

HORIZON PTO NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2015

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The PTO mission is to provide all students at Horizon the opportunity to excel in academics and in life by providing committed volunteers and supplemental funding for supplies and programs that will enhance the learning environment at Horizon Elementary

HORIZON PTO ELECTIONS

Nominations for PTO President and Treasurer are now being accepted. Submit any candidate names to horizonpto@yahoo.com. Please consider stepping up. If a board position seems too daunting, there are still openings for Book Fair, Accelerated Reader Program, Family Movie Night, and Bingo Night. Please, your contributions are needed!

The PTO President (or Co-Presidents) oversee all the committees and lead the PTO meetings. They are in contact with Dr. Gehrig in regards to school volunteers, upcoming events and planning. This is a great way to become involved and lead the planning of the school year. Preferably, it is a 2 year position.

The PTO Treasurer administers the checking account, check writing, maintains the cash box and creates the monthly treasurer report. Knowledge of Quick Books is helpful but not required. This is a 2 year position.

FEB PTO MEETING

THURS
2/19/15

6:30PM

HORIZON
LEARNING CTR

Guests:
2nd Grade
Teachers

U-46 BOUNDARY CHANGES

Horizon Considered for Closing

The District and CAC E&F Committee continue to meet on school boundary changes. The District has recently asked Omega (A contracted demographer) to develop three boundary scenarios for the district's elementary schools. A scenario covers the entire 40 elementary schools at once and includes a map showing the changed boundaries and new school utilizations (# of students/school capacity). The goal for each scenario is to relieve overcrowding, reduce underutilization, AND:

1. Implement All-day kindergarten across the district or
2. Maintain half-day kindergarten not all-day kindergarten across the district or
3. Pair dual language/non dual language schools in the same boundary area such that one school would be all dual language and the other would be all general education.

(The kindergarten and dual-language issues significantly impact utilization.)

Reducing underutilized schools means closing schools. Omega will **propose** which schools to close from the 7 on the southeast side of the district that are underutilized (Horizon, Wayne, Spring Trail, Hawk Hollow, Prairieview, Sycamore Trails, Centennial). The district and CAC E&F Committee will review the Omega scenarios (due 2/17/2015) and make changes, disapprove, or approve. Once the CAC E&F Committee agrees on boundary changes, a lengthy process of town halls is planned to gather community input. Finally, the U-46 Board must approve the boundary changes for implementation in 2016/17.



SE UnderUtilized School Quick Facts

- Total Capacity of all 7 Schools is 5733 seats
- Total Projected Enrollment of all 7 schools is 3056 students on avg/yr thru 2019 or 53.3% utilization
- None of the 7 have dual-language
- Extended Day Kindergarten at Prairieview only

School	Seats	Students 2014/15	% Utilized
Centennial	888	458	51.6
Hawk Hollow	681	391	57.4
Horizon	1008	531	52.7
Prairieview	828	407	49.2
SpringTrail	681	364	53.5
Sycamore Trails	828	499	60.3
Wayne	819	416	50.8



UPCOMING EVENTS

Fine Arts Showcase

Once again the Horizon Fine Arts Showcase is at Bartlett High School. Mark your calendars for Thursday, Feb. 26th, 5:45 to 8:30 pm.

The evening begins with a framed Art Show exhibiting one art piece by each Horizon student. The framed art is available for purchase for \$25 (cash or check). The monies raised go directly to the Horizon Fine Arts Department for purchase of supplies. Horizon receives less than \$2/student per year for Fine Art supplies from the district. Note, your *unframed* child's artwork will come home later in the year.

Following the Art Show, K-6th grade will present a musical extravaganza under the direction of Mrs. Kwok. It is sure to be a toe tapper!

Bingo Night

Horizon Bingo Night is coming!! If you've never attended before, this is a great family event. Last year the Caught Being Good winners called the games (and did an awesome job!).

The night includes FREE Bingo and \$1 Raffle. We are looking for donated Bingo prizes (new toys, science kits, decorative items) & raffle items (gift baskets, tickets to local events, restaurant gift cards). Now is the time to re-gift those items lying around the house you'll never use to a good cause!

We are also looking for volunteers that night to help pass out bingo cards. Please email the PTO or Julie Bowler at juliechristine22@gmail.com if you have any questions. Donations can be dropped off at Horizon, please be sure to label them "Bingo Night".

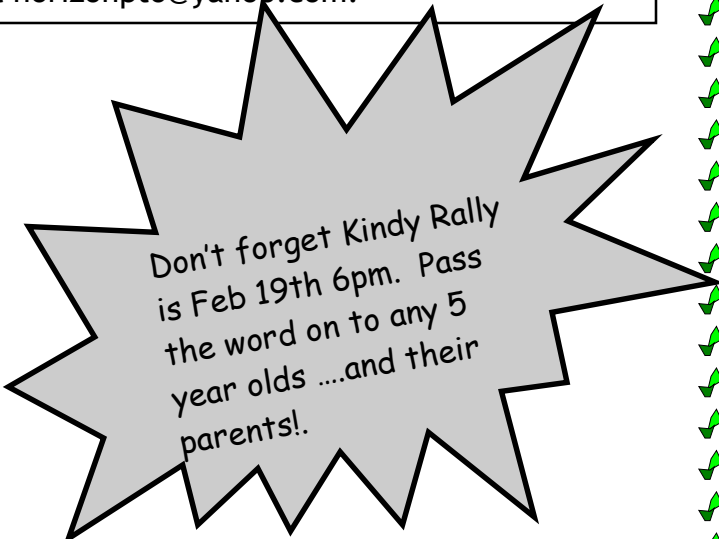
Spring Book Fair

The spring book fair is tentatively scheduled for Monday, February 23 from 8:30am-2pm and Tuesday, February 24 from 8:30am-8pm. Volunteers are needed to work the fair helping kids select books, checking them out, and enjoying their happy faces! Any hour that you can work is appreciated. Contact the PTO at horizonpto@yahoo.com.

RAVE REVIEWS

Once again Horizon Families had an 'awesome' time at Family Movie Night watching The Lego Movie and snacking on popcorn. The kids socialized with their friends and hopefully the parents were able to meet and make new friends.

Thank you to all who were able to attend and a HUGE thank you to the volunteers that helped make the evening a success! We appreciate the assistance given with the clean up - it is easier when we all do it together!





CAC CANDIDATE FORUM FOR U-46 SCHOOL BOARD

Elections for the U-46 School Board are slated for April 7th. The new board will face many challenges. Please come out and get to know the candidates. The CAC is hosting a Candidate Forum on March 5, 2015. It will be held in the auditorium at Streamwood High School located at 701 W. Schaumburg Rd (7:00 p.m.). Entrance to the auditorium will be through Door 23 on the East side of the building. Please use the Staff Parking Lot also located on the east side of the building.

Spring Fundraiser

The PTO will be having a spring fundraiser. Have any ideas or would you like any of these? Post it on our facebook page!

- Jimmy Johns or Jersey Mike's Sandwich Coupons
- Catalog Sales
- Fannie May
- Lou Malnati's Pizza



Jan Raffle Winners

Prize	Winner
\$75	Lynn Gagliano
\$50	Brooklyn Patrick Lynn Jr.
\$50	Dawn (Ethan) Curran
\$25	Terea (Carter) Eid
\$25	Terea (Carter) Eid
\$25	Abhi Thati

PTO FREE FUNDRAISING – DID YOU KNOW?

V8 juice is a Campbell's product and the cap counts toward our Labels for education points. Just submit the cap and we will take care of the rest.

Labels for Education



To receive full credit we must have the point value and the whole bar code.

Box Tops



To receive full credit we must have the code in the top left hand corner and the full expiration date. Box tops must not be expired.

The next submission will be at the end of February. Please turn your box tops in to school by **February 20th**.



LOOKING AHEAD TO MIDDLE SCHOOL

Tony Sanders recently outlined guidelines for Middle School English, Reading, Math & AVID placements. (See u-46.org, About Us, CEO & Interim Superintendent)

Reading

Students who are not “at grade level” in Reading will take a Reading course. These students then have one elective to select. Students who are “at grade level” in Reading do not have to take Reading and then have two electives.

- If a student scores at the 50th percentile two times, they are not required to take Reading. The equivalent on the ISAT Reading is “Meets Standards.”
- If a student scores at the 50th percentile one time, he or she may be placed in Reading at the principal’s discretion. The equivalent on the ISAT Reading is “Meets Standards.”
- If a student scores below the 50th percentile or “Meet Standards” on the ISAT Reading, the student will be placed into a Reading course.

Required Middle School Courses

English
Math
Science
Social Studies
PE
Lunch
Two Electives

Math

Students can enter at *Pre-Algebra 1* which puts them on track for Calculus when they enter college. Students can begin at *Accelerated Pre-Algebra* which covers three years of math in a two-year period. These students should be approximately one grade-level ahead. Students who begin at *Algebra* should be approximately two grade-levels ahead.

- To be placed into Algebra, the student needs two scores at the 90th percentile or higher (ISAT equivalent of the upper half of “Exceeds”).
- To qualify as a “possible Algebra” student, the student needs one score at the 90th percentile or higher (ISAT equivalent of the upper half of “Exceeds”).
- To be placed into Accelerated Pre-Algebra, the student needs two scores at or above the 63rd percentile (ISAT “Exceeds”).
- To qualify as a “possible Accelerated Pre-Algebra” student, the student needs one score at or above the 63rd percentile (ISAT “Exceeds”).
- All others placed into Pre-Algebra 1.

Challenge English

Students are recommended for Challenge English. Students need to be proficient in Reading and Writing to be successful in Challenge English. Entrance to Challenge English requires a score of 3 or 4 on the ISAT Reading Extended Response or a score of 2 or higher on the District Writing Assessment.

- To be placed into Challenge English, the student needs two MAP Reading scores at or above the 63rd percentile (ISAT Reading equivalent of the upper half of “Meets”).
- To qualify as a “possible Challenge English” student, the student needs one MAP Reading score at or above the 63rd percentile (ISAT Reading equivalent of the upper half of “Meets”).
- All other students will take regular English.

Middle School

Eight Periods
45 min each
9am - 3:30pm

Middle School

Electives

AVID

Band

Rotation

(A semester of each: Art,
Project Lead the Way,
Computer Science, Home
Science)

Speech/Debate

Orchestra

Spanish

AVID

AVID is designed for students performing “in the academic middle” in Language Arts and/or Math

- MAP Reading percentile scores are averaged for each student. When the average is between 25 and 75, the student is considered “AVID Qualified.” Outside that range, they are considered “Not Recommended for AVID.”
- Placement exceptions are approved by the PreK-20 College Readiness Coordinator.
- AVID placement also considers if the student is from a group that is historically under-served in four-year universities, a first generation college student, low-income, or any special circumstances.
- AVID student enrollment should resemble the demographics of the school (e.g. gender, ethnicity)