Dear HWE Families,

This week I was meeting with our elementary principal team and the district Instructional Department and our agenda included conversations around our new literacy curriculum, Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS), professional learning, and such. As we worked through the agenda, one of the items I really connected with and felt compelled to share with our community. We discussed the idea of “have to” versus “get to” and the power it has on our mindset. The first part of this mindset activity involved us making a list of 3 things that we need to do this week for work. From there, we were to talk with a partner about these items and change the way we say them from “have to” to “get to.”

For example, one of the items on my list was prepare for and support the activity pictures for our yearbook. Instead of telling my partner, “I have to prepare for and support the activity pictures,” I said, “I get to prepare for and support the activity pictures.” Hopefully you see the subtle difference in that but can feel the power in the statement when you see it is something that you get to do.

This made me think about how I say things to my own child at home when I need him to do things for the house, complete his homework, or to support the family. Telling my son that he has to set the table versus that he gets to set the table leads us to a different interaction. In the former (has to), he feels that I am making him do something that he may not want to do, but in the latter (gets to), I am giving him an invitation to do something that may feel fun or be helpful. It has a much more positive feeling and allows me to share with him how helpful it is to the family with little argument! While I realize that this might not work with all interactions, it’s something that I have tried out this week and found that we have much more pleasant interactions around chores and homework. I encourage you to try this at home too and let me know how it worked out!

Have a great weekend,

Patricia

Visit our HWE website
Follow us on Twitter: @HWE_Hawks
“Like” our PTA on Facebook and follow @HWEPTA on Twitter

**HICKORY WOODS NEWS**

**Kids Care Council News:** Kids Care Council continues to work on “Our Attitude for Gratitude” campaign. KKC is kicking off the “Souper Bowl of Giving” food drive which will align with the BIG GAME. We are asking students to bring in canned goods and other nonperishable grocery items to donate to Hospitality House. Our goal is 1,000 lbs. The collection will run thru February 7th. There is a box in front of the media center for students to place their items. Thanks for your support.

**2020-2021 Kindergarten:** If you have an incoming Kindergarten student for the 2020-2021 school year, please call our office and let us know (248-956-2600). We will be sending information regarding orientation and activity night events and want to be sure that every family is reached! Please see our website for more information.

**Parking Lot Reminders:** Please remember these few safety items when driving through the parking lot:

- Always use a designated crosswalk when walking from the parking lot to the building.
- If you need to exit your vehicle, use a parking spot to stop. Stopping in a throughway prevents the flow of traffic and is a safety issue as your child exits the car where other cars are driving.
- We have a drop off lane around the back of the building available at 8:50 for you to let your child out of the car and into the building safely at door 18. Please have them exit the driver’s side of the car.
Important Dates:

- **January**
  - 27 – Geography Bee @ 9:30 a.m.
  - 29 – Half Day (12:25 dismissal)
  - 31 – HAWK PRIDE, PTA Family Bingo Night @ 6:00-7:30 p.m.

- **February**
  - 3-March 20 – WIDA Testing Window
  - 4 – PTA Meeting @ 7:00 p.m.
  - 5-7 – Fifth Grade Camp
  - 7 – All Pro Dad @ 8:00 a.m.
  - 12 – Count Day, Pajama Day ($1)
  - 14 – PTA Bagel Day (pre-pay only)
  - 17-21 – No School
  - 27 – Nest
  - 28 – HAWK PRIDE, PTA Popcorn Day (pre-paid only)

Please click here: [2019-20 calendar](#) to view this year’s district calendar.

**PTA NEWS**

We have exciting news!!! The PTA is working with Mr. Catenacci to come up with a plan to install a Rock Wall in the Gym! We are in the beginning stages, but our hope is that the wall will be installed before the end of the year for all students to use under the guidance of a gym teacher. Look for information coming home soon to see how YOU can be a "ROCK STAR"!

**Volunteer Needed:** The PTA is looking for someone to co-chair the Restaurant Night Committee. This committee is responsible for reaching out to local restaurants to hold fundraisers at. HWE families get to dine out while supporting HWE. If interested please email hwepta@gmail.com

**Volunteers Needed:** Family Pancake and Bingo Night is on January 31st from 6-7:30 PM. Invitations went home last week. We are in need of volunteers to make this night happen. Sign up here. We are also looking for prize donations. Send them into the office next week if you have something you can donate for us to give away as a prize.

**HWE Alumni Scholarship for 2020:** This is open to 2020 Graduating Seniors (WLW, WLC, WLN) that attended HWE. It is a $250 scholarship. Deadline is March 20, 2020.

**COMMUNITY NEWS**

**Alpine Valley Ski/Snowboard Club:** Come have a blast on the slopes! Alpine has a great discounted after school program for skiing and snowboarding. It’s a perfect start for beginner kids too. Our group runs on Wednesday’s from 6pm to close, with payment due by Tuesday morning. It doesn’t have to be just kids and families from this school, all are welcome! Go any week you want or all the weeks until the snow melts. Break the winter blahs and spread the word! See attachments for details. Carrie Murphy carrrielm123@gmail.com

**Earth Day Poster Contest:** Our WL annual Earth Day Poster Contest is back! Check out this flyer for more details.

**Chance to win BIG & support WL classrooms! 15th Annual Tuition Expedition 50/50 Scholarship Raffle:** Purchase your [Tuition Expedition 50/50 Scholarship Raffle tickets](#) today! Raffle’s proceeds are channeled into Walled Lake Schools' classrooms through Foundation’s annual mini-grant program (see [list of grant awards](#) per school). Tickets are $50 each or 3 for $100 (plus $2 convenience fee per $50). Only 1,000 tickets are available for sale. Great Odds! Grand prize
winner will receive scholarship funds for postsecondary education (40% lump sum option available). Plus, ticket purchasers have the chance to win a FREE raffle ticket courtesy of the WL School Emp. Fed. Credit Union and opportunity to win secondary prize; HP Sprocket 200 Bundle Media printer donated by the FFE. Grand Prize drawing is March 30, 2020 at District’s Reflections Celebration; need not be present to win. Visit the FFE’s TE raffle website for details or contact the Foundation for more info. and to purchase tickets with check or credit card: phone ext. 62116 or email michellebianco@wlcsd.org. MI Raffle License# R55190