



## Upcoming Events

- Aug 23—PTA Family Night  
Peter Piper Pizza
- Aug 25— Spirit Day  
Flower Power
- Aug 29— Panther Parent Night  
and PTA General Meeting  
4:30-6:30pm
- Sept 1— Coffee Talk - 8am  
Title I overview of Horizon  
performance and goals
- Sept 4 - No School  
Labor Day Holiday
- Sept 6 - PTA Movie Night
- Sept 18 - Fall Pictures
- Sept 22 - Spirit Day

## Horizon Be Kind Plan

Did you know that our school mission is actually our Horizon School Pledge? Our commitment is to ensure our students are academically prepared for a successful life and that they are kind people. Every Panther starts every day with our pledge. It is how we conduct ourselves.

## Principal's Corner

Welcome families to the 2017-2018 school year! We are excited about the amazing start we have already experienced. Our Theme this year is **Horizon In Full Bloom**. Our students have made tremendous growth and we are excited to continue to plant seeds; Seeds of learning and challenge...of responsibility and ownership ...seeds of inquiry and investigation... seeds of language and communication...seeds of will and seeds of skill. We are blossoming everywhere.

Our school vision at

*I pledge to always do my best work,  
to learn something new every day,  
to strive for academic success,  
and to be kind to others.  
I am important to Horizon  
and so are you!*

You can watch our morning announcements and join our pledge daily on our Facebook page. It is a great way to start the day.

Horizon is "**Inspiring Learners as Leaders—  
\*Engage \*Explore  
\*Enrich \* Empower.**"

This vision helps ensure our focus here is on learning. One of our main goals this year is to increase the ownership and responsibility our students take for their own learning. We want students to see that **WHAT** they do has a direct impact on **HOW** they do.

Students will be working with their teachers

to set learning goals and track their own success.

Please take an opportunity to talk with your child about his/her goals and what supports they need at home.

Looking forward to working together to nurture our students as they blossom and grow this year.

**CheriDawn Emerson**

August

be kind trait



be respectful

September

be kind trait



be inclusive

We are proud to announce that GESD, in an effort to support our community and school relationship, created a new volunteer system called **B.R.A.V.O.** (Building Positive Relationships and Volunteer Opportunities). B.R.A.V.O. balances the need to keep students safe while maximizing opportunities to partner with parent and non-parent volunteers. It replaces a system that required every person to be fingerprinted no matter what level of volunteer support they wished to offer.

B.R.A.V.O. requires background checks, fingerprinting, or both based on the lev-

#### Finger Print Dates

(at the District Office)

Aug. 14	Jan. 8
Sept. 11	Feb. 12
Oct. 9	March 12
Nov. 3	April 9
Dec. 11	May 14



el of services for which a parent or community member wishes to volunteer.

#### Here is how it works:

##### Tier I

No background check or fingerprints are required because these volunteers assist only with activities that do not involve interaction with students, or their interactions with children are supervised by certified staff at all times. Examples include clerical/office work, field day and campus events.

##### Tier II

At this level only background checks are required of parents, but non-parents must have a background check and be fingerprinted. Examples include day field trips, parent volunteers who supervise groups of students on field trips without direct supervision, tutoring, reading with students and small group activities.

##### Tier III

At this level all volunteers must go through background checks and be fingerprinted. On Tier III volunteer activity occurs on or off-site with the likelihood there is not always a certified staff member present. Examples include coaches, overnight field trips, non-parent volunteers supervising small groups on field trips or after school clubs without a certified sponsor.

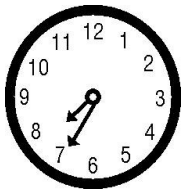
*For more information, please see our District Website*

**PTA Membership Drive** currently underway!! Stay connected with the school and be a part of every child's learning and education! **If you are not currently a member, JOIN TODAY!** [www.horizonpta.net](http://www.horizonpta.net)



# School Attendance

School attendance and being on time are not only good habits, state law requires it and here at Horizon we **celebrate** it! To that end, students with perfect attendance will be recognized at Horizon at the end of every quarter.



Being on time to school is an important life skill and helps a child be ready for their day.

Our campus is open for students starting at 7:20am and ALL students can have breakfast at no cost in our cafeteria. What a great way to start their day with a full belly and on time to class.

If your child arrives after 7:45 a.m. (the second bell) they are tardy and will need to go to the office for a pass to enter class.

Thank you for your continued support of our Horizon attendance procedures. **Attendance = Success**

*Children are not allowed on campus earlier than 7:20am - this is a huge safety concern, as no staff is on duty until that time.*



## Job Opportunities at Horizon

Horizon currently has a few exciting job opportunities. We are interviewing for an attendance secretary position in our front office. We also have a one-on-one educational assistant position to work with our students with autism. And finally we have 2 hour a day campus monitor position available. Horizon is an amazing place to work. Interested? Please apply on the district website and call our front office to let them know. We will be interviewing in the next few days.

## Parking Lot Procedures

Teachers are on duty for the safety of your children. Please treat them with respect and consideration at all times. We recognize that the arrival and dismissal of over 800 students can and will cause delays, however, for the safety of all students we ask that you comply, without hesitation, with the directions of the school staff at all times. Please follow these rules to ensure our pick up/drop off area is safe and fast:

- Students may **ONLY** be dropped off from the single drop off lane. (It is dangerous to drop them from the parking area)

- Please pull forward as far as possible to allow us to optimize loading/unloading.
- Students should have their backpacks ready to exit/enter the car.
- If students need assistance loading/unloading, please park.
- Never leave your vehicle in the drop off area.
- Please do not use cell phones while in the parking lot.
- Please pay attention to the students and vehicles around you.
- If you park, then use the crosswalk.

Let us all be models of safety for our children.

## Horizon Be Kind Quote

“Be kind whenever possible. It is always possible.”

~Tenzin Gyatso, 14th Dalai Lama

# Curious about what we're learning about? CHECK IT OUT here!

## Kindergarten

Kindergartners are excited to be in school!! We are focusing on our rules and routines and starting our ABCs and 123s.

## First Grade

First grade is off to a fabulous start! We are rockin' in our learning shoes with Pete the Cat. Each class has been busy building our classroom communities. We are learning rules, building procedures, and getting to know one another.

In math, we will be exploring numbers through 10 using number bonds, number combinations, and basic addition skills with manipulatives. Reading has us reviewing short vowels and phonograms. We are building comprehension using close reading strategies. Students are learning to write using circle maps and tree maps to organize their thinking.

## Second Grade

In Reading we will be reading stories as well as working on sight words and short vowel sounds in Spelling.

Math--Picture graphs and tally marks have been introduced to the students. Working on Math fluency for mastery of making the sum of 10 is going to be completed by the end of this month. Number Sense is the very next standard that the students will learn--place value and knowledge of what 3-digit numbers look like with manipulatives.

Science--Science experiments and reading passages on States of Matter will be taught to the students. Their knowledge of liquids, solids, and gases should be strong by the end of this unit.

## Third Grade

Third grade has jumped right into learning! We are close reading stories and focusing on how to support our answers with evidence from the text! Third graders are also learning to write personal narratives and working on writing 5 paragraphs in a nice and neat penmanship. In math we are reviewing triple digit addition and subtraction and how to develop faster mental math strategies. As we are building our community rules, we are also going back in social studies in looking at the Founding Fathers of our country.

We are focused on building perseverance and trying our hardest and checking our work carefully to make sure we are putting our best work forward!

## Fourth Grade

In 4<sup>th</sup> grade we are starting to read a book called Porpoise in Peril. While reading, we will be working on how to find evidence to support our answers from the story, how to describe characters in depth, how to engage in team discussions and build off of others' ideas and understanding the difference between first- and third person narration.

In math we are learning about place value, rounding numbers, comparing numbers and adding and subtracting numbers while reading word problems.

In science we are learning about different scientists as well as the 6 processing skills scientist go through when approaching an experiment.

## Fifth Grade

5th graders will begin to learn the characteristics of writing narratives with descriptive multi-paragraph essays. In class, we will have detailed conversations of what elements are necessary in a full paragraph.

In science, students will learn about the scientific inquiry process that scientists use when conducting experiments. Students will also get to begin to learn about the different phases of the moon cycle and also some major astronomers in history.

In social studies, students will learn about how we read maps using different styles of maps and keys.

In math, students will expand on what they learned in 4th grade involving multiplying multi-digit numbers. Students should be working towards fluency and accuracy of all multiplication facts 0-12.

In reading, students will be comparing and contrasting characters and settings, looking at various points of views, discussing the plot and character motivation, and learning about theme.

## Sixth Grade

The sixth grade is currently learning procedures. They are taking a Universal Screener to measure what they remember from last year. Moving forward the students are beginning to learn new material in their content areas. We all look forward to a very action filled new year with your child.

## Seventh Grade

Parents, if you have not signed up for Remind 101 please take a moment to do it today. To sign up, text the number 81010 with the message @Horizon7th.

It will enable you to receive text reminders of what is happening in your child's classes.

In Math you child is working on triangle creation using protractors with specific angle degree and side lengths. Over the next few weeks they will progress into adding and subtracting rational numbers, including integers, fractions and decimals with negatives. Please urge your child to complete their homework that is given out almost daily. The homework reinforces the skills that they have learned in class.

In Reading your child is reviewing the elements of plot, main idea and inferences. Your child has 10 vocabulary words each week. Please ask your child to see their vocabulary notebook and help them to study. Vocabulary tests are given every Wednesday.

In Writing your child is working on narrative stories and auto biographical incidents.

In Social Studies they are analyzing political, economic, geographic, and social aspects of history and current events. Be on the lookout for your child to bring home a current event research report.

## Eighth Grade

### What can you expect this year?

- ⇒ Students are required/expected to read and write in their content areas both inside and outside of class.
- ⇒ Students are responsible for Greek & Latin roots, as well as, the academic vocabulary of all content areas.
- ⇒ Class assignments and journal entries are expected to be completed both inside & outside of class. As students write, they will focus on using the 6-traits: ideas, organization, word choice, sentence fluency, voice and convention. They will be expected to apply content knowledge to real-world situations.

## A-Team

We are eager to begin the school year with new staff and student. Ms. Snyder is new to the team but not new to the school. She has a background working with a range of students and we are excited she has joined our team. We also welcome Cathi, Anthony, and Norma to our team. It is going to be a great year.

**School Hours 7:45am-2:45pm**  
**Early Release Every Wednesday at 11:45am**  
**Children are not allowed on campus earlier than 7:20am**

**Office Hours**  
**7:15am—3:45pm**

**Office: 623-237-4010**  
**Attendance: 623-237-5006**  
**Nurse: 623-237-5010**  
**Fax: 623-237-5015**

### School Mission

I pledge to always do my best work,  
to learn something new every day,  
to strive for academic success, and  
to be kind to others.

I am important to Horizon  
and so are you!

### School Vision

Inspiring Learners as Leaders.

Engage, Explore, Enrich, Empower.



### School Lunch:

**For an amazing description of our lunches with a dietary and nutritional description, please visit at**

**<http://gesd40.nutrislice.com/menu/horizon/lunch/>**

If you go to [gesd40.org](http://gesd40.org), select the fork and knife icon and select "Elementary Schools" then "Horizon."

