

# Hoose Hawks – Family Newsletter

December, 2021

Hello Hoose Hawk families. I hope you have a great weekend and a wonderful Winter Break. Here are some pieces of information that are important for you to know.

**Winter Break COVID Reporting** - During Winter Break, if your student tests positive, or is a close contact to someone who tests positive, please email us here at school so we can contact you once we return from break with any necessary protocols. Please email Mrs. Blemler (School Nurse) at [blemler@unit5.org](mailto:blemler@unit5.org) AND Dr. Zbrozek (Principal) at [zbrozekaw@unit5.org](mailto:zbrozekaw@unit5.org) We will be in contact with you on January 3rd to share any necessary information, protocols, etc. We wish you a happy and healthy Winter Break.

**COVID Update** - If your child has received both doses of the COVID-19 vaccine we encourage you to send a copy of their vaccination card to the school nurse to keep on file. It can be sent electronically to the school nurse or a copy can be dropped off in the school office. A COVID vaccine is not required for children to attend school and submitting proof is voluntary.

**Bus ID Cards (Z Pass)** - A reminder to all families that students will be using their Bus ID cards (Z-Pass) to swipe on and off the bus each day. Please be sure to check your child's backpack for this ID. If your child is missing their ID, let us know and we will make sure they get a new one as soon as possible.

**Student Devices** - A quick reminder that student devices continue to use school filters and security measures 24 hours per day. Please help us continue to monitor student use and searches. The Main Office is alerted to inappropriate use/searches. We appreciate your support and partnership!

**Menu Changes** - Due to a nationwide shortage on some materials, and some food items, the necessity to change the breakfast or lunch menu does arise. I would encourage families to check the menus regularly to be sure you know if any updates or changes to menu items daily. The link to the menus is below: [Unit 5 Food Service Menus](#)

**Cold Weather** - As the weather turns colder, please be sure to send your child to school with a winter coat, hat, and gloves. We will continue to go outside for recess unless the wind chill is below 20 degrees. We use the Weather Channel to determine this each day before recess times.

**Reporting Absences** - We would like to first say thank you for helping us keep our Hoose Hawks safe through mask wearing, hand washing, and keeping students home if they have any symptoms. If your child does have symptoms, please be sure to call the Main Office (557-4414) to report the absence. Our School Nurse may follow up with families to help determine the best course of action. Thank you. ***Did you know*** – a child with attendance issues is more likely to

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have a growing achievement gap as compared to those students who attend school regularly? In fact, as the student with attendance issues continues to get older and attendance issues continue, the gap grows significantly larger the older that they get.

**Masks** - Masks are required for all students, staff, visitors, parents, volunteers, and anyone entering the building - including outside organizations that may use the buildings on the weekend. Our students have done a tremendous job so far with mask wearing and we appreciate your support as we do everything we can to keep our kids safe and in school.

**Attendance** - Attendance is one of the most important components of student achievement. Please remember that learning begins at 7:45 each morning. Students arriving after 7:45 may be marked tardy. We appreciate your help as we get students back into the in-person routines of school.

**PTO Meeting** – The next Hoose PTO meeting is scheduled for Monday, January starting at 6:00 pm in the IMC or virtually (we will be offering both options).

**Late Start Dates** – Our next late start date is approaching. Please mark the following date on your calendars: Wednesday,. On late start days, school starts one hour later at ***8:45 am***. PLC teams begin meeting at 7:15 am. Please be sure to use the PLC Recording Document as this will be submitted in December and May for CPDUs for the teams.

**Pick-up and Drop-off** – Pick-up and drop-off of students can take place in two areas around Hoose. The Circle drive near the Main Office on the North end of the building and the large parking lot on the south end of the building are available for families.

- Circle Drive – For AM drop-off, please be sure to proceed slowly through the circle drive for the safety of all of our students and staff. There are visitor parking spots if parents need to park, please use these instead of parking in the drive. **Once you have entered the circle drive, please pull up to the curb (do not drop off in the drive lane) and have your child exit the vehicle on the sidewalk side.**
- Circle Drive – For PM pick-up, the circle drive will be open for parents to pick up their student(s) at 2:15. We do have a few specialized transports that pick up and depart between 1:55-2:15. **Please wait until 2:15 to pull into the circle drive** so we can get our buses in and out of the drive as quickly as possible. **Once you have entered the circle drive, please pull up to the curb (do not pick up in the drive lane) and have your child enter the vehicle on the sidewalk side.**
- South Parking Lot – The south parking lot is available for pick-up and drop-off at all times before and after school. Our large transport buses do drop-off and pick-up in the

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driveway nearest the building on the south end of the building near the flagpole. Please park your vehicle in the middle of the parking lot near the basketball hoops.

**Hoose Website** - We will continuously update our website throughout the year and add important and pertinent information for our families to use. We also want the website to be a resource and help make connections to the community. The site will be ever-developing, but please use it to help plan referencing our calendar, look for new items added, volunteer requirements, etc. Thanks Hoose!