

Hoose Hawks – Family Newsletter



September 2, 2016

Good evening Hoose Hawk Families. We have wrapped up our third week of school and the students are doing very well.

Calendar Additions – Please add the events/dates below:

- Sept 5 – Labor Day: No School
- Sept 6 – Institute Day: No Student Attendance
- Sept 14 – Late Start Day: Students arrive 1 hour late: school begins @ 8:45
- Sept 14 – Fire Drill will be conducted
- Sept 19 – PTO Meeting @ 6:00 pm – IMC
- Sept 28 – Late Start Day: Students arrive 1 hour late: school begins @ 8:45
- Sept 28 – Fire Drill will be conducted (final required Fire Drill)

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.

Bussing – Please continue to check Skyward for changes in bus routes. These changes may occur as routes are refined throughout the year.

Lunchroom – Our students are definitely getting into better routines in the cafeteria. We are becoming more efficient each day, but still working on some of the logistics. *We are planning to open our lunchroom again for parents starting the week of **Monday, September 26th**.* If you do plan to eat lunch with your child, parents would need to sign in at the Main Office and wait for the lunch period to begin as we get our students into the cafeteria to begin their mid-day refueling. Please remember, our cafeteria is a fast-paced environment, particularly during our first lunch period. We do have some limited space during a couple of our lunch periods. We will continue to practice routines each day. Parents are always welcome to sign their student out and take them to lunch off campus.

Standards Based Grading – Unit 5 has begun the process of transitioning to Standards Based Grading in the elementary grade levels. Teachers and administrators have been engaged in study and research around Standards Based Grading and many teachers have begun to shift their

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assessment practices to align with this type of grading and reporting. In the 2016-2017 school year, teachers will begin to report some grades in the Standards Based Grading format. Full implementation will take place in the 2017-2018 school year.

Below is a link to the District webpage focused on Standards Based Grading. Here, you will find the Companion Documents for each grade level which list the skills being assessed and the descriptors of the levels of performance, a supporting document called Understanding the SBG Scale, and more. Please click on the link to learn more...

<http://www.unit5.org/Page/12636>

Instruction: Workshop – Many of our families have experienced and learned about the Reading, Writing, and Math Workshop instructional methods used in our classrooms. For those that may be new to Hoose, or first time school-age parents, below is a link that will help provide some information related to workshop within Unit 5.

<http://www.unit5.org/domain/49>

Birthday 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:

Birthday Treats Policy - Unit 5 believes that birthdays are special for children. As a school district, in order to promote a healthy school environment, birthday 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, 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

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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.

Other News:

Box Tops for Education – Hoose does collect Box Tops for Education. If you have Box Tops to send in, please send them in with your student.

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, September 19th starting at 6:00 pm in the IMC.

Late Start Dates – Our next late start date is approaching. Please mark the following date on your calendars: Wednesday, September 14th, and September 28th. On late start days, school starts one hour later at **8:45 am**.

Pick-up and Drop-off – Pick-up and 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.

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- *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. 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* – 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.