

Hoose Hawks – Family Newsletter



April 6, 2018

Good evening Hoose Hawk Families. We hope that you and your family have a great weekend!

Calendar Additions – Please add the events/dates below:

- 3/7-4/20 – PARCC Testing Window
- 4/11 – Late Start Day
- 4/20 – School Improvement Day – Non-attendance day for students
- 4/21 – PTO Spring Carnival – 4:00-7:00 pm
- 4/25 – Spring Pictures
- 5/3 – Music Programs at NCHS Auditorium: Kindergarten @ 5:30 pm; 1st Grade @ 6:00 pm; 2nd Grade @ 6:45 pm
- 5/9 – Late Start Day
- 5/13 – Mothers Day
- 5/21 – PTO Meeting @ 6:00 pm
- 5/22 – Last Full Day of School (Field Day)
- 5/23 – Last Day of School – ½ day dismissal @ 10:45 am

Pratt Music Foundation Scholarships – Each year, the Pratt Music Foundation seeks out talented students with financial needs as candidates for Foundation Scholarships. If your child is interested in Music, particularly the violin and/or piano, the Pratt Music Foundation is now accepting scholarship applications that are due by June 1st. For more information, or for applications, contact: Marc Miller (309) 827-5534 or at PrattMusicFoundation@gmail.com

You can also download the application at: www.PrattMusicFoundation.com

NCHS Ironmen Boys Basketball Camp – Basketball camps are now open for registration for the NCHS Ironmen K-12 boys summer camps during the month of June. If you are interested, go to:

<https://goo.gl/forms/Z5hR1iPc039rnA1M2>

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NCHS Iron Girls Basketball Camp - Basketball camps are now open for registration for the NCHS Iron girls summer camps during the month of June. If you are interested, go to the link below and click the Resources tab:

<http://il.8to18.com/nchs>

Neighborhood News – Yesterday, I received a phone call from one of our Hoose neighbors. She shared with me that very early Thursday morning, multiple cars were burglarized. The police were notified, but the neighbor called us just to let us know. If you do know anything about this situation, please call the Normal Police Department.

PBIS – PBIS is focusing on making the right choice during the month of April. Each week, students are given a PBIS Weekly Challenge and during April, the weekly focus will be challenges about making the right choices.

School Safety – School safety has been at the forefront of the news nationally. We are continually working to refresh and improve our practices here at school to be sure that our students and safe and secure. Below are a few reminders for visitors. At the end of the newsletter is information for drop-off and pick-up for walkers and car riders.

- We do ask all visitors to check into the Main Office, sign in, and use a visitor tag/badge
- When you ring the buzzer for entry, you will be welcomed and asked how we can help you.
- We may ask visitors for identification (please do not be offended as this is for safety)
- For our volunteers, we will have lanyards to wear.

While our number one job is to help our students learn, we also know that safety is a priority as well. While the procedures above are not new, we are going to be vigilant about them to be sure our school is safe. We do appreciate your patience and support.

Cold Weather, Prepare Your Student - As we get deeper into the school year, the weather will continue to get colder outside. Please be sure to have your child dress appropriately for the weather. Our students will be going outside for recess daily unless it rains, or the wind chill is 20 degrees or colder. Having a sweatshirt, coat, hat, and gloves available for your student as it gets colder will guarantee they will be prepared for the outdoor elements.

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We will monitor the temperature using the Weather Channel app. For days that the wind chill is 20 degrees or colder, we will have indoor recess. On days when the temp and wind chill are 21 degrees or warmer, we will be going outside.

Box Tops - PTO is partnering with us to get the word out about Box Tops. We are still collecting Box Tops throughout the school year. Please help encourage your kids to bring in Box Tops and help our school earn money!!! Be sure they are labeled with your child's room code.

District Treats and Snacks (Board Policy) – Recently, Unit 5 is taking more steps moving towards wellness. With that in mind, the Board of Education has established a new policy:

Classroom Treats Policy - Unit 5 believes that birthdays/holidays are special for children. As a school district, in order to promote a healthy school environment, birthday/holiday recognitions cannot include food items. The decision will be left up to each school as to how they would like to recognize a student's birthday or holiday, but it cannot include food items.

Board Policy 6.5

Nutrition Guidelines for Foods Available During the School Day

Students will be offered and schools will promote nutritious food and beverage choices consistent with the current Dietary Guidelines for Americans published jointly by the U.S. Departments of Health and Human Services and Agriculture (USDA). In addition, in order to promote student health and reduce childhood obesity, the Superintendent or designee shall restrict the sale or distribution of foods as defined by the USDA, in the food service areas during meal periods and comply with all ISBE rules.

This policy covers all of the food that is offered during the day, not just during lunch. The intent of the policy change is to limit the instances of food being given to students during the school day which is not regulated by the health guidelines our district follows and/or is out of the control of parents/guardians. This means that if a snack time is offered during the day, students should bring in their own healthy snacks as opposed to having students bring in a snack that is shared by all.

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Snacks – Parents, please remember to send a snack with your child each day. Also, keep the snacks smaller, meaning 1 or 2 things that are quick and manageable for kids to eat while learning. Healthy snacks are encouraged. Students will have opportunities to refuel during their learning day.

Check Email Frequently – Parents, be sure to check your email frequently for important information and messages from teachers and the school.

Pop tabs - We are collecting pop tabs to help the Ronald McDonald House Charities of Central Illinois. Thank you for your donations!

Bussing – Please continue to check Skyward for changes in bus routes. These changes may occur as routes are refined throughout the year. We will continue to communicate with families of any changes, late buses, or updates as soon as we are aware of any shared with us.

Drop-off – drop-off of students can take place in two areas around Hoose. The Circle drive near the Main Office on the North end of the building and the large parking lot on the south end of the building are available for families.

- *Circle Drive* – For AM drop-off, please be sure to proceed slowly through the circle drive for the safety of all of our students and staff. There are visitor parking spots if parents need to park, please use these instead of parking in the drive. **Once you have entered the circle drive, please pull up to the curb (do not drop off in the drive lane) and have your child exit the vehicle on the sidewalk side.**
- *Circle Drive* – Please do not park cars in the circle drive. Have your child exit the vehicle on the passenger side of the vehicle for their safety on the sidewalk side of the car.
- Please drop off only by the curb, not in the drive lane. Additionally, please avoid dropping off in the cross walk or the large coned area surrounding the cross walk for the safety of our students and families walking students to the front door.
- Parents can pull up to drop off past the cross walk as this would also help the flow of traffic as it does tend to back up, at times, toward Vernon Street.
- A staff member may be asking cars to keep moving forward, pull up to the curb, etc, to assist with traffic flow and safety of drop off for our students. Please do not be offended

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if you are asked to pull forward or up to the curb as we are simply looking out for the safety and efficiency of the morning drop off process.

- Finally, we will ask all parents to allow their children to walk into the building independently, a staff member can certainly assist with students needing help in any way. We will ask all visitors/parents to sign in and take a Visitor badge if it is necessary to come in. We do apologize for any inconvenience, but for purposes of safety and security we want to be sure we can account for all people entering and exiting our school.
- *Circle Drive* – For PM pick-up, the circle drive will be open for parents to pick up their student(s) at 2:15. We do have a few specialized transports that pick up and depart between 1:55-2:15. **Please wait until 2:15 to pull into the circle drive** so we can get our buses in and out of the drive as quickly as possible. **Once you have entered the circle drive, please pull up to the curb (do not pick up in the drive lane) and have your child enter the vehicle on the sidewalk side.**
- *South Parking Lot* – The south parking lot is available for pick-up and drop-off at all times before and after school. Our large transport buses do drop-off and pick-up in the driveway nearest the building on the south end of the building near the flagpole. Please park your vehicle in the middle of the parking lot near the basketball hoops.

We do appreciate your help as we work to keep our students safe and secure.

Other News:

PTO Facebook - Colene Hoose PTO has a Facebook page! Please follow the link below and like our page. It is a great way to be better plugged in. The Facebook page has photos and updates on events, classroom needs as well as other opportunities to help out. The PTO will continue to evolve the site to maximize the usefulness to all the parents. Please feel free to add feedback on how we can better communicate with you by emailing us at colenehoosepto@gmail.com

<https://www.facebook.com/colenehoosepto>

PTO Meeting – The next Hoose PTO meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 23rd starting at 6:00 pm in the IMC. In May, our meeting is set of Monday, May 21st at 6:00 pm.

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Late Start Dates – Our next late start date is approaching. Please mark the following date on your calendars: Wednesday, April 11th. On late start days, school starts one hour later at **8:45 am**. In May, the late start date is Wednesday, May 9th.