



Growing Creative Minds & Caring Hearts Heusner Elementary

A Note from the Principal

Building Character, Building Community

As we start a brand new school year, it's good to go back to the mission that our Heusner community created together.

The Heusner community is committed to creating a respectful and engaging environment that inspires the love of lifelong learning where all students will become powerful thinkers, effective collaborators and empathetic citizens in preparation for a successful future.

Our school slogan: **"Heusner...Developing Creative Minds & Caring Hearts!"**

At Heusner, because we believe that academics and character go hand in hand, we are partnering with CharacterStrong, a program designed to help students grow into not only great learners but also great people.

What is CharacterStrong?

CharacterStrong is a curriculum that teaches social-emotional learning and character development through simple, practical lessons. **Students participate in activities and discussions that encourage them to practice kindness, empathy, responsibility, and resilience**—skills that are just as important in life as reading, writing, and math.

How Does It Work?

Each week, students focus on a specific character trait or skill. Through stories, role-playing, and hands-on projects, they learn how to apply these lessons in the classroom, at home, and in their friendships. The goal is not just to talk about character, but to put it into action.

Why It Matters?

Research shows that when students feel connected, supported, and valued, they thrive—not only academically but also socially and emotionally. By weaving CharacterStrong into our school culture, we're building a stronger community where every student knows they belong and has the tools to make a positive impact.

I can't wait to share more about our journey with CharacterStrong.



Sincerely,

Lori Munsell, Principal

September:

- 1 No School-Labor Day Recess
- 2 Group Conferences Grades 2, 3, 4 & Family Marathon Night 6:00-7:00 p.m.
- 4 Grade 5 Parents join a Morning Meeting with Students to Review Expectations/Procedures 8:15 a.m.
- 4 Grade 1 Parents join students & orientation at 3:00 p.m.
- 8 Site Council-12:00-1:00 p.m.
PTA Meeting 7:00 p.m.
- 11 Family Marathon Night 6:00-7:00 p.m.
- 26 Last Day of the Marathon

October:

- 1 Reading w/ Parents (K-2 Structured Literacy 8:25 a.m.)
- 6 Site Council 12:00-1:00 p.m.
Parent Advisory Council 6:00 p.m.
PTA Meeting 7:00 p.m.
- 7 School Pictures
- 8 End of Quarter 1
- 9 No School Teacher In-service
- 10 No School Teacher In-service/Work Day
- 15 & 16 Parent/Teacher Conference & Scholastic Book Fair
- 16 & 17 No School
- 24 Heusner Marathon Celebration at KWU 2:30-3:15 p.m.
- 31 Fall Parade at 8:35 a.m.
Fall Parties at 3:00 p.m.

Join us for Family Marathon Night on September 2 & 11

Students and families are invited to join us on September 2 and 11 from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. This helps students get extra laps in with friends and families.

Attention Parents of Grade Levels 2, 3, & 4 on Tuesday, Sept 2: Group conferences are held

during this time while your students walk. These grade level teachers invite parents to come to the classroom to go over classroom expectations for the school year.



What's for Lunch?

The lunch menu is found on the USD305 website.

Click the yellow box (select the current month, switch between breakfast and lunch to see the menus).

[Click for Lunch Menu](#)

Pricing

- Adult/Guest Breakfast \$3.50 (Cash Only)
- Adult/Guest Lunch \$5.50 (Cash Only)
- Student Full Price Breakfast \$2.35
- Student Reduced Price Breakfast \$0.30
- Student Full Price Lunch \$3.55
- Student Reduced Price Lunch \$0.40
- Extra Milk \$0.75



Pick up & Drop off Information

Arrival:

- Students should arrive no earlier than 7:50 a.m.
- Breakfast is served from 7:55-8:15 a.m.
 - Students need to line up on the blacktop (play ground side)
 - During the marathon, students need to eat before they run.
 - Students who do not eat breakfast need to line up by their outside grade level doors until 8:15 a.m.
- Tardy Bell 8:25 a.m.
 - Students arriving after the tardy bell will need to check in at the front office



Absences:

- Parents/guardians are to notify the office before 9:00 a.m. if their student will be absent. Call 785-309-4200 or [✉ Click to e-mail](#)
- Bring the office a doctor's note if your student has an appointment. Their office may also fax it to us: 785-309-4201

Dismissal:

- 3:35 p.m.
- Student are dismissed at their grade level doors.
- Make after school plans before school with your student(s).

Safety:

- During arrival and dismissal keep the bus lane clear of all traffic for everyone's safety.
- **All visitors need to check in & out of the front office to ensure safety for all students & staff.**



Marathon Aug. 18- Sept. 26

Lead by P.E. Teacher, Mr. Baird



- 7:55 a.m Place book bags by assigned outside grade level doors
- 8:00 a.m Breakfast Eaters meet on the blacktop
- 8:00 a.m. Students meet at Grade 1 Doors (South side of building) & get assigned bracelet
- 8:20 a.m. Call Time -Return bracelet at Grade 1 Doors & line up at assigned classroom doors before 8:25 p.m. Tardy Bell

Special Dates

- **September 2-** Family Walk Night 6:00-7:00 p.m
- **September 11-** Family Walk Night 6:00-7:00 p.m.
- **October 24-** Marathon Celebration at KWU Track 2:30 p.m.-3:15 p.m.



Leave all pets at home to keep all all runners/walkers safe.

PTA News

PTA invites you to join them September 8, 2025 in the library at 7:00 p.m.

PTA wants your ideas and support to help make Heusner great for students and staff.

Did you know PTA provided popcorn at meet the teacher night? PTA also provided donuts for the first kindergarten drop off (for parents).



Cindy Rocha is the PTA President and she can't do it all by herself. Show your Heusner Pride by joining and supporting your school family.

Fun Sock Friday

At Heusner, we invite students and staff to wear fun socks!



Introducing our new teachers!



Mrs. Yoxall,
Kindergarten



Mrs. Wespe
Grade 2



Ms. Taylor
Grade 3



Mr. Baird
P.E. Teacher



Mrs. O'Brien
Sped Education



Need Health Coverage? Our School Social Workers Can Help!

Did you know our school social workers can now assist families with Presumptive Eligibility (PE) enrollment? PE provides temporary Medicaid coverage for children and pregnant individuals who appear to be eligible, giving access to important health services while the full application is being processed.

If your family is in need of health coverage or you're unsure where to start, our social workers are here to help guide you through the process. It's quick, confidential, and can make a big difference in ensuring your child stays healthy and supported.

To learn more or to schedule an appointment, please contact your school's social worker directly.

We're here for you!

Screen Your Student for Symptoms of Illness

It is important to screen your student for illness every day before coming to school. Keep your student at home if sick with any illness.

By making sure students are healthy when they come to school, we all can help prevent illnesses that disrupt learning.

Thank you for your support!

Greatness Grows When You're Here!

Our district is launching a district wide attendance campaign to reinforce the importance of school attendance and to support families in helping every student achieve their personal best.

Did you know that missing just 2 days a month for any reason, whether excused, unexcused, or due to suspension, can add up to a student being chronically absent? Chronic absence (missing 10% or more of the school year) can cause students to fall behind academically and feel disconnected from school.

As partners in your child's education, we encourage you to help build strong attendance habits by setting consistent routines, scheduling appointments outside of school hours when possible, and avoiding vacations or trips when school is in session.

If your child will be absent, please communicate with the school, and don't hesitate to reach out to our school counselor or social worker if you have any concerns. They are here to support you and your student. Together, we can help all students grow and succeed because greatness truly grows when you're here!





Steps to Success: Communicating with Your Child's School

We strive to be the best place to learn. The only way we can improve is to know about concerns so we are able to address them. Here are some tips for communicating with your child's school when concerns arise.

The fastest way to a positive result is to start with the people closest to the situation in the school. Talk with the teacher or coach about your questions and concerns before going to the principal.

Parents and guardians are encouraged to reach out to teachers and school staff by:

- Calling the school's phone number. Because they are teaching, you often will need to leave a message for your child's teacher or coach.
- Emailing the teacher or coach directly. All teacher emails are available on our school website.



We want to be responsive to parents' questions and requests for information. Our staff will respond to your call or email as soon as possible, in most cases within two school days.

If you have had a conversation with your child's teacher and the principal and are still needing assistance, the director of elementary or secondary programs will be able to provide additional support.

We are excited for this new school year and look forward to partnering with you to support a great school experience for your student.

Kansas Parent Information Resource Center

The Kansas Parent Information Resource Center (KPIRC) promotes meaningful family engagement at all levels of education and provides information and resources to help parents, educators and other organizations promote the educational success of every Kansas child. Check out their website at:



[Check Here for Website](#)





Heusner Elementary is a Title I School

We qualify for federal dollars to support the education of our students. Annually, Title 1 schools must notify parents of a Title 1 school of the following: As parents or guardians you may request information regarding the professional qualifications of your student's classroom teachers, including, at a minimum, the following information:

- Whether the teacher has met State qualification and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas in which the teacher provides instruction.
- Whether the teacher is teaching under emergency or other provisional status through which State qualification or licensing criteria have been waived.
- The baccalaureate degree major of the teacher and any other graduate certification or degree held by the teacher, and the field of discipline of the certification or degree.
- Whether the child is provided services by paraprofessionals and, if so, their qualifications.

Please contact Mrs. Lori Munsell, 785-309-4202, if you have any questions regarding our Title One Services at Heusner.



September Calendar

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

- 1

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Last Day of the Marathon

Contact Us

Lori Munsell - Principal
Sandra Renz - Assistant Principal
Melissa Williams - Lead Admin. Assistant
Main Office Phone Number: 785-309-4200



Heusner
Elementary



School Website



District Website

#HeusnerPride
#305GrowsGreatness