

October 18, 2018

As we prepare for a busy Homecoming Weekend...

1. Thank you for your cooperation and good execution of **security protocols** during the faculty meeting earlier this week. If you have any questions or would like to offer feedback about that experience, please email Tom Ford (tford@hinghamschools.org), as he will be gathering all of that information for review by the HHS Security Committee.
2. Don't forget the next **freshman advisory** is scheduled for the **second half of D Block** on **Tuesday 10/23**. The coverage schedule is attached to this email. Please check it (even if you're not an advisor) to see whether it has an impact on you or your D Block students. Also: The upper-class mentors will be called to join the freshmen for the last ten minutes of that period.
3. A sincere welcome to **new speech and language pathologist Marissa Brezner**, who will be starting next week. **Julia McCormick**, who has been splitting time between the high school and middle school, will now be devoting most of her time to HMS due to a major increase to the caseload there. Marissa joins our staff (on a half-time basis) on Monday to handle most of the high school cases.
4. Last weekend began on an ominous note when a serious medical emergency occurred at field hockey practice on Friday afternoon. However, the coaching staff (**Susan Petrie, Molly Baggott** and **Maureen Bonner**) handled a scary situation with expertise and incredible poise. Consider this excerpt from an email sent to **Jim Quatromoni** by the mother of the student who was rushed to the hospital: "[Our daughter] is at home now and resting and we're relieved that she is recovering and they were able to save her teeth. You have a **tremendous staff**, not only in their obvious coaching abilities but in their response to emergency situations such as these. Susan Petrie's follow up was amazing. She met me at South Shore, and arranged for transport of my car. After we were transferred to Children's, she spent a lot of time (late at night) on the phone with the neurologist explaining in great detail the specifics of [my daughter's] seizure. The neurologist was impressed with her capture of the detail. Please extend my very **heartfelt thanks** to the responsiveness of your coaching team and the care they provided."
5. On a similar note: Have you heard about how **Stacey Pretti** successfully performed the Heimlich Maneuver (in her classroom) on a student who was choking? That happened two weeks ago today. Talk about grace under pressure. And it might have save a student's life. So impressive!

I hope we can get through this Friday without a life-threatening emergency....but if one arises, I know this staff will be ready. Have a great Homecoming Weekend, everybody!

Rick Swanson

**Principal
Hingham High School**