Dear Parents and Students:

This school year Hamilton County Schools is adopting the use of Edmodo. Edmodo is a private online environment designed for educators and their students. Edmodo is NOT Facebook in that it contains no games or apps. It is a social learning tool and will be used to enhance the classroom experience. Hamilton County teachers are not required to use Edmodo so whether or not your child's teacher uses Edmodo is strictly up to them. Teachers who choose to use Edmodo can set up private groups for each one of their classes. Edmodo will help students develop good online skills and provides the following benefits:

- Teachers can easily post announcements, assignments, and grades within Edmodo
- Students can see assignments with due dates posted to a calendar
- Students can upload assignments in several different file types (even when they are out sick from school)
- Students can post messages to their teacher directly and vice versa
- Students can share ideas with fellow classmates within Edmodo
- Teachers can see and moderate all postings by students
- Students have the option to be notified when posts are made to their Edmodo class via
    - The free Edmodo apps for mobile devices (iPhone/iPod/iPad and Android)
    - An email address
    - A text message

Students with Edmodo accounts will be expected to behave appropriately and follow all Code of Conduct rules, including the **Acceptable Use Agreement for Technology**. Because teachers can 'see' and moderate all student activity on Edmodo, they can quickly respond to students who break any such rules while using Edmodo. Appropriate discipline consequences apply, if the behavior warrants.

In order for students to use Edmodo they must have your permission. According to Edmodo's Privacy Policy, which can be read online at: **http://hcde.edmodo.com/corporate/privacy-policy**, Edmodo does not rent or sell your child's personal information. In addition, the only information a child must provide to set up an account is the teacher's class code and a username and password that they select. They don't even need an email address.

Once a student logs on to their account, he/she can choose to be notified of new postings to Edmodo via email or text messaging. Parents should tell their children which option to select, especially if they do not want their child to use a particular method such as text messaging. If neither notification option is selected, the student can still use Edmodo effectively by simply logging on to Edmodo on a computer or through the free Edmodo apps. Note that students cannot text their teachers or classmates via Edmodo. They can only receive notification texts from Edmodo telling them that something has been posted to their Edmodo class.

In order to reduce paperwork, please return this form to your school ONLY IF YOU DENY PERMISSION FOR YOUR CHILD TO USE EDMODO. Please return this Denial notice form to the school within 5 days. If the form is not returned to the school within 5 school days of this notice, the school will assume you have granted your child permission to use the Edmodo site. If you think your child may lose the form, you may also email or call the school directly. Ask to leave a message for the school's Edmodo administrator and give them your child's name, their grade level, and any other information that will ensure that the school correctly identifies your child.

The school's Edmodo administrator will inform your child's teacher(s) that he/she is not to use Edmodo.

We hope that your child will enjoy and gain from having teachers who use Edmodo with their classes. You can learn more about Edmodo by visiting our Edmodo site at: **http://hcde.edmodo.com**

I **DENY** permission for my child(ren) listed below to use the Edmodo site for class activities.

Name of Student(s): _____   School: _____

Homeroom Teacher(s) : _____   Grade(s): _____

Parent Printed Name: _____

Parent Signature: _____   Date: _____