

## **Hacker Middle School October Newsletter**

If the saying “time flies when you are having fun” is true, we must be having the time of our lives! As we near the end of the first quarter, things are only getting busier here at Hacker. Please find below upcoming events and important dates.

### **Important Upcoming Dates**

October 13<sup>th</sup> – End of 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter

Federal Survey Cards Distributed (please return Oct. 14)

October 21<sup>st</sup> – HMS Picture Retake Day

October 22<sup>nd</sup> - Early Dismissal (1:30pm)

Parent / Teacher Conferences (2:00-4:00pm & 5:00-8:00pm by pre-scheduled appointment)

October 23<sup>rd</sup> – No School

November 1<sup>st</sup> – Daylight Savings Time Ends (turn clocks back 1 hour)

### **Upcoming Events**

#### **Federal Survey Cards**

Federal survey cards will be distributed on Tuesday, October 13<sup>th</sup>. Each year, the Mountain Home School District, along with other districts around the country, send out the Federal Survey cards to qualify for a partial reimbursement for educating federally connected students, such as children whose parents work or live on federal property. The program was created by Congress to assist school districts that lose tax revenues (e.g. income, sales and property taxes) due to a federal presence. Received funds go to all qualifying local school districts and can be used to hire teachers, purchase textbooks and computers, pay for utilities and more. We ask for your assistance in completing and returning these cards as quickly as possible (ideally by October 14<sup>th</sup>) and the class who turns them all on first will get a sweet treat!

Parents of students who are participating in the Mountain Home School District online program can come in to the Hacker office on Friday, October 16<sup>th</sup> (8:00-11:30am or 12:30-3:30pm) to fill out their card. If this date does not work, please call to set up another time (208)587-2500.

#### **Parent / Teacher Conferences**

Fall parent / teacher conferences will be held Thursday, October 22<sup>nd</sup> from 2:00-4:00p.m. and 5:00-8:00p.m. Unlike in past years, we will have scheduled conferences this year. If they haven't already, your student's teacher will reach out to you soon with scheduling details and options. Those attending in person will be required to wear a mask and practice social

distancing. Additionally, we ask that if you choose an in-person conference that only you and your student attend (no siblings, grandparents, family friends, etc).

### **A Month of Giving**

With the holidays quickly approaching, we are proud to team with Alliance Title in a **Food Drive** to support local families in need. For the month of October, students are asked to bring non-perishable food items for donation. Donation bins will be located in each classroom and there is a competition to see who can bring in the most pounds of food by the end of the month.

### **Other Notes**

#### **Virtual After School Activities**

Registration for our virtual after school programs is still open! As part of our award of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers grant, we are offering a variety of virtual after school activities including Book Club, Academic Tutoring, Art Club, Yearbook and School Newsletter Club, Dance, Fitness, STEM, and Cooking activities, as well as, a Creative Writing Club. Students who participate will meet with the instructor on designated days via Google Meet (Meet code emailed to student's email) and any supplies necessary.

To register your student for one of our after school activities, complete the form found here: <https://forms.gle/8qVqVQRHmcwT3mPD9> . Space in some activities is limited, however, we will likely run multiple sessions of popular activities through out the year so everyone can participate.

### **Final Notes**

As the days get colder and the mornings stay darker longer, please be sure your student is appropriately dressed. Students will not be allowed in the building in the mornings until 8:00am (AM session) and 11:55am (PM session) with the exception of very inclement weather.

Also, please remember students should not arrive at school prior to 7:45am (AM session) or 11:40am (PM session). While we appreciate students are excited to be here, limited staff are on duty to monitor them until 7:45am and 11:40am and, therefore, have limited supervision to provide for their safety.

As you were informed last week, Hacker had its first COVID positive case on campus. We feel very fortunate that we were able to almost get through the first quarter before our first on campus case. This can undoubtedly be attributed to the caution all of our Hacker families are taking in monitoring their student and family for symptoms. Because you have been so proactive, despite having cases in our community at large, we have very limited exposure in our school. For this, I am more grateful than I can express! Please remain vigilante in monitoring for symptoms – together we will get through this!

Thank you for your continued support as we work each day to provide your student with a quality education.

Sincerely,  
Lonni Smith  
Principal