

# THE BROWN BEAR NECESSITIES

The Official Newsletter of  
Hannah Marie Brown Elementary School (est. 2021)



## Principal Ponderings by Megan Sensibaugh, a "beary" proud Principal

I cannot believe it is already May. It feels like we just started the 2025-26 school year yesterday. It is truly an honor to be the Principal at Hannah Marie Brown Elementary School! We have the best students, families, and staff in the district. It has been amazing getting to know our new Brown Bears and continuing to build relationships with our returning Brown Bears!

We have some exciting times ahead of us this month! Our 5th-grade students are looking ahead to promotion, kindergarten students are practicing for their promotion programs, and all students eagerly await Field Day!

As we near the end of the year, I want to thank all of you for your continuous support and involvement in HMB ES! I can't wait to see what next year brings for students and staff!

## REGISTRATION FOR 2026-27 SCHOOL YEAR

Online Registration will open on Monday, April 20, 2026. Parents who have children currently registered in a CCSD school will use their Campus Parent account to re-register their children or add a child. Once the Online Registration is complete, please fill out the [returning student Google form](#). You do not have to provide a new proof of address for returning students unless you have moved. If you have a new CCSD student added to your application, you will have to provide the original birth certificate and shot records to our office, 9 am - 1 pm, Monday - Friday.

All information must be completed before your student will be placed in a class for next year. Families will be notified of class placement for next year via email on Friday, July 17. If you have any questions, please contact Julie or Sharon in the front office at 702-799-2250.

## MRS. SUMSION'S CORNER!

It is hard to believe we have already reached May! This school year has truly flown by. As we enter the final month of the 2025-2026 school year, I want say how excited I am to celebrate the incredible milestones we've reached together. With testing officially behind us, now is the perfect time to reflect on our growth and enjoy the time we have left together. We have a fantastic lineup of events to close out the year, including:

- Promotion Ceremonies: Celebrating our Kindergarteners and Fifth Graders.
- Field Day: A day of fun, sun, and school spirit.
- Last Day of School Dismissal: 12:30 PM (Please note Pre-K AM will dismiss at 10:20 AM; Pre-K PM will arrive at 11:10 AM and be dismissed at 12:30 PM)

To our Fifth Graders: We are so proud of you. Best of luck as you begin your new journey into middle school!

To our returning students and families: I hope you have a relaxing and joyful summer break. I look forward to another fun-filled year ahead with you all!

**GIVE YOUR BROWN BEAR STUDENT A BIRTHDAY SHOUT OUT!**  
**DIGITAL BIRTHDAY MESSAGES**

**702-799-2250**

**10 Chapata Drive  
HD, NV 89012**

**Office Hours: 7:45 a.m. - 3:45 p.m.**

### Contact Info

[Hannahmariebrownelementaryschool.com](http://Hannahmariebrownelementaryschool.com)

[Hannah Marie Brown Facebook Page](#)

**MARK YOUR  
CALENDAR!**

5/1/26

Free Dress Day  
Attendance Incentives

5/1/26 - 5/14/26

MAP Testing Continues

5/1/26 - 5/17/26

Hike for Mental Health

5/11/26

Cirkish Performance  
Kindness T-Shirt Day

5/13/26

Volunteer Appreciation  
Lunch  
Student of the Month Lunch

5/15/26

Field Day

5/18/26

Kindness T-Shirt Day

5/19/26

PTA General Meeting

5/21/26

5<sup>th</sup> Grade Promotion

5/22/26

Last Day of School! 12:30  
Dismissal





Field Day is coming! We are so excited to host Field Day on 5/15/26. Mr. Hanson has been working hard to prepare exciting activities! As a reminder, in accordance with the Hannah Marie Brown ES Parent & Student Handbook, all extracurricular activities for the 2025–2026 school year are tied to student attendance. Students who are identified as chronically absent will not be eligible to participate in events such as the Halloween Parade, Raider's Day, Field Day, school field trips, after-school clubs, attendance incentives, and other special activities.

A student is considered chronically absent when they have missed 10% or more of their enrolled school days. For Field Day, the attendance eligibility cutoff date is May 7, 2026. By that date, most students will have been enrolled for 164 days, which means that missing more than 16.5 days of school would place a student in the chronically absent category. Tardies and early outs count! Students who have been enrolled for fewer days will have a proportional number of absences allowed. It is important to note that ONLY absences excused by a medical provider reduce a student's chronic absence status. You can review your student's attendance on Infinite Campus. Absences labeled as MDP are the only absences that subtract from the chronically absent status. Please be sure students are at school, on time, for the entire school day!

For Field Day, we have designed Field Day shirts aligned with your students' grade-level colors! If you ordered shirts, they will be delivered the week of May 4th. All shirt sales are final; refunds will not be given for any reason. Grade-level colors are as follows: Kinder = Purple, First = Blue, Second = Green, Third = Yellow Fourth = Orange, Fifth = Red, All Staff = Tie-Dye

## THE SPECIALIST SPOT



### MRS. BENNETT'S MEGABYTES



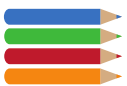
I can't believe the school year is coming to a close! What an incredible year we've had in Computer Science. It has been so much fun learning, creating, and growing together.

Throughout the year, students have worked hard to build their typing skills, becoming faster and more confident on the keyboard. We've also explored the exciting world of coding, where students learned how to think like programmers by solving problems, creating projects, and bringing their ideas to life.

I am especially proud of the growth I've seen in students' creativity. From designing projects to experimenting with new tools, students have shown amazing imagination and originality. We've also practiced important skills like troubleshooting, learning how to stay calm, think critically, and fix problems when things don't go as planned—just like real computer scientists!

Most importantly, students have shown perseverance, curiosity, and a willingness to try new things. These are skills that will help them far beyond the computer lab.

Thank you for a wonderful year filled with learning and growth. I hope everyone has a safe, relaxing, and fun summer!



### HIGHLIGHTS IN ART FROM MRS. PIERCE



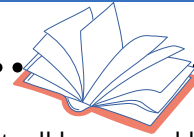
I cannot believe it is the end of another fabulous school year! Time has seriously flown by. Students have impressed me so much with their creativity while making some truly amazing masterpieces! Some of my highlights this year include: working with clay with all grade levels, creating collages from recycled materials, studying famous artists, creating "fish" portals with the younger students, drawing plants in the garden, and seeing what 5th graders painted on their string backpacks.

This month, all students will be finishing up a special project for their teachers

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## LIBRARY TID BITS FROM MRS. GEHLKEN

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Final Library Book Returns - We are nearing the end of the school year! With that, all borrowed books are due back to the HMB Library April 30th - May 7th during students' scheduled library class or earlier. We appreciate you reminding your student(s) to find their books and return them on time. Please [click here to see the May 2026 Library class schedule](#). We have parent volunteers coming to inventory all of the books in our collection and hope to have 100% accounted for. Thank you for your anticipated help!

Thank You and Farewell! - Dear Brown Bear Community, After 28 years of teaching, I will be retiring at the end of this school year. Opening Hannah Marie Brown E.S. and serving as your librarian for the past five years has been one of the most meaningful chapters of my career. I am so thankful for the support, encouragement, and partnership provided by all of you. My biggest joy - each and every one of my amazing students! Reading and learning alongside them has been a true privilege. I leave with many cherished memories and with confidence that the spirit of learning and kindness will continue to thrive. With appreciation and gratitude, Mrs. Gehlken

And the Winner Is... - All classes finished reading the 2026 Nevada Young Readers' Award nominated books in library class. After adding up the votes from our K-5 students, the book *Too Many Pigs and One Big Bad Wolf* by Davide Cali was the overall winner. Our HMB votes - along with other student votes from across the state of Nevada - will now be tabulated to determine the Nevada Young Readers' Award winner for 2026. The big winner will be announced to students by the end of the school year!



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## LITERACY NEWS YOU CAN USE WITH MRS. O'FARRELL

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Summer is Calling: Keep Your Brain in the Game!

With May in full swing, it's impossible to ignore the excitement in the halls. Summer break is just around the corner, and while we are all looking forward to sunshine and sleeping in, it's the perfect time to talk about the "Summer Slump." When students take a three-month break from learning, they can lose up to two months of reading progress—a phenomenon often called "brain drain." The good news? It's incredibly easy to prevent. Reading just a few books over the break ensures your child starts the new school year feeling confident and ready to dive into the next grade.

Here are a few fun ways to keep those pages turning this summer:

- The Library Challenge: Visit your local library and sign up for their official summer reading program. Most offer cool prizes and stickers for every milestone reached.
- A "Reading Picnic": Pack a blanket and some snacks, and head to the park for 20 minutes of outdoor reading. Everything is better in the fresh air!
- Genre Bingo: Create a simple 3x3 grid with different categories (e.g., "A book about animals," "A graphic novel," "A book of poetry"). See if you can get a "Bingo" by July.
- Book-to-Movie Night: Pick a book that has been adapted into a film. Read it together as a family, then host a movie night to compare the two!

Let's make this a summer of great stories and sharp minds. Happy reading!



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## GATE UPDATES FROM MRS. ROSAS

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5th graders have completed their largest Rubik's Cube mosaic challenge! They solved 225 cubes to build an Albert Einstein portrait! Their final month in GATE will be a fun and challenging unit on disease and microlife. We will miss them all and wish these talented students the best of luck in middle school.

4th graders continue learning about our human body systems. We just had a guest speaker from the Discovery Children's Museum present a hands-on learning experience about the circulatory and respiratory systems. The kids had a blast and learned so much!

3rd graders are learning about Rube Goldberg machines and how they relate to force and motion. They will end the year working in collaborative groups to design and build one of these challenging machines.



## WHAT IN THE WORLD IS UP WITH MR. HANSON: PE AND BEHAVIOR UPDATES!



Greetings, Brown Bear Families! Thank you so much for welcoming me into the P.E. position. I am happy to say that I will be returning next year. and cannot wait for another fun-filled year with your kiddos!

Field Day is almost here! Field Day is May 15th; Kinder, First & Second Grade will be from 9:10 - 11:05 am, Third, Fourth & Fifth graders will be from 1:10 - 3:05 pm. If you signed up to be my volunteer, please arrive early and bring your CCSD Volunteer Badge. If you would like to view the Field Day fun, families are more than welcome to come and stand outside of the gates. Nobody will be permitted on campus unless you are on my volunteer list. Please remind your children to bring their water bottles, appropriate shoes (no flip-flops), and to wear their field day shirt or their grade-level colors (No Swimsuits).

Since becoming your P.E. teacher, I am proud to say that your students have grown physically, mentally, and emotionally in the world of athletics. We covered soccer, football, hockey, lacrosse, volleyball, dancing, gymnastics/flexibility, basketball, frisbee, various relay games, and activities promoting teamwork and good sportsmanship, and much more.

We had the Henderson Silver Knights Hockey team come and do a camp for select third graders. The Las Vegas Desert Dogs did an all-day camp for all grade levels. We had Victory Martial Arts demonstrate their skills to our students, UNLV Hockey came out for a fun-filled time with our students during their incentive recess, and so much more!

I hope your kiddos have enjoyed P.E. This year, I know I have thoroughly enjoyed teaching them, and I cannot wait until next year! Have a great summer, Brown Bear Families!

Sincerely, Mr. Hanson

## SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING (SEL) IN STYLE WITH MRS. TREADAWAY



Hello Families!

For the month of April, we focused on Courage. Remember that Courage is choosing what is helpful, right, and kind even when it is hard or scary. Reflect, think, and discuss things you would like to do, but find intimidating or scary (individually or as a family). Maybe it's a new hobby, trying a new game, sharing your art or invention with others, or going on an adventure somewhere. Give 1 of these things a try together this month and take a selfie to capture the memory!

Let's keep growing over the summer! How can you keep showing Kindness while school is out? Here are some ideas: Kindness at home: Challenge siblings to do One Kind act for each other each day. Small acts of Kindness go a long way and daily attention to Kindness helps form lasting habits! To help keep it going, set aside a regular time for siblings to share and celebrate what their Kind act was that day. Kindness in action: Be on the lookout for ways to show others you care. Facetime a relative who lives far away, make a card for a grandparent, or help a neighbor with a need. Have a great summer!



HENDERSON  
HAPPENINGS



Are you looking for exciting ways for your students and families to get involved in the community? The City of Henderson offers an incredible range of youth programs, outdoor adventures, enrichment classes, and recreational sports designed to inspire learning, teamwork, and fun beyond the school day! These programs are a wonderful opportunity for students to build confidence, discover new interests, stay active, and connect with peers in a positive community setting. Don't miss out on the chance to explore, learn, and grow right here in our community! Check out all the opportunities at [Henderson Happenings!](#)