



# WE are MEYER!



May 2017

## **A Note from the Principal; Mrs. Misty Ptasnik**

*Oh my! The close of the school year is upon us. It has been such an honor to be of service to the Hondo students, staff, and community; and as I consider the possibilities, I am anxious for the years to come. We are owl-fully busy at this time of the year making sure to make each moment count as we prepare our littles for the next school year. Please be sure your child is in school each and every day they can be as instruction will continue throughout May.*

## **60 Years of Service: Meyer Elementary School**

Join us May 17<sup>th</sup> for a tour of the construction site. At 4:30pm we will take a peek at both our new Pre-K wing and our clinic/administrative wing. We appreciate the community support of the bond, which benefits our students so very much!

Meyer Elementary was built in 1956 and named after prominent physician and school board president, Dr. H.J. Meyer. We currently are serving 510 beautiful students.

\*If you were a Meyer student (back in the day) consider providing us a memento or two to display the night of the 17<sup>th</sup>. Clearly label anything you drop off to us with your name and contact information so we can promptly get it returned to you. We have lots of photos that will be on display too this night.

At 6:30pm we will hold our final PTO meeting. Make plans to join us for these events.

## **Attendance: Just Say It!**

Attendance Counts. I shared in my last several newsletters that Applied Survey Research published findings that students who arrived at school academically ready to learn, but missed 10% of their kindergarten and first grade years, on average scored 60 points below students with good attendance (on 3<sup>rd</sup> grade assessments). This is an opportunity gap, and that is what we cannot afford to have; for our kids' sake.

Our goal to achieve is 97%, and we are unfortunately not yet there. However, we looked to see where our "excessive absences" are coming from. Our committee also met to review data and we discovered the months we had individual incentives did have a positive effect on overall attendance and so we end the year with an opportunity for students to spend a little time with Officer Moore and his K9 partner; as a reward for perfect attendance. (A flyer went home with details.)

Remember attendance policy requires a note to be turned in within 48 hours of a student's return to class. Medical notes do not count against incentive participation.

## **Ongoing Class Incentive**

- Each class has a PERFECT ATTENDANCE sign outside their classroom that allows them to celebrate when everyone is there at attendance reporting time.
- Once they color in each letter, the whole class is rewarded with an ice pop.
- \*We are working with classes that have the "excessively absent" students to ensure we have a "net" in place so the class can achieve the reward when working together.

## Planning with the End in Mind

Our final day of school is June 1, 2017. It is not scheduled as an early release. We will have an awards assembly; and your child's teacher will contact you if your student is scheduled to receive recognition at this event. Your children will have a lot of time over the summer to have fun. Please build in learning opportunities for them. A worthy goal is to read between 20-30 minutes daily, as well as to limit screen time. Consider weekly visits to the public library. Get outside and PLAY too...research says our kiddos must be active to increase their sensory motor skills. Most importantly, be safe!

Check out online student resources at:

<http://meyer.tx.hse.schoolinsites.com/?PageName=%27Bio%27&StaffID=%27357050%27>)

## Next Year: Looking Ahead

As we begin the 2017-2018 school year our new Pre-K wing will open and our current Pre-K wing will go under construction. Our new clinic and administrative offices will be opening as well, so it'll be easier to get to the main office staff and nurse when you need us. (Hurray!)

We also have submitted a grant, and are hopeful to be successful in finding the funding to open a motor lab that will serve Meyer Elementary. It will be located in our Pre-K wing and promises to provide opportunities to cultivate the whole child.

I am currently looking into additional enrichment opportunities for our students as well, and will let you know updates as they happen.

Watch our Facebook, Twitter, and school marquee for announcements on when Open House will be; and any other events that we have coming up. **Mark your calendar for the FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL...August 21, 2017.**

<https://www.facebook.com/hondomeyerelementary/>

[https://twitter.com/meyer\\_hondoisd?lang=en](https://twitter.com/meyer_hondoisd?lang=en)

I started the year with "tell me something good" and I continue to weave it in when I can. I am loving when my staff share their "something goods" with me, and appreciate the emails from parents that let us know what we are doing "good" ... our door is always open to you, as it takes partnership to raise successful children. 830.426.3161 is our phone number at school and my email is: [mptasnik@hondoisd.net](mailto:mptasnik@hondoisd.net).

*\*Reminder: Head Start has their own direct line at 1.830.426.7632. Thank you! ☺*



**An official THANK YOU to our 2016-2017 PTO Board for their commitment to serving our campus!**

**Abby Wilson, Jennifer Wiemers, Ashley Lowe, and Missy Braden... again thank you ladies!**

2017-2018 School Calendar can be found online at: <http://www.hondoisd.net/> (Under District News)

## IMPORTANT DATES AHEAD...

**Head Start Roundup** – May 9-11<sup>th</sup> – 8:30am to 12:00pm and again at 1:00pm to 3:00pm. The child must be 4 years old by September 1, 2017 to apply for Head Start / Pre-K.

**Kindergarten Roundup** – Through May 2017 (See Flyer) – Must be 5 years old by September 1, 2017 to be eligible.

**Current students** – Please notify us if you will not return to Meyer/Woolls for 2017-2018. Otherwise, your child will be placed on a class roster for next year at the appropriate campus.