

Greetings to the Haddam-Killingworth Middle School Community:

We begin the 2010-2011 with great anticipation. This year's theme is "Children Learn what They Live" (*Dorothy Law Norte*). This poem provides a focus for us as we work with our students to foster academic growth and personal development. It is our hope that we can work together as a school community to provide a challenging and safe environment for our children to grow. You are part of that community and we hope you will start by investigating the information available here in our web world. As you navigate our web pages, you will find information that will keep you informed about what is going on in our school on a daily basis:

- Mr. English (Assistant Principal) and I will be sending out newsletters and bulletins in an email blast twice a month. These can be also viewed by hitting the link on the lower right hand corner of this page.
- Our district calendar will give you information about upcoming events and activities. If you click on the event, activities details will appear. You do not need to log in – enter as a guest.
- Teacher web pages (on-line classrooms) provide parents and students information about class projects, scheduled lessons and homework assignments. These can be accessed by going to the pull down menu and selecting staff and teacher directory. Click on the link: on line classrooms.
- Our athletic page can be viewed by selecting it from the pull down page. The CIAC link on that page will take parents to the sports calendar for scheduled games and activities.
- Our PTO this year will also be stressing community and shifting their focus from fundraising to family events. We invite you to get involved and attend our meetings and events throughout the year. For more information about our PTO, please visit their page which is also linked in our bottom right hand corner.

Finally, as an educator and parent, I ask that you make reading a priority for your child. We will be hosting several parent workshops this year which will focus on reading and what you can do as a parent to keep your child reading:

- Read out loud at dinner or before bed.
- Buy two copies of the same book and pair read, asking each other questions about what you are reading and predicting what will happen next.
- Join or form a book club for parents and children.
- Visit our book fair this fall with your child to talk about favorite authors or see what is now popular on the adolescent best seller list.
- Buy books for gifts for the holidays, birthdays and as reward for a great report card.

We do not want pleasure reading to become a lost art in our culture and as parents, we need to do the modeling at home.

Sincerely,

Miriam Furey-Wagner, Principal

Revised 8/27/10