



HICKORY NEWS

310.533.4675 | Hickory Elementary School | <http://wihickory.tusd.org/>

"An Adventure in Learning~ A Place in the Sun for Everyone."

Mrs. Schumacher, Principal

Mrs. Mabery, AP



Winter Happenings... Almost like preparing for Winter students are busy with school. Recently, all Hickory students attended a Bully Prevention Assembly. We hope they are more aware of what Bullying is and how to avoid it, or how to report it.

Progress reports have gone home and students and teachers are planning for the end of the trimester projects and assessments. All students have or will soon take a common core writing assessment. Students in grades TK-5 have also taken the first of four Math Portfolio Tasks. These assessments will be looked at closely by teachers as they plan for next steps in their teaching. Thank you to all the families who continue support Hickory via Restaurant Nights and of course the 2017 Skechers Walk. November is "Fire Awareness" month. I hope that all of our Hickory families have a "Safety Plan" in place.

Important Upcoming Dates

December

- 4-15- Parent Teacher Conferences, early dismissal 2:12 pm.
- 7- PTA Board Meeting
- 8 - DELMAC #2 Levy
- 17 - Makeup Picture Day
- 22-7 -NO SCHOOL- Holiday Break

Flyers

- [techkids](#)
- [Fall STEM Enrichment](#)
- [Hip Hop](#)
- [Youth Basketball](#)
- [Bricks 4 Kidz](#)
- [Yearbook Club](#)

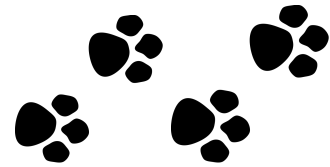
Links

- [Hickory Website](#)
- [Raz-Kids Login](#)
- [ST Math Login](#)
- [Titan K-12 Lunch Account](#)
- [Torrance Unified School District](#)
- [California Department of Education](#)



PAW Patrol

Calling all 3rd, 4th, and 5th Grade Hounds to come and join Hickory’s PAW Patrol! PAW Patrol is a group of peer mediators who are specially trained to help students talk about their conflicts and find peaceful solutions resolve them. This is an integral part of our implementation of Positive Behavioral Intervention Systems (PBIS). Our goal is to be a school where doing the right thing is the norm! Click here for an [application](#). Applications are due Friday, December 15, 2017.



POWERSCHOOL

Our student information system has been changed from Parent Connect to Power School. Information was sent home from the District Office that included your Username and Password. Please take a moment to log on and make sure that all of the information is correct. If you are new to Hickory it is very important that the emergency information is entered online. We are NOT able to enter the information for you. Please feel free to call the office if you have any questions.



JOIN THE PTA!

Don’t forget to purchase your \$10.00 PTA membership. Not only is it a fundraiser for our school, but it comes with discounts at certain retailers and coupons for Baskin Robbins and The Aquarium of the Pacific. It is important that we all have a voice in the decision making process relating to laws and regulations - whether in the schools or government - that affect our children. The PTA’s main priority has and will always be to advocate on behalf of our children. If you are not able to support the PTA with your time please become a member and give your financial support so that the children know that you support our effort. Our fantastic PTA helps fund class field trips, the Hickory library, family fun nights, assemblies, and much more!. [Click here](#) for the website.

GATE

Hickory’s Annual FOOD DRIVE will take place between November 6-17. Girl Scout Troop # 3855 will be organizing and publicizing the drive. This is a wonderful opportunity to teach our children about the value of helping those who are less fortunate than us. We always appreciate your participation and your generosity. Please see the flyer for guidelines.

Thank you in advance!

Planning Trips During the School Year

A growing number of families are experiencing the ramifications of traveling during the school year. While two or three days may not adversely affect a student's grade, 5 or more days will. Hickory Elementary School **does not** offer academic contracts **beyond 10 days**. Contracts are only offered if the student is at or above grade level in all academic areas. With this in mind a student's grades will likely drop by one whole mark for every 10 days. Students may also be dis-enrolled from the school if the amount is excessive. Research shows that missing 10 percent of the school year, or about 18 days in most school districts, negatively affects a student's academic performance. That's just two days a month and it is known as chronic absence. **TUSD considers 10 days absent excessive**. So, PLEASE plan your trips accordingly. Simply put, "saving money" by traveling during the school year will likely have a hidden cost to your child's academic success. Education should be a parent's priority. Extended vacations, weddings and cheaper air fares are not a reason to miss school. Please put your child's education first and plan around the natural breaks.



Skechers Walk

Hickory Hounds ARE the BEST AROUND! YOU DID IT AGAIN!!!!

You are all so amazing! The walk was so much fun, the weather was perfect, and crowd was so pumped and enthusiastic! So many Hounds made it to the walk! SO many Hounds pledged their support! This school fundraiser made almost \$17,000.00 for our school. Your HUGE support for this fundraiser means that we do not need to sell wrapping paper, cookies, candy, etc. WE can do all the wonderful things we want to do with the money we raise via Skechers and TEF Raffle. Hickory families and friends are the best. If you attended our Parent Information Night in October you know that our budget for Student Achievement is only \$19,000.00 for the school year. This is truly going to help supplement that money for supplies, technology, equipment, special projects, science equipment and supplies, Guided Reading libraries, and so on. If you would like to submit a photo from the "walk" please bring it to the office by Friday Nov.3 and we will display it in our display case. (you will not get the photo back) **Thank you!**

CAFETERIA NEWS

You may have noticed that the menu has had to change periodically over the last couple of weeks. A letter from Nutrition Services was sent home via email earlier this week. Please [click here](#) for a copy of the December Menu, subject to change, depending on our supplier. Thanks!

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

NEXT PTA Assoc. MEETING -

The next Hickory PTA Association Meeting will be on Dec. 14 at 5:00 p.m. The Chorus will be performing. Come an get into the holiday spirit!

SCHOOL SAFETY-

Students can be dropped off and picked up in front of the school, but PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE YOUR CAR at any time. Please use street parking in the surrounding neighborhood. Always use sidewalks and crosswalks! Remember our school day starts at 8:50 with the upper grade bell.

The park gate will continue to be locked at 8:50. Please do not leave your child in or near the park if you are arriving after the 8:50 bell. Students and parents arriving after 8:50 will need to use the front entrances to the school.

While Hickory Park is a nice meeting place for some families, please remember that there is no supervision in the park. It is not safe to simply let your children play for 30-45 minutes after school. Accidents do happen and the park is not supervised. If parents run late, students do not know what to do, this is an unsafe situation we do not want your child to be in. Please, if you use the park for pick up, go over a contingency plan just in case you are late.

Happy Holidays from Mrs. Mabery and Mrs. Schumacher!