

HOBART MIDDLE SCHOOL PARENT NEWSLETTER



APRIL 2015

IMPORTANT EVENTS THIS MONTH:

CALLING ALL MAKERS
AND
INNOVATORS...

Parents,

Do you want to stretch your middle school student's imagination and help improve his/her critical thinking skills? Would you like to nurture your child's creativity? Encourage your HMS student to join the

FIRST EVER

Brickie Makers & Innovators Movement!

When: April 22, 2015

Where: HHS

For more information and to sign up, go to

<http://hobart.schoolwires.com/maker>

HMS Talent Show

When: April 16, 2015, 7pm

Where: HMS auditorium

All proceeds will be donated to three charities in honor of Pam Duda, our beloved student supervisor who passed away in March.

ISTEP Part II Window:

April 23-May 15

*Stay tuned for HMS testing dates!

Hobart Middle School

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Principal

Carole Warren

Assistant Principal

Brett Munden

Assistant Principal

Misty Scheuneman

Assistant Principal,

Academy of Success

Sharon Blaszkiewicz

Spring Cleaning:
“Apps you should delete from your child’s
smart phone”

(as reported by JJ Canon, Social Media Expert from Columbus Ohio’s TV10)

Cyberbullying and Sexting are real. Talk to your kids about making good choices...

Apps to avoid bad decisions include...

- **SnapChat** - Age restriction on this one is appalling. Set all the timers you like, it only takes ONE (1) second for anyone to take a screenshot. Anyone can "add" and send snaps to anyone. Let's not forget the recent "Snapping" where hundreds of thousands of SnapChat pics were leaked. Huge risk for inappropriate content.
- **Tinder** - A hook-up dating app which, despite age restrictions, co-founder Justin Mateen disclosed (in February 2013) that 13-17 year olds make up over 7% of users. This is disturbing to say the least.
- **Ask.fm** - Via [Ask.fm](#) FAQ - "The ability to **ask anonymous** questions is an important part of our service. **Ask.fm** will not reveal the names of people who are sending **anonymous** questions. However, be aware that anonymity does not mean that you can post offensive questions to others. This site is notorious for cyberbullying and has been linked in recent past to several suicides. Beware of any app which allows users to post anonymously.
- **YikYak** - Another app which allows users to post anonymously. Comments made there are distributed geographically to the nearest 500 people who are logged in to the app. Linked to cyberbullying and threats of violence at school campuses, causing lockdowns.
- **Vine** - Dangerous because of ability for adults to follow your child's account and potentially find out where video was taken through use of location services.
- **Instagram** - Big risk for exposure to inappropriate content and bullying. Many kids (under the age of 13) have multiple, sometimes "secret" accounts. They have one to show Mom and Dad and then however many more that parents won't be aware of unless monitoring very closely (i.e., using Parental Control Software).
- **You Now** - Live streaming video app where kids under the age of 10 uploading videos of themselves to win points. Definite privacy issues if kids are filming in their homes, etc.
- **Keek** - Video uploading and sharing app with no privacy settings or restrictions to adult content. Profiles can be shared to Twitter and Facebook, which increases possibility for exposure. There are no parental controls.
- **Chat for Omegle (Talk with Strangers)** - Obviously, not for kids.
- **Whisper** - Like a combination of SnapChat and Twitter, Whisper lets users anonymously share their secrets with millions of users.

For more tips, education, and guidance, please take a look at the SCOH Cyberbullying link: (copy and paste into your browser)

<http://hobart.schoolwires.com/Page/7152>

Be sure to
check out the
HMS website!



Weekly
announcements
are posted
under
"Shortcuts."
Check out the
"Clubs" tab for
a list of sports
and clubs for
the entire year!

Don't forget to
check out the
"Cool Tools,"
especially the
Khan link! This
will take you to
YouTube tutori-
als that will help
your child with
homework.

There are so
many resources
right on our
webpage! Just a
click away!

The Brickie Community Health Clinic is here for YOU and your children!

Conveniently located at Hobart High School, the Brickie Community Health Clinic is available exclusively for School City of Hobart families. The clinic offers basic primary care services including physical exams, flu shots and other immunizations, as well as risk prevention and chronic illness management. Use the clinic when you can't get in to see your regular primary care provider.

Stop in or make an appointment today to take advantage of the convenience our clinic offers to help keep you and your children healthy, happy, and ready to learn!

Call for more information:
945-9383

