



Elaine Luckenbaugh, Principal

Gresham-Barlow School District No. 10Jt

Hogan Cedars Elementary
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August 2017

Dear Hogan Cedars Families,

Welcome back to the 2017-18 school year! I hope you and your family have had a wonderful summer and are now ready to get back into the school routine! We have both of our secretaries, Heidi Kaplan and Andrea Tusow, back in the office so feel free to stop by, or call us at 503-261-4500, if you have questions about the upcoming school year. Our office hours are 8:00 am – 4:00 pm. ***We are here to help!***

Our focus at Hogan Cedars is to ***“Create a dynamic learning community where every student is valued and supported on his/her educational journey.”*** Our staff joins you as partners in supporting students on this journey. We will continue to provide quality instruction and meaningful learning opportunities for all students to succeed!

“On time and ready to learn” is our motto at Hogan Cedars! We want every child to benefit from being at school from the start of the day to the end of the day in order to get the full school experience in reading, writing, math, science, social studies, art, and more! ***We have two attendance initiatives this year:***

- ***Challenge 5: Join us in the Hogan Cedars 2017-18 attendance challenge!*** We want each child to strive for less than five absences this year. ***Attendance matters.*** Every day your child misses school, whether excused or unexcused, he/she misses opportunities to learn, which limits his/her success in school. ***So this year, strive for less than five!*** There will be recognitions at the end of the school year for having great attendance at Hogan Cedars!
- ***Zero Tardies:*** This year we will also continue to recognize students who have ***zero tardies and two or less absences at the end of each trimester*** by honoring them at Hawk Honor Assemblies.

Our first day of school for students in grades 1-5 is Tuesday, September 5. (Kindergarten families will receive more information in a separate letter) **Classes begin at 8:35 am.** Students can come into the building at 8:15 am each day. ***We will continue with our arrival procedures of having students enter the side front doors (side back doors if coming from buses), go to breakfast as needed, and line up in the cafeteria (3rd and 4th grade classes) and gym (Kindergarten, K/1 Blend, 1st, 2nd, and 5th grade classes) until teachers come to walk their classes to the classrooms.*** In the report card mailing last June, families were informed of their children’s teachers for the 2017-18 school year. **All students, grades K-5, will be dismissed at 3:05 pm each day. We continue to have Late Start for all grades on Wednesdays, with school starting at 9:35 am on these days, beginning on Wednesday, September 6** (students can enter the building at 9:15 am). Buses pick up students one-hour later in the mornings on Wednesdays.

Mark your calendars for a few important events: *(see enclosed sheet for school calendar)*

- ***Open House, K-5th grades, Thursday, August 31, 2:00-3:30 pm***
 - *Join us for this fun event! This is a time for children and families to...*
 - *Meet the teachers and other staff*
 - *Tour their classrooms and school*
 - *Bring in a \$25 School Supply Fee (see below for more information)*
 - *Learn about our Parent Teacher Student Organization (PTSO)*
 - *Buy a Hogan Cedars t-shirt*
 - *Have an ice cream treat!*
- ***Parent Teacher Student Organization (PTSO) Meeting, Tuesday, September 12, 6:00 pm***
- ***Gresham Teddy Bear Parade, Saturday, September 30***

We have several new staff members this year that we hope you have a chance to meet soon! We have a new ***Counselor, Brian Baker.*** We are fortunate to have Brian here full time, Monday through

Friday! We also welcome **5th Grade Teacher Kayla Gestrin**, and **Educational Assistants Kristin Fortune, Surin Ho, Jeanine Lino, and Daniel Burroughs**. They are all great additions to our staff! We are also pleased to have **English Language Development Teacher Kristi Lund** back at Hogan Cedars this year!

Bus information is posted on our school website as well as the district website. Look for **Student Transportation** on the left-side menu on the Hogan Cedars or district home page. Hogan Cedars website is www.hcweb.gresham.k12.or.us and the district website is www.gresham.k12.or.us.

The safety of your children is our number one priority. Hogan Cedars is a very busy place at arrival and dismissal times. **Please review the following Safety Information** before the first day of school:

- ***In the mornings, all cars that are dropping off students will need to enter the parking lot at the far entrance. For everyone's safety, it is important that every car stays in the line (regardless if the student has gotten out of the car or not) until they have reached the drop off area. We will work as efficiently as possible to move vehicles while keeping safety in mind.***
- ***At dismissal, cars will again enter into the parking lot from the far entrance and will need to wait in line until their respective children are released to the vehicle. We will work as efficiently as possible to get students to their vehicles.***
- ***Day care vans will be permitted to enter into the first entrance at arrival and dismissal and drop off or wait for their respective students in the circle area.***
- ***Please call the school office by 8:30 AM if your student will be late or absent. The phone number is 503-261-4500. After hours you can leave a message.***

Safety in our Building:

As a parent, when you come to school, please remember to check in at the office and get a visitor's badge. This ensures the safety of everyone in the building, as well as on the playground. No matter where you are going in the building, and how long you plan on staying, visitor badges are required by all parents.

School Supply Fee:

All GBSD Elementary Schools have a \$25 School Supply Fee for each student rather than having students bring in their own supplies. This is in an effort to save parents time and money and enable our schools to buy school supplies at bulk rates. The \$25 will cover the entire year's supplies for all student classes. Thank you for helping us make sure students are ready to learn with the appropriate materials each day!

New Homework Plan This Year:

We are excited to introduce our new Homework Mission Statement:

Hogan Cedars Elementary School will provide authentic, engaging, and relevant homework that supports student learning, involves families, and develops responsibility.

Here are some of the highlights of our new Homework Plan:

- *Every grade/teacher will use a consistent grid-like format which students read and record how many days they read and choose/complete at least three of the learning options each week.*
- *All students, grades K-5, turn homework sheets in on Thursdays.*
- *Student participation will be reflected on the report card. This is a way for us to communicate with you if your child is turning in his/her work.*
- *Homework will begin on Thursday, September 21 (look for it!).*

Students continue to receive free breakfast and lunch at Hogan Cedars for the 2017-18 school year.

This is a part of a special grant. No application forms are required for a free meal. Children are also welcome to bring lunch from home if preferred.

We are excited to begin a new school year! Thank you for your incredible support!

Sincerely,

Elaine Luckenbaugh, Principal