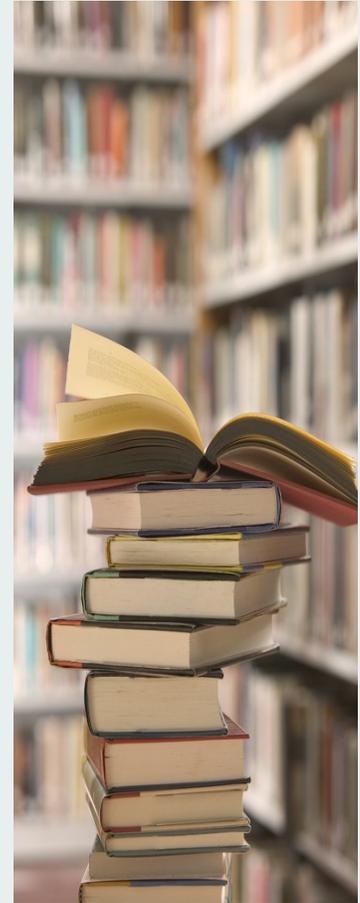




# HAA HAPPENINGS



## A message from the Principal:

The cold weather today has me thinking about the coming months. Some of you know that this is the farthest north I have ever lived—in fact, prior to this, my highest latitude for a residence was in Knoxville, TN. I have to admit though, I really enjoyed our winter last year. My reaction to snow is one of kid-like excitement and also one of peace. David said, “wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.” Ps 51:7 The snow reminds me of the renewing power God is willing to use in our lives.

With the colder weather it is time to remind everyone about our inclement weather days. As a general rule, we will follow Holland Christian, Holland Public, and possibly Zeeland Christian or Zeeland Public. But there might be times when we do not follow those schools. Please read the portion on page 2 regarding school closings for more details.

Also, please remember our dress code. Hoodies (sweatshirts that have a hood and pockets in the front) are not acceptable to be worn during the school day—with one exception, we do allow the “Pray for Abbi” hoodies. We also ask that student not wear bulky coats while in the classroom. Please make sure that students have appropriately warm clothing that meets the standards laid out in the handbook. If you have any questions please don’t hesitate to reach out to me.

That being said, our classrooms do go outside during the day so the students do need to have clothing for going outside even on cold days.

Finally, also look at page 2 for a reminder regarding cell phones.

God Bless!

## Upcoming Dates:

**October 22 (No School):** In our original calendar for the year, the students were scheduled to be off from school on October 29th. That day was a teacher in-service day for meetings at the Conference office. The Conference has changed that date to October 22nd. So there will be no school on October 22, but we will have school as normal on October 29.

**Thanksgiving Break:** Due to a change in the conference calendar Thanksgiving Break will be a full week this year, 11/19—11/23.

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## Other Important Information:

**Inclement Weather Days:** We will tend to follow the schools on page 1. In addition, we will announce our closings on WOOD TV8 and WZZM13. In addition we use a system called GRAIL that sends our message out to multiple radio stations. When possible I try to have the cancellation information to the stations around 6:00 a.m. and it usually starts broadcasting around 6:15. We will also send out a parent phone call around 6:30 a.m. As I've learned, the weather can change rapidly here so these timelines are not always possible, but we will try to keep to them whenever we can.

**Cell Phones:** The School Board is working on some clarifications and possible changes to our cell phone policy. While we are working through that process please take a moment and familiarize yourself with our current policy. As you read the following I would like for you to remember that we recognize that there are legitimate uses for cell phones, but the capabilities of these devices necessitate a policy that protects our students.

In general students may not bring cell phones (or other electronics) to school. In order to bring a cell phone to school the parent must write a letter explaining why the student needs to have a cell phone. The students who are approved to have cell phones must turn them in at the beginning of the day and they will receive them back at the end of the day.

Stay tuned for more updates regarding cell phones in the near future.

**Amazon Smile:** Have you ever heard of **Amazon Smile**? If you shop on Amazon, using Amazon Smile is a quick way to fundraise for our school just by shopping on Amazon. The way it works is you go to [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) instead of Amazon, and shop just like you normally would. If the item you buy is a "smile" item a portion of the proceeds will automatically be sent to our school. If you're interested, go to [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) and search for Holland Adventist Academy under charities.

**Yearbook: Please Please Please.** If you haven't shared your opening of school photos with the yearbook staff please do so. You can share your digital copies with Mrs. Frary, [lfrary@misda.org](mailto:lfrary@misda.org), of any pictures from the start of school. Also please be sure to share your photos that you take while on school outings! Please reach out to Mrs. Frary if you have any questions.

**Paper Gator:** Please do send your extra paper material, but no cardboard, to our Paper Gator. It is the green dumpster in the parking lot to the right of the school. The school receives money each month that we fill it.

**Box Tops:** Another easy fundraiser we do for the school is to collect box tops. We had great success last year with this fundraiser and I know we can do even better. When you send them to the school please send them in baggies of either 25 or 50 (mark on the bag which it is) and have your child bring them to Mrs. Pittman. Students can receive prizes for bringing in box tops!