

## HASSAYAMPA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SCHOOL-PARENT CONNECTION

CARISSA HERSHKOWITZ  
PRINCIPAL



### Welcome November!

We welcome the cooler temperatures. The *Coyote Den* is your guide to all the great things happening at Hassayampa! Please make sure the school has your correct email address so the *Coyote Den* and other important school information will reach you each month. If you have any questions about items in the *Coyote Den*, please contact your child's teacher or the school office at (928)684-6750.

For additional school information, please refer to the Parent-Student Handbook, visit the Hassayampa website – [www.wickenburgschools.org](http://www.wickenburgschools.org), and “like” us on our school Facebook page.

### A Note from Mrs. Hershkowitz

I hope this letter finds you well and enjoying our beautiful Arizona weather! Our first two weeks back in the building have been heartwarming. It is wonderful to see students able to enjoy their time at recess! Also, teachers have been taking students outside for some of their lessons. Having the ability to fully enjoy this wonderful weather can only enhance our education system. The overwhelming consensus in the building is that we have deeply missed our students and are excited to have them back. Students and staff are adjusting to the new routines. They don't feel natural yet, but we are doing our best. Our long-term goal is to remain open. To achieve this goal, we all need to understand and follow the CDC guidelines both in school and out. Together, we can stay healthy and keep COVID-19 out of the building. It's a good goal, but the reality is we will eventually have to deal with the virus. So, I'll take it as a challenge - how long can we keep it out of the building?

Some families still have Chromebooks at home. At this time, these are needed back in the classrooms. You can bring these by the school office at any time. Thank you for your attention to this. Also, last week, several documents including an Acknowledgement of Risk form were sent home requiring your attention. We appreciate your quick response to these items.

Our students have gotten right back to work! I look forward to the weeks ahead as we make up for lost time. Please make sure you are staying connected with your child's teacher. There's still work to do after school hours. Our students will SUCCEED!

Thank you for your support!

Very truly yours,

*Mrs. Hershkowitz*

### Calendar of Events

- Week of Nov. 2 - Virtual Book Fair
- November 2 - Hassayampa Preschool Reopens
- November 11 - Veterans Day Holiday Observed - No School
- Week of Nov 16 – Mid-year Galileo
- November 17 – Governing Board Meeting @ 6:30 p.m.
- November 19 – Thanksgiving Luncheon
- November 26 – Thanksgiving Break – No School
- Week of Nov 30 - Reading and Math Fluency Benchmarks

# BEFORE LEAVING HOME...

Families will...

- Check their children for any symptoms that would prevent them from attending school;
- Check that their children have at least one clean face mask and a bottle of water.

## Dress for the Weather!

Our Arizona weather is incredible; however, 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 on Wednesday.

Shoes should be comfortable for playing!

## A Note from the Health Station

The school and school family have a huge responsibility this year 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 symptoms while at school. If COVID-19 symptoms are the 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.

# BEFORE LEAVING HOME...

Families will check student temperature and assess for symptoms. If the the student has a fever of 100.4 or higher, or a cough, or shortness of breath or loss of taste or smell, or if anyone has been in close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19, the student will stay home, contact the school to report the absence (928)684-6750, and contact your medical provider.



## HELP!

Please help us spread the word.  
We need our Chromebooks returned.

Families who have borrowed District Chromebooks need to return them to any of the WUSD schools.



DON'T FORGET THE CHARGING CORDS!



## Box Tops

Box Tops for Education is the school project that's easy for everyone. All you have to do is scan your store receipt. It's that EASY! Please visit [www.boxtops4education.com](http://www.boxtops4education.com) to learn about other ways to earn money for Hassayampa.

## 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](#)

## After School Programs - 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter

Pick Up is at 4:15 Daily  
Programs End December 10



**HASSAYAMPA  
PRESCHOOL**

**ENROLL NOW!  
LIMITED OPENINGS AVAILABLE  
CALL 928-684-6750**

## Special Events...

### **Turkeys-n-Tables**

Unfortunately we are not able to hold our annual Turkey's 'n Tables this year.

If your family is in need of a Thanksgiving turkey, please contact Ms. K-P.

### **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.

### **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 more information.

### **Worth Quoting...**

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

—Maya Angelou

## COUNSELOR'S CORNER

### **Character Counts!**

If you are new to Hassayampa, you are not aware of the awesome Character Counts program that is part of our school culture. Our program has 3 parts:

1. Monthly lessons about the 6 pillars of good character with the school counselor.
2. Teachers nominate students for "student of the month". This student demonstrates the pillar of good character on a regular basis. Teachers also give "golden tickets" to students when they show good character. Students get prizes for Golden Tickets!
3. Each month, parents receive a letter from me with something on the back. When your child shows good character, fill it out and return it to school. Your child will get a prize and the paper is hung on the Character Wall. They love seeing what their parents have written.

Here is an article from the October Character Counts Magazine

### **Parenting for Good Character**

Good character doesn't just happen. It is a result of families who intentionally teach their children about character.

#### **What is character?**

- **Moral character** includes values we need to be our best self, like the Six Pillars of Character: trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring and citizenship.
- **Performance character** focuses on values that help us do our best work, like positivity, learning, resilience, self-discipline, perseverance, and diligence.

#### **How to teach character with T.E.A.M.:**

- **Teach** Children that their Character Counts. We must teach our children about the Six Pillars of Character, what each Pillar means, and what it looks like and does not look like in action.
- **Encourage** the Six Pillars of Character. Reward good behavior (usually praise is enough) and discourage bad behavior by imposing fair and consistent consequences.
- **Advocate** Character. Continually encourage children to live up to the Six Pillars of Character by explaining and showing why demonstrating the Pillars matters.
- **Model** Good Behavior Everything you say and do (or neglect to do) sends a message about your values. Be sure that these messages reinforce your lessons about doing the right thing, even when it is difficult. When you slip, be accountable; apologize sincerely and do better!

Happy Thanksgiving!

Ms. K-P

## Wickenburg Unified School District –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 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 enclosed 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 Chromebooks which have truly benefited all of our students. Thank you for your continued support!