

# Hancock Elementary School

*"Rooted in Community, Reaching for the Stars"*

We have had a wonderful start to the school year. There is a wonderful, positive energy in the school. Students took my message seriously and have been working hard to make friends.



In the classrooms, teachers are focused on setting the stage for a safe and supportive learning environment. Every day the teachers introduce new structures and routines using a Responsive Classroom technique, interactive modeling. Interactive modeling ensures that all students understand the steps involved in lining up, sitting in circle, listening to a speaker, working in groups and much more. While students continue to practice these skills, they have shown great progress with ready for learning behavior.

**Open House** is scheduled for **Wednesday September 18th from 5:30pm -6:30pm**. Open House is an opportunity to learn more about the classroom curriculum as well as see the wonderful work your children have accomplished over the first few weeks of school. Please join us in celebrating the HES students' accomplishments thus far!

While at the Open House, please check out the various table displays.

- Denise McLenon, district notary, will be present to finger print family members who would like to volunteer in the classroom or support staff and students during field trips.
- Sarah Wright will be manning our volunteer table. We have worked hard to identify a number of different volunteer opportunities at our school including library organizing, building an outdoor kitchen play area, and listening to students read.
- A staff member from Grapevine will be present to share the various programs they have to offer.
- Rebecca Vasquez, director of the Boys and Girls Club before and after school program, will be available to answer any questions you might have.

Our first **PTO meeting** will be **Thursday, September 26th at 6pm**. We will spend a good amount of time getting organized for the year but most important our Harvest Feast and silent auction in October. Remember what John Heywood says, "Many hands make light work!"

Please join us for our All School Assemblies. The assemblies are a wonderful opportunity to see what the children are learning and celebrate being together as a community. Dates for assemblies can be found on the activity calendar on the back of the newsletters.

Thank you for your patience as we dismiss students at the end of the day. As students learn the process, dismissal should shorten a bit. Just a reminder that all car pickup should be done via Elementary Lane. We have a number of walkers and bike riders on School Street so please do not use this road for car pick up. Please do not get out of your car when picking up in the car lane. This slows the traffic flow. Staff can help younger children to get into their car seats if needed.

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