

Parent Academy Newsletter

Parents

November 2024

Hernando County School District

make a difference!

Happy Thanksgiving



Pledge

As a parent, guardian or caring adult, I hereby give my pledge to support a high-quality education for all of Florida's students to the best of my ability.

I have high expectations for my child and want all of Florida's students to succeed in school and in life.

I pledge to stay involved, serve as a positive role model and maintain open communication with my child's educators and school personnel to ensure education remains a top priority in my household.

I understand that it is my responsibility to stay informed and involved in all aspects of my child's education.

Education is the key to success, and I will do everything I can to nurture my child's ability to learn.



November is Florida Family Engagement in Education Month, a time to celebrate the crucial role parents and families play in their children's education. When schools work together with families to support learning, children are more motivated to succeed, not just in school, but throughout life.

The Florida Department of Education recognizes the vital role that schools and families play throughout a child's educational journey. The state promotes a Dual Capacity-Building Framework for Family School Partnership, a framework for designing family engagement initiatives that build capacity among educators and families to partner with one another around student success.

We want to take this time to say thank you to all of our families for engaging in your child's education.



A Message from Ray Pinder, Superintendent of Hernando Schools

In Hernando Schools, we believe that the success of our students is directly connected to an active and vibrant relationship with our families - one that is built on a foundation of respect and trust. Engaging our families is one of our fundamental values and is included as a priority within our Strategic Plan. As a symbol of our ongoing commitment, we have proclaimed November Family Engagement Month in Hernando County Schools. Thank you for being part of our school district and we look forward to future opportunities to connect.



"Be sure to check ParentSquare for updates from your child's school regarding any Thanksgiving celebrations or events!"



Parents

make a difference!

This isn't just a turkey,
As anyone can see.
I made it with my little hand,
Which is a part of me.
It comes with lots of love
Especially to say,
I hope you have a very
Happy Thanksgiving Day!



Thanksgiving Break
November 25 - 29
(Monday-Friday)



History of Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving has deep historical roots in American culture, tracing back to the early days of European settlers in North America. The holiday's origins are often associated with the Pilgrims and their feast with Native Americans in 1621 to celebrate a successful harvest. Over time, Thanksgiving became an annual tradition, and in 1863, President Abraham Lincoln proclaimed it a national holiday.

Today, Thanksgiving is celebrated as a day of gratitude, unity, and appreciation for the blessings in our lives.



City of Brooksville Proclamation

WHEREAS, the City of Brooksville recognizes the importance a providing a high-quality education for every child, and family engagement in a child's educational journey is crucial to their academic and social-emotional success; and

WHEREAS, parents are a child's first teacher, creating an environment where learning takes place not just in the classroom, but as an essential part of family life; and

WHEREAS, Florida Executive Order 91-32 ensures that students are prepared to become civically engaged and knowledgeable adults who make positive contributions to their communities; and

WHEREAS, family-school partnerships provide many benefits that are essential to building community support for education and improving students' academic experiences, increasing graduation rates, and the likelihood of students enrolling in postsecondary educational and career opportunities; and

WHEREAS, Florida empowers parents to make the best educational decisions for their child and encourages schools and families to work together for all students throughout the school year; and

WHEREAS, there are many ways schools can foster connections with families to include sharing classroom expectations and their child's learning goals including offering volunteer, in-classroom activities and parent-school opportunities that support education; using multiple methods of communications to establish effective home-school collaborations; and providing opportunities for parents and families to support their child's learning; and

WHEREAS, this year, The Family Empowerment Scholarship Program, established to increase educational opportunities to students and families, is the largest first-year implementation of a private school choice program in Florida, with 18,000 students benefitting; and

WHEREAS, funding increases passed by the Florida Legislature cleared the waitlist for Gardiner Scholarship Program, benefitting students with special needs; and

WHEREAS, Florida Family Engagement in Education Month is an opportunity to recognize the exceptional contributions made by families who foster a love for learning in their child, and by educators who acknowledge the importance of family engagement as an integral part of the mission of all schools.

NOW THEREFORE, We, the Undersigned as City Council for and on behalf of the City of Brooksville, do hereby proclaim November 2024, as

Florida Family Engagement in Education Month

and encourage families and schools to create strong partnerships on behalf of the future of our children, our city, our county, our state and our nation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereunto set our hand and caused to be affixed the seal of the City of Brooksville this 4th day of November 2024.

City of Brooksville

s/BLAKE BELL
Blake Bell, Mayor

s/CHRISTA TANNER
Christa Tanner, Vice Mayor

s/THOMAS BRONSON
Thomas Bronson, Council Member

s/DAVID BAILEY
David Bailey, Council Member

s/JODY YOUNG
Jody Young, Council Member

Attest: s/JENNIFER BATTISA
Jennifer Battista, CMC, City Clerk

"FILL-THE-BACKPACK"



This program is a "Weekend Backpack" program for our students who are in need. "Operation Heartfelt" is dedicated to helping out our students in Hernando County. The "Fill-the-Backpack" program is aimed at combating childhood hunger by providing nutritious and easy-to-prepare food (and hygiene products) for our students who may not have access to sufficient amounts of food for the weekend and/or holidays.



Weekend Blessings is a program designed to provide four meals and snacks to school age children on weekends. In schools where this program has been in operation for at least one full school year, it has produced dramatic results for children enrolled. Some of the benefits include increased attendance, higher test scores, fewer behavioral problems, and increased parent participation. Weekend Blessings works with several organizations and schools.

The People Helping People in Hernando County, Inc.'s program for Weekend Blessings selection criteria includes students who may not have access to adequate food resources on the weekend. These are students who without this additional food resource would be arriving at school hungry on Mondays.

Criteria that may be used for selection in the Weekend Blessings program are those students who have any of the following characteristics:

- Family is determined to be homeless.
- Parents/caregivers who are seeking assistance from the school.
- Student is living with grandparents/relatives and generally considered to be at risk.
- Family is headed by single and/or disabled parent.
- Families in distress due to unemployment, recent job loss, foreclosures on homes, etc.



There is absolutely nothing so important that you have to pass a stopped bus. Nothing.

Any person using, operating, or driving a vehicle on or over the roads or highways of this state shall, upon approaching any school bus which displays a stop signal, bring such vehicle to a full stop while the bus is stopped, and the vehicle shall not pass the school bus until the signal has been withdrawn.



FAMILIES AND STUDENTS:
IT IS INCREDIBLY
IMPORTANT THAT YOU
charge YOUR
DEVICE NIGHTLY SO IT
IS READY FOR USE AT
SCHOOL!

