



POFF PAPERS

October 22, 2026

The Book Fair is Coming

Hello Team Poff,

Halloween Parade and Parties

Our annual Halloween parade and class parties are next week! We look forward to welcoming families to line the parade route and see our students' costumes and spirit on display. Parking can be tight, so if you plan on bringing multiple family members, please carpool. Additional information about this event can be found on the next page.

Teacher Conferences

Teacher conferences are scheduled November 5th and 6th. November 5th is an early dismissal day for students. Children will be dismissed at 12:45 on November 5th, and there is no school for students on November 6th. Please contact your child's teacher for more details regarding conferences.

Boots, bricks, and Boogie!

Please save the date for our first ever Lego and line dancing experience! On November 12th from 5:30 to 6:30 students and their families are invited to come build and dance with us. Event registration and a pizza order form will be forthcoming! This is a free event!

Thankful Luncheon

Our annual Thankful Luncheon will be held on November 24th. Poff students are able to welcome one special guest to have a Thanksgiving style lunch with them in the Poff cafeteria. Please be on the lookout for registration and cost information.

-Dr. Cable

Poff School/Community Flyers

Click the Poff Flyers link on the Poff Webpage to see the flyers

Red Ribbon Week
Madia Picture Order Form
Lego & Line Dancing
Save the Date - Snow Ball
Thankful Luncheon
Hampton Basketball
Hampton Wrestling
1st & 2nd Grade Basketball
Poff Yearbook
Hampton Is Hiring!

Red Ribbon Week

Red Ribbon Week is October 26 to October 30. Red Ribbon Week is used to raise awareness and nurture the full potential of healthy, drug free youth. Each day, we'll use a different theme to spark conversation about making good choices. Join us in dressing up each day from October 26 to October 30 as we celebrate Red Ribbon Week! Look for the details next week!

Monday, October 26 - Wear Red

Tuesday, October 27 - Favorite Hero Colors

Wednesday, October 28 - Team Colors

Thursday, October 29 - Super Socks Day

Friday, October 30 - Halloween Parties

Say "BOO" to drugs!

School Nurse Information

Please keep in mind the following guidance when sending your child to school:

Fever- Student is required to be fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medication. A fever is considered a temperature of 100.4 or above.

Vomiting/Diarrhea - Student is required to stay home for 24 hours from the last time they vomit or have diarrhea.

Sore throat - If the child has strep throat they are required to stay home for 24 hours after the initiation of antibiotics. *A minor sore throat is usually not a problem, but a severe sore throat could be strep throat even if there is no fever. Other symptoms of strep throat in children are headache and stomach upset. Contact your pediatrician as your child needs a special test to determine if he/she has strep throat.*

If your child is experiencing severe cold symptoms, please keep your child home to aid in their recovery and prevent viral transmission.

Prevention - Encourage your child to:

Wash their hands frequently

Avoid touching their eyes, nose or mouth

Cough and sneeze into their elbow and use a tissue

Avoid close contact with people who are sick

Please follow this link to [When should I Keep My Child Home?](#) on the district website for more information.



Halloween Parade and Parties

Families are invited to join us for a **Halloween Parade on October 30th!**



Parade Route: Students will exit through the Poff main doors and turn right to walk around the front circle. They will turn right again to walk up the sidewalk to the playground blacktop. They will then walk around the edge of the blacktop and re-enter the building through the playground doors. Families are encouraged to space themselves out along this extended route.

AM Kdg: Parade, 10:15 am
Party, 10:25–11:10 am

PM Kdg & 1st–5th: Parade, 2:15 pm (full route)
Parties, 2:30–3:15 pm

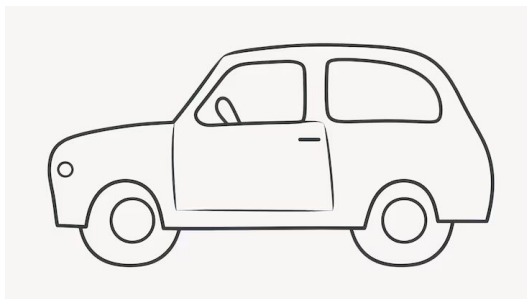
The parade will be cancelled via Infinite Campus e-blast if it is raining.

When choosing Halloween costumes, please be sure they are **school appropriate and are simple enough for the child to put on with minimal assistance**. Costumes may not include weapons or look-alike weapons. Please also be reminded that students may not distribute candy during the Halloween party.

Party parents may begin arriving at Poff 15 minutes prior to the parade in order to check-in and drop off party materials before the parade begins.

Car Rider Drop Off and Pick-up

Please continue to utilize the drop off and pick-up line during regular times. If you need to park during arrival or dismissal, please park away from the line to avoid congestion and reduce risk of an accident.



SAVE THE DATE

	March 16th - Open House (1,3,5)
October 30th-- Halloween Parade & Parties	March 18th - Open House (K,2,4)
November 5th & 6th - Conferences	April 15th Junior Achievement Day
November 24th - Thankful Luncheon	May 5th - Project ACES
December 22nd - Winter Parties	May 18th -Field Day (Rain Date May 20th)
February 12th - Valentine's Parties	June 3rd - 5th Grade Move Up Ceremony

Counselors Corner

October

SMALL-GROUP EXPERIENCE

Would your child benefit from a small-group experience?

Help shape this year's counseling groups!

This year, I hope to offer additional short-term counseling groups for students in Grades 1–5 during the second and third quarters. Groups will typically meet weekly during Workshop unless otherwise noted. With the exception of drop-in groups, the sessions build upon one another, and participating students will be expected to attend the full series.

Completing this survey simply helps me gauge parent interest; it does not guarantee that a group will be offered or commit your child to participating. **If there is sufficient interest in a group, only families who express interest in that group will receive additional information and a formal permission form before making a decision.**

The potential small groups are described below. **To indicate interest, please follow this link to a brief Google Form.** The deadline to respond is Friday, October 16th. Please share the link with other Poff families who may be interested!

First Grade

- **School Skills Games** - Students will play card, board, and movement games that exercise important school-success skills, including focus, memory, impulse control, flexible thinking, and following directions. The emphasis will be on learning and practicing these skills through structured play.

Second Grade

- **Managing Big Feelings** - This active, hands-on group will help students identify, express, and manage emotions such as anger, worry, and frustration. Students will practice age-appropriate coping and self-regulation strategies through movement, games, and play-based activities.
- **Social Skills in Action** - Students will participate in games and interactive activities that strengthen foundational social skills, including listening, following group expectations, joining conversations, cooperating, and treating others with kindness and respect.

Third Grade

- **Healthy Friendships: Girls Group** - This group will help girls build healthy friendship and social problem-solving skills. Activities will address common friendship challenges while emphasizing communication, perspective-taking, boundaries, conflict resolution, and positive ways to respond.
- **Healthy Friendships: Boys Group** - This active, hands-on group will help boys strengthen self-control, emotional regulation, communication, and positive relationship skills. Students will work through relatable peer situations using games, movement, discussion, and cooperative activities.

Fourth Grade

- **Chill Skills** - This brief morning bus room group will give students an opportunity to start their day on a calm, positive note. Students may drop in to participate in a mindfulness-based exercise or craft activity focused on skills such as breathing, grounding, gratitude, mindful movement, and letting go of unhelpful thoughts.
- **Thoughts, Feelings, and Actions** - This group will help students understand how their thoughts, emotions, and actions influence one another. Students will learn practical strategies for managing anger, worry, sadness, frustration, and other strong emotions.
- **Goal Getters** - This group will help students strengthen motivation, goal-setting, planning, time management, and follow-through. Students will set meaningful goals and learn practical strategies for taking action and monitoring their progress.

Fifth Grade

- **Chill Skills** - This brief morning bus room group will give students an opportunity to start their day on a calm, positive note. Students may drop in to participate in a mindfulness-based exercise or craft activity focused on skills such as breathing, grounding, gratitude, mindful movement, and letting go of unhelpful thoughts.
- **Connections & Conversation Lunch Bunch** - This relaxed drop-in lunch group will provide students with repeated, low-pressure opportunities to connect with peers. Structured games, conversation, and shared-interest activities will help students become more comfortable initiating conversations and developing reliable peer connections.

Thank you in advance for your valuable input!

Very Best,

Mrs. Giarrusso
Poff School Counselor
ellen.giarrusso@ht-sd.org



POFF PARENT TEACHER ORGANIZATION

Scholastic Book Fair

The first Scholastic Book Fair of the year will take place October 19-23, 2026. Each class will have a designated shopping time. If you are interested in volunteering, visit

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C044CA9AD28A64-66422141-poff> You must have clearances on file at the office to volunteer.

To set up an e-wallet for your child to use while shopping, please visit this link:

<https://bookfairs.scholastic.com/bf/poffelementaryschool>. We also accept cash, check (to Poff PTO), and credit cards.

To speed up and simplify the check-out process, this book fair will operate as a no change (coins) fair for cash transactions. For example, if your child buys a book that costs \$19.99, after adding 7% sales tax your cost will be \$21.39. We will then round this amount up to \$22.

PTO General Meeting

Mark your calendars! Our next PTO General Meeting will be held on **Tuesday, November 17, at 7:00 PM** in the Poff Cafeteria. We hope to see you there!

Stay Connected with Poff PTO!

Get Poff PTO announcements, event reminders, volunteer opportunities, and more through Remind!

Text @poffpto to 81010 or visit remind.com/join/poffpto to join.

Poff PTO: Did You Know?

Did you know the Poff PTO helps maintain the gardens outside the main entrance and around the Poff sign? Our wonderful Garden Club chairs, Stephanie Moran and Erika Chapman, have done an amazing job caring for these spaces and they also create the fantastic scarecrows that decorate the school each fall!

Since Stephanie and Erika are both fifth-grade parents, we're looking for a few Poff parents to take over the Garden Club leadership for next school year. This is a great opportunity to help keep Poff looking beautiful and continue this fun tradition!

Interested in helping? **Please reach out to the Poff PTO!**

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PTO Executive Board

President: Alyssa Pater, president.poffpto@gmail.com

Vice President: Katie Arvay, vpresident.poffpto@gmail.com

Co-Secretaries: Natalie Ruffa and Courtney Young, secretaries.poffpto@gmail.com

Co-Treasurers: Kayla Swarmer, 1 Open Position, treasurers.poffpto@gmail.com

Event Coordinators: Natalie Ganoe and Heather Shurina,
eventcoordinators.poffpto@gmail.com

Fundraising Chair: Christina Carlin, fundraising.poffpto@gmail.com

Key Communicators: Sarah Kuhn and Jen Slezak,
keycommunicator.poffpto@gmail.com



POFF ELEMENTARY

2026-2027 Dates and Information



Regular School Day Schedule

8:15 – 8:45am School Doors Open
8:45 – 9:00am Homeroom
3:30pm Students Dismissed

8:45 – 11:25am AM Kindergarten
12:50 – 3:30pm PM Kindergarten

2-Hour Delay Schedule

10:15 – 10:45am Doors Open
10:45 – 11:00am Homeroom
3:30pm Dismissal Begins

10:45 – 12:40pm AM Kindergarten
1:30 – 3:30pm PM Kindergarten

School Holidays

No school will be held on these dates.

September 7th

October 12th

November 2nd

November 6th

November 26th & November 27th

December 23rd - January 1st

January 18th

February 15th

March 22nd-March 29th

May 31st

Early Dismissal Schedule

8:15 – 8:45am School Doors Open
8:45 – 9:00am Homeroom
1:45pm Students Dismissed

8:45 – 10:45am AM Kindergarten
11:45am – 1:45pm PM Kindergarten

Early Dismissal Dates

Early dismissal begins at 1:45pm. If a 2-hour delay is called on an early dismissal day, the early dismissal will be cancelled and students will dismiss at 3:30.

September 11th (F)	February 12th (F)
October 9th (F)	March 19th (F)
November 25th (W)	April 16th (F)
December 22nd (T)	May 7th (F)
January 15th (F)	

Additional early dismissal dates:

November 5th – 12:45pm-Conferences
June 3rd – 11:45am
June 4th – 11:45am – Last Day

Contact Information

Office phone numbers begin (412) 492 - XXXX

Principal	Josh Cable	cable@ht-sd.org	x6336
Administrative Assistant	Renee Neal	nealr@ht-sd.org	x6335
Nurse	Dawn Gunnett	dawn.gunnett@ht-sd.org	x6337
Counselor	Ellen Giarrusso	ellen.giarrusso@ht-sd.org	x6332
Attendance Line	(412) 486 - 6000, Press 2, then Press 4		