

Gator Gazette

MT. HOREB SCHOOL PTO NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2018



From the Principal, Mr. Cook.....

Dear Mt. Horeb Families,

Well, welcome to another year at Mt. Horeb. I am hopeful that the experience so far for each of you has been as smooth as life at school has been. From day one we've seen so many smiling faces almost relieved to be back in school. Perhaps that's my sometimes overly optimistic side showing through or perhaps we have some kids that genuinely like coming to school! Teachers are, as always, thrilled with their new classes and have already begun celebrating their new little communities.

As is the case every year, we have added layers to our overall approach to security that we feel will further our ability to ensure safety in all buildings. Under the guidance of Safe Havens International, the security audit company that we have now used on two occasions, each school has added colored lanyards to our visitor policy. Visitors will continue to receive a print out from our VMS system complete with their picture and any relevant information pertaining to their visit. The lanyard will say 'Visitor.' Substitutes now have a black lanyard, a key, and a swipe badge allowing them to come into the building should their assignment take them out of the building. Staff continue to have a blue lanyard. The purpose is to make all adults in the building more specifically identifiable. As I hope each of you knows, we put significant effort into researching and implementing security measures that serve to keep your children safe each and every day.

A Note from the School Nurse.....

As the new school year begins, I would like to review some guidelines when determining whether to keep your child home. Please keep your child home if he/she has a fever of 100 or greater. Children may return when fever free without the need for Tylenol and Advil after 24 hours. In addition, if the child has a continuous cough and runny nose (yellow or green nasal discharge), please keep him/her home. Also, if your child has had vomiting or several episodes of diarrhea in the last 24 hours, keeping your child home will help keep a healthier school environment.

If your child has been diagnosed with a contagious disease that requires antibiotics, the child may return after being on antibiotics for 24 hours and fever free. PLEASE notify the health office so that notices can be sent out to the classroom. Please go to the District Webpage under Health Office Home and refer to Illness Guidelines for further information.

When calling in an absence or lateness, PLEASE DO NOT email the teacher; instead call the absence line and leave a message by 9:15 a.m. Homework requests can be made at the Main Office.

For all school wide/classroom celebrations (total of 5 parties/classroom/yr.) please refer to the District Approved Food List. **Please include ingredient labels on all foods purchased or made from scratch, and drop off to Main Office by 10 a.m. This list DOES NOT apply to individual student snacks during class time. My only request is that NO nuts or peanuts be eaten in the classroom, but rather save those foods for the lunch room.**

Thank you and I look forward to caring for your children this year.

Doris Zanchelli R.N., C.S.N



We would like to take this opportunity to welcome everyone back to Mt. Horeb. We hope you enjoyed your summer vacation. The PTO has been working hard to get everything ready for the upcoming school year. As always, if you or anyone you know is interested in volunteering, please consider doing so. There are many opportunities and ways in which you can help. All of the programs and events at Mt. Horeb are made possible by your donations and by the volunteers who help organize and run our events. We cannot stress this enough...without our parent volunteers we will no longer be able to run our programs. So please consider helping out however you can!

As we kick off another school year, we would like to take this opportunity to thank the following PTO members:

Thanks to Jen Connolly for taking care of all the food day contracts!! We appreciate you taking the time over vacation to update the contracts.

We would like to thank Mrs. Kogler and the garden committee volunteers who kept the garden up and running over the summer months.

A huge thank you to Linda Draper for overseeing the Kidstuff Coupon books, which is a very big fundraiser for our PTO! **Fifty percent of proceeds of all coupon books sold!**

We would also like to thank Sushama Sekhar and Mia Downing for the adorable "Back to School" display in our lobby. You continue to outdo yourselves ladies! Thanks to Jill Parry and Irina Kay for volunteering this year to make sure we celebrate our students and staff on the monthly bulletin boards.

The Kindergarten Get Together was well attended and the children had a wonderful time. Thanks to Suzanne Velazquez and Darlene Carter for organizing this event.

The teachers were treated to a "Welcome Back Luncheon." We would like to thank Alexandra Kerner for making this possible and the Baking Committee for providing yummy desserts. The teachers and staff loved it!

Family Fun Day...Camp Riverbend

A big thank you goes out to Jen Armao and to all of those who stepped in to help make our first annual event at Camp Riverbend a success. Everyone who attended had a great time!

Halloween parades will take place on Tuesday, October 31st at 2:10pm and all families are invited to attend. Weather permitting this event will take place outside on the blacktop.

Family Fun Night...Trunk or Treat

Mark your calendars! Our Halloween party will be held on Friday October 26th.

This is a fun-filled night of games, trunk or treating, music and much more.

More information to follow...

Box Tops For Education

Box tops are a great way for us to raise money for various school activities. Box tops are collected throughout the school year, so continue to save them. Thank you to Heloisa Santos for volunteering to oversee it this year!

After School Activities

Thank you to everyone participating in On The Court and Soccer; the PTO receives a percentage of the proceeds from these after school programs.

School Apparel

Ordering extended through **September 27th**. Order forms can be found here: https://mthorebpto.org/Page.aspx?_=Mt-Horeb-School-Apparel

PTO Donation Campaign

The Donation Campaign will remain open until **October 31st**. Please consider donating if you haven't already done so. The PTO relies on these generous donations to plan such events as: school assemblies, international day, field day, trunk or treat, just to name a few. Also, if you haven't signed up to volunteer, there are many opportunities to get involved. **We need your help!!!!**

Don't forget to check out our PTO website and join our private Facebook group. Both great ways to stay in the know!

Website: <https://mthorebpto.org>

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/456109638172442/?ref=bookmarks>

Next General PTO Meeting: Friday, November 2nd at 9:30 AM. We hope to see you there!

Superintendent's Corner

The Warren Township Schools opened the 2018-2019 school year on September 6, 2018 with 1,683 students.

As is the case each summer, our custodial and maintenance crews worked extremely hard to prepare the buildings and grounds for the new school year. In addition to the regular deep cleaning that takes place, these crews supported several significant capital improvements throughout the district. This group of dedicated professionals is responsible for the sparkle that greets our students as they step off the bus each and every day.

This summer, our 12-month Administrative staff recruited, interviewed and recommended for hire 20+ new professionals to join our faculty and staff. These new hires spent time during the last week of August attending the New Staff Induction Program led by Mt. Horeb Principal Scott Cook and Woodland School Principal Jeff Heaney. Warren Township attracts top-notch talent from throughout the region and I am confident these new teachers, paraprofessionals and support staff members will prove to be wonderful additions to our community.

Here's to a wonderful school year where we all continue *shining brighter every day!*

Matthew A. Mingle, Ed.D.

OCTOBER 2018	CALENDAR
8 & 9	SCHOOLS ARE CLOSED
11	Fire Prevention Visit
26	PTO Trunk or Treat
30	Picture Retakes
31	Halloween Parade 2:10 pm