

Dear Hogan Cedars Families,

As we enjoy the vibrant colors of autumn, I want to take a moment to reach out to our wonderful community. Just as the leaves around us showcase a beautiful transformation, our students are making remarkable strides on their educational journeys. It's a heartening reminder of the growth that comes with change, and we are thrilled to share this experience with each of you.

November is a time of gratitude and reflection—perfect for acknowledging the incredible support we receive from our families. Your involvement, encouragement, and dedication are essential to creating a nurturing environment at Hogan Cedars Elementary. Together, we foster an atmosphere where every child can thrive, discover their passions, and build lasting friendships.

I encourage you to take a moment this month to reflect on the progress and achievements of our students, no matter how big or small. I invite you to share your gratitude—whether it's shining a light on a teacher who has inspired your child, celebrating a peer's kindness, or appreciating the efforts of our support staff. Your voices are an important part of our school spirit!

Our Parent/Caregiver-Teacher Conferences are scheduled on Monday, November 25th and Tuesday, November 26th. Please note that there is no school for students November 25th through November 29th. I encourage everyone to participate in these important conversations with your child's teacher; we are all partners in your child's learning journey. It's essential for our students to see us—parents and teachers—working together as stewards of their education.

To help guide your discussions, I've compiled a list of meaningful questions from Edutopia that you might consider asking during your conferences:

- What academic standards do you use, and what should I know about them?
- How is my child doing socially?

- What are my child's strengths and challenges?
- How can I support what you're doing in class at home?
- What complex ideas should my child understand by year-end?
- How are assessments designed to foster learning?
- What can I do to support literacy at home?
- What types of questions should I ask my child about your class?
- How do you measure my child's academic progress?
- Are there district or school resources we can use at home?
- What barriers do you commonly see to academic progress?
- What am I not asking that I should be?

I can't wait to connect with all of you during conference days. Let's work together to ensure our children have the best possible educational experience.

Wishing you gratitude and joy!

Heidi Blakley  
Principal, Hogan Cedars Elementary School