



HORACE MAY HOTLINE

February 22, 2019

Spring Conferences are just around the corner! Please keep an eye out for communication from your child's teacher this week regarding conference times. Our conferences will be held Tuesday, until 6:20, Wednesday, until 6:30 and Thursday 7:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. There will be NO SCHOOL on Thursday, March 7 or Friday March 8.

Next week is **Bus Driver Appreciation Week!** Riding the school bus is a privilege. Please talk to your bus-riding child about best bus behaviors, such as "seat to seat" and "back to back" (their bottom on the bus seat and their back against the back rest of the bus seat). Passengers should NOT be moving out of their seats, in the aisle or crawling on the bus floor when the bus is in motion. Ask them to please be respectful of the bus and the driver by using inside voices and obeying the driver's requests. We want to make the bus ride enjoyable for everyone! Thank you!

If you have changed your phone numbers (work, home or cell) **OR** your address, PLEASE call the school, send a note to the office or email our school Secretary (Laurie at: laurie_dokken@isd31.net) with the updates. It is imperative that we have accurate contact information for your child.

ATTENTION: We have noticed some scary things in our parking lot recently. We have some parents dropping off their child shortly after turning in to the lot in the morning, before they get to the drop-off curb, and the child is walking along side moving traffic to get to the building, playground or run to catch a transfer bus. For your child's safety, please wait your car's turn to let your child out of your vehicle until your are pulled up to the curb. And a reminder to pull all the way up to the south end of the curb to make room for all traffic.

The **Health Office** is looking for new or gently used pants, (sweat pants, athletic pants or leggings) which your child has outgrown. Any donations would be greatly appreciated!

Keep saving **BOX TOPS for EDUCATION** for us! Our school is on track to earn approximately \$700 this year. We use this money for fun little extras for our students, such as cupcakes for the upcoming Dr. Seuss birthday on Friday March 1st.

And speaking of Dr. Seuss – check out the information regarding "I LOVE TO READ" month and the fun activities planned for next week!

Check out the **LOST & FOUND** cabinet in the cafeteria. There is a surplus of single gloves (mainly lefties) and many hats. If you are missing a sweatshirt, there are about 20 hoodies in there as well. But we have to say, it is a far cry from what we had at this time last year. Kudos to students (and parents) for keeping tracking of your things! All items will be donated to a good cause after spring conferences.

Please find the letter from Principal Kathy regarding the **School Climate Survey** that parents, 3rd graders and staff took in October. Thank you to all those that took the time do complete the survey!

I LOVE TO READ

February "I Love to Read Month"
HMay School-wide Celebration
February 25 – March 1

Mystery Reader Monday

9:40 – 10:00 A "Mystery Reader" will read aloud to the entire school in the north gym.

Teacher Swap Tuesday

8:05 – 8:20 Teachers will swap rooms and read aloud to each other's students.

Wacky Wearables Wednesday

All day Wear wacky clothes and hairstyles, or dress as your favorite storybook character.

Three-Up on Thursday

2:00 – 2:20 Match up a reading team of three including a 1st, 2nd, and 3rd grader. Teams can read in the hallways or anywhere space is available. All SPED students should be included with their homeroom peers.

Classroom Partners

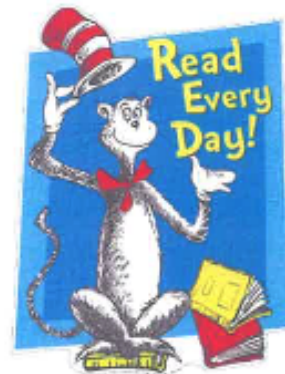
Rogers-Elstad, Shanahan, Crane
Wolf, Pearson, McKeown
Vleck, S McDermott, Riopelle
Morrison, Fernholz, Z McDermott

Flashlight Friday

Drop Everything and Read (by flashlight)

10:50 – 11:00 and 1:10 – 1:20

The entire school will stop and read twice a day for 10 minutes. Students may bring flashlights. They must have books with them during the times listed for DEAR.





HORACE MAY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

502 Minnesota Ave NW ■ BEMIDJI, MINNESOTA 56601 ■ 218-333-3240

MINNESOTA ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AWARD WINNER

February 21, 2019

Hello Horace May Families

Our School Climate Survey results came back! First, let me thank you for filling out the survey. The information we received is very valuable. Over 40% of our families completed the survey! A small team of staff looked at the data and overall, Horace May is doing very well keeping your children safe, teaching your children, and providing positive relationships with them. The survey shows us what we have always known.... Horace May is a terrific school! We have great students, great families and great staff.

We had good survey participation with our students and staff, as well. 87% of our third grade students and 91% of our staff took the survey, giving us a solid look at how our third graders and staff view Horace May.

Below is a brief overview of the results, some areas are lower than others, but none fell into the negative range.

*Our three lowest categories fell under safety: sense of physical safety, sense of social emotional security and social media.

*Staff and students are in agreement that safety rules are in place and communicated. Parents ranked this area lower; which tells me we need to do a better job of communicating our safety rules to you.

*Students and parents have rated the social supports lower than staff rated those supports. We will be looking into ways to improve our social emotional supports for our students.

*Students try to stop other students from making fun of others. Our students are watching out for each other.

*Most students are nice to each was rated very high.

Reminder, none of the results fell into the negative range! Be assured all staff at Horace May want the very best for your child! As I stated we are looking at a couple of areas to improve; plans and actions steps are in the works. Please contact me if you would like to chat about our results. Thanks for all you do to support your child and our school community.

Principal Kathy Van Wert