

HASSAYAMPA ELEMENTARY



SCHOOL

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CARISSA HERSHKOWITZ
PRINCIPAL

JULY 21, 2015

DEAR HASSAYAMPA FAMILY:

WE WILL SOON BE SAYING GOOD-BYE TO SUMMER, AND WELCOMING BACK THE ROUTINES OF SCHOOL! HOPEFULLY, YOU HAVE FOUND PLENTY OF TIME TO HAVE FUN IN THE SUN AND ENJOY TIME WITH YOUR FAMILIES AND FRIENDS. I AM EXCITED TO HEAR THE STORIES OF SUMMER FROM BOTH STUDENTS AND STAFF.

I AM PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE HASSAYAMPA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL HAS BEEN AWARDED THE 21ST CENTURY COMMUNITY LEARNING CENTERS (21ST CCLC) GRANT. THIS GRANT WILL PROVIDE HASSAYAMPA 5 YEARS OF FUNDING (\$630,000) TO IMPLEMENT AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS. THE CURRENT PLAN IS TO PROVIDE A MORNING POWER HOUR FROM 7 A.M.-8 A.M. WHERE STUDENTS WILL RECEIVE HOMEWORK ASSISTANCE, OR WILL BE ABLE TO LOG INTO THEIR PERSONALIZED LEARNING ENVIRONMENT ON IREADY AND WORK TOWARD MATH AND READING GOALS. IREADY IS A HIGHLY RATED AND ADAPTIVE SOFTWARE – MEANING THAT THE PROGRAM ADJUSTS THE LEVEL OF INSTRUCTION BASED UPON THE STUDENT’S RESPONSES AND PROVIDES TARGETED INTERVENTION LESSONS. THE AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM WILL CONSIST OF TWO HOURS. ONE HOUR WILL INCLUDE INTERVENTION IN READING AND MATH USING THE IREADY PROGRAM TO SUPPLEMENT TEACHER SMALL GROUP INSTRUCTION AND ANOTHER HOUR WILL INCLUDE A VARIETY OF ENRICHMENT AND YOUTH DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES SUCH AS GARDENING, HEALTH, RECREATION, HANDS-ON SCIENCE, AND MORE! THESE PROGRAMS WILL ALLOW STUDENTS TO GROW ACADEMICALLY, SOCIALLY, AND PHYSICALLY.

KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR PROGRAM DETAILS AND SIGN-UP INFORMATION WHICH SHOULD BECOME AVAILABLE IN SEPTEMBER. THROUGH PARTNERSHIPS WITH THE TOWN OF WICKENBURG, WICKENBURG FIRE AND POLICE DEPARTMENTS, DESERT CABALLEROS WESTERN MUSEUM, THE AZ GAME AND FISH, THE UNIV. OF AZ SNAP-ED NETWORK,

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AND THE WICKENBURG HIGH SCHOOL (CURRENT 21ST CCLC RECIPIENT), HASSAYAMPA WILL BE ABLE TO OFFER A RICH VARIETY OF HIGHLY ENGAGING PROGRAMS.

IN ADDITION TO STUDENT ACTIVITIES, THIS 21ST CCLC PROGRAM WILL OFFER A VARIETY OF FAMILY ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES. FAMILY ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES WILL INCLUDE ACADEMIC PARENT TEACHER TEAMS (APTT), LITERACY PROGRAMS, AND OTHER HIGH INTEREST EVENTS WHICH WILL SUPPORT PARENTS SO THEY CAN BETTER ASSIST THEIR CHILDREN'S LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT.

WE ARE EXCITED FOR THE FUTURE POSSIBILITIES THAT THE 21CCLC PROGRAM CAN PROVIDE FOR OUR STUDENTS AND FAMILIES!

WELCOME NEW STAFF:

JOIN ME IN WELCOMING EIGHT NEW STAFF MEMBERS TO HASSAYAMPA!

- ❖ AMBER CARDWELL -KINDERGARTEN- COMING TO US FROM MASSACHUSETTS
- ❖ KEN ECHOLS -THIRD GRADE-BROUGHT IN FROM THE VALLEY
- ❖ BETH ELLIS -THIRD GRADE- DOWN FROM DENVER
- ❖ DESTINIE HAMMER -FIFTH GRADE- MOVED IN FROM MONTANA
- ❖ LAUREL TIPPE -MUSIC- ESCAPING THE COLD OF CHICAGO

THREE HOMETOWN TREASURES:

- ❖ MRS. RANDI JO BOWSER - ATTENDANCE CLERK
- ❖ MRS. REANNA WEBB - SPECIAL EDUCATION PARAPROFESSIONAL
- ❖ MRS. MELISSA JAMES - SPECIAL EDUCATION PARAPROFESSIONAL

WE ARE EXCITED TO HAVE ALL OF THEM JOIN THE HASSAYAMPA FAMILY AND LOOK FORWARD TO HAVING THEM ON STAFF!

STAFF CHANGES:

- ❖ MR. KRUEGER HAS JOINED THE THIRD GRADE TEAM.

PLEASE KNOW THAT STAFF AT HASSAYAMPA WORK VERY HARD, EVERY DAY, TO CREATE A RIGOROUS AND CHALLENGING CURRICULUM AS WELL AS A POSITIVE AND WELCOMING SCHOOL CLIMATE FOR STUDENTS. WE WANT TO MAKE STRONG CONNECTIONS WITH STUDENTS, OFFER THEM AN ENGAGING CURRICULUM, AND HELP THEM DEVELOP AND GROW INTO RESPONSIBLE AND RESPECTFUL CITIZENS. NOT A DAY

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GOES BY WHEN WE ARE NOT REFLECTING ON HOW WE CAN IMPROVE AS A SCHOOL. WITH THAT SAID, PLEASE ALSO KNOW THE GREAT IMPORTANCE THAT YOU PLAY IN YOUR ROLE AS THE PARENT. YOU HAVE THE GREATEST IMPACT ON YOUR CHILD'S SCHOOL PERFORMANCE. EACH TEACHER ONLY HAS YOUR CHILDREN FOR 180 DAYS PER YEAR AND LESS THAN SIX HOURS PER DAY (MINUS LUNCH AND RECESS TIMES, ART, MUSIC, AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION CLASSES). IT IS OUR EXPECTATION THAT AS PARTNERS IN YOUR CHILD'S EDUCATION, YOU WILL BE DOING YOUR PART AS WELL. TO DETERMINE IF YOU HAVE ESTABLISHED A SUPPORTIVE STRUCTURE FOR YOUR CHILD'S SUCCESS, HERE ARE SOME SIMPLE THINGS THAT YOU MAY ASK YOURSELF:

- ❖ DOES YOUR CHILD READ AT HOME EACH DAY FOR AT LEAST TWENTY MINUTES?
- ❖ DO YOU READ TO YOUR CHILD?
- ❖ ARE MATH FACTS REVIEWED DAILY UNTIL THEY ARE KNOWN AUTOMATICALLY?
- ❖ IS THERE A QUIET LOCATION IN THE HOUSE FOR HOMEWORK TIME AND DO YOU CHECK YOUR CHILD'S HOMEWORK EACH NIGHT?
- ❖ IS YOUR CHILD SENT TO SCHOOL READY FOR THE DAY WITH A GOOD BREAKFAST FOLLOWING AT LEAST EIGHT HOURS OF SLEEP?
- ❖ ARE AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES MONITORED SO THAT YOUR CHILD IS NOT 'OVERBOOKED' AND THEIR STAMINA COMPROMISED?
- ❖ IS YOUR CHILD IN SCHOOL DAILY (EXCEPT WHEN THEY ARE SICK) AND NOT TAKEN OUT OF SCHOOL FOR ANY REASON OTHER THAN ILLNESS?

AS AN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, THE READING AND MATH ARE A PRIORITY TO YOUR CHILD'S EDUCATION. YOUR CHILD WILL LEAVE HASSAYAMPA ABLE TO DO BASIC MATH WITHOUT FINGERS AND READ FLUENTLY AT OR ABOVE GRADE LEVEL – THESE ARE THE MINIMUM, FOUNDATIONAL GOALS. WE HAVE A FEW TOOLS THAT ARE AVAILABLE FOR STUDENT USE AT HOME. ACCELERATED READER IS USED AS AN INCENTIVE TO ENCOURAGE READERS TO READ *MORE*. AT THE END OF THE YEAR, WE CELEBRATE OUR TOP READERS. TO ASSIST YOUR CHILD IN BECOMING A TOP READER, YOU CAN ENSURE THAT HE/SHE IS READING NIGHTLY. ALSO YOU CAN TRACK READING PROGRESS ON THE AR WEBSITE - [HTTPS://HOSTED157.RENLEARN.COM/306244/HOMECONNECT](https://hosted157.renlearn.com/306244/homeconnect). AS FOR MATH, A BALANCED MATH APPROACH INCLUDING: MATH FLUENCY, MATH REVIEW, PROBLEM OF THE WEEK, AND CONCEPT INTRODUCTION. DREAMBOX LEARNING MATH PROGRAM WILL CONTINUE THIS YEAR AS WELL. THIS PROGRAM IS SUPPLEMENTAL, ADAPTIVE LEARNING SOFTWARE TO ASSIST STUDENTS IN PRACTICING THEIR MATH SKILLS. STUDENTS CAN ACCESS DREAMBOX FROM HOME - [HTTPS://PLAY.DREAMBOX.COM/PLAY/LOGIN](https://play.dreambox.com/play/login). DREAMBOX LOGIN INFORMATION IS

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SCHOOL

AVAILABLE FROM YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER. ALTHOUGH TEMPTING, KEEP IN MIND THAT THESE TOOLS ARE FOR YOUR CHILD TO PRACTICE. SO HELP PUT THEM IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION, BUT LET THEM DO THE WORK.

THE HASSAYAMPA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL WEBSITE IS A GREAT RESOURCE FOR KEEPING ABREAST OF WHAT'S HAPPENING AT HASSAYAMPA - WWW.HASSAYAMPA.WICKENBURGSCHOOLS.ORG. ALTHOUGH, THE SCHOOL WEBSITE IS ONE COMMUNICATION TOOL TO VISIT REGULARLY, YOU WILL ALSO WANT TO VISIT AND "LIKE" US ON OUR SCHOOL FACEBOOK. THE COYOTE DEN, OUR MONTHLY NEWSLETTER, INFORMS PARENTS OF SPECIAL EVENTS, CELEBRATIONS, AND ACTIVITIES. PARENTS MAY ALSO COMMUNICATE WITH THE SCHOOL AND INDIVIDUAL STAFF THROUGH E-MAIL OR BY TELEPHONE. ANOTHER WAY TO BECOME INVOLVED IS AS A VOLUNTEER. FOR MORE INFORMATION ON VOLUNTEERING, PLEASE CONTACT THE SCHOOL OFFICE OR VISIT THE SCHOOL WEBSITE. TO PARTICIPATE AS A CHAPERONE, PARENTS MUST BE APPROVED VOLUNTEERS. PLEASE ALLOW SUFFICIENT TIME FOR PROCESSING.

THE PARENT-STUDENT HANDBOOK HAS BEEN POSTED TO THE SCHOOL WEBSITE AND WILL BE AVAILABLE AT OUR OPEN HOUSE. THE HANDBOOK PROVIDES IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT OUR SCHOOL'S PHILOSOPHY, PROCEDURES, POLICIES, CURRICULUM, AND SCHEDULES. IT IS A GUIDE TO THE WAY WE OPERATE AS A SCHOOL. THERE HAVE BEEN SOME MINOR CHANGES SINCE LAST YEAR, SO EVERYONE IS ENCOURAGED TO READ THE HANDBOOK CAREFULLY WITH THEIR CHILDREN.

OUR OPEN HOUSE IS SCHEDULED FOR **MONDAY, AUGUST 3 FROM 3:00 TO 6:00 P.M.** THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL IS **TUESDAY, AUGUST 4.** DOORS WILL BE OPEN AT 7:30 A.M. TO ACCOMMODATE THE HIGH VOLUME OF TRAFFIC. PLEASE PLAN WELL FOR THE MORNING, ENSURING THAT YOUR CHILD HAS A STRESS FREE START TO THE YEAR. THIS MEANS THAT YOU HAVE ESTABLISHED A GOOD SLEEP ROUTINE SO THAT YOUR CHILD IS WELL-RESTED. ALSO, ALLOW TIME FOR A HEALTHY BREAKFAST; MAKE SURE YOU KNOW HOW YOUR CHILD WILL BE GETTING HOME EACH DAY, AND THE LUNCH PLAN. ALSO, A BOOHOO BREAKFAST IS SCHEDULED AT 8:30 A.M. ON THE FIRST DAY FOR KINDERGARTEN PARENTS AND OTHER PARENTS TO COME TOGETHER.

ONCE AGAIN, I WILL HOST A MONTHLY PRINCIPAL'S COFFEE ON THE FIRST WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH. JOIN ME FOR AN OPPORTUNITY TO SHARE CELEBRATIONS AND HASSAYAMPA HAPPENINGS.

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ALTHOUGH STAFF HAS ENJOYED THE UNSTRUCTURED DAYS OF SUMMER, MANY HAVE SPENT A GOOD BIT OF TIME PREPARING THEIR CLASSROOMS, REVIEWING LESSON PLANS AND CURRICULUM, READING PROFESSIONAL LITERATURE, AND STRATEGIZING FOR A SUCCESSFUL SCHOOL YEAR. WE ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO A FANTASTIC SCHOOL YEAR!

I LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH YOU AND YOUR CHILD AS WE START OUR NEW SCHOOL YEAR BECAUSE TOGETHER WE MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

EDUCATIONALLY YOURS,

CARISSA HERSHKOWITZ
HASSAYAMPA ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL

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