

Middle School Ski Program 2024

Below is detailed information for the Middle School Ski Program 2024. Please read through this entire document thoroughly and discuss with your child, as there is a lot of important information below.

Dates:

- The ski program runs for six weeks after school on Tuesdays.
- The dates are January 9, 16, 23, 30 February 6, 13 2024

Ski Pass Information for January 9th, first ski trip

- **On the first day of the program, Mr. Verra will hand out ski passes to all participants during the school day.** Once school ends, participants should *go directly to the cafeteria, sit down and wait for directions*. After a brief meeting/staff introductions participants will be sent in groups to Door C12 to collect boot bags and skis and board buses. At the end of each trip, passes will be collected and held until the next trip.
- If your child loses his/her Ski Pass, the mountain will charge a \$15 replacement fee.

Equipment Drop Off Location

- Ski Racks will be installed at the rear of the school at Door C12 for a safe and more efficient departure for all ski program participants.
- All equipment should be labeled with your student's name and phone number.

Equipment & Boot Bag Drop off Procedures

- **Option 1: Monday Evening from 7:00-8:00pm**
Location Door C12, behind the middle school
 - Skis/snowboards will be left on the outside racks.
 - All ski racks will be numbered.
 - You are free to use your own lock on the wooden racks.
 - Ski Key brand metal racks are first come, first served. You may use locks from the previous years, if you have them; or purchase a lock from Ski Key [HERE](#)
 - Boot Bags: Door C12 will be open to bring in Boot Bags ONLY into the school and placed according to grade level on the designated shelves.
- **Option 2: Tuesday from 8:30am - 1:30pm This is for OUTSIDE drop off only at the ski racks. You may **not** bring kids boot bags or other forgotten items for the ski club into the school's main entrance during school hours**
 - Please **DO NOT** drop equipment off before or after these times due to traffic. The area will be monitored to ensure the times are being adhered to.
 - Skis/snowboards and boot bags will be left on the outside racks.

Boot Bags/Backpack Information for bus to school

- Students are allowed to bring boot bags/backpacks on the school buses that meet the school transportation policy for size- see below.
- Students should bring boot bags into the **auditorium** and place them in the last two rows of seats at the back of the auditorium.
- **DO NOT** leave equipment in the aisles, blocking corridors, or leaning against walls.
- Students will retrieve their bootbags and bring them to the pick up area door C12 after they first go to the cafeteria - chaperones will instruct students when to do this.

Transportation Policy

NO SKIS are allowed on the school buses. If ski boots are to be carried on the school bus then they must be in a ski boot bag that is no larger than 30 x 14 so that it can be held in the student's lap with their backpack placed under the seat and with the student's feet still safely out of the aisle of the bus. Equipment/bags cannot be stored at the front of the bus near the driver, in the aisles, or in bus seats, this creates a safety issue.

HMS Departure Information

- Buses depart HMS at 3:05pm to Wachusett Mountain.
- Buses will depart from the back of the school near Door C12 entrance.
- Prior to departure, students are expected to **remain with chaperones** in the designated departure area. No wandering through the building - please discuss/remind your students of this every week.

Helpful Ski Pass Information

Wachusett Mountain has implemented an electronic pass system. This card replaces the traditional season passes, lift tickets and student badge. You no longer need to show your card or be scanned at every lift. Each card has a RFID embedded in it which is read by antennas at the base of each lift. To ensure the antennas properly read your EZ Card, place your card **inside a pocket by itself** - the ideal location is either on your right or left side above the knees and below the shoulders.

- **Do not** place near cell phones, music players, metal ware or other passes
- **Do not** put holes in your card or bend it

This information will be reviewed with the students by their chaperones on the bus ride to Wachusett. Please also review this with your child.

Mountain Departure Information

- Students board the buses at Wachusett Mountain at **7:30pm** and arrive back at HMS at approximately **8:30pm** Please remind your child(ren) of these times.
- **Pick up your child on time.** Ask your kids to text you when the buses are getting off the highway; the chaperones will remind them.

Additional Information

- **Snack Bar:** Wachusett has a snack bar where the kids can get something to eat.
- **Bus Rules:** We will allow certain snacks on the bus this year. The following are **NOT** allowed on the bus: Candy, soda, slushies from the mountain. Other drinks must have a twist lid. The bus company reserves the right to change this policy if the rules are not being followed.
- **Allergies:** There are several skiers with allergies participating this year. There is a No Nut, No Latex, No Sharing Food Policy. We ask that you respect their need to stay safe. Here are some suggested snacks: Quaker Rice Cakes, Pirates Booty/Tings, Glutino Pretzels without sesame seeds, Tostitos Bite Size corn chips, plain rice or corn chex, Kix cereal.

Weather Cancellation

Cancellation notifications will go out to parents by 11:30am. Students will be notified by an announcement over the loudspeaker.

Hopkinton Parks and Rec will **notify parents via email and text**. Please check the email notifications on your [Parks and Rec account](#) to be sure your email is active and current. Please choose YES for General Announcements and Cancellations. If you would like to receive a text message, please add your cell number in the notifications section.

Ski club is canceled if school is canceled.

Currently, a makeup date of February 27th is scheduled.

No Tolerance Policy

Please be informed there is a zero-tolerance policy for misbehavior, disrespect, or harassment. Those who are disrespectful to their peers, the bus driver, or chaperones will not be allowed to return to the program and will not be reimbursed for pass/expenses. Parents were required to agree to this [policy](#) during registration check out.

Should you need to cancel out of the program please be informed:

Wachusett Mutual Agreement and [Cancellation Policy](#):

Hopkinton Parks and Recreation [Refund Policy](#)

Thank you to our Middle School Ski Coordinators Steve McCarthy and Jim Murphy and all of our volunteers. Should you have any questions or concerns please call or email Parks and Recreation.

Let it Snow!

Colleen Allen

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