

# Haskell Highlights

## Home of the Mustangs

Volume 1, Issue 1

September/October 2017

### Message From Principal Lewis

**Greetings Haskell Community!** Welcome back to a new and exciting school year. I am pleased to welcome our new 7<sup>th</sup> grade Mustangs as well as our returning 8<sup>th</sup> graders. This year, we are proud yet humbled to announce that Haskell has been officially designated a 2017 National Model Middle School to Watch. In addition to this prestigious designation, Haskell was named a 2016 Honor Roll School by the Campaign for Business and Educational Excellence. We are proud of our staff, our students, and the school programs we have implemented together. As you know Haskell is the district's first STEM Magnet School (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics). Using technology in the classroom and collaborative, project based learning, we are preparing our students to become the next generation of industry leaders through 21<sup>st</sup> century learning engagements.

**Getting Off to a Good Start:** Success and Achievement don't just happen by accident. They are the result of good habits, combined with hard work, and a positive attitude. Some "good start" practices include:

- Daily and punctual attendance
- Having all the materials you need for the day
- Staying organized and using your student planner
- Asking for help when you need it
- Making good choices every day in dress and conduct

**Preparing Students to Be the Best:** To ensure a positive and productive middle school experience for your students, we encourage parents to familiarize themselves with Haskell's rules, regulations, and policies, as outlined in the student planner and on the school website under the "Students" tab. Be sure your child gets plenty of rest, eats properly, completes homework, is dressed appropriately, and has all materials needed for classes. Attendance is the single most important factor for academic success. Students cannot learn if they are not present. Please assist your student in arriving to school on time, and send a signed note or call the school's attendance office if your child is absent. Sign up for the on-line Aeries.net Parent Portal to monitor your child's assignments and grades. Establishing a good regimen and consistent monitoring make for a successful and happy student, and thus... happy parents. Please check our **school website** regularly to stay informed on school wide programs and events throughout the year. [www.haskellms.org](http://www.haskellms.org)

**Upcoming Events:** **Back to School Night** will be held on Thursday, September 14, 2017 at 6:00 PM. The annual **Mustang Roundup Fitness FUNdraiser** will be held on Friday, October 13, 2017 during students' P.E. classes. The fundraiser kicks off on September 15<sup>th</sup>. We are seeking monetary pledges and donations to help fund student activities, incentive programs, field trips, classroom supplies, technology needs, and the future transition to an electronic school marquee. Your help is needed to support our students and our school. Look for detailed information to follow in an event flyer.

Lastly, I would like to take this opportunity to thank in advance, our parents and PTSA for your continued support of our school, and our efforts to provide students with an exceptional middle school experience. Don't forget, you can find Haskell on social media: Twitter and Facebook. Note: (add Twitter, Facebook symbols and addresses)



Follow us on Twitter @HaskellAcademy.



"Like" us on Facebook: Haskell STEM Academy

Camille Lewis, Principal

### *A Commitment to Excellence!*



**Back to School Night**  
**September 14**  
**6:00PM – 8:00 PM**

## The Assistant Principal's Corner

By: Mr. Glonchak

Welcome back to Haskell, class of 2018! This is your big year as a Mustang; you know the ropes and the expectations and the supports, so now it's time to achieve. I hope you all take a few moments to consider your goals for the year - work to get better every day. High school is right around the corner! Please know that I am here to help you however I can. Students, feel free to find me at snack or lunch, ask for me in the office, or drop me an email. I want to hit two topics in the opening newsletter: **Behavior** and **Communication**. This year we are promoting our positive, school-wide **Behavior** expectations: **MUSTANGS R I D E!** For the benefit of our whole campus community, all Mustangs will demonstrate **RESPECT, INTEGRITY, DETERMINATION, and EMPATHY**. These positive character traits will guide all our attitudes, efforts, and interactions on campus. We believe that these traits are fundamental not only to our school culture, but also our students' success at Haskell and beyond. Please join us in cultivating these qualities in your students from home as well.

Frequent, constructive **Communication** between parents and educators is the most effective way to foster student success.

The Aeries Parent Portal is a fantastic tool for keeping track of student progress and grades. Please don't wait until your student's grades are in crisis to get in touch. Reach out to the teachers early, via email or phone, and work together to prevent a larger problem from arising. Our goals are the same: the success of your student. Also, many of our teachers now use Google Classroom as a digital learning environment. Parents, ask your students to login so you can take a look. Many of the class assignments, calendars, due dates, and your student's actual submitted work will be easy to see. The old days of "the dog ate my homework" or "the teacher lost it" are long gone. There are digital records that help us keep track of all this educational work.

I look forward to a great year working with your 8th graders, and I look forward to meeting many of you at Back to School Night on September 14.

## ASB News

By: Ms. Elaine Lima

We will be kicking off our **Mustang Roundup Fitness FUNdraiser** on September 15<sup>th</sup>. Our students will participate in a variety of aerobic activities that the students pledge to perform on Friday, October 13th. Our goal is to raise \$10,000.00. All the money raised from our fundraiser goes directly back to the students in the form of assemblies, technology, field trips, classroom supplies, music instruments, and all end of the year events. Haskell sweatshirts and spirit wear including hats and beanies are still available for purchase. The Welcome Back dance will be Friday, September 22nd and tickets will go on sale September 18th for \$5.00. Haskell will be celebrating Red Ribbon Week October 23rd through the 27th. We will have numerous activities during the week to promote drug awareness.

Haskell ASB looks forward to a fun and exciting year.

Please sign up for REMIND by texting @asbhas to 81010 to stay informed about all the ASB activities on campus!

## Discourse from the Dean

By: Mr. Jose Torices, Dean of Students

Greetings Mustangs!

To our newest 7<sup>th</sup> grade Mustangs and continuing 8<sup>th</sup> graders, welcome to the 2017-2018 school year! I am the administrator who will be overseeing and handling matters related to the 7<sup>th</sup> grade class. I look forward to working with your child throughout their entire stay here at Haskell as they progress into and through the 8th grade next year.

The move from elementary to middle school can feel like a huge transition, not just for students, but parents as well.

Please know that we're here to help make the transition as smooth as possible. Remember that your child now has six to seven teachers that they interact with on a daily basis. As the difficulty of classes evolves year to year, communication between you and your child's teachers is critical to their success. The best way to communicate with teachers is through the online Parent Portal email feature.

Through the Parent Portal, you may see your child's class schedule, graded assignments/exams, as well as email the teachers with questions or concerns. The Parent Portal is also accessible for view on your internet ready mobile devices.

Just make sure you're on the "Full Site" version of the ABCUSD District website. For questions regarding the Parent Portal, please contact the Haskell main office and ask to speak with the Secretary - Dorothy. If you are having trouble getting in touch with your child's teacher, please give the office a call and we will make sure you get a response.

Be aware that teachers cannot take calls while they are in the middle of teaching class.

A student planner will be provided to your child. They are to bring this with them everyday as teachers require students to write down assignments and important details on a daily basis. The planner also contains our bell schedules, calendar, rules and policies. Make sure you and your child review the rules and policies as it will help everyone understand what the expectations are for all of our students.

Should your child need a quiet place to do work after school, we offer the Homework Club, Mondays thru Wednesdays until 4pm in our library starting September 18th. No application or sign-up is necessary to attend. Even though 8<sup>th</sup> grade promotion is less than 2 years away, now is the time to begin pressing the importance of maintaining passing grades in all classes and seeking assistance when necessary.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call the school or email me: jose.torices@abcusd.us

**Fitness Fundraiser**  
**October 13, 2017**  
**Support Our School**

## Library Corner

By: Mrs. Josefina Cannavina

### **READ, BE INSPIRED, WRITE about your experiences.**

We encourage all of our students to become life-long readers. Books and literature transport and allow readers to soar to new places where they meet intriguing characters, experience exciting adventures, facilitate thought, and allow readers to rise above difficult situations. We invite students to visit our Library and take advantage of our community libraries as well.



**DREAM**



**READ**



**SUCCEED**

### **Library Open:**

**M-F 7:30 – 3:30 (SNACK, LUNCH, AFTER SCHOOL)**

**You are cordially invited to Haskell's Fall Book Fair**

**September 11-15**

**"Back to School Night" Sept. 14<sup>th</sup> 5:30PM-7PM**

**Come by and check out the book selection.**

## Yearbook

By: Mrs. Kim Denahrt

The 2017-2018 yearbook is currently on sale for \$40.00 until the end of September, but will increase after that. We have a limited number of books so be sure to reserve one for your child today. You may also purchase an ad page in the yearbook that focuses on celebrating your child. The pricing for ad pages are \$100.00 (full page), \$50.00 (half page), \$25.00 (1/4 page). This pricing will last until the end of November. **DON'T MISS OUT!**

## Haskell Cross Country 2014

By: Mr. Andy Knobloch

Dear Parents and Students,

Welcome to the start of another year of Haskell Cross-Country. We are looking forward to another great season of success for your student's team. The girls' team will be looking to win their 12<sup>th</sup> district championship, while the boys' team will be looking to improve on their second place finish.

Training for the season will begin for the students by running in their PE classes. Students will turn in their times (1/2 mile and mile), and have them recorded on our team log in my room. They will receive credit for all the mileage they record on the log. They will also be given the opportunity to run up to 10 miles away from school for which they can receive mileage credit. Students can earn incentive items for achieving their higher levels of mileage throughout the season at no cost to them.

Haskell CC T-shirt – 25 miles

Haskell CC Sweatshirt – 50 miles

Haskell CC bag – 75 miles

After school practice will begin in November to prepare the team for the upcoming district level races. A schedule will be released at that time. All students must have a "blue card" which is the student athletic emergency form. Students must be eligible for activities at school, participating athletes cannot be on the Non-Activity list.

### **Haskell Cross-Country 2017 Schedule**

TBA Tetzlaff Invitational (1.5 miles) 2:45 – 5:00

12/8 Saturday. LA 84 / Run 4 Fun (2 K) 7:00 – 2:30

12/13 Wednesday District Finals (2 miles) 2:45 – 6:00

If you have an questions please feel free to contact me by email at ([andy.knobloch@abcusd.us](mailto:andy.knobloch@abcusd.us))

Thank You for your continued support

Mr. Knobloch

Haskell CC Coach