

The heARTbeat

Volume 2, Issue 2

September 4, 2018: Back To School



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Instagram: [ewrsdarts](#)

'Tis the Season.... For Marching Band!

The HHS Marching Band takes the field in competition this Fall with their show "Gladiator"



The Hightstown High School Marching Band is preparing to take the field this year with the field show *Gladiator*. The music is arranged by Justin Halat, Kristina O'Dea and Anthony Matthews and will feature original music by Justin Halat, Adagio by Aram Khachaturian and The Barbarian Horde by Hans Zimmer.

The HHS Marching Band, is a competitive marching unit competing with US Bands, group IIIA. The unit includes a total of 63 students, including 46 musicians and 17 Guard members. The unit's teaching staff consists of Mr. Justin Halat, Director; Ms. Kristina O'Dea, Assistant Director; Ms. Jennifer Logothetis, Color Guard; Mr. Steven Jack, Percussion Instructor; and Mrs. Maggie McGill, Music & Field Support. The unit will be performing at all home HHS Football games, at eight US Bands Competitions, and other parades and community events throughout the year.



The Marching Band's rehearsal season began at the beginning of the Summer with weekly rehearsals. During the weeks of August 13 and 20, 2018, the ensemble participates in their annual Band Camp - an intense series of rehearsals, designed to learn the drill show, finalize music, and learn flag/dance routines. During this time, students spend continuous hours on the field learning how to properly move and execute the drill show.





When speaking to the students Audrey Ryder, Senior Drum Major who has been a part of the unit since her Freshman year has enjoyed her time and “will miss all the people and friends that I’ve made next year” after she graduates. She has enjoyed marching because “it combines music with movement form. It’s a good community that gives you a good work effort and it’s really fun! It’s made for a lot of great memories and moments over four years - this has been one of my favorite things to do, and I look forward to it each year!”

All students in grades 9 to 12, have the opportunity to participate in the Marching Band. Brooke Varin, a Freshman trumpet player who has participated in the Band program since 5th grade has found “everyone [in the Marching Band] is really welcoming and it’s easy to get along and make friends. I enjoy the fact that I can play music and do something else with it. In one of the movements we’re also doing some choreography.” She continued to praise her peers by saying “people have been really helpful in teaching freshmen how to perform their best.” Brooke also indicated at the end of last year she was “considering doing other activities but Mrs. Boccuti [MHK Band Teacher] told me all about how much fun this would be, and she was right!”

Check out the [HHS Marching Band website](#) and follow them [on Twitter: @HightstownBand](#). We encourage the entire community to come out and support our students by watching their field show!

HHS Marching Band: Competition Schedule

All times are TBA. Schedule subject to change, please check out www.usbands.org closer to the performance date for detailed information.

Event	Location	Date
Cherokee High School	Marlton, NJ	September 15, 2018
Hamilton High School West	Hamilton, NJ	September 22, 2018
Robbinsville High School	Robbinsville, NJ	September 29, 2018
North Brunswick High School	North Brunswick, NJ	October 13, 2018
Hopewell Valley Central High School	Pennington, NJ	October 20, 2018
Monroe Township High School	Monroe Twp., NJ	October 20, 2018
US Bands NJ State Championships	Glassboro, NJ	October 28, 2018
US Bands A Class National Championships	Allentown, PA	November 4, 2018

Secondary Theatre Preview: Fall/Winter 2018-19

Upcoming Theatre Productions at MHK and HHS

Mark your calendars - EWRSD Arts Education is proud to announce the following theatrical productions!

Hightstown High School proudly presents...

William Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*

November 16, 17, 2018: 7:00pm

November 18, 2018: 2:00pm and 7:00pm



Arguably the most famous tragic love story the world has ever known, The HHS Drama Club will proudly present *Romeo and Juliet* in Shakespearean language. Set in Verona, this is the tale of a chance encounter by two young people, who instantly fall in love. As their families are bitter rivals, these two star-crossed lovers must be prepared to risk it all, in their epic journey to be together.

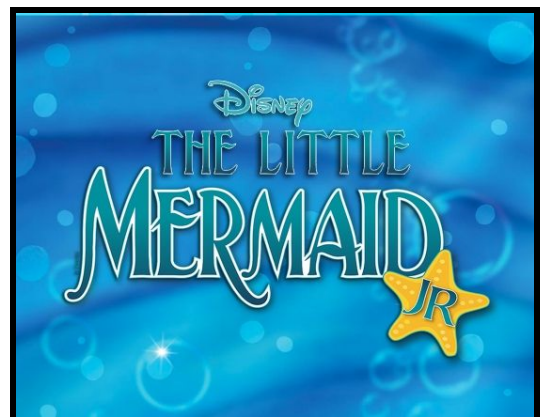
Melvin H. Kreps Middle School proudly presents...

The Little Mermaid, Jr.

January 31, and February 1, 2019: 7:00pm

February 2, 2019: 3:00pm

Journey "under the sea" with Ariel and her aquatic friends in Disney's *The Little Mermaid JR.*, adapted from Disney's Broadway production and the motion picture. Based on one of Hans Christian Andersen's most beloved stories, Disney's *The Little Mermaid JR.* is an enchanting look at the sacrifices we all make for love and acceptance. In a magical underwater kingdom, the beautiful young mermaid, Ariel, longs to leave her ocean home – and her fins – behind and live in the world above. But first, she'll have to defy her father, King Triton, make a deal with the evil sea witch, Ursula, and convince the handsome Prince Eric that she's the girl whose enchanting voice he's been seeking.



Get Social with EWRSD Arts Education!

Check out the various social media handles from our programs across the district

Are you following our Arts Education programs? Across the district, our various programs and teachers are using Social Media to help keep our community up-to-date with the latest happenings, announcements, and good news about our programs. We encourage everyone to follow our programs on social media and stay informed about the latest happenings.

East Windsor Regional School District On Twitter: @EWRSDK12 EWRSD Facebook Page	EWRSD Arts Education Department On Twitter: @EWRSDArts
Hightstown High School	
HHS Band Program On Twitter: @HightstownBand	Mr. Olsen: HHS Choral Programs and HHS Theatre Program On Twitter: @mrolsenHHS
Mr. Ernst's HHS Music Classes, and HHS Jazz Band On Twitter: @charlieernst	HHS Visual Art Programs On Twitter: @HHSRamsArts
Melvin H. Kreps Middle School	
Mrs. McGill's MHK Band classes On Twitter: @MrsMcGillMusic	Ms. Diaz's MHK Visual Art classes On Twitter: @TDiazMHK
Ms. Jensen's MHK Visual Art classes On Twitter: @Gwynethemyahoo2	MHK Drama (Musical and One Act) On Twitter: @DramaMhk
Elementary Schools	
GNR Band Program with Mrs. Glickman On Twitter: @Bethglickman	Mrs. Brauner's GNR Visual Art Classes On Twitter: @rbrauner
Mrs. Tazelar's EMK Visual Art Classes On Twitter: @SallyTazelaar	Mrs. Halat's WCB General Music Classes On Twitter: @erinmhalat
Mrs. Welsh's WCB Visual Art classes On Twitter: @wcbartroom	

Other Professional Arts Education Social Media Accounts

In addition to our EWRSD Social Media accounts, we encourage our community to also follow these professional Arts Education organizations.

Organization	Description
Arts Ed NJ On Twitter: @ArtsEdNJ Arts Ed NJ Facebook Page	Arts Ed NJ was established in 2007 with the mission to provide a unified voice for a diverse group of constituents who agree on the educational benefits and impact of the arts, specifically the contribution they make to student achievement and a civilized, sustainable society. This group also publishes the statewide monthly newsletter “The Beat” about Arts Education happenings across the state.
Arts Ed Now On Twitter: @ArtsEdNJ Arts Ed NJ Facebook Page	A statewide campaign to increase active participation in Arts Education at all schools in New Jersey. The campaign is lead by Arts Ed NJ.
NAfME: The National Association for Music Education On Twitter: @NAfME NAfME Facebook Page	Among the world’s largest arts education organizations, is the only association that addresses all aspects of music education. NAfME advocates at the local, state, and national levels; provides resources for teachers, parents, and administrators; hosts professional development events; and offers a variety of opportunities for students and teachers. The Association orchestrates success for millions of students nationwide and has supported music educators at all teaching levels for more than a century.
New Jersey Music Educators Association On Twitter: @NJMEA NJMEA Facebook Page	The New Jersey Music Educators Association is a federated State Unit of NAfME. The mission of the New Jersey Music Educators Association is the advancement of music instruction in New Jersey’s educational institutions at all levels that provide in-service and enrichment opportunities for practicing and retired teachers and prospective music educators, as well as sponsoring various festivals and all-state performing groups for K-12 students.
AENJ: Art Educators of New Jersey On Twitter: @ArtEducatorsNJ AENJ Facebook Page	Art Educators of New Jersey is a non-profit association created in 1939 by art educators interested in advocating for the visual arts education in our state. Their purpose is to promote and maintain the highest degree of quality Visual Arts instruction in New Jersey’s schools. Membership includes public and private school art teachers on every level, art supervisors, pre-service and in-service students, museum educators, nationally recognized authors, and those actively involved in national and international leadership in Art Education. Members come from every NJ county, rural, suburban, and urban areas, and teach at every grade level.
EdTA: Educational Theatre Association On Twitter: @schooltheatre EdTA Facebook Page	EdTA’s mission is “shaping lives through theatre education,” with the vision: “every student will have access to theatre taught by qualified educators as a vital part of a well-rounded education. The association sponsors the International Thespian Society Theatre honor society, provides educators with professional development and networking opportunities and resources, and advocates for theatre education.

EWRSD Arts Education Staff Directory

School year 2018 - 2019

Click on the name to send an email.

Name	Position/Program
Robert J. Hamm	Supervisor
Hightstown High School	
Charlie Ernst	Music: Jazz Band, Electives
Justin Halat	Music: Band Director
Kristina O'Dea	Music: Band Director
Tallen Olsen	Music: Choral Programs; Theatre: Drama Club, Theatre Electives
Michael Friedman	Industrial Arts: Woodshop
Gail MacIver-Yako	Industrial Arts: Computer Drafting
Robert Keyes	Visual Arts: Digital Arts
Amy Kijowski	Visual Arts: Digital Arts
Heather Lisk	Visual Arts: Ceramics
Barbara Russo	Visual Arts: Painting, Artist Union
Roman Szolkowski	Visual Arts: Painting, Portfolio; Yearbook
M.H. Kreps Middle School	
Nora Boccuti	Music: Band
Noreen Gumnic	Music: Band
Maggie McGill	Music: Band
Jeron Stephens	Music: Chorus
Tamika Diaz	Visual Arts; Yearbook
Gwyneth Jensen	Visual Arts
Gabby Lewis	After School Drama Director

Perry L. Drew Elementary School	
Linda Behrens	General Music and Chorus
Scott Berkuta	Band Director
Tim Roselle	Visual Arts
Grace N. Rogers Elementary School	
Linda Sauer	General Music and Chorus
Beth Glickman	Band Director
Randi Brauner	Visual Arts
Walter C. Black Elementary School	
Erin Halat	General Music
Mariagrace Welsh	Visual Arts
Ethel McKnight Elementary School	
Julia Grois	General Music
Sally Tazelaar	Visual Arts

Announcements and Upcoming Events: September 2018

- Elementary Choral Sign Ups are now underway! Parents of students in grades 3, 4, or 5 who are interested in participating in our Elementary Chorus can [sign up with this form](#). Please contact [Ms. Behrens](#) (PDL) or [Mrs. Sauer](#) (GMR) for more information.
- MHK Auditions for *The Little Mermaid, JR.*
 - **Interest Session:** September 18, 2018: After school until 4:00 pm
 - **Musical Workshop:** September 24 and 25, 2018: After school until 4:00 pm
 - **Auditions:** October 2 and 3, 2018: After school until 5:00 pm
 - **Callbacks:** October 4, 2018: After school until 4:00 pm
 - For more information contact [Mrs. Lewis](#).
- HHS Auditions for William Shakespeare's *Romeo & Juliet*
 - **HHS Drama Club and Fall Production Interest Meeting:** September 7th, 2018: Immediately after school
 - **Auditions:** September 12 through 14, 2018: Immediately after school until 5:00 pm
 - For more information contact [Mr. Olsen](#).
- **National Arts in Education Week September 9 to 15, 2018.** We encourage members of our community to check out [Arts Ed NJ](#), and [Arts Ed Now!](#) To learn more about how to support our students in their Arts Education.

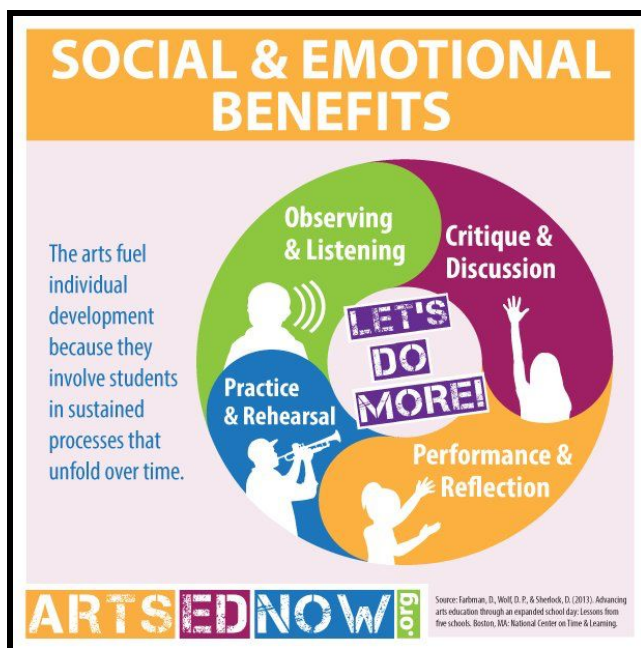
Arts Education: In it for the “Long Haul”

Students who participate in the Arts for multiple years receive long term social emotional benefits

Each new school year is a new beginning for all students. For students involved in Arts Education, it is not just a new beginning, but the next step on their journey to social emotional wellness. “From improving their ability to express themselves and honing their creativity, to promoting the value of hard work in achieving certain objectives, arts education can push children and adolescents to become more effective students and, in the long run, can better prepare them to navigate the challenges of the 21st century.¹”

Students, along with artists of any Artistic Discipline, commit to constantly improving their craft. This is a continual learning process. Along the way, not only do students learn the techniques needed for artistic mastery, but also skills to support their social-emotional well being. These skills range from creativity, empathy, collaboration with others, teamwork, and leadership. Performing ensemble must collaborate to ensure a successful performance; visual artists connect their artistic vision through color, shape, and form; all artists seek artistic success, but will develop into resilience individuals through failure. The longer a student participates, the more skills and experiences they will develop.

We wish everyone the best of luck this school year, and we encourage all students to continue their Arts Education!



¹ Farman, D., Wolf, D.P., & Sherlock, D. (2013). Advancing arts education through an expanded school day: Lessons from five schools. Boston, MA: National Center on Time & Learning

Stay Connected to EWRSD Arts Education!

East Windsor Regional School District

Arts Education Department

[Robert J. Hamm, Supervisor](#)

609-443-7717, x2023

Follow us on Social Media!

On Twitter: [@EWRSDArts](#)

On Instagram: [ewrsdarts](#)

Did you know?

EWRSD Arts Education has a webpage on the District's homepage. We are continually updating this with the latest information about the Arts in our district.

[EWRSD Arts Education Homepage](#)

Page One Picture Information

Top left: WCB Chorus performing at their Spring Concert, May 16, 2018; Top Center: Elementary Students creating self-portraits, Spring 2018; Top Right: GNR Students supporting the Arts Ed Now! Campaign, Spring 2018; Bottom Right: Artwork on display from HHS at the Hickory Corner Library in East Windsor, Summer 2018; Bottom Center: Ms. Grois' General Music class at EMK learning recorders, Spring 2018; Bottom Right: Visual Art on display at MHK.

