

HINCKLEY Swarm News

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"Learning Together"



September 18, 2020

September 21 - October 2

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
21 Green	22 White	23 Green	24 White	25 White
28 All Students Green & White Begin	29 	30 	1 	2 

Dear Hinckley Families,

Welcome back to school! The staff and I were so happy to see the kids back in the building. Mrs. Bazan commented that hearing the kids on the playground made the day seem almost normal.

I know this has been a time filled with uncertainty in our lives, but please know that two areas have remained constant. Our desires to educate our students and to do so in the safest environment possible. The Hinckley staff will continue to do our best for you. However, we will not be successful without your help and support. Please continue to keep a few of the following items in mind:

- Please pack an extra mask for your child.
- Please pack lunch boxes with a bag inside that can be thrown away.
- Make sure students have water bottles as we have filling stations.
- Please practice logging into clever account and the Google Classroom.
- Please check student health before they come to school.

LUNCH BOXES/CONTAINERS/THROW AWAY

As you know, from our Highland Elementary Newsletter, all three elementary schools are requesting that students bring throw away lunch containers. To clarify it is perfectly fine for students to bring lunch bags, but we are **requesting/encouraging** a throw away bag inside of the actual lunch bag. **Why, you ask?** Well, in the past students took lunch bags to the cafeteria and then put them in a classroom bin to be taken back to the room. Due to our new health protocols, we are no longer able to follow that practice of stacking all of the classroom bags in one bin. Also, we do not have the ability to have students return to the classrooms before they go out to recess.

For these reasons, we are asking for disposable containers. We know this is not our usual, and that it could potentially eliminate the ability to pack certain types of foods. We truly do appreciate your assistance in this practice that we hope does not continue for an extended period of time. Thank you!

Indoor Recess

Eventually we will have a day that will require us to have recess indoors. Since students cannot share games or activities, we are asking that you please pack an activity that your student can keep in his/her back pack. For example, this could be a small bag of legos, a rubix cube, a puzzle, or even a coloring book. During indoor, students will need to wear masks and remain at their desks. Another practice that we hope does not last long. Thank you!

Car Pick-Up Lines

I know it is hectic after school as we pick-up our students and head home. Please remember to follow the car pick-up procedures and to be kind to each other as we are all here for our kids.

1. Cars enter the middle entrance to the parking lot. There are 2 lanes as you approach the building. These lanes are marked on the pavement
2. Follow these 2 lanes, around to the turn at the end of the building
3. When the turn is reached, to go around the building, alternate turns merging back to one lane.
4. Please place child's name in passenger window
5. If the procedures are followed, it usually take no longer than 10 minutes

● Green pick up is 3:15

White pick up is 3:25

ABC's of HIGHLAND SAFETY

A - Always wear a mask

Mounting scientific evidence shows that facemasks play an important role in reducing COVID-19 virus transmission by preventing an infected person from emitting infectious virus particles. Wearing a mask may also offer an additional barrier of protection for those not infected or asymptomatic and ultimately impedes virus movement. Our goal must be to take steps that are protective of each other while reducing risk of infection to the extent possible within our school setting. Face coverings will help protect the vulnerable and may help to keep our schools open. Therefore, the Highland Schools will require facemasks for students and staff. Students will keep masks attached to school provided lanyards.

- Masks will be worn on buses, entering and exiting the buildings, in hallways and classrooms
- Mask breaks will be scheduled throughout the day
- Masks will not be worn during lunch or outdoor recess
- Exceptions regarding facemasks for medical reasons will be reviewed by the Office of Pupil Services

Cloth face masks should:

- A. Fully cover the mouth, nose and chin;
- B. Fit snugly against the side of the face so there are no gaps;
- C. Be held securely through either a tie or elastic ear loops to prevent slipping.

*Full or partial face shields, gaiters, open-chin triangle bandanas, mesh material, masks with valves and masks designed to be worn for costume purposes are not acceptable.

B - Be aware of illness symptoms such as a fever

Every day before leaving home all students and staff are required to check for the following symptoms as part of a health screening. If individuals present any of these symptoms, they are required to stay home:

- Take temperature (100.0 or higher)
- Cough
- Shortness of breath
- Chills
- Muscle Pain
- Fatigue
- Sore throat
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Congestion
- Runny nose

C - Clean your hands and your space

There will be increased hand washing and sanitizing. Additional portable hand washing stations have been installed for each school to assist with more frequent hand washing. Hand sanitizer stations are now at all entrances, hallways throughout buildings, and each classroom.

D - Distance physically, but not socially

The Ohio Department of Health's guidance to schools is to provide 6 feet of distance when possible and encourage added layers of protection, such as facemasks, when 6 feet is not possible. This is the standard all schools are being held to within Medina County and the same requirement of businesses. Additionally, the World Health Organization and the American Academy of Pediatrics, suggests that spacing as close as 3 feet may approach the benefits of 6 feet of space, particularly if students are wearing face coverings and are asymptomatic. Highland can accommodate 3 feet physical distancing in classrooms and will follow the 6 feet recommendation outside of the classroom to the extent possible.

HINCKLEY PTO CORNER

www.hinckleypto.com

All PTO meetings will be virtual for the 2020-2021 school year.

Please stay tuned for a schedule

HINCKLEY ELEMENTARY PTO 2020-2021

Welcome to Hinckley Elementary! We hope you enjoyed your extended summer and are looking forward to a new and exciting year at Hinckley Elementary. Your 2020-2021 PTO Board Members are:

- Laura Keeling - President
- Tara Szerpicki - VP Fundraising/Treasurer
- Maria Bacik - VP Activities
- Kristyn Kolozvary - Secretary
- Jim Carpenter - Principal

Our PTO works to make the school year a rewarding and fulfilling experience for everyone that calls Hinckley Elementary home! Every parent and guardian is a member of the PTO, there are no membership fees. We welcome and encourage everyone's involvement throughout the year!!

STAY CONNECTED We try our best to communicate to our parents so everyone can be informed of our PTO activities, fundraisers, volunteer needs, etc. We use several forms of communications and invite you to stay in the know using all of them!

- **Hinckley Newsletter** - The PTO corner of Mr. Carpenter's weekly newsletter includes information on events, dates to remember, reminders, etc. Sign-up at highlandschools.org, then E-Communications in the left navigation.
- **PTO Facebook Group** - Search Hinckley Elementary PTO and request to join. We do verify all join requests so you must answer the verification questions and it may take a few days to be approved.
- **Hinckley PTO Website** - www.hinckleypto.com. This is our main source of reference for all PTO information
- **PTO- E-News** - Receive communications via email. The sign up is located on the homepage of the PTO website.
- **Remind.com** - We use this as a way to send quick simple messages. Text @hinckley to 81010 to receive text messages. If you prefer not to receive texts, but would still like these types of reminders you can subscribe via email instead by sending an email to hinckley@mail.remind.com (this is not the same as our E-News)

MEETINGS This year's PTO meeting will be held via zoom. More information is forthcoming.

Comments or questions? Please email Laura Keeling at: laurak517@yahoo.com

Mental Health Services Available in Our District

Mental health awareness continues to be top of mind for the Highland Local School District. We currently offer mental health liaison services to all K-12 students, parents and staff at no cost. Rini Ohlemacher, LISW-S, provides a variety of services across all five Highland buildings. Students, parents or staff may request support directly or on behalf of an individual who may be struggling with identified or suspected mental health needs. Services are voluntary and do require consent in most cases. Services are available in-person or via live video conferencing and include individual sessions for purposes of screening, guidance, resources, intervention, support, crisis intervention, collaboration with outside professionals, coordination of services, linkage and/or referrals.

Please feel free to download the following guide, which outlines a number of helpful resource in Medina County:

Medina County Community Resources: Quick Reference Guide

Contact: Ms. Rini Ohlemacher, (330) 239-1901, ext. 1231. Email: rohlemacher@highlandschools.org

When school is in session, Ms. Ohlemacher has office hours at each building one day per week and is also available for virtual meetings.