

Charter Chatter

January 21, 2009

Issue #19

Afternoon Pick Up

It is our goal to have a smooth and free flowing carpool lane during afternoon pick up. Elementary students are dismissed at 3:15 and middle school students are dismissed at 3:30. The right lane of carpool is for parents who have elementary students and the left lane is for parents who have middle school students. Please pull up in the appropriate lane as this will decrease your wait time in the carpool. Also, make sure that your carpool number tag is displayed so that your number can be called quickly. If you have children in elementary and middle school please remember that your dismissal time to pick up your children is at 3:30. We have to keep the carpool lane moving so that the line is holding up traffic on Dunvale. For safety reasons students are not to walk across the parking lot during afternoon pick up. Please do not get out of line to pass other cars in line so that your child can walk to the parking lot where you are parked. Thanks for your cooperation and continued support.

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Briar Meadow Spelling Bee

Parents you are welcome to attend the Briar Meadow Annual Spelling Bee. The Bee will take place on Thursday, January 22, 2009. The elementary Bee will begin promptly at 1:45 and the middle school Bee will begin promptly at 2:30. Mr. Dorfman, the spelling bee coach, is working hard with our students and they are preparing everyday. Please work with your child(ren) at home so that on the day of the competition they are ready to win. Good luck and keep up the great work!

School Uniforms

All students are required to wear the school uniform daily. Attached to the Charter Chatter you will find a copy of the school Uniform Policy for 2008-2009. Please review it with your child(ren) and contact us if you have any questions or concerns that you may have. Students who are not in school uniform will be sent to the office to contact their parent(s) to bring them the appropriate school uniform. Thanks for your understanding and for adhering to the policy.

National School Board Recognition Month

Briar Meadow would like to thank Board Member President Harvin C. Moore for his continued support and for his contributions to the students of the west region and Briar Meadow Charter & Middle Schools. Your commitment to the students of the Houston Independent School District speaks volumes to our community and parents.



Recycling Cans in Cafeteria

Briar meadow students are excited about recycling this year. In efforts to continue our recycling projects, recycling bins have been placed in the cafeteria. The cans are red & black and should be used for recycling only. PLEASE DO NOT PUT TRASH IN THE RECYCLING BINS! The recycling bins are for juices pouches, yogurt cups, and/or energy bar wrappers. Thanks for your support in this project.

Art News

Be sure to check out our Art display boards in the front lobby; our students have created some outstanding artwork!! Among them you'll see various pieces inspired by Rousseau and his tropical landscapes, Picasso and his Blue Period, and Stuart Davis' Color Space Theory. Also, don't forget to check out our Art Web Site for more student artwork, podcasts, and great resources for inspiring artists. Go to Briar meadow technology.com and click on Class Web Sites/Art.

January Calendar of Events

- 14th Report Cards go home
- 15th Shared Decision Making Committee Meeting @ 4:00 p.m.
- 16th **Kindergarten Stanford 10 testing ends**
- 19th Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday (no school)
- 20th **Stanford 10 testing begins /1st-8th grades**
- 22nd Spelling Bee – Elementary~1:45
Middle School~2:30
- 22nd Soccer game at West Briar @ 3:30 p.m.
- 26th **Stanford 10 Testing ends/1st – 8th grades**
- 29th Soccer game at West Briar 3:30 p.m.



HISD Promotion Standards

Grades 1 and 2 Requirements

A. All students in grades 1 and 2 must meet the state course-average requirement of a 70 overall grade-point average of all courses and the HISD requirement of a 70 or better grade-point average in reading, language arts, mathematics, and either science or social studies.

B. Students in grades 1 and 2 must earn a passing score on HISD's High-Frequency Word Evaluation. (see attached list 1st & 2nd Grade Only)

C. All students in grades 1 and 2 must score no lower than one grade level below grade-level placement in reading on the Stanford/Aprena tests. (IE: A second-grade child taking the test in January would need to score at least 1.4 because the child's actual grade-level placement is second grade, four months, or 2.4.)

Grade 3 Requirements

Students in grade 3 must meet the requirements of the Texas Student Success Initiative (SSI), which requires that grade-3 students pass the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS) in reading before they can be promoted to grade 4. In addition to these state requirements described in the Texas Education Code (TEC §28.0211 (b)) as a part of SSI, students must meet the following HISD promotion standards:

A. All students in grade 3 must meet the state course-average requirement of a 70 overall grade-point average of all courses and the HISD requirement of a 70 or better grade-point average in reading, language arts, mathematics, and either science or social studies.

B. Students in grade 3 must earn a passing score on the reading section of the TAKS on one of three testing opportunities provided. Students who fail the test will be automatically retained, as required by state law.

C. All students in grade 3 must score no lower than one grade level below grade-level placement in reading on the Stanford/Aprena tests. (Example: A third-grade child taking the test in January would need to score at least 2.4 because the child's actual grade-level placement is third grade, four months, or 3.4.)

Grades 4–8 Requirements

A. All students in grades 4–8 must meet the state course-average requirements of a 70 overall grade-point average of all courses and the HISD requirement of a 70 or better grade-point average in reading, language arts, mathematics, and either science or social studies in grades 4 and 5. In grades 6–8 students must earn a grade-point average an average of 70 or above in three of the four core courses: language arts (average of reading and English), mathematics, science, and social studies.

B. All students in grades 4–8 must earn a passing score on the reading and mathematics sections of the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS). All students in grades 5 and 8, on one of the three testing opportunities provided, must earn a passing score on the reading and mathematics sections of the TAKS.

C. All students in grades 4–8 must score no lower than the grade-level standard set for that school year in reading and math on the Stanford/Aprena tests. For school year 2007–2008, students in the fourth grade must score no lower than 3.4; fifth grade, 3.9; sixth grade, 3.9; seventh grade, 4.9; and eighth grade, 5.9.

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE LOG ON TO WWW.HOUSTONISD.ORG AND CLICK ON PARENTS & STUDENTS. NEXT UNDER STUDENT REQUIREMENTS CLICK ON GRADING/PROMOTION STANDARDS FOR GRADES 1-8.

