

HASSAYAMPA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SCHOOL-PARENT CONNECTION

CARISSA HERSHKOWITZ
PRINCIPAL



A Note from Mrs. Hershkowitz

I hope this letter finds you well and enjoying our beautiful Arizona weather! It is wonderful to see students able to fully enjoy their time at recess! I have seen a few teachers sneak some lessons outside. Having the ability to fully enjoy this wonderful weather can only enhance our education system.

The Arizona State Board of Education designates an annual achievement profile for every public school in the state based on an A through F grading scale. The system measures year-to-year student academic growth, proficiency in English language arts, math and science, and the proficiency and academic growth of English Language Learners and special populations.

Hassayampa Elementary is pleased to announce that we have maintained a B in the state label for last school year (2021-2022). We believe this is worth celebrating when we consider the effects of pandemic-related learning loss and the understaffing/turnover of staff we have experienced. Although we are pleased that we maintained our letter grade, we expect to do better; therefore, we have taken several steps to ensure academic success.

Our team's responsibility is student achievement. Based upon our low overall proficiency on the AASA last year, our current 2022-2023 staff have done or have committed to the following:

- We have set our school improvement plan to align directly to increased student achievement in math, reading, and science.
- Grade level teams meet weekly through Professional Learning Communities to discuss instructional strategies and the targeted needs of each student. This includes ensuring continued growth in our high-performing students, as well as closing the learning gap for students who struggle.
- Build upon our strengths. The data shows that we are very successful in growing our students to higher levels of success. We will continue to utilize the research-based practices that we know work.
- After school tutoring for students identified as needing extra support

We look forward to seeing our Hassayampa students continue to grow and succeed. We expect our state label designation to increase substantially this school year. Please reach out to me directly with any questions or concerns about the plans in place to make this happen.

Please make sure you are staying connected with your child's teacher. Together, we will ensure that our students continue to grow!

Thank you for your support!

Very truly yours,

Mrs. Hershkowitz

A Note from the Health Station The school and school family have a huge responsibility to monitor, not only our own personal health, but also that of the children. Before school, make sure everyone is healthy. Families should make back up plans in the event your child develops a fever or other severe flu like symptoms while at school. If symptoms are a concern, having a grandparent as your back up plan may not be the best idea. Identify someone who can safely pick up your child, if you aren't quickly available.

Please be aware of COVID, flu, and RSV symptoms. If your child is running a fever, please keep him/her home.

Dress for the Weather!

Our Arizona weather is incredible! Mornings at Hassayampa can be chilly! Please make sure you send your child in clothes that fit the temperature. Layered clothing is ideal. It is recommended that student names are added to the clothing tags.

Keep in mind that all students have recess every day and PE once per week.
Shoes should be comfortable for playing! Tennis shoes are the best every day!

COSTUME WALK 2022



Once again, we enjoyed a fabulous Costume Walk! Many thanks to everyone who joined us!

THIRD GRADE WINNERS
Kennedy, Mita & Anessah



FOURTH GRADE WINNERS
Lewis, Libo & Mason



FIFTH GRADE WINNERS
Carter, Carlos & Sagele

Amazon Smile

Are you an Amazon shopper? Are you getting ready to make some holiday purchases? Please use Amazon Smile to help raise additional funds for Hassayampa. Please spread the word!

[Amazon Smiles for Hassayampa](#)

Calendar of Events

- November 2 - Principal's Coffee & Site Council
- November 9 - Picture Retakes
- November 10 - Veterans Day Holiday Observed - No School
- November 15 - Governing Board Meeting @ 6:30 p.m.
- November 16 - Turkeys-n-Tables Event
- November 22 - Webb Center Event @12:30 p.m.
- November 24 - Thanksgiving Break - No School
- Week of Dec 5 - Reading and Math Fluency Benchmarks (K-5)
- December 3 - Holiday Music & Tree Lighting
- December 7 - Principal's Coffee & Site Council
- December 9 - Wickenburg Parade of Lights
- December 14 - 3-5 Spelling Bee
- December 15 - Holiday Concert
- Week of Dec. 19 - Holiday Sale
- December 22 - End of Semester

Hassayampa is on the MOVE!

On Tuesday, November 22, all K-5 students will be transported to the Del E. Webb Center to enjoy the North Phoenix Symphony. We will leave the school around 12:30 and return by 2:30. Please make arrangements in advance if you have appointments scheduled during this time. Students will NOT be released from the event.



Special Events...

Turkeys-n-Tables

This fun event is November 16 at the Wrangler Event Center from 5-6! There will be a free gently used clothing.

Wrangler Wishes

This is our district's own program that is similar to the Christmas Angel program at the mall. If your child needs assistance this holiday season, please let Ms. K-P know. It's completely anonymous.

Please turn in your forms if you haven't don so.

Weekend Food Bags

Thanks to the Green Bag Program, St. Alban's Church, and Melissa's Cupboard at our local Elks' Lodge Hassayampa has food bags to distribute each weekend. The bag contains enough food for 2 children to have breakfast, lunch, and snack each weekend. Please contact Ms. K-P if you would like more information.

Worth Quoting...

"Try to be a rainbow in someone's cloud."

-Maya Angelou

COUNSELOR'S CORNER

Helping at Home: Tips for Parents From Mental Health America

- 1. The first rule of caring for your child's emotional or behavior struggles is that there are no rules.** Parenthood doesn't come with a manual.
- 2. Cover the basics.** Before you dismiss your child's outburst as a lack of control, ask yourself if there is a simple explanation for what's going on.
- 3. Pick your battles.**
- 4. Environment matters.** Do your best to create a home that is low on stress, safe, and supportive.
- 5. Encourage communication.**
- 6. Timing is everything.** In stressful situations, allow your child some space and address issues later.
- 7. Create calm.** A child in crisis and out of control cannot rely on reason.
- 8. Help them to help themselves.** Talk about the child's emotions.
- 9. Tackle troubling thoughts.** Sometimes the brain can play tricks on us.
- 10. Create routines.** Routines give a sense of stability. Keep both bedtime and the morning in mind. The Sleep Foundation recommends 9-11 hours of sleep for children ages 6-13. Make sure that your morning routine includes a healthy, low-sugar breakfast.
- 11. Check your tone.** How do you sound?
- 12. Learn from other parents.**

HOWLing Students of the Month for October,

Joshuan Perez, Roderick McCaghren, Isaic Ruelas, Arianna Goode, Carlos Benitez Padilla, Nathan Ruiz Gutierrez, Josue Perez, Jaylynn Zudell, Alex Ogden, Jeremia Bishop, Soda Rivera, Miah Espinoza, Layla Castillo, Jose Landa

Happy Thanksgiving!

Ms. K-P

Wickenburg U.S.D. – Tax Credit Program

Arizona Revised Statute (A.R.S.) 43-1089.01 allows individual taxpayers to receive a tax credit up to \$400.00 (joint return) for payment to a fund set aside for extracurricular activities fees. Generally, any educational or recreational activity that is a supplement to the educational program of the school is considered to be an extracurricular activity. This is a dollar for dollar tax credit. It allows you, the taxpayer, to decide where you would like to put up to \$400.00 of your tax dollars to work. When it comes time to fill out your tax forms, you will receive a tax credit for up to \$400.00. It is a win-win situation for yourself and the school activities you support with your tax dollars. You do not have to have a child in school so grandparents or anyone can also take advantage of this tax credit.

Questions and Answers:

What public schools and grades are eligible for the credit?
Public schools that provide instruction in grades kindergarten through 12 are eligible for the credit. **What is a fee paid for the support of extracurricular activities?** A fee is a dollar amount paid to a public school for the support of extracurricular activities.

What are extracurricular activities?

Extracurricular activities mean school sponsored activities that require enrolled students to pay a fee in order to participate. Such activities may include, but are not limited to, the use of band uniforms, use of equipment or uniforms for athletics, or use of scientific laboratory equipment or materials. Any educational /recreational activities that supplement the educational program of the school.

If a school establishes a fund to pay for extracurricular activities, would a payment to this fund qualify for a tax credit?

Yes, the credit is authorized for fees paid by any taxpayer to a public school for the support of extracurricular activities.

Must a taxpayer have a child enrolled in order to claim the tax credit?

No, a taxpayer is **any** person subject to tax.

What is the claim limit for a married couple?

The credit claimed by married couples filing a joint return is limited to a maximum of **\$400.00**. Married couples filing separate tax returns can claim only one-half of the allowable credit on each return.

What kind of receipt will I receive for my tax return?

The school will issue a receipt that includes the school name, district number, taxpayer name, amount paid, date paid and description of the activity for which the fee was paid.

At Hassayampa Elementary, we currently have several extracurricular activities that we charge a fee. Some of our approved extracurricular activities are:

- Science Camp for 5th graders,
- The Art Club,
- Gifted,
- Coyote Chorus
- Field Trips and
- Character Education.

You may also choose Extra-curricular -No Preference. Our Site Council then determines best use of these No Preference funds to support approved programs. Your tax credit donation will be used to provide children the opportunity to participate and also provide supplies, guest speakers, and field trips. If you would like to make a tax credit donation to any of these activities, fill out the tax credit form and send it along with your check to school. If you have any questions, please contact the office at 684-6750 for more information.

A Note of Thanks -

Our tax credit resources are used in the manner determined by the donator. When funds are placed in no-preference, the Site Council determines which of the approved areas the funds may be used. Thanks to our many donors, we have been able to purchase a variety of items including Chromebooks which have benefited all of our students. Thank you for your continued support!

