

November 2017

Dear Hickory Families and Friends,

November is an exciting month for all of us. We are looking forward to the Thanksgiving Holiday and all that this implies with families and friends. Teachers and students have been busy working on their curriculum and getting ready for the first Achievement Report (Dec. 1).

On October 19, Mrs. Mabery and I presented an Information Night focused on sharing our **School Plan for Student Achievement** and the results of the 2017 SmarterBalanced Assessment. Our School Site Plan is aligned to the TUSD Plan for Student Achievement, but it is customized to best support our Hickory students. (**Goal 1** is a district goal and not addressed at individual school sites.)

Goal 2: Hickory will continue to provide an effective, cohesive and sustainable professional development model that maximizes the conditions for learning for all students,

Goal 3: All students will attain proficiency or better in a rigorous curriculum that includes ELA and Math as well as other educational disciplines. We will work with TUSD RtI & I staff to develop our Tier 1 systematic approach to student support.

Goal 4: Hickory Elementary School will provide an environment which establishes physical safety, cultivates emotional security, and facilitates responsible decision making and where students and parents feel engaged.

These goals were shared with parents, staff, ELMAC, School Site Council, and the TUSD School Board. It is my goal to share and update our progress on these goals throughout the school year.

Students are focusing on the "O" in our Hound Pledge, "**Own Your Actions**". This is a good time to revisit with your child about acting responsibly and taking responsibility for one's own actions.

In closing, we feel so very fortunate because our families are caring, responsible and supportive. Our Hickory families consistently show support for their children by modeling respectful behavior, and working with teachers to help their children succeed in school and develop into responsible citizens of strong character.

Before I close, I want to thank the PTA and all parent volunteers! Your efforts help make wonderful things happen at Hickory. Thank you to Troop 3855 for organizing this year's Food Drive. Thank you in advance for helping our students recognize the need for us to act with kindness and generosity towards others.

Happy Thanksgiving,

Mrs. Schumacher