



Teresa Chrobak-Prince, Principal

December Update

December 1, 2023



Dear Hearst Families,

I hope all of our Hearst Families enjoyed a wonderful and restful Thanksgiving Holiday! If you are anything like me, you took the opportunity to eat more than usual and linger at the table a little longer hoping to make the moment last a while longer. The time spent with family is something that nurtures our children in many ways. Let's remember the importance of nurturing our children by spending time with them and supporting their academic growth.

As we move into the Winter Season, please make preparations to ensure that your child is ready to be outdoors for recess whenever conditions are safe. School provides not only a place to learn and grow, but to develop healthy habits of daily activity, time to socialize, and blow off some steam! Remember: students with 95% attendance are more likely to succeed academically. Let's make this a top priority for our students. Check out the December attendance incentive!!

Mrs. Chrobak

Please see below for exciting news, updates, and information...

Brrr-fect December!!

Attendance Challenge

Help us make December a Brr-Fect month of attendance at Hearst!! With only 15 days of school in the month of December, we are challenging students to be here everyday, be engaged and ready to learn. Students with perfect attendance will be invited to participate in our Holiday BINGO attendance incentive on December 21st. We ask for your help in setting attendance goals with your child so we can celebrate their success with games and prizes on Dec. 21st. Set a goal for 15 days of Brr-fect attendance in December!!

Report Card Distribution Q2

REPORT Cards will be sent home with students on December 21, 2023.

I ask that all parents check in with their child and teacher about how they are doing in school. Discuss steps for maintaining or improving academic progress. Children whose parents are involved in their academic development tend to perform better in school. Your involvement is valued and appreciated!

Weather Procedures

The change of the season brings with it a change in the weather. **AS A REMINDER:** Students will be outdoors whenever the temperature and conditions are safe and healthy. Administration will monitor daily weather reports and make decisions appropriately.

1. Whenever the temperature is above 20°F (with or without a wind chill) or the conditions are safe and healthy for play, the students will have outdoor recess and line up outside in the morning.
2. Beginning at 8:30, staff will supervise the arrival of students on school grounds until the entry bell at 8:45.
3. Students will NOT be allowed into the building if the temperature is above 20°F. Please make sure that your child is dressed to wait outside in the morning.

Parents: We need your help to keep our children safe! Please do not send them to school before 8:30. Staff is NOT available to supervise students before 8:30. Thank You!

Tardy Students & Abandon Students/ Avoid Early Dismissals

Recently we have noticed an increase in the number of students arriving late for school as well as students who are routinely not picked up at dismissal. Both of these situations create a safety concern. Hearst staff works extremely hard to ensure that students are safe BEFORE, DURING, and AFTER school. Parents and families play a critical part in making sure our children are safe. Let's teach our students how important it is to be on time and ready to learn. Students who are not picked up at 3:45 will be brought to the main office and CPS Policy for Children Left Stranded. If, after school, a parent/guardian or person on the student's emergency contact form does not pick up a student who cannot travel home independently, the following steps will be taken:

- The Principal or the Principal's designee, who must be a member of the professional educational staff of the school building, will remain with the student until the student is picked up by a parent, guardian, or emergency contact OR until a police officer or *Department of Child and Family Services Division of Child Protection Investigator (CPI)* takes *protective custody* of the student.

School Visitor Protocols

- All parents/visitors should check in at the security desk as they enter the school building. All parents/visitors are expected to show proper identification when they register for entry.
- All CPS employees visiting the school are also expected to register with security and should wear their CPS ID at all times during their visit.
- All parents/visitors/students will be expected to go through entry screening.
- Parents will not be allowed to go to a teacher's room unless a meeting time has been previously scheduled with the teacher and it is during a non-instructional time.
- All teacher parent conferences will be scheduled in advance for non-instructional times agreed upon by both parties. This allows for a quality meeting to address any questions or concerns that a parent may have.

- All phone calls to a teacher will be sent to voicemail unless it is an emergency. Calls will be returned during non-instructional time.

Thank you for all your support. Together with our parents and community, our school will be a safe, respectful learning environment for our students.

Hearst Safety and Security

Parents for the SAFETY of our students, we expect parents to walk children to school and pick them up. Recently, there have been some incidents involving vehicles not paying attention to our morning drop off and afternoon pick-up procedures. For that reason, we are asking for your cooperation and support to make sure our Hearst Warriors stay safe.

Morning Drop-Off

- The school day starts at 8:45 for all students. Students should be lined up to meet their teacher by 8:40 each morning.
- Student in our Cluster program should meet their teacher at door #1 by 8:40am. Students who arrive on busses will be greeted by the teacher and Classroom Assistant at Door #1.
- For the safety of students, staff, and families, Lamon Ave. will be blocked from vehicular traffic starting at 8:15am- 8:52 to allow room for our busses to drop off students safely.
- By law, there is no parking on the school side of Lamon Ave. on days when school is in session.
- Students who are dropped off after 8:45 are considered tardy.

Afternoon Pick-Up

- The school day ends at 3:45 for all students. Teachers dismiss students at Door #5 (K-8) & Door #1(cluster) Door#2 PK (Rm 107)
 - For the safety of all students, staff, and families, the rear parking lot (Laporte Ave.) is closed at 3:30-3:55 to all vehicles.
 - We ask that all vehicular traffic remain in place until the lot has been cleared of pedestrians.
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Reminders !

Wishing Everybody a Happy and Healthy Holiday Season!

December 22, 2023 – January 7, 2024 – WINTER HOLIDAY
School Closed



Important Links

- [SY23/24 CPS Calendar](#)
- [Hearst School Website](#)
- [Hearst School Registration](#)
- [Hearst December CALENDAR](#)