

Harper Happenings
September 4th – September 8th 2017
VOLUNTEER
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What's Happening

Monday September 4

- No school- Labor Day

Tuesday September 5

- First day of school, early dismissal 11:55 pm
- PTO Parents Opening Day Coffee in Harper Cafeteria, 8:35 am

Monday September 11

- First day of after school Chess Club, 3:15 pm

Tuesday September 12

- Picture Day
- Library Volunteer Training, 2:15 pm
- Kindergarten Curriculum Night-PM, 6:30 pm
- Kindergarten Curriculum Night-AM, 7:15 pm

Wednesday September 13

- 4th Grade Curriculum Night, 6:30 pm
- 3rd Grade Curriculum Night, 7:15 pm

Tuesday September 19

- 2nd Grade Curriculum Night, 6:30pm
- 1st Grade Curriculum Night, 7:15 pm

Thursday September 21

- No school- Rosh Hashanah

Friday September 22

- No school – Teacher Institute Day

Wednesday September 27

- PTO General Board Meeting, 9:00 am

Sunday October 8

- Harper Hoedown 11:30 pm-2:30 pm at Harper

Friday November 3

- The Harper Parent Social 8pm-11pm at The Kenilworth Club

Dr. Kick's Corner

WELCOME BACK! I hope you all had a wonderful summer! Harper staff are so excited to see OUR students! We are beginning the year with approximately 410 students!

- Teacher names were emailed on Monday, August 21st. They go out in batches, so everyone did not receive their email at the same time. IF you have not received an email, please call Harper's Office (ext. 6200) and they can assist you.
- Don't forget to go to Harper's homepage to view/print ALL of the VERY important back-to-school information! It is located under "parents" and then "back to school".
- Make sure to complete the Friday 2:15 dismissal form IF your 1st-4th grade child will be staying on Fridays from 2:15-3:15. Please know that this form is due by 8/31 for planning purposes.
- Please read the District 39 Handbook and Harper Handbook addendum! Make note of student discipline guidelines.
- Go through the Student Handbook with your child.
- Our **NEW** school hours are:
1st- 4th 8:35-3:15 Monday-Thursday and 8:35-2:15 Friday
Kindergarten AM 8:35-11:10, PM 12:40-3:15
- Before school supervision will begin at 8:20 and the first bell is at 8:30. Also, please refer to Harper's and D39's calendar for important dates/holidays.
- September 5th is an early release day of school (8:35-11:55) for 1st- 4th graders; parents may walk their child to class and then proceed to the cafeteria for coffee and multiple PTO sign-ups! Kindergarten students have the following schedule:

| | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| <u>September 5th:</u> | <u>Kindergarten students attend with a parent/adult:</u> |
| 8:40-9:25 AM | Morning kindergarten students with the last names A-K |
| 10:25-11:10 AM | Morning kindergarten students with the last names L-Z |
| 1:00-1:45 PM | Afternoon kindergarten students with the last names A-K |
| 2:15-3:00 PM | Afternoon kindergarten students with the last names L-Z |

September 6th is a regular attendance day for ALL grades.

- New lunch times: 1st/3rd 11:15-11:40 (lunch), 11:40-12:05pm (recess); 2nd/4th 11:15-11:40 (recess), 11:40-12:05 (lunch)
- Curriculum Nights: 9/12 Kindergarten AM 6:30-7:15, PM 7:15-8:00
9/13 Third Grade 7:15-8:00, Fourth Grade 6:30-7:15
9/19 First Grade 7:15-8:00, Second Grade 6:30-7:15

***NEW/CHANGING STAFF:**

- Eileen Molitor will be leaving Harper in mid-September to help care for aging parents. I

know how much everyone will miss her smiling face in the front office. We are in the process of hiring a new secretary to fill her position.

- Elena Ryan will be our new assistant principal! Elena will be at Harper on Tuesdays, Thursdays and every other Friday.
- Lauren Levinson will be our part-time AM kindergarten teacher. Mrs. Levine will be at Romona full-time.
- Susana Beien will be our new 2nd grade teacher. Mrs. Divis relocated to California.
- Monica Brown will be our second full-time Spanish teacher.
- Frank Theodorakakis (Mr. T) will be our second full-time PE teacher.
- Natalie Haase will be our shared ELL (English Language Learner) Teacher.
- Kelly Mack will be our fourth Learning Behavior Specialist.
- Nicole Shamis will be our Occupational Therapist. Mrs. Frandsen will be full-time at Central.
- Laura Resis will be a new special education paraprofessional.
- Elizabeth Ceisel will be the full-time kindergarten para in Ms. Hofschild's class. Holly Zimmerman obtained a teaching position.
- The following paras will continue to be at Harper: Joanna Topolinski (kindergarten and special ed.), Polly Breen (reading), Lynn Mestanas (learning commons), Maggie Donner (building), Caroline Cerrone (special ed.), John Jacobs (special ed.) and Donna Eckert (special ed.).
- Math packets and reading logs are located on the Harper homepage under the heading "students" "summer learning". All 1st-4th grade students who completed them will sign their name on large math/reading signs in the cafeteria.
- Summer reading picture -Don't forget to take and print/send in a picture of your child reading in their favorite summer location! We will hang the pictures in the school!
- During the first week of school we will have multiple safety drills. They are required, routine and very important so students understand the procedures.
- Again this year, only fruits and veggies will be allowed for snacks. This best practice truly protects the many students with food allergies and promotes healthy eating.
- Before returning to school, please check your child for head lice. The late summer is a common time for this nuisance to occur. We appreciate your assistance.
- At the August 28th Board of Education meeting, the District 39 Budget for Fiscal Year 2018 was approved. This budget is posted on the District's website: 2018 Approved Budget

Announcements

- **From our PTO President Sissy Polacek:** On September 5th, after you make the classroom drop off, come on down to the cafeteria and jump right into the school year! You can volunteer as a room parent, Hoedown or Book Fair helper. Sign up for Scouts or hear more about Harper's Family to Family Committee. Bring your checkbook/credit card/cash as you can also purchase your iGNITE! contribution and buy chic Harper Spirit

Wear! We also have air conditioning and COFFEE! Get Involved. It takes a village!

- **Interested in becoming a Room Parent?** Please sign up at the Opening Day Coffee on Tuesday September 5th. If selected, we will be holding a Room Parent meeting on Friday, September 9th at 9am.
- **Donate now to iGNITE! and help your children have a fun filled year of enrichment opportunities!** The suggested donation of \$125.00 per child (tax deductible) enables iGNITE! the opportunity to bring in speakers, scientist, and programs along with take children on field trips. In addition, this pays for our amazing crossing guards that keep your kids safe and secure! We ask that you donate early so we can begin these programs at the beginning of the year! Thank you in advance for your donation!
- **New year, new gear!** We are excited to present a fresh range of Harper Spirit Wear this year - kid-tested, mother-approved. Choose from sporty t-shirts for boys and girls, athletic shorts and socks, leggings, knit hats and more. Make sure to buy before it sells out - there will be NO reorders! We will be selling spirit wear at the Parent Coffee on September 5th, along with the Curriculum Nights in September. CASH OR CHECK PREFERRED. Every Friday is Spirit Day at Harper so make sure your child is ready to show their Dolphin Pride!
- **Want to spend time with your child's class in a quiet and relaxed environment?** Volunteer in the Harper Library! Please join us for a Volunteer Training Session on Tuesday, September 12th at 2:15pm if interested. To sign up for the training and other library volunteer spots, click [here](#) .
- **Harper Hoedown Tickets On Sale Now!**
Dust off your dancing boots for the 14th Annual Harper Hoedown, Sunday 10/8/17, 11:30AM–2:30PM at Harper. This year'll be a hoot with new rides, games and prizes for the kids. Try your luck with the Hoedown Raffle. And come hungry—there'll be tasty treats for sale. Save with advanced discount tickets available through 9/29/17. For more information or to buy your tickets and t-shirts online, visit the [Hoedown Page](#)
- **Wanted: Deputies & Donations for the Hoedown**
We're in need of some kind-hearted folks to help out at the Hoedown. If you can donate any time, or know alumni in need of service hours, please volunteer for a time slot [here](#). We also need new/gently-used stuffed animals (no rips or stains, please) and goody bag-type items for our prize tent. Please place them in the donation bin in the Harper lobby.
- **Chess Club is starting soon!** Chess is a sport of the mind that will exercise your child's brain and build life skills. Professional instruction from basics to strategies and theories will be provided. All participants can register through the Wilmette Park District starting August 22 at 9am. Fall session runs Mondays, September 11- December 18 from 3:30-4:30 in the Harper Cafeteria.
- **Ready, set, GROW...with the Harper Garden Club!** Garden Club is an 8-week club beginning Monday, Sept 18 and continuing each Monday until Nov 6. The Garden Club meets from 3:15-4:30. The sign up opens on the Harper PTO website on Monday, September 11th and costs \$80. Space is limited to first 12 students. For more info,

contact Ali Staitiff at alistaitiff@gmail.com

- **The Harper Garden needs you!** Sign up to volunteer in the garden. No experience necessary! It's a great way to see your child at school and younger siblings are welcome. Sign up genius is on Harper PTO website or [click here](#)
For more info, contact Beth Karnes at beth.karnes@yahoo.com.
- **Save The Date:** Friday, November 3rd is the Harper Parent Social. 8pm-11pm at The Kenilworth Club.

All announcements to be included in the Harper Happenings should be sent to Adriane McKnight via the Communication Request Form at www.harperpto.com **by Mondays at 9am**. If you do not receive an email response within 24hrs, please send an email to adrianemcknight@gmail.com to confirm your Communication Request Form was received.

For more school information, visit the Harper PTO website: www.harperpto.com

For additional D39 community events, visit:

http://wilmette39.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=category&layout=blog&id=3&Itemid=179