

News . . .

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What's New at HDS this Year?

Just a reminder about carpool....

If you have any questions about carpool, please refer to community handbook pages 14-15, available [online](#). For a quick summary, as well as a new additions, here are a few guidelines for mornings and afternoons.

1. Please pull as far forward in the carpool line as you can.
2. Turn off your engine while waiting.
3. If you exit your vehicle, please park in a designated space.
4. Do not leave children unattended in a vehicle, especially one that is idling.
5. Do not pass other cars in the carpool line.
6. Students should not exit vehicles until they are next to the building.
7. Students should not walk through the parking lot alone.
8. Follow directions and instructions from faculty who are assisting with carpool.



International Baccalaureate

IB learners are *open-minded*. They understand and appreciate their own cultures and personal histories, and are open to the perspectives, values and traditions of other individuals and communities. They are accustomed to seeking and evaluating a range of points of view, and are willing to grow from the experience.

HDSPA

by Christine Getty

The Hickory Day School Parents' Association has started the year off strong. Our meeting on Thursday evening successfully introduced the HDSPA to many of our new families and hopefully reinvigorated many of our returning families. September is only the beginning of the year but our work is well under way. This month keep an eye out for volunteer lists. There are many tasks that need to be done and in total they may seem overwhelming but when broken down are really quite simple. Please take some time to review these lists and find some task that may be perfect for you.

A Dillar, A Dollar, An 8 O'Clock

Scholar... That's right...HDS classes begin at 8:00 am. Out of respect for the learning environment, please make every effort to be punctual. For scholars in grades 3 through 8, five tardies will result in an afterschool detention to be served on Tuesday or Thursday. So... *Early to bed and Early to rise promotes success at HDS.*

Coming up in September

- | | |
|-----------|----------------------------------|
| 9.10 | Annual fund Kickoff, open house |
| 9.17 | Fall Picture Day |
| 9.18 | Progress Reports |
| 9.21-24 | Middle School REACH trip |
| 9.28-10.2 | Scholastic Book Fair |
| 10.2 | Grandparents' Day, Early release |

#HDS Community Handbook

Download and read it with your student!
<http://www.hickoryday.org/handbook.html>

Educational Suites

Because we believe in differentiation-teaching to each child's abilities-this year we are grouping our students in "educational suites." For example, the traditional third and fourth grades which have a mix of ages and ability levels is now carrying a name "Chavura" to label their identity as a group of friends learning together. Students seem particularly excited to have these classroom identities and have moved smoothly in their transition from grade and age specific groups to the more nurturing and all-encompassing educational suite.

Transitional Kindergarten and Kindergarten:

Aktari: (Swahili) "a gathering."

First and Second:

Gurukul: (Sanskrit) a type of school, residential in nature, with shishyas living in proximity to the guru, often within the same house. In a gurukul, shishyas reside together as equals.

Third and Fourth:

Chavura: (Hebrew) a gathering of friends.

Fifth and Sixth:

Zebranie: (Polish) gathering, meeting, assembly, conference.

Seventh and Eighth:

Vundervisa: (Swedish) school.

Lowes' Foods Gift Cards

Beginning on October 19th, all members of the HDS community are encouraged to participate in our bi-annual gift card sale. Available in \$25, \$50, \$100, and \$500 amounts, Lowes'



Foods gift cards are a great way to help Hickory Day. At Lowes' Foods, over 20 other gift cards are available to purchase, so you can fill all of your holiday and birthday gift lists in

one stop! Got a big project coming up? Buy a few Home Depot cards! If every family uses their grocery budget to buy a gift card, we will be well on our way to our \$25,000 goal. Buy your groceries and help your school!

Diversity

Every child instinctively knows what many adults have long since forgotten: Our differences are not something to be tolerated, they are something to be celebrated.



Diversidad

Todos los niños saben indistintamente lo que muchos adultos han olvidado desde hace mucho tiempo: Nuestras diferencias no son algo que debe ser tolerado; son algo que debe ser celebrado.

Check out the Website!!!

This year, the HDS Website, <http://www.hickoryday.org> will be updated on a regular basis*. All school policies, as well as your students' class pages are available on the web. The school calendar of events is there, information on the HDSPA is there, as well as ways that you, as a parent, can help HDS. Please check it out from time to time for up-to-date-information on the school year.

*If you find an error anywhere on the web site, please let Mr. Stewart know: istewart@hickoryday.org

Effective September 1, 2009 after-school will be \$20.00 per day per child.

The family workday was a smashing success. There is no way to properly thank all the individuals who braved the heat and humidity to beautify our beloved school. Special appreciation is extended to Lee Young who persistently pulled up the wire grass in the picnic area and gravel walkways. She worked from 7:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. HDS is indebted to Brad Pulley, general contractor, who donated his time to renovate the TK and K room. Betty and Kathryn Foster absorbed all expenses associated with the renovation. Allison Stinson graciously paid for the new window in the 1st

Thank you So Much!

The Bertrands, the Changs, the Davidsons, Mrs. Dollar, the Mangans, the Mills, the Simpsons, the Sparks', Sheran Thompson, and the Youngs for your hard work



Many thanks to Misha Shuford for painting the girl's restroom in the lunchroom area. It is like walking into a ray of sunshine. Last summer, Kathryn Foster painted the restrooms in the POD. Presently, we have two restrooms that need a new coat of paint. The boy's restroom in the cafeteria area and the faculty restroom could use a face lift. Additionally, we have some minor repairs. There are several faucets that leak. It could be as simple as replacing the washers. If you see any maintenance that you feel comfortable doing, don't hesitate.

Mr. Stewart is available for guidance for anyone that has a desire or gift for repair.

President's Corner

By Amy Chang

What a wonderful way to start the year! I am so pleased to see so many returning faces and new friends! In fact, our student population has grown by 19% to a whopping 56 children! There are 12 new families in the fold, each bringing their life experiences to share with our diverse community.

The board of trustees has worked hard over the summer to ensure this year goes as smoothly as possible. This year's schedule is already bustling with good, hard, fun work! There are plenty of fundraisers to support our growing school; the first and most important one being the annual fund. We will kick off this year's annual fund with a family gathering on September 10, at 6:30 p.m. following the Open House at 6 p.m.

The annual fund is the biggest fundraiser for the operational budget of Hickory Day School. According to the National Association for Independent Schools (NAIS), independent schools commonly raise between 30 and 40 percent of their operational budgets with annual funds. Like other independent schools, we also need our annual fund to support the general operation of HDS.

More information will come at the annual fund kick-off, especially for those twelve new families who are unfamiliar with independent school financing. So bake a dish and bring your appetite to this imperative meeting. The food and fellowship of this event only add to our most informative meeting of the year!

How are we *greening* ourselves? Electronic communications are the wave of the future! Check out the [website](#) for the HDS Newsletter, Calendar, and class pages! Every email saves a sheet of paper!

HDS Going Green.....

Green advances on campus

Last year, Eighth grader Stephanie Bertrand took on a lofty goal: to save the school \$7000 dollars in operating costs by “Going Green.” While her goal was not met, amazing strides were made at HDS in both energy use and awareness. The process of “Going Green,” however is not a one-person job. We are all challenged to embrace living with lighter impact on our community as well as our world. As a result, we hope the long-term impact will also be lighter on our pocketbooks!

This year we would like to encourage all of the HDS families to embrace several new environmentally friendly policies. All of these things can help the Hickory Day School community become more environmentally aware, and reduce our carbon footprint so that we can truly promote the IB Learner Profile and reflect on the impact we have on our world.



Third, families are encouraged to send students to school with a re-usable cup or water bottle made of metal or hard plastic (#2,4,or 5). While bottled water is convenient, the PET bottles are recommended for single use, are energy-intensive to recycle in small volumes, and the plastic is rarely re-cycled into plastic bottles; more often it is re-purposed into other commercial products, many of which are not able to be re-cycled. There is also suspicion that PET plastic can be harmful to children's health. Several members of the HDS community have committed themselves to the hydration and health of our students. A water cooler has been sponsored in the kitchen, as well as faucet filters on each classroom sink so that students can fill up their reusable vessel as many times as they like.

First, with meals provided by Matt Miller and Bistro 127, we can reduce our mealtime waste by controlling packaging as well as using washable dishes in the kitchen. We ask that parents limit the number of disposable lunch items sent on the days students pack lunches, too. This will reduce the amount of waste we produce, (and also reduce the amount of litter produced by forgetful students).



Second, One of HDS's largest expenses is energy use, and major portions of that are heating and cooling costs.

Some ways to help reduce these costs are:

- ♦ Encourage students to close doors at home and at school.
- ♦ Send children to school with weather-appropriate attire. There is no need to set classroom temperatures at 85 degrees during the winter so that children stay warm.
- ♦ Ask your children to turn off lights when they leave an empty room.

.....*And staying green*