

# HES Hippo Happenings- Parent Edition

WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 27H

## CAMPUS NEWS

Hello HES Families-

Our annual fall Big Kahuna Fundraiser kicked off on Tuesday. I've already seen students excited about winning the hedgehog collectibles and several have told me they can't wait to ride on that party bus. :)

[Here](#) is the video that teachers showed in class on Tuesday.

Our annual fundraiser is a way to raise money to pay for various items that come up through the school year that our regular operating budget doesn't cover. In the past, we've used these funds for classroom libraries, leveled literacy intervention kits, professional development for teachers, luncheons and teacher appreciation, Field Day, end of the year student activities, and many other items that come up as a school year unfolds.

Just a reminder that our school day now starts at 7:30 this school year. We have a steady stream of cars arriving after the 7:30 bell--some as late as 7:40/7:45. We start opening car doors at 7:00 even though our doors don't open until 7:10 to get the traffic through, so that is no longer a challenge. If your child is arriving after 7:30, he/she is missing the start of the school day. Please work to ensure your child arrives before 7:30 so he/she can start the school day with classmates and is not marked tardy. If for some reason there is not an adult outside after 7:30, you will need to drive to our office entrance and park by the construction trailer and walk your child to the door to ring the doorbell. Thank you in advance for helping your student successfully start their school day on time.

## ANNOUNCEMENT FOR 2ND GRADE PARENTS

Beginning in the 2021-22 school year, all students in second grade will be assessed with the *Cognitive Ability Test (CogAT)* in the month of October. This is an assessment that we use to identify students for



giftedness. This practice will enable us to identify students with exceptional ability or potential so that we may more equitably serve students, especially populations underrepresented in Gifted and Talented programming. Students will take this screener during the school day and it will take approximately 30-45 minutes. There is nothing you need to do to prepare your student for this screener. Based on the results of the CogAT screener, eligible students will be invited to complete the full GT testing battery in the Winter.

## UIL EVENTS AND PRACTICE TIMES

### UIL

HES is excited to offer UIL events for students in second through fifth grades. An email was sent to parents/guardians this week as well as a paper copy for students to sign-up to join an event. We would love for your child to consider participating in UIL.

Practice will begin the week of October 4th-8th. Practice days and times are as follows:

Art-Thursdays-3:15-4:15

Chess Puzzle-Wednesdays-3:05-4:05

Creative Writing-Wednesdays-3:05-4:05

Music Memory-Thursdays-3:15-4:15

Number Sense-Mondays-3:15-4:15

Oral Reading-to be determined

Ready Writing-Thursdays-3:15-4:15

Spelling-Tuesdays-3:15-4:15

Storytelling-2nd Grade-Wednesdays-3:05-4:05

Storytelling-3rd Grade-Tuesdays-3:05-4:15

If you have any questions, please contact the UIL Campus Coordinator for HES, Laura Watkins, [laura.watkins@huttoisd.net](mailto:laura.watkins@huttoisd.net).

## COUNTDOWN TO KICKOFF

Southwest Food Service (SFE), our Child Nutrition food provider, and our Child Nutrition Services department are hosting a "Countoff to KickOff Day" during student lunches on Thursday, September 30th. They will be serving pretzel rods with cheese sauce and hamburger/cheeseburgers to our students for lunch that day. As part of this promotion, they are inviting all students and staff to wear their favorite football team's jersey--whether NFL, college, or our very own Hutto Hippos who play McNeil Thursday night. Click [here](#) for the flyer advertising our Countdown to Kickoff Day. :)

## HEALTH REMINDERS

Please contact the campus nurse if your child is experiencing Covid like symptoms after a close contact or if your child tests positive for Covid 19. Please remember, while our district safety plan does not require a 14 day quarantine after a direct exposure, we do ask parents to closely monitor students for symptoms. Those that choose to self quarantine based on an exposure will have absences excused. While we do not have a virtual option for quarantine periods, please contact your child's teacher for assignments they can do while at home.

## DON'T FORGET...

- **If you have a transportation change request for your child, we must receive it BEFORE 1:30 PM.** If you call after 1:30, we cannot guarantee the change will occur due to the nature of the end of the day and the time it takes to get messages out. Thank you for your understanding and for following our end of day procedures. All transportation changes should be emailed to [hess.receptionist@huttoisd.net](mailto:hess.receptionist@huttoisd.net) by 1:30 each day.

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