of a student's progress report may be requested from any teacher—the parent simply needs to contact the teacher. If you have difficulty accessing your child's information, please contact the school for help. Ms. Marquita Lewis in our front office will be able to assist you. If grades are not put in iNow in a timely manner, parents should contact the teacher.

Hall Passes – Students are required to have a hall pass should they need to leave a class.

Late Work – Organizational and timely skills are both critical skills needed for school, work and life success. As middle school educators, we value our role in teaching these skills to our students to help them prepare for college and career. We accomplish this by setting fair expectations for timely assignments. All assignments are expected to be turned in on time. However, on the occasion that work is not turn in on the due date, teachers may deduct points for late work. After one week, it is the teacher's discretion as to whether late work will be accepted.

Library/Media Center – The library/media center will be open each day from 7:30-7:50 and from 3:05-3:25 for students to make copies/printouts or to check in/out books. Upon arrival, students should check in with the teacher on duty in the gym lobby for a library pass (as these are limited in number to alleviate crowding).

Lockers – Every student will be assigned two (2) lockers at school—a hall locker and a PE locker. Students are not permitted to share lockers and are authorized to use only the locker assigned to them. Locker combinations are changed every summer, so your child and his/her advisory teacher will be the only people who will receive the locker combination. A \$5 locker fee is required of each student at the beginning of the year to cover the costs of annual locker maintenance. Students will also receive a PE locker to keep clothes, etc. inside during PE classes. Please encourage your child to keep his locker combination(s) confidential. No personal items are to be left in the locker room without being in a "locked" locker. Unlabeled, unclaimed clothing will be placed in the school's *Lost and Found*, located in the office. There is also a lost and found specifically for clothes left in PE located in each of the locker rooms. *Unclaimed clothing will be given to a local charity at the end of every month.*

Locker Break – Every morning after the second class, students will have an extended locker break. Students may choose to bring water or a healthy snack from home to eat during this time or may purchase a healthy snack from school snack cart.

Lunch – Students in middle school are encouraged to eat lunch every day. HCS lunches include a milk to drink. Students may choose to purchase a hot meal, or ala cart options that include additional lunch choices, juice, bottled water, flavored water, and/or ice cream. Student meal cost is \$2.65.

Breakfast is served from 7:30-7:55 each morning. Parents are encouraged to use the MealPay Program to pay for lunches online, by the month, or by the semester, so that students will not need to worry about having money. A check can also be sent to the cafeteria at any time.

Lunches brought to school after the 8:00am bell will be delivered to the cafeteria and be placed on a designated (lunch) table before the lunch period. Parents are invited to join their children for lunch at school. However, students will not be allowed to eat breakfasts or lunches brought in from area restaurants in the cafeteria per state of Alabama guidelines.

Make-Up Work -- When a student is absent from class, he/she is responsible for contacting the teacher concerning make-up work. Because work is based on standards being taught in class, it is recommended that the student make up work as soon as possible. Within one week of being absent, the student must make contact with the teacher about make-up work. After one week, it is the teacher's discretion as to whether points will be deducted from the assignment.

Medication – All prescription and non-prescription medication for students will be stored in the nurse's station, located in the adjoining elementary school and dispensed only by authorized school personnel. Non-prescription medication must be brought to school in the original, unopened container. Huntsville City School Policies states that an official *Medication Release Form* signed by both the parent/guardian and the prescribing physician must accompany all medication. Parents/Guardians must deliver all medication to the nurse's office (not by students). Prescription inhalers may be carried by an individual student if indicated on the medical release.

Park and Walk

Many families prefer to use the side parking lot (where our band trailer parks) as a method for dropping off and picking up. The area will continue to be available but please note the following change:

All students must be accompanied by an adult when entering or exiting the parking lot. In the mornings, children can be walked to the cross walk (where the buses load) and continue independently. In the afternoon, students must meet an adult at the bike rack located at the end of the car line awning and then proceed back to the parking lot. Any time you are in this lot, you must be in a marked parking space. If this is not maintained, we will have to evaluate the feasibility of keeping the side lot open for drop-off and pick-up.

For the safety of our students, there will be no exceptions to this rule. Students will not be able to wait under the trees or at the edge of the parking lot. As a reminder, we've added signage to denote this procedure.

The teacher parking lot will not be available for drop off/pick up. Families must choose from the carline or park and walk options.

PE Uniforms – All students take PE every day. Student may purchase a PE uniform for use during class through the PE department. Parents are to label each piece of the PE uniform with your child's name, then check it periodically while washing it to make sure your child's name can still be read. Students are strongly encouraged to take their PE uniform home every Friday to wash it for the upcoming week.

PTA – The HCMS Parent-Teacher Association is very supportive of the school and its programs. For the school to be the best it can be, **we need your support**. Please be an active member of the HCMS PTA and find opportunities to volunteer and support our students. To volunteer through

the PTA, please contact any of the PTA Board members whose names are included on the school's website.

Questions, Concerns, Suggestions – Have a question, concern or suggestion: Here are guidelines for what to do:

- Classroom concerns--First, contact the teacher. He/she should be your first contact for any classroom issues. If your concerns are not addressed after meeting with the teacher, please contact an administrator.
- Disciplinary concerns—Again, please contact the teacher first. If the concern is something that happened outside of class (hallway, etc), please contact the assistant principal, April Clark.
- Scheduling concerns—Please contact the school counselor, Mrs. Crystal Hunter. Keep in mind the deadline to make course request changes was May 15 of the previous year. Requests after that date will not be honored as the master schedule and staffing was completed based on those requests.
- Cafeteria concerns—Please contact the cafeteria manager.
- Campus concerns—Please contact the front office.

Rotating Schedules – Research supports the idea that in middle school, students learn best at different times of the day. With scheduling challenges this school year, we will rotate student schedules every week. Please plan student appointments before and after school as not to disrupt their learning during school hours.

School Information – Parents can stay informed about school news in several ways. An electronic newsletter, ***From the Bull Pen...*** is sent out every Sunday by the PTA (in collaboration with school administration). It is filled with up-to-date information about the happenings of the school. The HCMS Website and HCMS Facebook page are additional sources of information. **See the last page of the handbook for quick links to sources of information.**

Testing -- Attendance is priority during district and state assessment time. Testing dates will be posted to the HCS/HCMS websites and will be announced through the Bull Pen. Parents are encouraged to make medical/dental appointments around mandated testing.

Hampton Cove Middle School

Official school website with calendar, recent events, and teacher contact info.

www.hamptoncovemiddle.org

Hampton Cove Middle School PTA

PTA's official website with links to past Bull Pens, bus routes, attendance notes, etc.

<https://hcmspta.wixsite.com/hcmspta>

BULL PEN

Weekly newsletter with information from our principal, PTA, and teachers.

Sign up [here](#).

FACEBOOK

The PTA hosts FB pages as official sources of information for school events.

Teachers sometimes choose to be a part of these groups, as well, so you can reach out to teachers and other parents for day-to-day details.

HCMS PTA: <https://www.facebook.com/hamptoncovemiddlePTA/>

HCMS Parents (Official): <https://www.facebook.com/groups/HCMS.Parents.Official/>

6th Grade (Official): <https://www.facebook.com/groups/HCMSGrade6/>

7th Grade (Official): <https://www.facebook.com/groups/HCMSGrade7/>

We look forward to a GREAT year as we celebrate that
"Life is Good @HCMS!"