

WILDCAT WATCH

Volume 1

August 26, 2008

Mr. Hunsinger's Wildcat Wisdom

Greetings everyone,

Welcome to another great year here at HWES. It was really special standing next to WHISKERS, our school mascot, welcoming the students here on the first day of school. We are off to a great start and will do everything possible to make this a wonderful year for everyone.

I have some information that must be shared regarding a few different topics:

1. Doors open at 8:30 a.m. for student arrivals each morning. If you are bringing your child to school, they may be dropped off at the designated drop areas. If you are coming into the building, please do not go to the classrooms without first stopping at the office to sign in and get a visitor's pass. Student safety is our number one concern.

2. Our Back-to-School Nights will be on Wednesday, August 27, for the Homestead building (grades 3, 4 and 5); and on Thursday, August 28, for the Wakefield building (grades 1 and 2). Both meetings will be held in the building cafeteria starting at 7:00 p.m. There will be a brief PTA meeting followed by some general remarks from school staff members. At 7:30 p.m. there will be classroom visitations and brief presentations by the classroom teachers. Only those people having more than one child in the building will have to attend an 8:00 p.m. presentation that will be repeated for that purpose. If there are no parents with students in different grade levels, the extra presentation will not be needed. Kindergarten, pre-kindergarten and Child Find will not be attending the Back-to-School nights due to the fact they have gradual entrance for parents and students. There will be a special kindergarten Back-to-School night on September 10 at 7:00 p.m. Please keep in mind that Back-to-School night is not Conference night. Conferences will be held on November 3 for that purpose. Our evening activities this week are to meet the teachers and to learn about the activities planned by the PTA.

3. HCPS has a policy against many food items being sent in from home for class distribution. Homemade foods cannot be sent into school for distribution at anytime. In some instances, store-bought labeled foods can be used; however, there must be a clear listing of ingredients. If there is a celebration of any kind, you may think about a special pencil, sticker or a non-food item. We have many children with allergies, as well as an ongoing risk of problems from some homemade food items.

4. HCPS has a policy of sending materials home with the youngest child. If you have more than one child in our school, look for materials coming home with your youngest child.

5. There will be information cards and forms to be filled out during this first week of school. Some will be taken care of at our Back-to-School nights; others will come home during the week.

6. Bus dismissal is always quite involved, especially during the first weeks of school. We will do everything possible to get the children out and on their way home as soon as safely possible.

7. Staff updates -

Early intervention teacher - Mrs. Strong
Wakefield building Speech Therapist - Ms. Romadka
Homestead building Special Educator - Ms. Kosanic
Wakefield building Nurse - Mrs. Haas

8. Dates of importance -

August 27	Back-to-School Night	Grades 3, 4 and 5
August 28	Back-to-School Night	Grades 1 and 2
September 1	School Closed	Labor Day
September 10	Kindergarten Curriculum Night	
September 26	Picture Day	

Please join the PTA and become involved in this outstanding organization.

I will continue to keep you informed about upcoming happenings here at HWES. Thank you for your support. I will have a more detailed *Wildcat Watch* for everyone next week.

With pride,

Mr. Hunsinger