

THE HOWLER

“LEAD THE PACK, FIND YOUR PATH, & HOWL WITH PURPOSE”

A MESSAGE FROM PRINCIPAL JONES



HUSKIES,

THE FIRST SIX WEEKS OF THE SCHOOL YEAR HAVE FLOWN BY, AND OUR STUDENTS ARE TRULY FINDING THEIR STRIDE. ACROSS CLASSROOMS, WE'VE SEEN THEM RISE TO THE EXPECTATIONS SET BY OUR TEACHERS: EMBRACING STRUCTURE, COLLABORATING WITH PEERS, AND DEMONSTRATING THE INDEPENDENCE THAT MIDDLE SCHOOL IS ALL ABOUT. THE CALM FOCUS IN MANY CLASSES THIS PAST WEEK SPEAKS VOLUMES ABOUT THEIR GROWTH AND THEIR TEACHERS' COMMITMENT TO HIGH-QUALITY INSTRUCTION. OUR GOAL IS ALWAYS TO "LEAD THE PACK...FIND YOUR PATH," AND OUR STUDENTS ARE PROVING EVERY DAY THAT THEY ARE ON THE RIGHT TRACK.

PROGRESS REPORTS WILL BE SENT HOME ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, GIVING FAMILIES A CLEAR SNAPSHOT OF ACADEMIC PROGRESS SO FAR. THIS IS AN EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY TO CELEBRATE SUCCESSES AND SET GOALS FOR THE NEXT SIX WEEKS. WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO REVIEW THESE REPORTS WITH YOUR CHILD AND DISCUSS THE HABITS, LIKE REGULAR STUDY TIME AND STAYING ORGANIZED, THAT WILL KEEP THEM MOVING FORWARD. TOGETHER, WE CAN ENSURE EVERY STUDENT CONTINUES TO CLIMB THE ACADEMIC PROFICIENCY LADDER.\

WE ARE EXCITED TO HOST OPEN HOUSE ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, WHERE YOU WILL ALSO HAVE THE CHANCE TO PARTICIPATE IN STUDENT LED CONFERENCES. DURING THESE CONFERENCES, YOUR CHILD TAKES THE LEAD—PRESENTING THEIR ACHIEVEMENTS, REFLECTING ON THEIR GROWTH, AND SETTING PERSONAL GOALS FOR THE MONTHS AHEAD. RESEARCH AND EXPERIENCE SHOW THAT WHEN STUDENTS TAKE OWNERSHIP OF THEIR LEARNING, MOTIVATION, AND ACCOUNTABILITY SOAR. SIGN-UP INFORMATION IS INCLUDED IN THIS ISSUE OF THE HOWLER, AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING EVERY FAMILY TAKE PART IN THIS EMPOWERING EXPERIENCE.

OUR ATHLETIC TEAMS HAVE BEEN JUST AS INSPIRING. THE FOOTBALL TEAM BATTLED FIERCELY IN A HARD-FOUGHT GAME ON WEDNESDAY NIGHT, SHOWCASING DETERMINATION AND TEAMWORK THAT MADE US PROUD. OUR SOFTBALL PLAYERS DISPLAYED THE SAME GRIT EARLIER IN THE WEEK, FINISHING STRONG AND DEMONSTRATING SPORTSMANSHIP AT EVERY TURN. THESE STUDENT-ATHLETES EMBODY WHAT IT MEANS TO "LEAD THE PACK," GIVING THEIR ALL ON THE FIELD WHILE BALANCING THEIR ACADEMIC RESPONSIBILITIES.

ONE MOMENT THAT CAPTURED THE SPIRIT OF OUR SCHOOL HAPPENED DURING A PRACTICE THIS WEEK. A GROUP OF EIGHTH GRADERS, UNPROMPTED, STEPPED IN TO MENTOR SOME YOUNGER PLAYERS WHO WERE STRUGGLING WITH A DRILL. THAT SIMPLE ACT OF LEADERSHIP, STUDENTS GUIDING STUDENTS, REMINDS US ALL THAT LEADING THE PACK ISN'T JUST ABOUT BEING FIRST: IT'S ABOUT LIFTING OTHERS SO THE WHOLE PACK CAN THRIVE. THANK YOU FOR PARTNERING WITH US AS WE CONTINUE TO NURTURE LEADERS IN EVERY CLASSROOM, ON EVERY FIELD, AND THROUGHOUT OUR COMMUNITY.

PRINCIPAL JONES

UPCOMING EVENTS:

SEPTEMBER 23- OPEN HOUSE 5:00PM-7:00PM

OCTOBER 6-10 - FALL BREAK

ATHLETICS

SCHEDULE THIS WEEK



**9/20
SOFTBALL @ ED DEFORE
8:00AM**



**9/20 VOLLEYBALL
CHAMPIONSHIPS
11:00AM**



**10/4
FOOTBALL @THOMPSON
12:30PM**



“SPORT”LIGHT

Football had a BIG win against Twiggs Co 22-6 on Wednesday!

PBIS & FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

Dear Families,

At Howard Middle School, we know that regular attendance and strong literacy skills are essential for your child's success in school and beyond. To support you in helping your student thrive, we are sharing important information about attendance and literacy.

Why Attendance Matters:

Students who attend school regularly have higher academic achievement. Being present every day helps your child build routines, confidence, and social connections.

Why Literacy Matters:

Literacy is the foundation for learning across all subjects. Strong reading and writing skills improve comprehension, critical thinking, and overall academic performance.

We encourage you to read the following article that provides practical tips and strategies to support your child's attendance and literacy at home.

Our Family Engagement team is here to assist you with any questions or resources you may need to help your student succeed. Please don't hesitate to reach out to us.

Thanks,
Family Engagement
Raven Dolphus
Lartarsha Reeves



Mantenga a su hijo o hija en camino en la escuela intermedia y secundaria: preste atención a la asistencia escolar

Al mismo tiempo que los niños crecen y se vuelven más independientes, las familias desempeñan un papel clave para asegurarse de que los estudiantes vayan a la escuela todos los días y comprendan por qué la asistencia escolar es tan importante para el éxito en la escuela y en el trabajo. Las familias también pueden solicitar los recursos para ayudar a los estudiantes a aprender si no pueden ir a la escuela personalmente.

¿USTED SABÍA?

- Los estudiantes no deben perder más de 9 días de clases cada año para mantenerse involucrados, exitosos y encaminados hacia la graduación.
- Las ausencias frecuentes pueden ser una señal de que un estudiante está perdiendo interés en la escuela, teniendo problemas con el trabajo escolar, lidiando con un acosador o enfrentando alguna otra dificultad.
- Para el sexto grado, el ausentismo es una de las tres señales de que un estudiante puede abandonar la escuela secundaria.
- Para el noveno grado, la asistencia escolar es un mejor indicador de las tasas de graduación que los puntajes de las pruebas de octavo grado.
- Faltar un 10%, o 2 días al mes durante el transcurso del año escolar, puede afectar el éxito académico de un estudiante.

LO QUE PUEDE HACER

Haga de la asistencia escolar una prioridad

- Hable sobre la importancia de presentarse a la escuela todos los días.
- Ayude a su hijo o hija a mantener las rutinas diarias, como terminar la tarea y dormir bien por la noche.
- Trate de no programar las citas dentales y médicas durante el día escolar.
- Mantenga saludable a su estudiante y, si le preocupa una enfermedad contagiosa, pida consejo a su escuela.
- Si su hijo o hija debe quedarse en casa porque está enfermo o en cuarentena, asegúrese de que haya perdido a los docentes los recursos didácticos y materiales para compensar el tiempo de aprendizaje perdido en el aula.

Ayude a su adolescente a mantenerse involucrado

- Averigüe si su hijo o hija se siente involucrado con sus clases y si se siente protegido de acosadores y otras amenazas.
- Asegúrese de que su hijo o hija no falte a clases debido a desafíos con problemas de conducta o problemas de disciplina escolar. Si hay alguno de esos problemas, comuníquese con la escuela y trabaje con ellos para encontrar una solución.
- Supervise el progreso académico de su hijo o hija y busque ayuda de docentes o tutores cuando sea necesario. Asegúrese de que los docentes sepan cómo comunicarse con usted.
- Manténgase al tanto de los contactos sociales de su hijo o hija. La presión de los compañeros puede llevar a faltar a la escuela, mientras que los estudiantes sin muchos amigos pueden sentirse aislados.
- Anime a su hijo o hija a participar en actividades significativas después de la escuela, incluidos deportes y clubes.
- Apoye a sus alumnos si nota signos de ansiedad y, si es necesario, busque consejo de su escuela o proveedor de atención médica.

Comuníquese con la escuela

- Conozca la política de asistencia escolar de la escuela: incentivos y sanciones.
- Verifique la asistencia escolar de su hijo o hija para asegurarse de que las ausencias no se sumen.
- Busque ayuda del personal de la escuela, otros padres o agencias de la comunidad si necesita apoyo.



Revisado en junio de 2024

Visite el sitio web Attendance Works en www.attendanceworks.org para obtener recursos didácticos y herramientas descargables sin costo.



Keep Your Child On Track in Middle and High School: Pay Attention to Attendance

Showing up for school has a huge impact on a student's academic success. Even as children grow older and more independent, families play a key role in making sure students get to school every day and understand why attendance is so important for success in school and on the job.

DID YOU KNOW?

- Students should miss no more than 9 days of school each year to stay engaged, successful and on track to graduation.
- Frequent absences can be a sign that a student is losing interest in school, struggling with school work, dealing with a bully or facing some other difficulty.
- By 6th grade, absenteeism is one of three signs that a student may drop out of high school.
- By 9th grade, attendance is a better predictor of graduation rates than 8th grade test scores.
- Missing 10%, or 2 days a month, over the course of the school year, can affect a student's academic success.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

Make school attendance a priority

- Talk about the importance of showing up to school every day.
- Help your children maintain daily routines, such as finishing homework and getting a good night's sleep.
- Try not to schedule dental and non-urgent related medical appointments during the school day.
- Keep your student healthy. If you are concerned about about a contagious illness, call your school or health care provider.
- If your children must stay home because they are sick, make sure they have asked teachers for resources and materials to make up for the missed learning time in the classroom.

Help your teen stay engaged

- Find out if your children feel engaged by their classes, and feel safe from bullies and other threats.
- Make sure your teens are not missing class because of challenges with behavioral issues or school discipline policies. If any of these are problems, contact the school and work with them to find a solution.
- Monitor your teen's academic progress and seek help from teachers or tutors when necessary. Make sure teachers know how to contact you.
- Stay on top of your child's social contacts. Peer pressure can lead to skipping school, while students without many friends can feel isolated.
- Encourage your child to join meaningful after-school activities, including sports and clubs.
- Support your students if you notice signs of anxiety, and if needed, seek advice from your school or health provider.

Communicate with the school

- Know the school's attendance policy - incentives and penalties.
- Check on your child's attendance to be sure absences are not adding up.
- Seek help from school staff, other parents, or community agencies if you need support.



Visite Attendance Works at www.attendanceworks.org for free downloadable resources and tools!

STAFF SPOTLIGHT



Mrs. Choo-Yick
7th Grade ELA

Q: WHY DID YOU CHOOSE TO BE A TEACHER

A: I LIKE INFLUENCING YOUNG PEOPLE

Q: DO YOU HAVE ANY HOBBIES?

A: COOKING, READING, HIKING

**Q: IF YOU COULD LIVE ANYWHERE IN THE
WORLD WHERE WOULD YOU LIVE?**

**A: THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES (UAE), IT WAS
A GREAT PLACE TO LIVE AND RAISE A FAMILY.**



Mrs. Gaston
7th Grade Social Studies

Q: WHY DID YOU CHOOSE TO BE A TEACHER

**A: I WENT INTO SUBSTITUTING AND FELL IN
LOVE WITH THE 6th GRADERS, AFTER THAT I
CHOSE TO STAY.**

Q: DO YOU HAVE ANY HOBBIES?

A: READING AND VIDEO GAMES

**Q: IF YOU COULD LIVE ANYWHERE IN THE
WORLD WHERE WOULD YOU LIVE?**

A: ALASKA, BECAUSE I LIKE THE COLD



STORY TIME

OPEN HOUSE

Scan the QR below to sign up for an in-person student led conference slot. Please remind your student to bring a charged Chromebook to share their progress.



**Tuesday,
September 23, we
will hold our first
Open House of
the year!
This will be from
5:00pm-7:00pm.**

**Come see your
child's teachers
and even enjoy a
Student Led
Conference with
your student in the
media center!**