



Hiawatha Campus

Hiawatha Community School

Howe Campus



Hiawatha Community School

4201 42nd Ave S.
Minneapolis, MN 55406
Phone: (612) 668-4610

Howe School

3733 43rd Ave S
Minneapolis, MN 55406
Phone: (612) 668-4640

**October 1st, 2014
Edition 2**

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Greetings Hiawatha and Howe Families,

We have had 1 full month of school now and we are running smoothly. Children are engaged in learning and they are showing true skill with holding themselves accountable for their learning and their behavior. The students know the routines so well that I had one of our Reserve Teachers say to me last week that “the students were the teachers for themselves and their peers and I was the support at times.” A true testament to the routines and procedures that are in place.

Many of you had the opportunity to be at Curriculum Night and listen to the State of the School presentation. In the presentation we mentioned Acceleration 2020 the new strategic plan for Minneapolis. The purpose of the plan is to significantly accelerate our academic progress, with the ultimate goal of closing the achievement gap by 2020. Every year for the next five years we will:

- Have a 5% increase in students overall meeting or exceeding state standards in reading and math on the MCA’s
- Have a 8% annual increase in students meeting or exceeding standards in reading and math for MPS’ lowest performing students
- Have a 10% increase in the four-year graduation rate

To view the full presentation for the State of our School- visit our website. We also handed out a one page document for families that had some great information about MDE assessment links and MCA sample questions and also questions that you can ask your students about their school day. This will also be posted on our website.

Thank you to the many families that were able to make it and for spending time in your child’s classroom learning about the curriculum and materials that they will be receiving this year. We also hope that you had a chance to ask any questions and to sign up for conferences on-line if you hadn’t had a chance to do so.

Our ALC program (After School Learning center) will be starting back up on October 21st for students that are registered. This is a program for our 1st-5th grade students to receive some small group instruction in order to help them improve academic skills. Catherine Grimshaw is the Lead for Hiawatha and Shari Couch is the Lead for Howe. Please address any questions their way.

I am really excited to share the news that Hiawatha will be receiving additional cameras placed throughout the building to assist us with safety and security. The district is rolling out a new security camera system, and Hiawatha is one of the schools receiving them. We will begin installation in early October and will be finished later that month. These new cameras will help us to monitor the activity on the playground and by Door 8 and Doors 17 and 20.



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Our Move-A-Thon is fast approaching and the committee has been hard at work. For families new to us, this is our biggest fundraiser of the year. The money raised helps support programs and field trips for our students. It's always a great time and another opportunity for you to meet other families by volunteering for this event or walking with your child's classroom.

Academically Yours,

©Deb Regnier



Student Council News

Congratulations to the following students for being chosen as Student Council Representatives by their peers:

Delilah Mitchell
Ella Blazina
Gwen McMahon
Juniper Scheife
Donnaven Matthews
Rudy Werle

Important Dates for October:



October 3- Move-A-Thon

October 6- Move-A-Thon Rain Day

October 7- PTO Meeting- 6:30-8:00 at Hiawatha



October 8- Walk and Bike To school Day!



October 10- Picture Day

October 14- Teacher/Parent Conferences- 4:00-7:45

October 15- Teacher Parent Conferences- 8:00-3:45 **NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS**

October 16- **NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS**

October 17- **NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS OR STAFF**

October 21- Kindergarten Conferences- 4:00-7:30



October 29- Student of the Month at Howe- invitation only- 2:00



October 30- Student of the Month at Hiawatha- invitation only- 2:00

October 31- **NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS**- Record Keeping Day



Report Cards will go home with students on November 6th

October 2014
Hiawatha PTO

Husky Howler

Notes from the PTO

Thanks to all the volunteers for their fantastic work on the Hiawatha School **Rummage Sale**. Because of parent and community support, we raised over \$3,000 for Camp Audubon. The 5th graders appreciate everyone's generosity!

The Garden Team sends a big thank you to teachers, staff, and parents from both campuses for coming together to expand the **Howe School Garden**. Not only did they complete four new raised beds, they also filled them with healthy soil – getting them ready for planting in spring!

We had a great turnout for the **PTO meeting** in September. Thanks to parents for all their interest, energy, and support! Remember, even if you can't make our meetings, there are many ways to get involved. Sign up for our emails to keep informed: Hiawatha.howe.pto@gmail.com

There's even more coming up:

- Friday October 3rd is the Move-a-thon – our biggest fundraiser. Join us that morning to volunteer or cheer the students as they jump, hop, and skip their way around Hiawatha School!
- If you would like to help get the Howe Garden ready for planting next year, contact Kirsten at howeschoolyardgarden@gmail.com or at 612-968-3678. Visit the garden blog at <http://howeschoolgarden.wordpress.com> to learn how the garden program is unfolding.
- Our next PTO meeting will be at **Hiawatha School** on **Tuesday, October 7th** from **6:30 to 8:00 pm**. Childcare will be provided for kids 3 and older.

Have a great October!

“Thinking Math” for parents

How is my child learning math – it's different than when I went to school? What are manipulatives? How can I help my child with math homework?

Thinking Math is a class to help parents better understand how math is taught today – which will help them better support their children in their math work. The class uses hands on activities to demonstrate the concepts students learn in school.

Peggy Winchell (Hiawatha kindergarten teacher) and Jan Wahl (Green Central Park teacher) will be the instructors. The course will include four sessions (Oct. 6, 20 and Nov. 3, 17). It will run from 6:30 to 8:30 pm at Hiawatha School Park Rec Center. Space is limited so registration is requested.

Contact peggy.winchell@mpls.k12.mn.us for more information or to register.

Bike-Walk to School day – 10/08

On Wednesday, October 8, Hiawatha/Howe campuses will be joining schools in more than 40 countries for International Bike-Walk to School Day! This day aims to celebrate and increase the visibility of walking and biking to school.

Last year, over 140 Hiawatha and Howe students biked or walked to school during the spring Bike-Walk Day. This fall our goal is to reach 200!

Join one of our two walking school buses, or get together with neighbors or friends to bike or walk to school Wednesday morning. We'll have tables outside both schools with food, coffee for parents, prizes, and chances to win some cool gear. Look for more information in the coming week!

Art Adventure is coming to Hiawatha!

Art Adventure is a program of the Minneapolis Institute of Arts where parent volunteers learn about pieces in the museum's collection and bring that learning back for classroom presentations.

The in-class presentations will be followed by a tour of the Museum in December. This year's theme is "How People Lived" and includes great pieces such as *Rainy Evening on Hennepin* by Robert Koehler and a very dramatic 17th century Japanese Dragonfly-shaped helmet, among other pieces of art.

Volunteer training will take place on October 8th or 22nd from 10:30 am to 1:00 pm, or on October 9th or 30th from 5:30 to 8:00 pm. **If you are interested in volunteering or have questions**, please contact Susan Humiston at susan.humiston@atk.com, or call 763-323-3774.

We are looking for six parent volunteers. The time commitment is approximately six hours – three hours for training at the MIA in October, three hours for preparation time and presentations in November (each volunteer presents in a couple of classrooms). There will also be an opportunity to chaperone for the field trip in December.

Thanks for your interest!

Upcoming Events

10/03 – Move-a-thon

9:00 to
Hiawatha School

10/06 – Hiawatha day @

Parkway Pizza

10/06 – Thinking Math class

6:30 to 8:30 pm
Hiawatha School Park

10/07 - PTO Meeting

6:30 to 8:00 pm
Hiawatha Media Center
Childcare Available

10/08 – Bike/Walk to School Day

Before school
Hiawatha/Howe campuses

10/20 – Thinking Math class

6:30 to 8:30 pm
Hiawatha School Park

PTO Collections

Target Red Cards—designate Hiawatha School as recipient

Coke Rewards—enter on your own or return to school

Box Tops for Education

Ink cartridges

KEEP INFORMED:

Email = Hiawatha.howe.pto@gmail.com

Phone = 612.642.1786

Facebook = [Hiawatha.Howe.PTO](https://www.facebook.com/Hiawatha.Howe.PTO)

Web page = Hiawatha.mpls.k12.mn.us/PTO



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