



Remember – *Be a Difference Maker!*

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HOT SPRINGS SCHOOL DISTRICT

SCHOOL OF CHOICE, EXCELLENCE AND OPPORTUNITIES

HOT SPRINGS BOARD OF EDUCATION RECOGNIZED

In recognition of January 2012 as Arkansas School Board Recognition Month, the Hot Springs School District's Board of Education was honored by district administrators with a reception prior to the January monthly Board meeting.

Mayor Ruth Carney and the Board of Directors of the City of Hot Springs proclaimed the month of January 2012 as Arkansas School Board Recognition Month. Mrs. Joyce Craft, superintendent, read a Proclamation from Mayor Carney recognizing the Hot Springs School Board and saluting them for their dedication and concern for the well-being, health, and safety of the students, staff and district, and to the overall atmosphere of the educational setting.



Board of Education
Ann Hill, President
Steve White, V-President
Bob Freeman, Secretary
Joe Reese
Debbie Ugbade



SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

As we reflect on the first semester of the 2011-2012 school year and see how much our students have grown academically, and how much we've accomplished professionally with the Data Team implementation, Common Core and the MYP implementation, it is awesome the progress we made in a short period of time.



We have 73 more days left to make a difference in the academic learning of our students. We must make them purposeful and meaningful, because every "day" counts. You, as administrators, teachers, and staff members, are on the front line every day. I realize that this is a daunting place to be, but it is also an exciting place because you have the opportunity to impact students' lives. You have the opportunity to pave the way for someone else other than yourselves. It is also a time for us to recommit ourselves to be better administrators, to be better teachers, and to be better staff members.

Let me remind you that this month is Arkansas School Board Member Recognition month. Please take time to "thank" a board member.

Joyce Craft, Superintendent

EARLY COLLEGE AWARENESS INITIATIVE

One of our goals for the Hot Springs School District is to see a significant increase in the number of our students who graduate on time from Hot Springs High School and go on to earn their college degree. In order to encourage and help our students reach that goal, Hot Springs School District has launched an early college awareness campaign. Please encourage your students and parents to participate.



We are asking that ALL staff members and students wear COLLEGE SHIRTS (T-shirt, sweat shirts, etc) on the last Monday of each month. So please wear your college shirt starting on **MONDAY, JANUARY 30!!!**

MISSION STATEMENT: THE MISSION OF HOT SPRINGS SCHOOL DISTRICT IS TO ASSURE THAT ALL STUDENTS HAVE THE ESSENTIAL SKILLS TO COMPETE IN A GLOBAL SOCIETY, RESPECT AND VALUE DIVERSITY, AND POSSESS THE ETHICAL STANDARDS OF INTEGRITY.

HOT SPRINGS SCHOOL DISTRICT

SCHOOL OF CHOICE, EXCELLENCE AND OPPORTUNITIES

Mrs. Joyce Craft

Superintendent

Mr. Danny Stanford

Assistant Superintendent

Mrs. Bobbie Morrison

Director of Special Education

Mr. David White

Director of Business & Finance

Mrs. Bonnie Frazier

Director of Child Nutrition

Dr. Anne Gentry

Director of Federal Programs

Ms. Terry Lawler

Director of Safe Schools/Healthy Students
Grant & Pathwise Program Director

Dr. Janice McCoy

Director of Academic Operations for Elementary

Mr. Jim Gentry

Director of Athletics & Student Services

Mrs. Vicki Wallace

Instructional Specialist for Literacy

Dr. Ann Webb

District Testing Coordinator &
Instructional Specialist for Mathematics

Mrs. Wanda Hall

Director of Technology

Mr. Chuck White

District Attorney



IMPORTANT DATES FOR SPRING 2012 SCHOOL YEAR

February 20—President's Day

March 8 -1st day of 4th Term

March 19–23 Spring Break

March 26–1/2 day Professional
Development

March 26 -P/T Conferences
1:00 PM to 7:00 PM

May 18—Students' Last Day

WEB ADDRESS:

<http://www.hssd.net>



MAINTENANCE

Hoping everyone had a relaxing break and is getting back into the swing of things. Even though our winter has been mild up until now, there are a few items we would like to remind everyone to be mindful of:

1. Keep an eye out on cold days for slick spots on sidewalks and driveways. A small puddle can become a hazard. If you find one – alert your lead custodian.
2. Set thermostats to a lower temperature for overnight and weekends.
3. Don't set any items in front of return air vents or heat ducts blocking air flow.

We would also remind everyone to be certain if your room door has a window in it to be sure the window stays uncovered.

From Transportation – please be sure to plan ahead for Spring field trips. With the combination of field trips and athletic trips, dates tend to fill up quickly. We like to accommodate as many groups as possible.

We in the Maintenance and Transportation Departments are proud of our alma maters also! Louisiana Tech University, University of Arkansas, University of Central Arkansas, Arkansas State University, National Park Community College, and Henderson State.

Danny Stanford, Assistant Superintendent



SAFE SCHOOLS/HEALTHY STUDENTS GRANT INITIATIVE

In his book, *The Whole Child*, Seamus Carey says, "The emotions and feelings that children experience are often far more complex than their ability to articulate them. They often get frustrated trying to express their emotions and feelings, because words often fail to convey the depth of emotional experience. Parents effectively guide children beyond their frustration by listening for at least one idea that can help the child to articulate clearly." (p. 72) In other words, children sometimes have difficulty dealing with their emotions, especially when they feel that they are not being heard or understood by those around them. As parents, we can help our children the most by inviting them to share and talk openly with us about their feelings. We can help them build an emotional vocabulary and be better equipped to deal with their feelings.

The next time your child is trying to express an emotion, take time to listen to what they have to say. Help them elaborate on their feelings and teach them new words to describe what they feel. The more you talk with your child about what they are feeling, the more understood they will feel and the more comfortable they will be sharing their emotions with you in the future. To find out more about parenting, check out *The Parenting Journey* or *See the World Through My Eyes* programs at arffamilies.org or follow them at facebook.com/navigatinglife.

*Terry Lawler, Director of Safe
Schools/Healthy Students Grant*



TECHNOLOGY

The Technology Department has just finished its three-year technology plan. That plan includes updating equipment, professional development as well as reviewing and adding new softwares. The department wants HSSD to be one of the outstanding schools in Arkansas for technology. Each building's wireless networks has new switches and access points, which should provide a much faster and efficient connection.

The Technology Department hopes you all will take advantage of HST112, June 20 & 21, to learn new and innovative ideas that are coming.

Wanda Hall, Director of Technology



BUSINESS & FINANCE

The Business Office would like to remind all employees to continue to check your paychecks. All of the insurance changes should be made by now. If you have any questions or find any discrepancies please contact David White or Eardie Stadler. Also, all employees should have received a W-2 for the 2011 tax year. Please review your W-2 and contact David White or Jane Hansen if you have any questions.

David White, Director of Accounting & Finance

“GO TROJANS”