

# HORNET NEWS



HOME OF THE HORNETS

PRINCIPAL: THOMAS CONTI

PTA PRESIDENT: MINDY LEVY

EDITOR: NANCY GRAZIANO

VOLUME 1 ISSUE 1

OCTOBER 1999

## PTA OFFICERS

President . . . . . Mindy Levy  
 . . . . . 780-3545

1st Vice-President. Rosanne Weber  
 . . . . . 919-1946

2nd Vice-President . . Mary Mattera  
 . . . . . 364-7367

Recording Secretary . Debbie Martz  
 . . . . . 462-8290

Corresponding Secretary  
 . . . . . Sandie Loizos  
 . . . . . 462-4174

Treasurer . . . . . Janice Romisoukas  
 . . . . . 780-4094



Howell Township Middle School North  
 501 Squankum-Yellowbrook Road  
 Farmingdale, NJ  
 (732) 919-0095

## HOWELL TOWNSHIP MIDDLE SCHOOL NORTH ADMINISTRATION

Principal . . . . . Thomas Conti

East House Vice-Principal  
 . . . . . Eileen Sennett

West House Vice-Principal  
 . . . . . Leonard Cuppari

Vice Principal/AD  
 . . . . . Robert Henig

6<sup>th</sup> Grade Guidance . . . Joan Garey

7<sup>th</sup> Grade Guidance  
 . . . . . Christine Falvo

8<sup>th</sup> Grade Guidance  
 . . . . . James Gonzalez

Guidance . . Thomas Letson (SAC)

East House Nurse . . Sharon Fallon

West House Nurse . Loriann Grimes

Main Office Secretary  
 . . . . . Leslie Lentz

East House Secretary  
 . . . . . Rosemary Antonaccio

West House Secretary  
 . . . . . Lynda Albanese

Main-Office Office Assistant  
 . . . . . Donna Dunker

## DATES OF INTEREST

October 15 . . . . . Progress Reports

October 20 . . . . . Board of Ed Mtg.  
 . . . . . HTMSN, 8:00pm

Oct. 24-30 . . National Red Ribbon  
 . . . . . Drug Awareness Week

November 3 . . . . . Board of Ed Mtg.  
 . . . . . HTMSN, 8:00pm

November 11, 12 . . Schools Closed

November 17 . . . Board of Ed Mtg.  
 . . . . . HTMSN, 8:00pm

November 22-24  
 . . . . . Teacher Conferences



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## PTA COMMITTEE CHAIRS

6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Functions . . . . .	Vacant
7 <sup>th</sup> /East House . . . . .	Joe Fisher 761-0506
8 <sup>th</sup> /West House . . . . .	Francine Jordan 938-5566
8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Farewell . . . . .	Kathy Stewart 905-6563
Awards . . . . .	Linda Gaeta 409-6035
Apparel Sales . . . . .	Rosanne Weber 919-1946
Baking . . . . .	Vacant
Barnes & Noble Book Night . . . . .	Merry Rowland 938-5108
Book Sox . . . . .	Mary Mattera 364-7367
Cultural Arts . . . . .	Karen Manney 409-1332
Gift Auction/Ladies Night Out . . . . .	Janet Korsos 409-2870
Fall Fund Raiser . . . . .	Rosanne Weber 919-1946
Food Pantry . . . . .	Barbara Rodak 905-5226 Merry Rowland 938-5108
Holiday Bazaar . . . . .	Kathy Stewart 905-6563
Hospitality . . . . .	Karen D'Angelo 942-1141
Membership . . . . .	Anne Treadwell 938-2041
Newsletter . . . . .	Nancy Graziano 886-1887
Standing Rules & Bylaws . . . . .	Vacant
Sunshine . . . . .	Lois Muhaw 905-1760
Teacher/Staff Appreciation . . . . .	Margaret Haliday 905-6590

*Thanks*

## UPCOMING PTA EVENTS

October 15 . . . . .	East House Dance
October 18 . . . . .	October General PTA Meeting 7:30 pm, Media Center
October 21 . . . . .	PTA Gift Auction Freehold Gardens
October 22 . . . . .	West House Dance
October 25-29 . . . . .	Red Ribbon Week Hugs, Not Drugs
November 5 . . . . .	6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Event TBA
November 8 . . . . .	November General PTA Meeting 7:30 pm, Media Center
November 18 . . . . .	Barnes & Noble Book Night, TBA
December 13 . . . . .	December General PTA Meeting 7:30 pm, Media Center
Date TBA . . . . .	Holiday Bazaar

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**PARENTS:**

EVERY MONDAY AND WEDNESDAY, THE KIDS HAVE HOMEBASE. IF THERE ARE ANY NOTES TO BE SENT HOME, THEY ARE USUALLY HANDED OUT DURING THIS TIME.

CHECK THE KIDS' PACKS EVERY MONDAY AND WEDNESDAY FOR ANY IMPORTANT MESSAGES THAT MAY HAVE BEEN SENT HOME WITH THEM.

YOUR PTA VOLUNTEERS

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello everyone! Now that our year is underway, we are moving full steam ahead! We can look back on several endeavors already:

- Our Teacher Breakfast on September 7<sup>th</sup> was a warm welcome back and delicious to boot!
- Back to School Nights were hectic and fun as we all tried to follow our children's schedules — how do they do it in 4 minutes? Thank you to the many volunteers who made these nights a success — from making coffee, to selling coffee, to signing up new members, to covering books with Booksox, to selling calendars, and finally, to doing the big clean-up! None of these things could be done without you.

Looking ahead we have already begun a busy month. The East and West Houses will be dancing on October 15 and October 22, respectively. Our joint Gift Auction with Howell Middle School South will be going, going, gone on Thursday, October 21, and the children will be treated to Hugs, Not Drugs, during Red Ribbon Week (October 25 through 29.)

Please join us in the Media Center for our October meeting on Monday, October 18 — I know there will be numerous agenda items, and your

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**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE  
(CONTINUED)**

input as parents and teachers is always valued. While you are marking your calendars with these events, please note the November PTA Meeting is on its regular 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday spot — November 8<sup>th</sup>. I hope to see you all there!

A happy and spooky Halloween to all the Howell Middle School North family, and remember — don't eat the unwrapped candy!

*Mindy Levy  
President*

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**PRINCIPALS  
MESSAGE**

By now most students are much less overwhelmed with the start of their new school year and have begun to form new acquaintances, many of which will become close friends (and telephone pals).

This year with the introduction of the new Technology in our District, your child will have the opportunity to explore new and exciting programs in their curriculum on a daily basis.

As a component of their experience at the Middle School, opportunities exist for students with common interests to participate in co-curricular and extra-curricular activities throughout the year. Our co- and extra-curricular activities meet after school (transportation is provided).

Please encourage your child to take advantage of these activities. This is the time for children to explore their interests.

*Tom Conti  
Principal HTMSN*

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**VICE-PRINCIPALS  
MESSAGE  
EAST HOUSE**

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

With the new school year comes new opportunities for learning and growth for us all. For that reason, I always consider September as the start of the New Year, even though the calendar tells us that this actually happens in January!

This year will certainly mark some changes for our middle school, which reflect the strength and growth of Howell Township schools. We are now know as Middle School North. For the first time in Howell history we can now attend Middle School soccer or field hockey games in which both teams represent district students. This should contribute toward the development of some healthy school spirit for all.

For the first time in Middle School history, we now have hundreds of sixth graders navigating our halls. For me, the presence of these sixth graders in our midst is a reminder of the incredible growth and development that occurs during crucial middle school years. It is amazing to observe the differences between 6<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders.

Another first for Middle School North this year is the establishment of the "House Concept." Students are assigned to one of two houses, East or West. Each house operates independently of the other, and can be considered a "school within a school." In this way, students are part of a managed community where they can become familiar and secure. In fact, enrollment in each house is actually lower than any of the ele

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**VICE PRINCIPALS MESSAGE  
EAST HOUSE  
(CONTINUED)**

mentary schools which our students attended previously. Hopefully, this sense of community is further enhanced by some thoughtful Middle School terminology, such as "Home Base" and "Advisory Period," as well as "House" and "Team."

It is a pleasure to work with the East House students. In the past few weeks, I have had the opportunity to become acquainted with many, and look forward to knowing each of them in the course of this school year. It is also with pride that I work among an excellent professional staff. I am confident that you will feel the same as we form a partnership this school year.

*Eileen Sennett  
Vice Principal  
East House*



## **VICE PRINCIPALS MESSAGE WEST HOUSE**

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Let me take advantage of this opportunity to welcome you to our Middle School community. On behalf of everyone and myself I want to thank you for your continued support. It is my pleasure to inform you that our new 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> graders have made a remarkably smooth transition into middle school life. Under the watchful eye of our staff, students navigate throughout the building with increasing confidence and enthusiasm.

During the second week of school, team assemblies were conducted in the gym. I formally welcomed each team and grade level, commending them for their positive behavior and cooperation. We addressed many topics, such as cafeteria procedures, dress code, behavior code, instruction, and respecting peers and school property.

Our most important message to students was the importance of cohesiveness and unity among teammates and grade levels domiciled in the West House of the building. We continue to emphasize the value of honesty, trust, and respect within each team among students as well as staff.

Eighth graders have already attended two assemblies conducted by our guidance department. During the assemblies, students were provided with information concerning specialized and private high school pro-

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## **VICE PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE WEST HOUSE (CONTINUED)**

grams. Our eighth grade staff is committed to, and focused on, preparing students to make the transition from middle school years to high school.

We invite and encourage you to communicate with us regularly should there be an issue that concerns you or your child. If you have any questions you may contact us at 919-0095, Ext. 8400 or Ext. 8401.

*Leonard Cuppari  
Vice Principal  
West House*

## **VICE-PRINCIPAL/ AD'S MESSAGE**

Our Middle School fall sports program is in full swing at this time. All of the teams are practicing very hard and improving with each day. As of this writing, both the boys and girls 6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> grade soccer teams are preparing for the playoffs.

Also, all of the after school clubs and activities have begun. Staff and students are coming together twice a week to cover a host of different activities.

If anyone has any questions on any of the middle school programs, please feel free to contact me at extension 7712. I look forward to a very successful school year.

*Bob Henig  
Vice-Principal/AD*

## **FROM THE EDITOR**

Here we are at the beginning of another school year, wondering what lies ahead for our kids, our school, teachers, staff, and ourselves. For two-thirds of the children at Middle School North this year, the entire school experience has undergone a major change. No longer are they at their neighborhood schools just around the corner, but they are in Middle School!

While this is an exciting time for our kids, one to which they WILL adjust, we, as parents, may feel a bit left out. For so many years our children attended the local school, and we came to know just about everyone there. Now we find ourselves back at Square One, getting to know everyone, and everything, all over.

Back to School Nights were a huge success, and went a long way to helping put faces to names. But for many of us, the familiarity we felt just last year has not had time to develop. This newsletter is just one means of furthering this relationship. Your PTA is working very hard to involve as many parents and teachers as possible. New members are always welcome, and a membership form may be found in each newsletter. There is a list of Committee Chairs on page 2. Several of these positions are still vacant. What better way to get to know your child's new school than to volunteer to help out — if not as a chair, then as a member of one of the committees!

Look for Faculty/Staff "profiles" in future Newsletters. If there is someone special you would like to see profiled, please feel free to let me know.

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**FROM THE EDITOR  
CONTINUED**

Also, look for the Hornet News on-line. This will **not** replace the paper copy your children bring home to you. Rather, it is intended to complement it by making all issues available long after they have been misplaced at home. I know this is a common occurrence in MY house!

If there are any suggestions you have for this, YOUR newsletter, please feel free to call me, or forward them to me via e-mail at:

nancygraz@monmouth.com

Have a safe and happy Halloween.

*Nancy Graziano*  
*Editor, The Hornet News*

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**FUNDRAISING  
UPDATES****FALL FUNDRAISER**

The Fall Fundraiser on Back to School Nights was a success! The Coffee Beans and Calendars earned the PTA \$600.00! I would like to thank all of the parents, teachers, and friends that made a purchase, and the PTA Board for their assistance in selling these items. Also, thank you to Jean Aker and Maria Testa for their always-reliable "helping hands."

*Rosanne Weber*  
*Fall Fundraiser Chair*



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**BOOK SOX**

Thank you to everyone who supported the PTA by purchasing and selling Book Sox. I am pleased to advise everyone that over 800 Book Sox have been sold to date. Look in the next PTA Newsletter for details about our next Book Sox sale.

*Mary Mattera*  
*Book Sox Chair*

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**APPAREL SALES**

Keep an eye out for information about Hornet Apparel sales. Information will be coming home with the children soon.

*Rosanne Weber*  
*Apparel Sales Chair*

**Griebling Family Sports Day**

*2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Hockey Fund Raiser*

**New Jersey Devils  
Vs.  
Toronto Maple Leafs**



**Free Puck Night for Everyone!**

**Saturday, November 6, 1999 – 7:05 PM**

**Tickets \$32 (Box Office \$44)**

This event is open to everyone!  
Friends, family, co-workers...anyone who enjoys sports.

**THIS EVENT SOLD OUT LAST YEAR...**

**BUY YOUR TICKETS EARLY!**

**Call your orders in to:  
Barbara Barnstead  
732-308-4189**



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## PTA MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Dear Parents and Guardians:

Howell Middle School North PTA would like to welcome you and ask for your support by joining the PTA.

The Middle School North PTA provides our students with cultural arts programs, awards, and other support. The PTA is the largest and most effective non-profit volunteer association working with local parents and teachers for education, health, safety, and well being of all children and youth. The PTA provides an important opportunity for you to stay informed and be more involved with your children's education.

You do not have to volunteer for any committees in order to join the PTA — though we appreciate any time you are able to give. If you would like to join the PTA, please complete the form below. Return it to the Middle School in an envelope marked **PTA MEMBERSHIP** with the amount of \$3.00 per person, in either cash or a check made payable to: **Howell Middle School North PTA**. If you prefer, your membership may be mailed to: **Howell Middle School North, 501 Squankum-Yellowbrook Road, Farmingdale, NJ 07727**.

If you have any questions, please contact Anne Treadwell at 938-2014.

Thank you for your support.

**Please return the form below to your child's homebase teacher in an envelope marked *PTA Membership*.**

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### Howell Middle School North PTA PTA Membership Form

NAME

ADDRESS

PHONE #

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Team: \_\_\_\_\_ Homebase: \_\_\_\_\_


Other Siblings in MS North: \_\_\_\_\_ Team: \_\_\_\_\_ Homebase: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Team: \_\_\_\_\_ Homebase: \_\_\_\_\_

#### For PTA Use Only


Amount Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Check #: \_\_\_\_\_ Membership Card #: \_\_\_\_\_

## OCTOBER, 1999 CALENDAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
17	18 General PTA MTG, 7:30 Media Center	19	20 BOE MTG, 8:00 HTMSN	21 PTA Gift Auction Freehold Gardens	22 West House Dance	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center;"> <span>← National</span> <span>Red</span> <span>Ribbon</span> <span>Week:</span> <span>"Hugs"</span> <span>Not</span> <span>Drugs" →</span> </div>						
31 Halloween 						



## NOVEMBER, 1999 CALENDAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3 BOE MTG, 8:00 HTMSN	4	5 6th Grade Event TBA	6 Griebling Family Sports Day
7	8 General PTA MTG, 7:30 Media Center	9	10	11 Schools Closed	12 Schools Closed	13
14	15	16	17 BOE MTG, 8:00 HTMSN	18 Barnes & Noble Book Night TBA	19	20
21	22 MS — Evening Teacher Conferences	23 Teacher Conferences	24 Teacher Conferences	25 Turkey Day! 	26	27
28	29	30				

HMSN PTA & HMSS PTO  
are proud to present our first joint venture...

# Halloween Bash

Dinner and Gift Auction



## Thursday, October 21, 1999

Freehold Gardens Hotel  
Hwy. 537 & Gibson Place, Freehold, NJ

Doors open 6 pm - Costumes optional  
No one under 18 years of age permitted.



### \$28.00 per ticket

175 tickets available per school.

Tickets must be purchased by  
October 12th to ensure dinner choice.  
(Chicken Francaise or Beef Sirloin Tips)



## Ticket Sales

Call Barbara DeRicco at 919-7948