# HUSKY HAPPENINGS!

November 16, 2026

## Hoover Calendar

**November**

16 - Cereal Drive begins
17 - Parent Cafe - 5:30 - 7:30 @ Longfellow
19 - Build Up the Park: Diner and Data 5:00 - 7:00
25 No School - Thanksgiving Break
30 Return from Thanksgiving Break

**December**

1 Holiday Basket Applications Due
8 Hoover 3-5 Holiday Concert @ High School 6:00
17 Hoover Holiday Night 5:30 - 6:30

## McDonald's Fundraiser Night

Thank you for all your support last week! We earned $400 toward our Legasea Assembly!

## Hazel Park Holiday Baskets

Holiday Basket applications are being taken now until December 1. The applications are in the Hoover front office. Applicants must be Hazel Park residents to qualify. Pick up is December 14 @ Webb.

## Hoover Cereal Drive

Hoover will be collecting cereal boxes for our annual food drive. The drive begins tomorrow and ends on December 12. The class with the most donations will win a pizza party. We will build our Cereal Box Domino train on December 13.

## Late Pick-up From After School Activities

We are so thrilled to bring our students many afterschool offerings. It is a great opportunity for our students to grow and thrive. Please be sure that you are aware of the ending times for your student's activities. We understand that sometimes families will be late due to unforeseen events. However, students who are picked up late more than once will not be allowed to participate any longer. It is important to be timely, so our staff members are able to get home. Thank you for your support.

## Parent Cafe @ Longfellow

Join us for our third Parent Café! Our Parent Cafés have been very successful, providing parents with an opportunity to connect, share experiences, and learn from one another in a welcoming environment.
Using the Strong Roots Model, we focus on five core protective factors that help strengthen families:

- Caring for Myself
- Connecting with My People
- Enjoying with My Child
- Getting Help (Concrete Support in Times of Need)
- Supporting Feelings

This is an opportunity for parents to talk with one another as we guide conversations through thoughtful questions that encourage reflection and meaningful discussion.

## Build Up The Park: Dinner and Data

Join us at Longfellow for an evening of family engagement, food, and learning!

- 5:00 PM: Thanksgiving dinner for families.
- Guest Speaker: Erika Resh will review i-Ready data and help families better understand their children's academic progress.
- Individual Reports: Families who RSVP will have their child's i-Ready report printed and ready to review.
- FREE TURKEY! Families who RSVP will receive a turkey generously donated by the Hazel Park Promise Zone.

Please RSVP and take advantage of this wonderful opportunity!

## Read At Home Logs

We've all heard the saying, "Practice Makes Perfect". Well, while practice does not make everything perfect, practice certainly does help improve skills. Just like sports, academics takes practice. This week the entire school began it's "Read at Home" program. Each Monday, teachers will send reading logs home with students. We are asking students to read at home for a half hour each day. Those minutes do not need to be consecutive. The thirty minutes can be broken up into smaller segments if that works better for your student. Students may count the time that they are reading independently or the time that he/she is being read to. Students should return the reading log to their teacher every Monday morning. Students who return their reading log, with family signatures will receive a prize from our prize cart! Thanks for supporting our Hoover students.

## Hoover Community Schools

Hoover Elementary is a Community School! We connect students and families with resources, support, and opportunities that help our school community thrive in school, at home, and beyond. We listen, connect and walk alongside you to find the right resources and take the next step - longer. We can support families with clothing and basic needs, food assistance, school supplies, transportation, housing and utilities, wellness and mental health, family engagement, attendance and student success, and employment and career resources. Contact Stephanie Wright @ 248-658-5306 or by email stephanie.wright@myhpsd.org.

## Picking Students Up Early

Our classrooms are teaching important curriculum lessons from bell to bell. It is important that students attend school for the entire day, from 8:05 to 3:10. Students coming in a half hour late or

a half hour early on a regular basis are missing a significant part of their school day. We realize that there are appointments, and responsibilities that may mean you need to check your student out early or bring him/her to school late. Occasionally arriving later or being checked out early will not have an impact on your student's learning. If you are checking your student out early, please be sure to pick them up before 2:30. Our district policy asks that we not dismiss students after 2:30. Picking students up early, especially 10 -15 minutes early is disruptive and interrupts learning. Please refrain from picking up your students after 2:30.

## Why Attendance Matters!

Attendance in elementary school plays a critical role in a child's academic success and overall development. Here are several reasons why it is so important:

1. **Academic Achievement**
   - **Consistent Learning**: Regular attendance ensures that students are consistently exposed to the curriculum. Missing school leads to gaps in learning, making it harder for children to keep up with new material.
   - **Skill Development**: Elementary school is when children build foundational skills in reading, writing, and math. Missing classes can hinder the development of these essential skills, which impacts future learning.
2. **Social and Emotional Development**
   - **Social Interaction**: Elementary school is a time when children develop critical social skills, such as teamwork, communication, and conflict resolution. Regular attendance allows children to build relationships with peers, fostering emotional intelligence and cooperation.
   - **Routine and Structure**: School attendance helps children establish routines, teaching them responsibility, time management, and the importance of following through on commitments.
3. **Long-term Success**
   - **Habit Formation**: Good attendance habits developed in elementary school tend to carry over into middle and high school, influencing future academic and career success.
   - **Reducing Dropout Risk**: Studies show that chronic absenteeism in the early years is often linked to higher dropout rates in later schooling.
4. **Teacher-Student Connection**
   - **Supportive Relationships**: Teachers can better assess students' needs and provide tailored instruction when they see them regularly. Absenteeism limits the ability of teachers to form strong, supportive relationships with students.
5. **Building Responsibility**
   - **Accountability**: Attending school daily teaches students the importance of being accountable for their education, a lesson that applies to other areas of life as well.
6. **Reducing Behavioral Problems**
   - **Structured Environment**: Students who attend school regularly benefit from the structured environment, which helps reduce behavioral issues. Absenteeism is often linked to an increase in behavioral problems both in school and at home.

In summary, regular attendance in elementary school is vital to a child's academic, social, and emotional growth. It sets the stage for lifelong learning, strong relationships, and the development of important life skills.

## Birthday Celebrations At School

Birthdays are an important celebration for all of us! Our Hoover staff understands the significance of birthday celebrations. We want to recognize and celebrate these important milestones with our students, however we believe that birthday festivities are meant for home with friends and family! At Hoover we celebrate our students with a birthday announcement over the school PA and invite

our birthday boys and girls to the office to receive their birthday trinkets. The best part of the day is during lunch when the whole lunchroom sings Happy Birthday while the birthday babies are on the stage.

**Please note! Students may not bring treats to school to celebrate, as it can be distracting from the learning environment. One last note regarding birthday celebrations. If your family is holding a birthday celebration and want to invite your students classmates, there must be an invitation for every student in the class. If you are only inviting a few classmates, then those invitations should be distributed outside of the school setting.**

**Thank you in advance for following all of our birthday policy.**

## Promoting a Safe and Positive School Environment

At our school, the safety and well-being of every student is our top priority. We want to remind families and students that **any threat to harm or kill another student, or any reference to weapons of any kind, will be taken seriously**. Such behavior is not only against school policy but also disrupts the sense of safety that is essential for learning.
Our goal is to foster a positive school culture where students feel supported, respected, and safe each day. Research shows that students learn best in a warm, trusting environment, and we are committed to maintaining that standard for all.
We encourage families to talk with their children about the importance of using words responsibly and treating others with kindness. Together, we can create a school community where everyone feels secure and valued.

## Thursday Is Bagel Day

Every Thursday we will be selling bagels for $1.25. We have salt, plain, everything, and cinnamon. The funds raised through our bagel sale will be used to sponsor our monthly celebrations and other fun events for students. We will begin selling bagels next week, Thursday, September 4.

## Courtesy in the Car Line

As we work together to create a positive relationship with our school's neighbors, we kindly ask families to be mindful while waiting in the car line. **Please refrain from playing loud music** during arrival and dismissal times.
Your cooperation helps us maintain a respectful and peaceful environment for the families who live nearby. Thank you for doing your part to make our school community shine—inside and out!

## Student Arrival and Dismissal

Please be reminded that drivers should not get out of their vehicle during drop off time. This disrupts the flow of traffic. If you need to get out of your vehicle, please pull into a space in the parking lot.

## Breakfast Information

Breakfast is free for all students each morning. The breakfast doors open at 7:30. Students will walk directly to the gym for breakfast. Breakfast is served until 8:05. Students who enter the building between 7:30 and 8:05 must go to the gym for breakfast.

## Cell Phones

Cell phones are not allowed in the classroom. All cell phones must be left in backpacks and remain in crates. Cell phones will be taken from students who choose to have them out. The phone will be taken to the office and a parent will be responsible for picking it up. Please have a conversation with your student regarding our cell phone policy!

**Debra Dimas**
Debra is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters

