



From the Desk of Dr. Amy Kern:

September 17, 2026

- ❖ **Student Pictures:** Please Note: Group pictures are on **September 29**.
This will also be the date for make-up pictures for students who were absent on picture day.
- ❖ **Emergency Drills:** Because student safety is paramount, it is important to be prepared in the event of any kind of emergency such as fire, flood, intruder, severe weather, chemical spill, or gas leak to name a few. The HTSD has an extensive and detailed Crisis Planning Manual to assist school personnel in crisis management. One of the most important aspects of crisis preparedness is practicing all drill procedures throughout the course of the school year. Central Elementary will be practicing various announced and unannounced emergency drills each month.
- ❖ **ALICE Student Safety Drill Training:** During the week of October 12 we will be training students on the ALICE procedures for school safety. ALICE stands for Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuate. Please see the attached letter for more details.
- ❖ **Central Notes:** Please remember, standard dismissal is to send students home on the bus. Please be sure to send in notes if there is a change in dismissal plans for your child. If there isn't a note regarding a change, students will be put on their assigned bus/van. The office must be notified by 2:15 pm of any changes to a student's dismissal. Otherwise, dismissal changes cannot be guaranteed. Also, a note is required if your child will be attending Royal Oak and/or the YMCA's after school program. If you would like your note to be for the remainder of the school year, please indicate that, otherwise we will assume it is for that day only. If you have any questions, please email Julia.brescia@ht-sd.org
- ❖ **Transportation:** Roenigk Bus/Monark Van lines has asked that everyone be patient and flexible regarding the bus times. Due to bus driver shortages, we thank you for your patience as we receive changes. Please contact Lisa Arture 412-492-6316 regarding transportation issues.
- ❖ **Cafeteria:** Please use www.payschoolscentral.com if you would like to add money to your student's cafeteria account using an online system. You may still send a check or cash in an envelope marked with "HTSD Cafeteria Fund" and your student's name and student number. Please note, if you wish to block your student from getting breakfast or extras you will need to contact Metz directly at geyers@ht-sd.org.

Emails from the cafeteria will be sent once or twice a week regarding your child(ren)'s negative balance(s) on their cafeteria account(s) which are from noreply@email.payschools.com. These may go to your spam folder, so please add this email to your contact list. Should you have any questions regarding this, please contact Sharon Geyer at geyers@ht-sd.org or 412-492-6398.

❖ **Absences and Schoolwork:**

- Please see the linked [Attendance Policy](#) and/or the Attendance Information in the flyers. If your child has missed more than 10 days you must have a medical excuse for any further absences. Please know that attendance is reviewed at least at the end of every quarter.
- To report your child absent, please call the Attendance Line 412-486-6000 (choose 2 then 3) by 9:15 am, listen to the directions for reporting a student absence and leave a voicemail message. Please include the following information: child's name, teacher's name, reason for absence.
Note: you will still receive an automated attendance call.
- If your student has been absent for more than 2 days you may request homework. Please indicate whether you want to pick it up or have it sent home and to whom it should be given.
- When your child returns to school, please send their excuse note in with them. Just a friendly reminder, excuse notes should be for excused absences, tardies, or early dismissals as outlined in the Attendance Policy.

❖ **From the PTO:**

- We're so excited to introduce our **NEW PTO Membership Website & Platform!** 🤖
Ready to get connected? Head over to centralpto.membershiptoolkit.com to learn more and **sign up today!**
Starting **Friday, September 18**, members will have access to our **PTO Membership Directory** and can sign up to volunteer for the classroom **Halloween Parties!**
- **[2026 Honorary Talbot Dog Contest – We Need Your Help!](#)**
It's almost time to crown the **2026 Honorary Talbot Mascot!** But before we can do so, we need your help in a few ways:
 1. **ENTER YOUR DOGS!**
 - Submit an entry form (found in the [school & community flyers](#)), along with your dog's photos and payment, to our school office by **September 24**.
 2. **SIGN-UP TO VOLUNTEER!**
 - We need volunteers to help oversee voting and count donations: [Volunteer - Sign Up](#)
 3. **HELP CHOOSE THE CHARITY!**
 - Help us choose which charity will receive the donations raised at the Talbot Tailgate: [Charity Voting](#)

As always, thank you for your help and support! We can't wait to see all of this year's amazing canine candidates!

IMPORTANT DATES

September 17.....Escape Room Club – Gr. 2-5 - The Studio (3:30 – 4:30 pm)

September 17.....Board Games Club – Gr. 3-5 - Rm. 24 (3:30 – 4:30 pm)
 September 18.....Dot Day!
 September 18.....Board Games Club – Gr. 3-5 - Rm. 24 (3:30 – 4:30 pm)
 September 21.....Basketball Club (3:30 - 4:30pm)
 September 22.....Bracelet Buddies (3:30-4:30pm)
 September 22.....Soccer Club (3:30-4:30pm)
 September 23.....Escape Room Club (3:30-4:30pm)
 September 29..... Class/Group Photos
 September 29-Oct 1....Honorary Talbot Dog Voting (lunchtime)
 October 2.....Talbot Tailgate

SCHOOL & COMMUNITY FLYERS

School Flyers

-  Arrival and Dismissal Procedures
-  Spirit Club Flyer
-  Spelling Bee Interest Flyer
-  Honorary Talbot Dog Contest
-  Hiring! 2hr Lunch/Recess Aide

PTO and Community Flyers

-  PTO – Yearbook Flyer
-  PTO – Welcome Back
-  Spirit Wear Sale!
-  Hampton Library
-  Hampton Alliance 5K
-  Cub Scout Flyers
-  Sports Flyers