



Doreen Kramer Superintendent
Anders Hill, Principal

Parent-Teacher Conferences



Houghton Elementary School will hold our Parent/Teacher Conferences for all our students on Thursday, November 12th and on Friday, November 13th. This year our conferences will either be by phone or utilizing Google Meet/ Zoom. Please make every effort to attend this conference. If you do not have an appointment, please contact your child's teacher to schedule.

Parent involvement is a key to your child's education.

If for some reason you must reschedule this meeting, please contact your child's classroom teacher as soon as possible. Scheduling can be very difficult.

If you would like to meet with any of our essentials teachers, special education or Title I teachers, please contact them directly to set up an appointment.

We look forward to seeing you!



Coats, Hats and Mittens

Please make sure that your child is dressed for the weather each day. Children who are appropriately dressed in warm coats, hats, and mittens have a much better time at recess. We will also send students inside from recess to get coats on.

If there is snow on the ground, please send children to school with boots and snow pants.

Please let the school know if your child has a need for winter clothes and we will do our best to help.

Upcoming Dates to Remember:

- November 1—Turn Back Clocks 1 Hour, Daylight Savings Time Begins
- November 2 -15- Online Scholastic Book Fair
- November 6—First Marking Period Ends
- November 12— Students Dismissed at 12:20 pm, Parent Teacher Conf. 1- 3 pm & 5-7 pm
- November 13—Students Dismissed at 12:20 pm, Parent Teacher Conf. 1-3 pm
- November 25—No School- Professional Development
- November 26 & 27— Thanksgiving Break

OCTOBER TEAM STUDENTS

Every month we are recognizing a student in each class that exemplifies our schools TEAM goals:

Take Responsibility

Earn Respect

Act Positively

Make it Safe

These students will enjoy a snack with the principal and receive a certificate. Our October honorees are:

Young 5's: Tatiana Kampe

K: Aubrey Gemignani, Lilian Schulte, Scarlett Bier, Calum Stancher & Griffin Cutsy

1st : Adara Jarvi, Tessa Ryyananen, Lucas Niedzwiecki, Lucia Stancher & Mason Weathers

2nd: Jaelee Kangas, Alex Butkovich, Toki Aschauer & Elliot Schwass

3rd: Anna Mae Nolan, Maev O'Leary, Emma Johnson, Elise Wolfe, Sylvi Riutta & Sophia Armbruster

4th: Caleb Han, Joseph Niedzwiecki, Mason Soli, Amelia Chopp, Garek Guilbault & Henry Butler

5th: Farid Rawashdeh, Hayden Schuette, Sophia DeYoung, Braden Kari & Myles Bastian

Congratulations!!!

TEAM Students



PTO Corner

You Support PTO. PTO Supports Our School.

This Fall PTO will forge ahead with contact-free fundraisers. Events will run regardless of district Face to Face status! Watch for updates via List Serve and on our PTO Facebook page.

BOOK FAIR: The Online Only Scholastic Book Fair runs from Monday, November 2 through Sunday,

November 15. Shop from a selection of over 6,000 book titles, searching by grade, age, format, genre, series, characters, Best Sellers, Value Packs, and more. You can even "Walk" through the 360 Degree Virtual Book Cases. Orders with over \$25 in books **SHIP HOME FREE.** Books make wonderful **Holiday gifts!**

Please consider donating a book to your student's teacher. Include the book in your own order and then send it to school with your student or drop it off at the office. **Find the Teachers' Wish List here:** [Google Wish List](#)

GIVING TREE: Teachers and staff have requested items for their classrooms or areas. Check out the Virtual Giving Tree to fulfill these unique needs/wants. Labeled items may be sent with students or dropped by the office.

Visit [HTTP://BIT.LY/hes-giving-tree](http://bit.ly/hes-giving-tree) to sign up.

AMAZON SMILE: Choose **Houghton Elementary School PTO** as your designated charity when you shop online at smile.amazon.com.

Get Involved: **Key Leadership roles on the PTO Board remain vacant.** The PTO Executive Board for the 20/21 School Year is still in need of a President or Co-Presidents and a Vice-President. Contact Nancy Verive at nn_verive@yahoo.com to learn more about contributing your time and talents to help our students!

Coming Up: **Scholastic Online Only Book Fair Monday, Nov. 2-Sunday Nov. 15**

PTO Meeting Tuesday, November 17 at 5:30 p.m. via Google Meet

Information & Updates:

Like PTO on Facebook: [facebook.com/HPTSPTO](https://www.facebook.com/HPTSPTO)



Online Scholastic Book Fair

Monday Nov. 2 – Sunday Nov. 15

Free Shipping with \$25+ book purchase

[scholastic.com/bf/hptselementary](https://www.scholastic.com/bf/hptselementary)

Preparing for Winter Weather— Cancellations and Delays

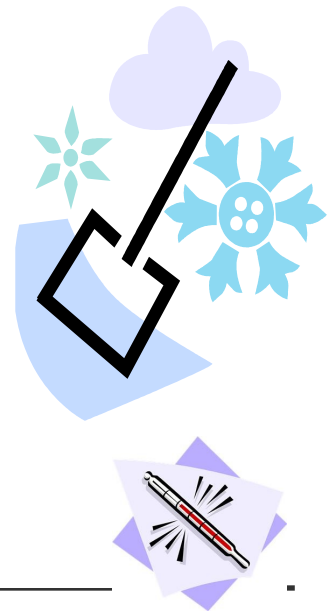
When inclement weather causes the closing of school, the following procedures will be followed:

School Closing: Announcements will be made via the Parent list serv, the school website, the television station (Channel 6) and local radio stations by 7:00 a.m. that school will not be in session.

Late Starts: When weather conditions warrant, the start of school may be delayed. Such an announcement will be

made as soon as possible. Buses will run two hours late.

Early Dismissal: Our office will be notified of early dismissals due to bad weather as early as possible. Dismissal time from classes and bus schedules to transport children will be determined by the Superintendent. Parents, please review your plan with your student and please contact the office ASAP if your initial plans have changed.



Flu Season and Houghton Elementary Students

We would like to emphasize an important piece of information to all our parents— children should stay home if they are sick (fever, cough etc.) Students should then stay home until the fever

goes down and stays down for 24 hours without medication. We will continue to talk to our students about proper habits (coughing into their elbow, washing hands, sanitizing class-

rooms etc.). If you have further questions please contact the school.

Students should then stay home until the fever goes down and stays down for 24 hours without medication.

Thank you to the Houghton Fire Department for their work presenting Fire Safety to students.





Improving Attendance Matters Because It Reflects:

Exposure to language: Starting in Pre-K, attendance equals exposure to language-rich environments especially for low-income children.

Time on Task in Class: Students only benefit from classroom instruction if they are in class.

On Track for Success: Chronic absence is a proven early warning sign that a student is behind in reading by 3rd grade, failing courses middle and high school, and likely to drop-out.

College Readiness: Attendance patterns predicts college enrollment and persistence.

Engagement : Attendance reflects engagement in learning.

Effective Practice: Schools, communities and families can improve attendance when they work together.

(For research, see: <http://www.attendanceworks.org/research/>)

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Yearbook order forms are due Friday, November 15th. Yearbooks cost \$15.00 and will be in full color. Yearbooks will be distributed in mid-May.

Thank You!!!

I would like to take this opportunity to let all parents, students and staff know how thankful I am to work with all of you in providing a great education for all students. I feel very lucky to be working at Houghton Elementary!

- Mr. Hill



Counselor's Corner

**Micah
Stipech**

One definition of character is *the intentions and actions that benefit both the individual and others*. There are many character strengths and virtues that cultures around the world unanimously agree upon. The Character Strength of Gratitude is one of them. When you feel gratitude, you feel a sense of abundance. When you express gratitude—especially when it's heartfelt—you strengthen your relationships with others. Grateful people are happier and more fulfilled. And gratitude leads you to be nicer to other people: more cooperative, patient, and trusting. How can I help cultivate the character strength of gratitude in children?

Model it. Talk about the good things that happen to you: *"I love this gorgeous spring day!"* Reframe difficulties by highlighting positive aspects: *"Work has been stressful lately, but I'm grateful that my boss trusts me with important responsibilities."*

Another way is to use what Character Lab calls "Three Good Things."

How do I do it?

In this daily reflection, you list three things that went well for you, and why they went well. Dinner or bedtime is a great chance to do this!

How does it work?

This brief exercise helps you reflect on the many things that happen every day. Over time, you begin to look for things in your day to add to your list!

Inspired by: Seligman, M. E. P., Steen, T. A., Park, N., & Peterson, C. (2005). Positive psychology progress: Empirical validation of interventions. *American Psychologist*, 60(5), 410-421.