

February 8, 2024

Dear Hogan Cedars Families,

I hope this message finds you well and that the new year has started off on a positive note for your family. We are thrilled to see our students engaged in learning and participating in various activities here at Hogan Cedars Elementary.

It's hard to believe that we have already reached the halfway point of the year! Our students have settled into their routines and have a clear understanding of our school-wide expectations. Our dedicated teachers have put in a tremendous amount of effort to create meaningful learning opportunities while also teaching important behavior expectations. Consistency and predictability are fundamental to ensure student success, as well as providing a calm learning environment that allows for optimal focus.

As we enter the month of February, we are excited to celebrate Black History Month with our students. It is an opportunity for us to honor and recognize the significant contributions made by African American individuals throughout history and in our present society.

As Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. once said, "We are not makers of history. We are made by history." We believe in the power of history to shape our present and inspire our future. This month, we aim to instill in our students the understanding that their voices and words have tremendous power, and when used positively, they can bring about significant change. Our Equity Team and teachers have carefully planned engaging activities that will allow our students to learn about a diverse range of African American figures. Through these activities, we hope to inspire and empower our students by showcasing the positive impact these individuals have had and continue to have on society.

The recent Book Fair was a great success. Thank you to our PTSO for facilitating this amazing event and for providing a free book for every child in our school. The funds earned from this event will help all students at Hogan Cedars.

Now, let's take a look at some important dates to remember:

## Mark Your Calendar!

- February 13th PTSO Meeting
- February 19th No School Presidents' Day
- February 28th 2nd Grade Evening Music Program, 7:00 8:00 pm
- March 5th 5th Grade Evening Music Program, 7:00 8:00 pm
- March 7th and 8th No School Curriculum and Instruction Day and Grading Day
- March 25th-29th Spring Break No School this week

Finally, I would like to express my gratitude for your continued efforts and involvement as parents. Your support is directly linked to your child's success, and we truly appreciate your dedication. We encourage you to continue reminding your child of their role and responsibilities while in school: Coming prepared to learn, following Hogan Cedars school rules, and always remaining safe, respectful, and responsible. Together, we can continue to strive for greatness!

If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to reach out to us. We are here to support you and your child every step of the way. Educationally yours,

Heidi Blakley Principal