Greetings Heights Community School families!

We have many opportunities during the year for families to come together at our school and we don’t want you to miss out. Our family calendar, which you can find on our school’s webpage, is a great way to keep you informed of these upcoming events. We had a great turn out for our Multicultural Family Night! Please mark your calendars and consider attending future events such as NAAPID on Feb 10 and Reading Night on Feb 27. I’m looking forward to seeing you and your family!

Teachers have completed their assessments in reading and are working to create new small groups and lessons that are tailored to your child’s academic needs. It’s a great time for you to connect with your child’s teacher and to see how things are going. The best ways and times to contact your child’s teacher can be found on your child’s class newsletter. Thank you in advance for your continued partnership with our teachers.

Infinite Campus is a system our school uses to access information about our scholars and their families. It is important that all family contact information entered is accurate and current. When The Heights sends out information about school events and/or updates through text messages, phone calls, and/or email the communication system uses the home/cellphone number and email address that is currently in that system. Please review and update your contact information online at www.spps.org/parents and select One Stop. If you need assistance please call our office.

It is every family’s responsibility to review and know the contents of our Family Handbook. Please review these pages in its entirety with special attention to the following sections: Cellphones/Electronics/Toys, Family Vacations, Classroom Celebrations and Breakfast and Lunch. Also, unless your student has a physician’s note that specifically states to stay inside for recess due to a medical condition your child will be expected to join his/her class outside. Families can find a digital copy of our family handbook on our school’s webpage.

We care about your child’s academic & social/emotional needs and we appreciate partnering with you throughout the year to meet these needs. Thank you, parents/guardians for sending them every day!

Principal’s Note

NAAPID

Monday, February 10 is National African American Parent Involvement Day (NAAPID).

We invite all parents and extended family members to visit The Heights any time during the day.

Our theme is: Watching Our Students Shine!

Open the attached flyer in the email for the day’s schedule and programs.
The next PTA meeting is scheduled for:

Thursday, March 12
5:00-7pm
Please join us!

The 2019-20 PTA meetings are held: Oct 10, Jan 16, March 12, April 16 and May 7 from 5-7pm.
The PTA and Title I budgets are discussed at the March 12 & April 16th meetings.

Saints North Family Skate Center
1818 Gervais Ct, Maplewood
(651) 770-3848
Cancelled
Tue, Oct 22  6:00-8 pm
Cancelled
Tue, Dec 10  6:00-8 pm
Cancelled
Tue, Feb 4  6:00-8 pm
Cancelled
Tue, April 16  6:00-8 pm
Sts North is looking for a school for us to pair up with next school year. All dates for this school year have been cancelled.

Chuck E Cheese
445 Commerce Dr, Woodbury
Wed, Oct 16  3:00-9 pm
Fri, Jan 17 3:00-9 pm
Fri, March 13  3:00-9 pm
Fri, May 8  3:00-9 pm

Keep collecting:

Box Tops for Education is moving toward collecting via an app. Look for more information on the last page of the newsletter! Sign up and get the app at BTFE.COM

A conversation with your child is a great way to encourage children to increase vocabulary and gain confidence with speaking. Mrs.Galowitz has put together some ideas to help you get more than a “yes”, “ok”, or “no” answer when asking your child about their school day. On the way home, at dinner or even bedtime is a great time for these simple questions.

1. Who did you sit with at lunch?
2. What made your teacher smile? What made her frown?
3. What kind of person were you today?
4. What made you feel happy?
5. What made you feel proud?

As answers develop using a phrase such as, “tell me more” will help your child make more connections to school. It is a busy day full of learning and we hope children begin to talk more about the wonders of their school day.
Hello Parents,
Thanks to all the parents/guidance whose children are up to date with their immunization. As you all know, St Paul school district is no immunization no school. Our school goal this year is to have zero exclusion due to non-compliance of immunizations.

I am encouraging parents whose child/children are not compliant to use from now to end of February to complete their remaining immunizations. We have made several calls and sent required list of immunization home. If you do not have your copy and wondering what particular immunization your child needs. Please call the health office and we will help you with that. Our immunization exclusion will start March 26, 2020. PLEASE NOTE: starting from March 26th, 2020, if your child/children are not up to date with their immunization, keep the student home until she/he gets the missing immunization.

There have been many reports about flu outbreak in Minnesota this year. Please encourage good hand hygiene in the family and also make sure everyone has their flu vaccine. It is important we stay health to remain at school to learn and meet our academic goals.

Parents/guardian, please continue to make sure that your children dress according to weather when coming to school. If anyone has a pair of size 2 or 3 girls boots to donate, we’d really appreciate to have them.

Thanks for collaborating in taking care of our scholars. Together we can make a difference in our children’s life.

"Education is the power to change the world" (Nelson Mandela).

Dr. Mrs. Obasi (School Nurse).

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**Pennies for Patients**

**What are the boxes Pennies for Patients my student brought home for?**
The boxes are for collecting spare change to help fight cancer.

**Where does the donation go?**
Your donation goes toward life-saving research. It also supports many patient support programs that the Leukemia Lymphoma Society provides for patients and their families to help them through their diagnosis, treatment, and survivorship of cancer patients. Another HUGE benefit is teaching our students empathy and compassion. It reminds students that it's better to give than to receive. They can help others by giving back something little - their spare change.
Ages 7 and younger: Children should not be left alone for any period of time.

Ages 8-10: Children should not be left alone for more than 2 hours. It is acceptable for children to be at home while parents run an errand or to be home alone before and/or after school until parents return from work.

Ages 11-13: Children should not be left alone for more than 8 hours. It is acceptable for children to be alone all day until parent returns from work, but it is assumed a parent, guardian or caretaker will be there in the evening.

Ages 14 and Older: It is acceptable for children to be home alone for 24 hours or more provided they have knowledge of where parent is and how to reach them or a designated caretaker can be reached if needed.

Ages 11 to 14: It is acceptable to babysit younger children all day with the expectation that parent/guardian/caretaker will be returning to supervise children later that same day.

Ages 15 and Older: It is acceptable to babysit younger children for more than 24 hours.

What to do when your child witnesses bullying.

Many children are observers or “bystanders” in cases of bullying at school. It is important that even students who are bystanders in a bullying situation take action to get help, so the bullying stops. If your child talks to you about the bullying that he or she witnesses at school, you are encouraged to do the following:

- Teach your child how to get help without getting hurt.
- Encourage your child to verbally intervene if it is safe to do so, by saying such things as: “Cool it! This isn’t going to solve anything.”
- Tell your child not to cheer on or even quietly watch bullying. This only encourages a child who bullies—who wants to be the center of attention.
- Encourage your child to tell a trusted adult about the bullying. Talking to an adult is not “tattling” — it is an act of courage and safety. Suggest going to an adult with a friend, if that will make it easier.
- Help your child support others who tend to be bullied.
- Teach your child to include these children in activities.
- Praise and reward “quiet acts of courage” — when your child tried to do the right thing to stop bullying, even if he or she was not successful.
- Work with your child to practice specific ways he or she can help stop bullying. For example, role-play with him or her on what he or she could say or do to help someone who is being bullied.

Kathy Drinkwine, Licensed School Counselor

Ramsey County Supervision Guidelines

Background Checks

Reminder!

All volunteers who wish to chaperone field trips are required to have completed a background check. The cost is $15 (cash only). The background check is good for one year from the date of approval.

Please allow 2 weeks for processing.

Parents can still volunteer in the building and in classrooms by simply filling out a volunteer form.

Early Admit to Kindergarten

Students whose fifth birthday falls between Sept 2 and Dec 31, 2020, may apply for an early admission to kindergarten assessment through the Student Placement Center. The deadline for applications is March 20, 2020. Students recommended for early admission to kindergarten will be enrolled based on available space, and only after all kindergarten-eligible students are placed.

For more information, please call the Student Placement Center at 651-632-3760.
Enrichment-Ms. Clardy
January lessons continued to focus on Social Studies and the world around us. Please look for and ask your students to share their Time for Kids with you. You can also sign in to [https://www.timeforkids.com/](https://www.timeforkids.com/) to see part of the most recent addition that we discuss in class. These issues highlight grade level vocabulary that should be known.

G.T. classes (also known as T.D.A.S - Talent Development Advancement Services) meets every week. We are working on the following areas:
1) K-5th grades will be involved with Socratic seminars to continue to develop Higher Order Thinking.
2) Creating Keynote presentations - Grades 2-5 biographies based on their individual research
3) Math and Engineering Spatial exploration

Reading Strategy groups- Continue to focus on fluency and comprehension
1) Students are asked to find evidence in the text
2) Students re-read text until their reading sounds conversational.

Student Council- is working on:
1) writing letters to local “celebrities” to invite them to the Heights.
2) Creating Spirit week
3) Developing a mentor group
4) Yearbook development
5) Pennies for Patients

Feel free to contact me with any questions or comments.
Mary.frances.clardy@spps.org

Music-Mr. Claver
This unit, scholars began to play classroom instruments. All scholars in grades K-2 have played triangles, rhythm sticks, and now drums! In 3rd grade, we began our recorder unit. In 4th and 5th Grade, we began our ukulele units. This unit will span over the next two months. Additionally, all scholars are learning to sing “Lift Every Voice and Sing,” as we prepare for the National African American Parent Involvement Day Assemblies on Feb 10.

Looking ahead!
Our Spring Music Concerts are Friday, May 15, 2020.
K-2 – 8:45am
3-5 – 9:30am

Science-Ms. Kartes
Greetings from the science room!

Here is what we are working on:
5th grade- Working on ecosystems and their different biomes.
4th grade- Building electromagnets and we’re about to start germs! 😊
3rd grade- Engineering design process and technology.
2nd grade- Studying the life cycle of insects.
1st grade- How things move (spinning and rolling).
Kindergarten- Different weather.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at stephanie.kartes@spps.org

Physical Education-Mr. Beason
Currently in PE classes we have been completing the annual Fitness Gram fitness testing events.

We do 5 events to test all areas of fitness.
1. Pacer run=aerobic endurance
2. shuttle run= speed/agility
3. curlups= muscular endurance
4. sit-reach= flexibility
5. pushups= upper body strength

The students are doing quite well so far. Some very good times/scores.

We will again re-test this spring to look for growth/improvement!
THE OLD BOX TOPS CLIPS

Traditional Box Tops clips are being phased out of production, but may continue to be found on many products throughout the store. You can still clip them and send them to school.

**Every valid Box Tops clip is worth 10¢ for your school.** Make sure each one has a clearly visible product acronym and expiration date.

*All valid Box Tops clips submitted per the Program Rules by a Coordinator(s) of (an) eligible, enrolled school(s) will be honored.*

THE NEW BOX TOPS LABELS

Eventually the Box Tops program will become digital-only. Participating brands are starting to change their packaging from a traditional Box Tops clip to the new Box Tops label.

If you see this label, use the new Box Tops app to scan your receipt. **Box Tops are still worth 10¢ for your school.** The app will find participating products purchased at any store and instantly add cash to your school’s earnings online.
The latest news & information from Box Tops for Education

February 2020

SEND IN YOUR BOX TOPS CLIPS NOW!

Send any traditional Box Tops clips to school by so they can be included in your school’s spring check.

5 schools will each win 5,000 Bonus Box Tops

ENTER FOR A CHANCE TO WIN AT BTFE.COM/I-LOVE

Sweepstakes

I MY SCHOOL

CLIPPING TIPS:

- Make sure your clips aren’t expired.
- Remember, you can “double dip” during this packaging transition by clipping traditional Box Tops AND scanning your receipt!
- Send your clips to school on the attached collection sheet or in bundles of 50.

NO PURCHASE NECESSARY. VOID WHERE PROHIBITED. Sweepstakes begins on 02/03/20 at 12:00 am CST and ends 03/02/20 at 11:59 pm CST. Open only to legal residents of the US who are 18 years or older and who are members of the BTFE program at time of entry. To join, download the Box Tops App and support an eligible, enrolled school. To enter, scan a receipt within the App containing at least one eligible Box Tops product within 14 days of purchase by 3/02/20 at 11:59 pm. Standard data rates may apply. For official rules and alternate method of entry, visit www.btfe.com/earn/sweepstakes/2020/i-love-my-school/official-rules. Sponsor: General Mills Sales, Inc. One General Mills Boulevard, Minneapolis, MN 55440.