Dear HWE Families,

It’s surprising to think that we are already finishing the second week of school and have already had our first PTA (Parent Teacher Association) meeting of the year. Thank you to all of the families that joined us on Tuesday evening! We hope to continue to see so many smiling faces with us each month.

As we round out the second week of school, I want to remind our families that we are now asking our students to walk to their class on their own during drop off. We have staff in the hallways to help direct any child who still needs the support and are happy to assist them right from the front door to their class if needed. It is our goal to encourage all of our students to increase their independence while ensuring the safety of the building by asking that we limit the number of adults entering the building during drop off. We appreciate your support in this effort.

For those families that are new to us, or those that may need a refresher, at the end of each week you will receive a newsletter from me. This will contain news from the week and/or upcoming events, important dates or date changes, and at times information from our Parent Teacher Association (PTA) and relevant district or community information. It is very important that you read through this information each week. We want to provide you with the most up to date communication and will also be posting these newsletters on our website under the “Our School” tab. If you ever have questions about items in the weekly newsletter, or anything at HWE for that matter, please contact our office (248-956-2600).

Have a really 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**

**Volunteers Needed:**

- We are in always in need of volunteers to help in the Media Center. If you could be available to help with shelving books, repairing books, support weeding the collection, and such, please email Ms. Gantz at debragantz@wlcsd.org.
- We are in need of volunteers to support our Kindergarten (12:50-1:10) and First Grade (12:10-12:30) students during their lunch period for these first few weeks. If you are able to help, please email your child’s classroom teacher to set up the days you can help out.
Parking Lots/Morning Drop Off/Afternoon Pick Up

- Please remember that we have a morning drop off around the back of the building each day, starting at 8:50 a.m.
- If you would like to drop off your child and walk them up to the building, please be sure to use a parking space.
- If your child is eligible to ride the bus, please consider them doing so each day. This will help with traffic in the parking lot.
- Please try not to park in the Handicap spaces during pick-up as we have families that need these spaces.

Important Dates:

- **September:**
  - 6 – All Pro Dads @ 8:00 a.m.
  - 10 – Curriculum Night (4th @ 6:00, 1st @ 6:30, 5th @ 7:00)
  - 11 – Curriculum Night (3rd @ 6:00, 2nd @ 6:45)
  - 17 – ½ day for all students (12:25 dismissal)
  - 20 – Hawk Pride (wear your HWE spirit wear or blue and silver)
  - 25 – Bonaventure Skating Night 6:00-8:30 p.m.
  - 26 – Nest 1
  - 27 – Picture Day!
  - 30 – No school for all students

- **October:**
  - 1 – Taste of the Lakes 5:00 p.m. at Edgewood Country Club
  - 2 – Count Day, Pajama Day ($1 to wear your pajamas all day), PTA meeting @ 7:00 p.m.
  - 4 – All Pro Dads @ 8:00 a.m., PTA Bagel Day (pre-paid orders only)
  - 9 – No School for all students
  - 10 – Nest 2, Kindergarten Curriculum Night @ 6:30 p.m.
  - 11 – PTA Color Run 4 Funds!
  - 16 – Family Book Study @ 7:00 p.m.
You might be wondering... *Why are there so many half days?*

Throughout the school year, there are eight half days that will be used for staff professional development. We recognize that half days can be inconvenient for families. That said, research has shown that when teachers receive ongoing, job-embedded professional development, they can increase student achievement by as much as 21 percentile points (Source). As a school and district, we are committed to continuous improvement and these eight half days are an essential part of that commitment. Although they may seem inconvenient, staff development opportunities are crucial to ensure we provide an exemplary education for our children.