



Hardin-Houston Elementary 2021 Newsletter

Important Dates -

8/17- Open House 5:00PM-7:00PM

**8/19- First Student Day
Grs. 1-12 & KDG. (last names A-G only)**

**8/20- First Day for KDG.
(last names H-O only)**

**8/23- First Day for KDG.
(last names P-Z only)**

**8/24- First Day for all KDG.
Students**



PTO News:

We are so excited for the 2021-2022 school year and to welcome back all students, staff and family members! The PTO is kicking off the school year with a family pool night at the Minster Swimming Pool on August 21st from 7-9pm. We are excited to see all of the Hardin-Houston families enjoying food, swimming and friendship.

Please save the dates for our annual mum sale. Students will be receiving papers soon because the sale starts Monday, August 23rd and all forms and money must be turned in by Friday, September 3rd. Due to the amount of orders we will have two pick up dates this year. Friday, September 10th and Saturday, September 11th. You will be notified of your pick up date after orders are collected.

The Hardin-Houston PTO is always welcoming new volunteers to support our students. We have a new email address, so please feel free to email us with ideas, concerns or questions. You can reach us at hardinhoustonpto@gmail.com.



A message from the Principal:

It's here! Back to school advertisements are everywhere, and students are beginning to feel the excitement and anxiety that occurs every year at this time. Most educators, and probably most students, do not sleep well the night before the first day of school. This is perfectly normal, so don't be concerned if you are noticing some mild behavior changes in your child as the big day approaches. If those behavior changes continue past Labor Day, it may warrant a call to us and/or your child's physician.

I have been getting many questions from parents regarding our policy on masks, vaccinations, safety precautions, etc. At this time, the use of masks are at the discretion of parents and guardians. If you want your child to wear a mask, let us know, and we will do our best to reinforce that for you. We will continue to follow reasonable safety guidelines such as distancing when possible, disinfecting regularly, and encouraging the use of hand sanitizer frequently. In addition, I'm sure our teachers will again take advantage of nice weather by using one of our outdoor classrooms for appropriate learning activities. As always, if you have questions or concerns, don't hesitate to contact us.

We are looking forward to another great year. We will see you soon at Open House!

Upcoming:

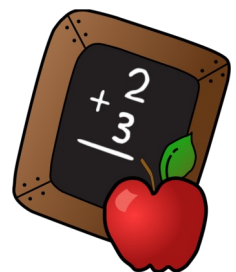
8/12: Fee pay day 7:00 am-7:00 pm

8/17: Open House 5:00-7:00

8/19: First day of school (except the special staggered start for kindergarten)

8/21: PTO Wildcat Pool Party

8/27: 2 hour early dismissal for staff safety training





Counselor's Corner

With another school year, there is a lot of excitement in the air about students returning back to school and new things taking place. Along with the traditional counseling services (individual, small group, and classroom guidance for academic, career, and social/emotional development to all students), we have partnered with Catholic Social Services (CSS) to provide support for our students and teachers with teaching social and emotional curriculum.

In grades K-2, we will use the Second-Step Program to teach critical skills. The skills are taught from four areas: Skills for Learning, Empathy, Emotion Management, and Problem Solving. They will learn a lot this year, and teachers will also complete daily practice activities to help your child retain skills. We will need your help. Students will bring home links that are interactive and fun activities that you and your child can complete together. This is a great way for you to see what your child is learning. Other grade levels will touch on some of the curriculum provided by Second-Step along with other life skills and social skills.

Bonnie Ihle, a licensed professional counselor from CSS, will be working with your child/children in grades K-2 one day a week. She will spend time in the K-2 classrooms and teach social and emotional skills to our students. If you would like to meet Ms. Ihle, please introduce yourself to her during open house. She will be located in the commons.

As a reminder, Ms. Ihle will only be here one day a week in the classroom with students. Due to the limited time that Ms. Bonnie Ihle will be at the school, students will see Ms. Makela for traditional counseling concerns and referrals will be made as needed. If you have any questions or concerns about your child, please feel free to contact me at (937)295-3010 ext. 1002.