



August 18, 2023

Dear HPA families,

Congratulations on the conclusion of our first full week of the 23-24 school year! With your help, we have accomplished so much in such a short amount of time. We ended our morning arrival at 8:02 this morning (2 minutes off our daily schedule), and we've shaved over 20 minutes off of our daily dismissal over the course of the week. On Thursday, we flexed to offer all our scholars a different lunch experience than they'd had the first week. Thank you for your grace, feedback, and words of support as we've worked through schoolwide processes.

Also this week, the Indiana Department of Education published IREAD-3 results from last year. For those unfamiliar with IREAD-3, it is a statewide assessment given to 3rd graders that assesses their command of foundational reading skills. There is a large body of research that suggests a scholar's ability to read by 3rd grade can have impacts on later-life opportunities.

Nearly 97% of HPA 3rd graders received passing scores on IREAD-3 last year. Compared to a statewide average pass rate of 82%, and an IPS corporation pass rate of 61%, scholars at HPA were some of the highest performing in Indianapolis. While this is an important indicator of our scholars' progress in reading, we recognize it as a single measure, among others, that indicates our scholars' progress toward future lives of leadership and service. We also recognize that our scholars' performance is a direct reflection of the quality of instruction they receive each day alongside their teachers, in their classrooms, and with your support.

With all of this in mind, we enter the weekend with a tremendous appreciation for our teachers, support staff, and the partnerships we have with you all. Thank you!

Please see important information below.

Health Information Forms

Required health forms have been sent home. Please return completed health forms to school by Monday, August 21. These forms are needed by Nurse Monica for your scholar's treatment permission and to inform her about allergies and other medical conditions.

Fire Drill Scheduled for Monday, 8/24

Please note August's safety drill will be a fire drill. During the drill, teachers and scholars will practice a safe, efficient evacuation of the building.

Reminder: 23-24 Guest Teacher Call Out

Wanting to get more involved at HPA and have a flexible schedule? HPA is looking to create a small cadre of guest teachers who come into our classrooms when our teachers are out. In-house guest teachers serve a critical role for our school because they receive introductory training on HPA culture and systems, and they are provided plans from the absent teacher that allow for consistent expectations, both behaviorally and academically. If you have a flexible schedule and are interested in becoming a guest teacher at HPA, please apply to the [Guest Teacher posting our HCS Careers page](#).

23-24 Family Contact List

Looking to build community at HPA? Our Parent Support Team (PST) is putting together a directory of HPA families. Participation is completely optional, and the list is maintained by PST volunteers, not HPA. If you'd like to be included in the directory, please complete the [Google Form linked here](#).

Save the Date: Parent "Meet the Teacher Night" on Thursday, 8/31, from 5:30 - 7:00

Meet the Teacher Night is HPA's second family event each year. As a parent/guardian, this is your opportunity to learn a bit more about your child's classroom and just get to know their teacher a bit better. We will also offer a brief presentation on what it means to be a school that receives federal Title I funding. Due to the goals and logistics of the event, we ask that this is an adult-only audience. Stay tuned for more details.

Parent Support Team (PST) Trivia Night! is Monday, 9/25

Join us for the first PST fundraiser of the school year at Centerpoint Brewing Company. There will be a food truck on site and you can BYOF, too. Thank you so much to HPA parent Ryan McDuffee for donating the trivia to us. Sign up [here!](#)

Weekly COVID Update

To keep you informed of the number of COVID cases reported at school, each HCS school is providing a weekly report to our family community. Please see [here](#) the number of positive COVID cases reported this week at HPA.