



I love writing. I love the swirl and swing of words as they tangle with human emotions. ~James Michener

“How is it that some students have so much to say when talking out loud, but when a pencil is put into their hand they suddenly hesitate, struggle, and have nothing to say?” asks Ali Parrish in this *Edutopia* article. She has a suggestion for this common phenomenon: use their oral language to jumpstart their writing. Here are three strategies:

- *The student talks, the adult writes.* Ask the student to stand up, sit in his or her chair, and say, “You talk, I’ll write.” After standing nonplussed for a moment, students often dictate a coherent and authentic story or an idea.

- *Audio record it.* Hand the student a recording device – a tape recorder, digital audio recorder, computer, or smartphone – and say, write your essay using this. Then have the student write what they hear when they play the recording back.

- *Audio transcribe it.* Have students talk their ideas into a smartphone, tablet, or computer, using a speech-to-text program such as Dragon NaturallySpeaking, VoiceTranslator, or PaperPortNotes. Afterward, the student can e-mail it to him- or herself and revise the draft.

“Our real hope and goal is for individuals to capture their high-quality thoughts and then convey them effectively to others,” says Parrish. “These strategies break down the barriers between a student’s mind and his or her audience... The sooner students see that *writing is simply communicating*, the sooner they will start making incredible progress. Barriers will come down. The handicapping hesitation of putting the pencil on the paper to ‘write’ will go away.

“3 Strategies to Improve Student Writing Instantly” by Ali Parrish in *Edutopia*, October 27, 2014, <http://bit.ly/1vhNFtj>

No yearbook this week

Monday, December 3, 2018: A Day

- ✦ Girls Basketball at Berkeley 4:30
- ✦ Boys 8th Grade Basketball at Berkeley 5:45
- ✦ Ally club has its leadership meeting
- ✦ NJHS Adopt a Family Donation Drive for Avalon



Tuesday, December 4, 2018: B Day

- ✦ SHIP Club: AM Gym (6:50-7:50) Last meeting
- ✦ SHIP Club: Kickball Club: Last Meeting
- ✦ The 1st violin sectional on Tuesday is canceled due to Ms. Anderson’s absence
- ✦ Bridge Club
- ✦ NJHS Adopt a Family Donation Drive for Avalon



Wednesday, December 5, 2018: A Day

- ✦ Boys 7th Grade Basketball at WCA 4:00
- ✦ Girls Basketball at WCA 5:30
- ✦ SHIP Running Club: Last meeting
- ✦ NJHS Adopt a Family Donation Drive for Avalon

Thursday, December 6, 2018: B Day

- ✦ **Interim grades end**
- ✦ **Band Concert 7pm at HMS**
- ✦ Ally Club general meeting: holiday themed
- ✦ Girls Basketball at Home vs Tabb 4:30
- ✦ Boys 8th Grade Basketball at Home vs Tabb 5:45
- ✦ Orchestra 7/8 rehearsal after school until 4:45
- ✦ Step team practice on Thursday right after school
- ✦ NJHS Adopt a Family Donation Drive for Avalon

Friday, December 7, 2018: A Day

- ✦ Girls Basketball in the Kiwanis Tournament at Berkeley: We play Grafton at 5:30
- ✦ NJHS Adopt a Family Donation Drive for Avalon
- ✦ Have a great weekend!

Saturday December 8, 2018

- ✦ 7th Grade Boys Basketball at home - 2 games 9:00 and 12:00
- ✦ Girls Basketball in the Kiwanis Tournament at Berkeley: 2 games - times to be determined
- ✦ Sleighbell 5K at 10am- Good luck Running Club!



Announcements/Looking Ahead

December 3rd - 16th NJHS Adopt a Family Donation Drive for Avalon. Each HR will be given a family to bring items in for the holidays.

Attendance: As your child continues on their amazing education journey one of the most essential elements for their success is good school attendance. Students need to be at school each day in order to be properly prepared for the important next steps in learning. Teachers work very hard to provide instruction that builds on the previous day's so that your child's learning experience is developmentally appropriate. Children who miss school miss out on a carefully planned sequence of instruction, they miss active learning experiences, they miss the opportunity for class participation, they miss

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the opportunity to ask questions to increase their understanding of the material, and they miss the opportunity to practice important social skills. Good school attendance helps your child develop habits that will help them be successful the rest of their lives.

LHS and HMS theater performance has been moved to January 4

Winter Chorus Concert is December 12th at Jamestown High at 7pm. Doors open at 6:45!

Hornsby PTSA Spirit Wear - we have some items in stock just in time for the holidays! If you would like to order items please see the Sign-up Genius link. <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409054AAFAE23A20-winter>

Thank you to all of the students, teachers, families, donors, and volunteers that made the Hawk Hike a fun event for our Hornsby Hawks! Our Hawks raised funds to help the PTSA fund mini grants for our teachers. Those mini grants are for items and experiences that enrich the learning for our Hawks.

Thanks to our 2018 Sponsors and Contributors for all their support!

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Box Tops - Please remember to send your Box Tops in with your students! Each Box Top is worth \$0.10 & money raised helps fund the PTSA Mini Grant program for our teachers. Congratulations to Mrs. Ogburn's homeroom class for collecting the most Box Tops for the November 1 deadline!

If you are picking your child up from school or they are riding a different bus, please make sure you send a note and ask them to turn it into the office.

Important Dates:

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December 11: Interims Go home
December 12 Chorus Concert 7pm at JHS
December 20-January 1: Winter Break
January 2: Schools Reopen: Welcome Back!
January 4: LHS and HMS theater performance at LHS
January 21: Schools and Offices Closed: Students Off
January 23: Marking Period 2 Ends
January 24: Early release for students 12:25pm
January 25: MS Teacher PD: Students Off
January 28: Marking Period 3 Begins
June 12: Stepping Up (8th grade ceremony) 2pm at WHS



Thank you!!!

*Please thank someone you know from **Williams Landscaping**. They provided the beautiful planters with flowers at the entrances and mulched around the front. It looks amazing!*

Thank you to **Jonathan, Jack, Marshall** for marching in the Williamsburg parade.

The dedication of our **teachers, staff, and parents** to the education of our students is tangible. Thank you for all the things you do that ensure student success.

Kristin Schweitzer and Math and English teachers have done a lot of work with small group learning. Thank you for all you do!

Our students are wonderful! Students have been following the Hawk expectations. Our Hawks SOAR!

Hornsby Hawks SOAR

Safe

Organized

Accountable

Respectful

Hawk Flight Plans

