

# WILDCAT WATCH

Volume 1  
September 10, 2009

## Mr. Hunsinger's Wildcat Wisdom

Welcome to the 2009-2010 school year. Everyone at HWES is looking forward to another wonderful year. I was really impressed with the outstanding job our students did during the first few days of school. It is quite evident there was a lot of planning and preparation between parent and student as they prepared for the new school year. Our buses arrived as scheduled (thank you for limiting the number of cars dropping children off and having the children ride the bus) and we had better early dismissal times than I can remember in recent years. In the classroom the students came in and got right down to work. The staff had a different schedule for getting started due to the Thursday start, but they once again have shown why they are the best. They put in many extra hours to get everything ready for our students. Parents, teachers and students working together is what it is all about and what it will continue to be throughout the school year.

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Our Back-to-School Nights were outstanding. We had some of the largest crowds in recent years. Parents told me they really benefited from attending the teacher information sessions. Our PTA shared information and the vision for the new year. I cannot thank our outstanding PTA board and volunteers enough for all they do.

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On Monday, September 14, the Board of Education will meet and a topic to be discussed is the decision on Site Master Plan Study for the Bel Air Campus for the proposed new Homestead-Wakefield Elementary School and the John Archer addition at Bel Air Middle School. The presentation is slated for about 8:15 p.m. and the general public comments are listed for 7:10 p.m. This is a public meeting. Parents are welcome to attend and hear what is discussed. Comments can be made regarding this issue if you want to do so. The meeting is in the Board of Education room located in the A. A. Roberty Building.

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It is **very important** that all visitors sign in at the office before walking their children to their classroom in the morning. The same goes in the afternoon when picking up children or waiting for walkers. We stress safety with the children and how important it is to identify visitors by their badges. Make sure you stop in the office to get one.

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Homestead/Wakefield is in need of more Inclusion Helper and Paraeducator substitutes (IH and IA). These positions provide classroom support to the teachers and sometimes work with an individual child with special needs. If you would be interested in helping please contact Mr. Lashof. You can indicate which days or time (AM or PM) you are willing to be called.

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As I mentioned at the Back-to-School Night meetings, we will be getting more specific information regarding what food items can and cannot be sent to school. I will share that information as it is received.

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As you know this weekend starts the season for the Ravens as well as the other NFL teams. To celebrate the occasion, we will have a Purple Friday to support our Ravens. I realize there are students and staff here at HWES who root for other teams and they can wear the colors of their favorite team (professional, college, little league or any kind of team). Let's have a great time as we celebrate FOOTBALL.

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### A few important dates of importance -

September 15 PTA General Meeting 7:00 P.M. Homestead Media Center  
September 16 Kindergarten Information Night 6:45 P.M. Wakefield Cafeteria  
September 24 School Pictures  
September 25 Early Dismissal 1:00 P.M.  
September 28 School Closed for Yom Kippur