January 2022 Globe

Calendar of Events

Jan. 2022

17  NO SCHOOL - PreK-12
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

26  PTA Meeting - 7 pm
Virtual meeting on Zoom use below link to join:
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84292132417

27  Spelling Bee - 10:15 am via Google Meet

28  NO SCHOOL - PreK-12
Professional Development Day

Feb. 2022

1  First Day of Black History Month

21  NO SCHOOL - PreK-12
Presidents’ Day

28  PTA Meeting - 7 pm
Virtual meeting on Zoom use below link to join:
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84292132417

Dear Families,

While the new year has rung in a little rocky, I’m hoping that it starts to smooth out soon. Between staff, students, and bus drivers being hit with Covid, it’s been challenging for all of us, to say the least. However, we keep moving forward each day to provide all children with a first-class educational experience.

We are slowly adding back some of the awards assemblies and enrichment opportunities to get back to a more normal school year. We certainly can’t have our usual assemblies in the gym each month with proud parents attending, but I do present the awards in a small, grade-level setting. Each month classroom teachers and specialists nominate students for the Learner Profile, Mountain Climber, and Student of the Month awards, and they are presented on the first Thursday of each month.

We are holding our annual Spelling Bee on January 27th at 10:15 am. We have eight finalists from grades four and five who will be competing live and socially-distanced in-person with Star Tribune judges and live streaming on google meet.

Lego League participants are working really hard getting their robotics programmed for their competition at the Rondo Complex on Saturday, January 29. Sadly, there are no spectators at this exciting event this year, but at least the kids are getting to participate.

MathMasters is also up and running in-person this year. MathMasters is a challenging math program for fifth graders that culminates in a city-wide competition in April.

Our student council is in full throttle helping to add some spirit and service to the school community. You may have heard about the backwards and formal days they organized last month. They are now organizing a swap meet for later this month. They will be sending out more information as they continue to work out the details.

Stay safe and healthy!

Sincerely,

Nancy Flynn

Address: 1700 Saunders Ave., St. Paul, MN 55116  Phone: 651-293-8770  Fax: 651-293-8983
HPE Open House for New Families – Thursday, February 10, 6-7 PM

Help spread the word about our open house to friends and neighbors who are looking to enroll their children in an elementary school. Encourage them to join our virtual open house to learn more about our great school. The Zoom link will be available on the school’s website later this month.

Please note the SPPS School Choice Fair has been cancelled. Families that are looking for a new SPPS school should visit school websites to learn more about virtual open houses at each school.

Next Year 2022-2023 Enrollment

Families with children who will be 4 years old by September 1, 2022 can apply for Highland Park Elementary Pre-kindergarten program for next fall. Children who will be 5 by September 1, 2022 can apply for kindergarten. The deadline for applying is March 4, 2022.

The district is in the process of mailing letters to families of fifth graders to let you know in which middle school your child has a reserved seat for the upcoming school year. The middle school assignments are based on the family address. If you are planning to have your child attend that middle school, you do not need to take any action. You will receive a letter in the spring with information about how to register your student for classes at their middle school. If you want your 5th grader to attend a different SPPS middle school or if you do not live within the City of Saint Paul, you will need to complete an application.

If your child is currently enrolled in grades Pre-K to Grade 4 at HPE you do not need to apply for next year. All students in grades Pre-K to Grade 4 will automatically have a spot at HPE for next year.

The 2022-2023 School Choice Priority Enrollment deadline for grades Pre-K – 12 is Friday, March 4, 2022. Applying by the deadline is the best way to ensure your children are enrolled in your school of choice. To apply, you can complete an online application at apply.spps.org or call the Student Placement Center at 651-632-3760. If you have questions about the application process, please contact the Student Placement Center at 651-632-3760.

Transition to Middle School Parent Info Meeting

If your child is currently in 5th grade and will be attending middle school next year please join us for a virtual parent info meeting via Google Meet on Monday, February 7th from 5-6 pm. Students are welcome to attend as well. Use Google Meet Code HPEmiddleschool
ACCESS TESTING
FOR ELL STUDENTS ONLY:
2/22/2022-3/25/2022

EL students in grades Kindergarten through 12th grade take ACCESS for ELLs language proficiency assessment. This test is administered annually in the spring to measure and monitor EL students' English language growth and readiness to exit the EL program.


Oromo: ACCESS Barataa Afaan Ingilifaatiif(ACCESS for ELL) 1/31- 3/25/2022: Baratoonni Afaan Ingiliffaa (EL) kutaa Kindargaartanii hanga 12 jiran qorannoo ACCESS jedhamu kan dandeetii Barataa Afaan

Ingiliffaatiif muldhisu nifudhatu. Teestiin kun oggaatti al tokko Afraasaa (spring) keessa kan kennamu hoo ta’u guddinna afaan Ingiliffaa baratoota Afaan Ingiliffaa (EL) kan madaalu.

Spanish: ACCESS for ELLs 1/31- 3/25/2022: Los estudiantes de EL en grados de Kinder al 12 tomarán el examen del idioma inglés ACCESS for ELLs cada año escolar. Este examen anual nos muestra el incremento en el desarrollo del idioma.
Walking - School Patrol Info.

If the actual temperature is 6 degrees, but the “feels like” or windchill temp is -8, there will be NO School Patrol! If the temp is sitting right at 0 degrees with no windchill, the students will patrol. Please make sure to check a weather app on your phone before school and at 3:30 PM, to see what the actual and windchill temperature are. If either is below 0, your children need to be dropped off & picked up.

HPE PYP News
PYP Coordinator - Mrs. Strecker

READY, SET, ACTION!!!
At HPE we have been focusing on asking questions, inquiry and showing action. With all of our snow, Mr. Bauert’s third graders were asking, “How much does snow weigh?” Mrs. Strecker and a third grade student headed out to the playground to find some untouched white snow. Our packed bucket snow weighed 1.75 pounds. We let the snow melt to see what was in the snow that could weigh 1.75 pounds. We found dirt in our melted snow. Hmmm! This inquiry has led to more questions. Does your family have any snow questions? Maybe start with, “Should we eat snow?”. Be sure to share your snow questions, inquiries, and findings with your classmates and HPE staff!

NEWS FROM THE GYMNASIUM

Hello Families,

We have been covering a lot of new games and activities and having a lot of fun in the process! We have done a throwing and catching unit, soccer unit, and we are currently in a basketball unit. We focused on our ability to throw and catch various sized objects and play games using those skills, how to kick a ball and play soccer related games/a game of soccer, and currently we are working on basketball skills such as dribbling, passing, and shooting. The IB learner profiles we have covered during these units are being principled, caring and reflective.

Thank you,
Annie Schoeben.
Hello Friends!

I hope every family had a relaxing and enjoyable winter break (I know I did!). Our scholars are digging deeper into their learning about the planet; in terms of our animal kingdom, the Earth’s structure, as well as its place in our universe. Our youngest students are showing an understanding that our planet is our home, first and foremost. Taking care of nature, both plants and animals, will be a crucial job for our scholars as they enter the world. In 1st grade, we recently finished an exploration into the world of sound. Particularly, the vibrations that can move and shape the world around us. I’ve been impressed with our 2nd graders’ curiosity for our weather and climate. Something that every young Minnesotan should know is how to stay safe during different kinds of severe weather! As for our 3rd graders, we had a blast creating some stories about animal group behavior. 4th grade is beginning to ask questions and discover how weathering and erosion shape the rock formations around us, while 5th grade is wrapping their heads around how the Earth turns on its axis and revolves around the sun. Every day I feel like students are getting more and more into the swing of school again, but with that said, I want to echo the sentiment of our health professionals and encourage every able person to get vaccinated, boosted, and continue wearing masks indoors and around groups of people. While providing joy and science learning to the students of Highland Park Elementary is my number one goal, I hope to continue what I do with every person, whether it be in person or online.

All the best,
William Bauer
S.T.E.A.M. Instructor

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Hello HPE families!

In art, we are starting many new and fun units.

Pre-K: Students continue to explore new media and tools to have fun expressing through art.

Kindergarten: Kindergarten is moving on to their second painting unit, watercolor. Students will be using watercolor to learn new art procedures.

First: First grade is moving on to our money unit. Students will learn how money is made and simulate that with a printmaking unit. Students are the president of their own country and they will design the money for it.

Second: We are wrapping up our sports unit, and we are moving on to our one-point perspective unit. Students will be able to design their own city with those skills.

Third: Building on our facial feature unit, students are creating a self-portrait that showcases their newfound knowledge.

Fourth: In fourth grade, we are wrapping up our flag unit, and moving on to our clay project for the year.

Fifth: We have started our new children’s book unit. Students design and original character and story. They then have an opportunity to choose a children’s book, manga, or comic to create a physical book illustrating their story.

Seth Stratton
Art Teacher