

Middle School Ski Program 2026

Important: Please add the Wachusett Ski Patrol Assistance phone number to your child's cell phone contacts: 978-464-3111 *This is for ski emergencies only!

Below is detailed information for the Middle School Ski Program 2025. Please read through this entire document thoroughly and discuss with your child, as there is a lot of important information below.

Our Hopkinton Middle School Ski coordinator is Steve McCarthy.

The ski program runs for six weeks after school on Tuesdays: January 6, 13, 20, 27 and February 3 & 10.

Ski Pass & Dismissal Information

On the first day of the program, a HMS staff member will hand out ski passes to all participants during the school day - passes are then the responsibility of each participant. At the end of the school day, participants should **go directly to the cafeteria, sit down and wait for directions**. After a brief meeting participants will be sent in groups to Door C12 to collect boot bags and skis and then the board buses.

For all other trips participants are **responsible to bring their passes**. Participants will go directly to door C12 to collect their boot bags and skis and then the board buses. Students/parents will receive a weekly reminder about this procedure. There is to be NO WANDERING through the building. *Parents -please remind your students of this every week.*

Lost Ski Pass, the mountain will charge a **\$15 replacement fee**.

Equipment Drop Off Location

Ski Racks are 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: leave on the outside racks
 - All ski racks will be numbered so that you can tell your child where to find their skis.
 - Wooden racks: any lock can be used to secure the equipment
 - Metal racks: Only Ski Key locks can be used. You can purchase a Ski Key lock [HERE](#) or use one you already have.

- Boot Bags: Door C12 will be open to bring in Boot Bags ONLY into the school. Please place according to grade level on the designated shelves.

- **Option 2: Tuesday from 8:30am-1:30pm**

Boot Bag Drop-Off:

- Please drop off boot bags only in the front hall of the school.
- Check in with the administration office to inform them whose bag has been dropped off.
- Communication: Please review this new procedure with your children so they know where to locate their bags.

Ski Drop-Off:

All skis should continue to be dropped off at the ski racks located behind the middle school by door C12, behind the middle school.

Reminder: you may not access the school through door C12 during the school day. This is a safety hazard for all students and teachers.

- Please **DO NOT** drop equipment off before or after these times due to traffic. The area will be monitored.
- Wooden racks: any lock can be used to secure the equipment
- Metal 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: drop off at the front desk

Boot Bags/Backpacks on the School Bus

Participants are allowed to bring boot bags/backpacks on the school buses that meet the HPS transportation policy for size - see below.

Participants must bring boot bags into the **auditorium** and place them in the last two rows of seats at the back of the auditorium. At the end of the school day they will retrieve their boot bags from the auditorium and proceed directly to door C12.

DO NOT leave equipment in the aisles, blocking corridors, or leaning against walls.

HPS 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 2:50pm to Wachusett Mountain.

Buses will depart from the back of the school near Door C12.

Wachusett Mountain & Ski Pass Information

Wachusett Mountain has implemented an electronic pass system. 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.

Wachusett has a snack bar where the kids can get something to eat while at the mountain. Please refer to the bus rules below about what food is allowed on the bus.

Mountain Departure Information

Students board the buses at Wachusett Mountain at **7:30pm** and arrive back at HMS at approximately **8:30pm**. Please remind participants of these times.

Pick up on time. Ask participants to text you when the buses are getting off the highway; the chaperones will remind them.

Bus Policies

For the safety of all registrants in the ski club, participants who have purchased a bus pass are **required** to ride the bus to and from the mountain. Guardians are not allowed to drop off or pick up participants at any time during the program - no exceptions will be made.

The following are **NOT** allowed on the bus: Candy, soda, and slushies. Any other drinks must have a twist lid. The bus company reserves the right to change this policy if the rules are not being followed.

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. Participants will be notified by an announcement over the school's PA system.

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.

The ski club is canceled if school is canceled.

Currently, a makeup date of February 24th 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.

Cancellation Policy

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!

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!

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