

# AUGUST/SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER

## HICKORY BEND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



BACK  
to  
SCHOOL



**Hickory Bend Elementary School**  
600 E. 191st Place  
Glenwood, IL 60425

**School: (708) 758-4520**  
**Absentee Line: (708) 757-2115**  
**Mrs. Shawn Jackson, Principal**



# A Message From The Principal Mrs. Shawn Jackson

Dear Parents/Guardians,

It is an honor to welcome you to the 2019-2020 school year, at Hickory Bend Elementary School. The beginning of a new year for me brings opportunities for us to focus together on student learning, sharing our knowledge, partnering with parents and planning for the success of our students. I look forward to returning to work with my extremely dedicated Hickory Bend team during our new school year.

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HICKORY BEND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Our teachers will remain focused and continue to work diligently to establish and maintain a positive, nurturing academic and social learning environment. We will continue to develop learners that represent a solid foundation that has been built on academics and good character. The staff is busy planning a phenomenal academic year, which will include STEM, technology, reading, writing and so much more. I am certain that with your partnership and collaboration, we will rise to an entirely new level of excellence; especially with our new position of SEL Social Emotional Coach, Mrs. Torres, Mrs. Guzman as our Gifted Teacher along with our Mrs. Nyhan as our Instructional Coach.

My hope is that this year finds you ready to accept our invitation to come and volunteer in the classrooms, for our book fair and other events as well as chaperoning for field trips. Don't forget all parents must have a background check to volunteer through our district office. We will accomplish our goals by working together as a team and remain persistent until each goal is accomplished.

It is my desire to keep you informed of all that is taking place at Hickory Bend School. If you have any concerns that arise at anytime, please do not hesitate to give me a call. I look forward to having a long rewarding and meaningful relationship with you and your family. Once again, I extend a welcoming hand to everyone and look forward to a successful year at Hickory Bend Elementary School.

Mrs. Shawn Jackson

Principal, Hickory Bend Elementary School



Education is the key to success in life, and teachers make a lasting impact in the lives of their students. --Solomon Ortiz



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## HICKORY BEND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

### CHANGE OF INFORMATION

Parents/Guardians are required to notify the school immediately of any changes in name, address, home, work or emergency telephone numbers; a change in the emergency contact person, changes in guardianship, etc. Any information that might be pertinent to school records or contacting parent/guardian in case of an emergency.

### "NEW" PARKING LOT PROCEDURES

School ends at 3:10 P.M. For safety reasons, we ask parents **DO NOT EXIT** your vehicle to pick up your child. **DO NOT** park in the school parking lot, if you need to exit your vehicle, please park in an adjacent parking lot.

You have received a dashboard placard to place in your windshield with your child's name and grade level. Remain in your car and your child will be brought to you.

Please refrain from using the handicapped parking spots when dropping your child off in the morning or picking them up after school. These spots are reserved for individuals who have a handicapped license plate or mirror placard. **THANK YOU IN ADVANCE FOR YOUR HELP AND YOUR PATIENCE!**





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HICKORY BEND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

# GET INVOLVED!

Friday, September 13th, 2019

From 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

This is a day for all grandparents to shadow their grandchild or grandchildren for a couple of hours. This way they can meet the teacher and see what their student does at the beginning of the day. We will also have our annual Bookfair for them to visit.

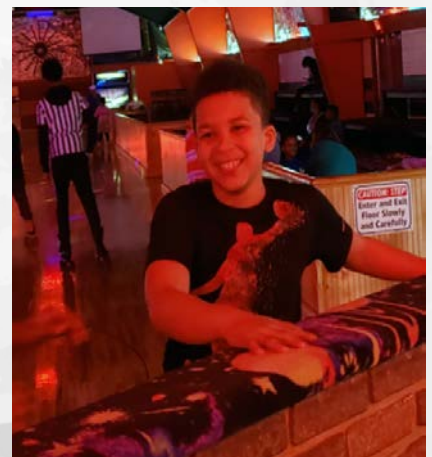
PLEASE REMEMBER TO REVIEW THE "PARENT/STUDENT HANDBOOK" WITH YOUR CHILD. IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT YOUR FAMILY IS FAMILIAR WITH ALL SCHOOL PROCEDURES.

**GRANDPARENTS PLEASE COME JOIN US!!**

## BACK-TO-SCHOOL | BUS SAFETY RULES...

- STAND ON THE SAME SIDE OF THE STREET AS THE BUS STOP;
- DON'T PLAY AROUND WHILE WAITING AND STAY ON THE SIDEWALK;
- BE ALERT TO TRAFFIC;
- ALWAYS WALK IN FRONT OF, NOT BEHIND THE BUS;
- DON'T RUSH FOR THE BUS. MOVE TOWARD THE DOOR ONLY AFTER THE BUS STOPS, THE DOOR OPENS AND THE DRIVER GIVES THE OKAY TO BOARD;
- HOLD THE HANDRAIL WHEN GETTING ON AND OFF THE BUS;
- NEVER STAND UP OR WALK AROUND WHILE THE BUS IS MOVING;
- ALWAYS OBEY THE BUS DRIVER.

--ANY BUS ISSUES, YOU MAY CALL (708) 210-2200--



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HICKORY BEND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

## OPEN HOUSE / CURRICULUM NIGHT

Thursday, September 5th, 2019  
From 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

We are looking forward to seeing the school filled with parents/guardians. This is an opportunity to visit your child's classroom, meet the teacher, the principal, office staff and hear the expectations for the school year. If you have not yet joined the PTA, this would be a great day to become a part of a group that is looking to provide your children with some exciting opportunities this year.





Welcome parents to the new school year at Hickory Bend School! We are proud to have our All Stars participate in our PBIS school-wide plan. PBIS (**Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports**) is an extended program at Hickory Bend School, which is implemented to assist in addressing behavior. PBIS organizes adults and students to create a social-cultural in schools that will encourage positive behavior and incentives, which discourages problem behaviors. This program supports the goals and mission of Hickory Bend Elementary School in that the social-culture will inevitably lead to a safer environment where students achieve academically and build positive relationship with each other and adults.

It is our goal to legitimately recognize each of our students for good character and positive behavior. We have wonderful students at Hickory Bend and they should be reminded of this fact on a daily basis.

- **Verbal and Nonverbal Praise**
- **Positive Reports to Parents**
- **Recognition at Awards Assemblies**
- **Earn Hickory Bend Allstar bucks to be redeemed at PBIS Sales**

At the beginning of the year, teachers and staff will review our universal expectations, Be Safe, Be Responsible, and Be Respectful. These expectations are taught, modeled and practiced throughout the year. Please take some time to read and discuss our PBIS expectations with your child/children. Your support of our PBIS school-wide system will assist us in having a successful school year.

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**HICKORY BEND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

# **ABSENCE REPORTING**

Parents must call the school and report any student who will be absent. Should a child become ill at school, parents will be notified and it is their responsibility to see that the child is picked up.

For each absence or tardiness, a parent must call the school before 8:30 a.m. When calling, please **IDENTIFY** yourself; give the **STUDENT'S NAME, GRADE**, and the **TEACHER'S NAME** and **REASON FOR BEING ABSENT**.



## HELPFUL REMINDERS FOR A SUCCESSFUL SCHOOL YEAR

The beginning of the school year is a great time to remind students and parents about the general procedures followed at school each day. These will help ensure a successful day and year for children, families and teachers. Thank you for remembering to:

- Look through your child's bookbag and go over the items sent home each day with your child;
- Help your child remember to return papers when they are due;
- Help your child get to school each day on time;
- Call the absentee line at (708) 757 - 2115 option #1 before 8:30 a.m. each day your child will be absent;
- Send a note to the teacher when your child returns to school after an absence;
- Sign in at the office and wear a visitor's badge every time you are in the building;
- Deliver forgotten items to the office, not the classroom;
- Send a note in with your child if he/she is doing something different after school (for example riding the bus home with a friend or going to a friend's house). If you forget the note in the morning, call the school before 12:00 p.m. (noon) to ensure this information gets to the teacher and your student in time for dismissal. If you call after 12:00 p.m. (noon) we may not be able to honor your request;
- Come into the office to sign your student out during the day. The office will call down to the child's classroom and the student will be sent to the office to meet you. Students will not be released to a parent from the classroom by the teacher;
- If sending party invitations to school, send a invite to **EVERY** student in the classroom;
- Sign up for Class DoJo.

Thank You!

## THANK YOU TO OUR CUSTODIANS

Our custodians have done an outstanding job in getting the building ready for staff and students. A HUGE THANK YOU goes to the Brookwood custodial staff for their efforts in making Hickory Bend a clean and orderly place.



## “BOX TOPS” FOR EDUCATION



We will continue once again this year to collect box tops. Please clip the Box Top coupons off hundreds of your favorite products and stick them on the attached sheet or save them in an envelope or bag so we can keep earning money for our school.

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Are you looking for opportunities to volunteer at Hickory Bend? If so, we need your support and ask that you consider volunteering with us. Please contact us at (708) 758-4520 for additional information.



## “RECYCLE”



Recycle your newspapers, magazines, shopping catalogs, office and school papers: 24 hours/7 days a week in the green and yellow Abitibi Paper Retriever bin closest to our school. This is an easy way for you to recycle your paper every week and help us raise money for worthwhile activities in our school.

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HICKORY BEND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

## THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT

A very special THANKS to the [Glenwood Junior Women's Club]. They support our school annually. We truly appreciate all of the support from our community and parents.



## WELCOME NEW HICKORY BEND STAFF



|                                  |                                       |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Ms. Crawford - 4th Grade Teacher | Ms. Dorothy Devitt - Lunchroom Worker |
| Mrs. Guzman - Gifted Teacher     | Ms. Mary Jurjevic - Lunchroom Worker  |
| Ms. Richards - 4th Grade Teacher | Mr. Ceaser Sarabia - Custodian        |





## FREE READING SKILL WEBSITES

The following sites contain free reading links to outside sources. These sites are intended to help your child(ren) develop/strengthen reading skills.

- K-2 [www.starfall.com](http://www.starfall.com) | Teaches students how to read using phonics;
- K-3 [www.freereading.net](http://www.freereading.net) | Allows parents to download picture cards, audio and videos. Focus is on literacy skills;
- K-4 [www.adrianbruce.com](http://www.adrianbruce.com) | This site includes word, phonics, and reading games;
- K-2 [www.pbkids.org/read](http://www.pbkids.org/read) | Free games and activities;
- [www.mightybook.com/free-to-read.html](http://www.mightybook.com/free-to-read.html) | Text to read, children books, music and puzzles;
- K-2 [www.learningtoday.com](http://www.learningtoday.com) | Reading games and activities that help build key reading skills in phonemic awareness, phonics, sight words, vocabulary, and comprehension;
- PreK [www.shirleys-preschool-activities.com](http://www.shirleys-preschool-activities.com) | Kids get hooked on books at an early age. Preschool reading skills are developed.

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## HICKORY BEND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

### BOOKFAIR

Our annual book fair will be held from Tuesday, September 3rd to Friday, September 13th at Hickory Bend. We hope all parents and students will have the opportunity to browse the bookfair. It will be available for our families during Open House/Curriculum Night on September 5th and Grandparents Day on Friday, September 13th. We look forward to seeing you!



### SCHOOL PICTURES

Our annual book fair will be held from Tuesday, September 3rd to Friday, September 13th at Hickory Bend. We hope all parents and students will have the opportunity to browse the bookfair. It will be available for our families during Open House/Curriculum Night on September 5th and Grandparents Day on Friday, September 13th. We look forward to seeing you!



## BACK TO SCHOOL BASH

Brookwood School District 167 held their [Back To School Bash] on Friday, August 23rd, 2019 at Hickory Bend School. This event had games and activities for students, music, food and FUN!

Registration was available to our parents who had not done so.

We hope the event was successful for all students, parents and community members.



**"THANKS TO ALL STAFF WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE WELCOME BACK BASH"**

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HICKORY BEND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

## KIDS CHOIR SKATING PARTY

**NOTE: CHOIR PRACTICE BEGINS FOR OUR 3RD & 4TH GRADERS  
ON THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5TH AT 7:15 A.M.**



## COLLEGE & CAREER DAY

College and Career Day was an awesome opportunity for our students to be exposed to many amazing career choices; such as architect, veterinarian, politicians, culinary services, entrepreneur's, motivational speakers and physicians, etc.





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HICKORY BEND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

## 4TH GRADE ALL STAR GAME



## COLLEGE CORNER

We have started a new program called "THE TASSLE IS WORTH THE HASSLE" to encourage our students to correlate what they are doing in elementary school to achieving their higher educational goals. We will have a variety of activities throughout the school year to prepare them for a successful future!





# We ♥ Our Volunteers



HICKORY BEND  
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

## STAY CONNECTED...



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