Dear HWE Families,

Several years ago the state enacted a law related to student reading proficiencies that requires students to be reading on grade level by third grade or they will be retained, based on the M-STEP state assessment, unless they have one of several good cause exemptions. As a part of our multi-tiered systems of support (MTSS), we have been utilizing the IRIP (Individualized Reading Intervention Plan) process to identify targeted goals, intentionally design individual supports and interventions, and increase our home school partnership. Within this process, we are working through a continuous improvement cycle of reviewing data and planning for ways to better support instruction across all 3 tiers of supports within the MTSS framework. All of our professional learning for staff this year has been focused on strengthening these tiers.

Our goal for every child at HWE is to ensure that they are meeting their full potential to the very best of their ability as a whole person. This law has been a good reminder of how systemic processes are the very best way to support our students’ growth. That said, the thought of retaining a student in 3rd grade is daunting. As this first group of third grade students begins the M-STEP testing at the end of April, I want to share that we will be working to ensure that we will continue to work diligently to support your child’s growth and will be working with you, should your child need to request an exemption to retention. We are planning an optimal testing environment to support all students through the M-STEP assessment and will be communicating with you as soon as we are able about whether you will need to request an exemption.

Please see the district website for more information regarding the Third Grade Reading Law.

I hope to see you tonight at the Bingo and Pancake Feast Family Night! Tickets are available at the door and the fun starts at 6:00 p.m.

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

**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, carrielm123@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