



Highland View's Children — Soaring to New Heights!

Principal's Page

October 20, 2011, Number 3

Halloween

On **October 28**, HVES will continue the annual tradition of hosting a Halloween parade and classroom parties. The parade will begin at 2:15 p.m. Parents who attend the classroom parties will be asked to sign in at a table in the school lobby. Please discourage your child from wearing to school any costume that depicts violence. **Items that will not be permitted are those that resemble weapons.** This includes **metal fingers, knives, guns, etc. (even paper replicas)**. This is in keeping with the MCPS weapons policy and with our goal of providing our children with an appropriate model of a safe school environment. This policy will be strictly enforced. **For children who do not celebrate Halloween, an alternate fun activity during the parade and parties will be held in the Media Center. If you would prefer for your child to participate in the alternate activity, please contact your child's teacher.** Please be mindful that some students have food allergies. Room parents should check with the classroom teachers to ensure students' needs are being met. Thank you for your care and understanding!

Chorus News

Many staff positions in MCPS felt the impact of the reduced funds received for the school system this year. Three of our specialists, Mr. Benedetti, Ms. Gearin and Mrs. Pfaff received a reduction in their teaching allocation from .9 to .8 (4 1/2 days to 4 days per week). As a result of this and increased enrollment, our specialists are seeing a greater number of students in a reduced number of days. Therefore, as we examined schedules, some difficult decisions had to be made, and creative scheduling implemented, for activities that fall outside of normal art, music and P.E. instruction, especially chorus. This year, as in the past, third grade chorus rehearsals will happen during the school day, but fourth and fifth grade chorus rehearsals will occur outside of the school day. Fourth and fifth grade chorus will meet on Wednesdays from 3:30 -4:45 p.m. We recognize that this change in scheduling may have an impact on student participation due to other student obligations, sports, clubs, etc., and we regret this may occur. We are hopeful that the majority of students who participated in chorus last year will still be able to partake of this valuable experience. Additionally, due to the change in Mrs. Pfaff's allocation, we regret to inform our community that there will not be second grade chorus this year. We know this will be a disappointment to our second graders, but we are hopeful that when things improve in the future, we can look at reinstatement of this program. If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Dardarian or Mrs. Pfaff.

IMPORTANT DATES

- October 21**
No School—MSTA Conference

- October 25**
HVES Literacy Night @ 7:00 p.m.

- October 27**
Cultural Arts Assembly—The Science Show
9:30-10:15 a.m.—K-2
10:30-11:15 a.m.—Gr. 3-5

- October 28**
End of the First Marking Period
2:15 p.m. Halloween Parade & Classroom Parties

- October 31**
Professional Day—No School for Students

- November 1-3**
Annual HVES Book Fair
Hours: 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.;
Thurs., Nov. 3, 4:00-8:00 p.m.

- November 1**
7:15 p.m. PTA Meeting

- November 4**
9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.—Gr. 3 Field Trip to Brookside Gardens

- November 9**
Fall Pictures Make-up Day

- November 10 & 11**
Early Release Days—Students Dismissed at 1:00 p.m. (Parent-Teacher Conferences)

- November 15**
Gr. 2 Field Trip to Strathmore Hall

- November 16**
First Marking Period Awards Assemblies
K-2—9:40 a.m.; Gr. 3-5—2:15 p.m.

- November 23**
Early Release Day—Students Dismissed at 1:00 p.m.

- November 24 & 25**
No School—Thanksgiving Holiday