



# HOWARD B. THOMAS GRADE SCHOOL

Mr. Jeff Gerard, Principal   Mrs. Megan Moretti, Assistant Principal   MAY 2021 E-BLAST



## Teacher Appreciation Week

Please join me in celebrating all of our wonderful HBT teachers and staff members during Teacher Appreciation Week - May 3rd through May 7th. They go above and beyond for our students - every single day!

## Student Placement

Each year during the months of April and May the school staff begins the very important job of placing students in classrooms for the next school year. Much effort and time is put into the process in order to provide a placement in which each child will learn to the best of his/her abilities. Our staff works to create well balanced classroom instructional groups through a process incorporating many factors including levels of academic ability, performance in reading and math, class size, learning styles, study skills, and social relationships. Also, taken into consideration are gender ratio and teaching style. Because of our need to balance classrooms in terms of all these and other factors, we are unable to honor parent requests with respect to specific teachers and classmates. The teachers that have worked directly with your children understand each child's unique needs within the school environment and will be involved in the placement process. The goal is to create classroom groupings in which opportunities for student achievement are maximized. We value academic as well as personal growth for each child and strive to maintain a classroom setting in which this occurs. Final classroom placements are not finalized until closer to the start of the next school year. Our ability to achieve these goals is only enhanced by your support. We appreciate your support and understanding in this process.

**KINDERGARTEN RIDE-A-BUS**

This event will take place at Prairie View Grade School, 10N630 Nesler Rd., Elgin. Door #9. We invite parents and their child to come for a short presentation on Kindergarten First Ridership. After the presentation, we will offer a short ride on a school bus.

\*Check out our [School Bus Safety slideshow](#).

Upcoming dates....

May 1st	Registration for the 21.22 school year is open. Please complete the online portion in Skyward.	
May 1st	Renters & Host families, It is time to update your verification of residency for the 21.22 school year.	
Monday, 5/3	ABC Countdown begins	
Week of May 3rd	Teacher Appreciation Week	
Monday, 5/31	NO SCHOOL	Memorial Day
Friday, 6/4	5th grade: Zoom Magic Show	7:00 PM (see flyer enclosed)
Tuesday, 6/8	Last full day of school for all students in early education through 5th grade.	
Sunday, 6/13	Write Stuff School Supplies orders due	
Wednesday, 6/23	<a href="#">Kindergarten Ride-A-Bus</a>	PKMS @ 5:00 PM
Wednesday, 8/11	The 21.22 school year begins for 1st - 5th grade students.	
Monday, 8/16	The 21.22 school year begins for kindergarten and early education students	

**District Resources**

\*School Board virtual meetings @ [301 BOE](#)     [301 PODCASTS](#)     [DIGITAL BULLETIN BOARD](#)



# IT'S AN ABC COUNTDOWN!

				<b>A</b> Monday, May 3 <b>A DAY</b> Animal Day (bring your favorite stuffy)	<b>B</b> Tuesday, May 4 <b>B Day</b> Beach day (beach attire)
<b>C</b> Wednesday, May 5 <b>C DAY</b> Comfy Day (wear your comfiest clothes)	<b>D</b> Thursday, May 6 <b>D DAY</b> Drop Everything and Draw	<b>E</b> Friday, May 7 <b>E DAY</b> Exercise Day	<b>F</b> Monday, May 10 <b>F Day</b> Favorite Day (favorite color, outfit, book, lunch, etc)	<b>G</b> Tuesday, May 11 <b>G DAY</b> Game Day	<b>H</b> Wednesday, May 12 <b>H DAY</b> Hat Day
<b>I</b> Thursday, May 13 <b>I DAY</b> I Spy Day	<b>J</b> Friday, May 14 <b>J Day</b> Joke Day (bring your favorite joke)	<b>K</b> Monday, May 17 <b>K DAY</b> King and Queen Day (dress fancy!)	<b>L</b> Tuesday, May 18 <b>L DAY</b> Luau Day (dress Hawaiian)	<b>M</b> Wednesday, May 19 <b>M DAY</b> Mismatch Day	<b>N</b> Thursday, May 20 <b>N DAY</b> Neon Day
<b>O</b> Friday, May 21 <b>O DAY</b> Occupation Day (dress like what you want to be)	<b>P</b> Monday, May 24 <b>P DAY</b> Pajama Day	<b>Q</b> Tuesday, May 25 <b>Q DAY</b> Quiet Day	<b>R</b> Wednesday, May 26 <b>R DAY</b> Rainbow Day (dress like the rainbow)	<b>S</b> Thursday, May 27 <b>S DAY</b> Sunglasses Day	<b>T</b> Friday, May 28 <b>T DAY</b> Twister Day (wear Twister gear)
<b>U</b> Tuesday, June 1 <b>U DAY</b> USA Day (wear red, white, and blue)	<b>V</b> Wednesday, June 2 <b>V DAY</b> Victory Day (favorite sports gear)	<b>W</b> Thursday, June 3 <b>W DAY</b> Where's Waldo Day (look for a special Waldo!)	<b>X</b> Friday, June 4 <b>X DAY</b> Xtra Free Time	<b>Y</b> Monday, June 7 <b>Y DAY</b> Yoga Day	<b>Z</b> Tuesday, June 8 <b>Z DAY</b> Zip Up and Zoom Out!

# Come Join the Band!

The Central 301 Band Program is excited for our current 4th (5th grade band) and 5th (6th grade band) graders to get the opportunity to join the band next school year! Starting May 3rd Mrs. Brittany Rennels and Mr. Kevin Fredrick will be **joining current 4th and 5th grade music classes** to introduce the musical instruments and show the students what it is like to be part of the band at PKMS! Students will be introduced to the instruments in band and shown a video of what band is like at every level! Students will receive a flyer to take home with more information about joining the band.



Following a week of instrument introduction students will be invited to attend either virtual or in person instrument fittings. The purpose of these fittings is to help students find the instrument that suits them best. The virtual instrument fitting will take place via Google meet and the in-person outdoor, socially distanced instrument fitting will be held at Prairie Knolls Middle School. All proper CDC guidelines will be followed along with proper sanitary cleaning after each instrument fitting.

The Monday following the virtual and in person instrument fittings parents will be invited to attend a meeting regarding the instrument rental program with our local Music and Arts representative.

## Important Dates:

4th Grade Instrument Days - May 3rd-7th  
4th Grade Virtual Instrument Fitting - May 7th @6pm  
4th Grade In Person Instrument Fitting - May 8th 9am-2pm  
4th Grade Zoom Meeting - May 10th @7pm  
4th Grade Band Registration Opens May 10th

5th Grade Instrument Day - May 10th - 14th  
5th Grade Virtual Instrument Fitting - May 14th @6pm  
5th Grade In Person Instrument Fitting - May 15th 9am-2pm  
5th Grade Zoom Meeting - May 17th @7pm  
5th Grade Band Registration Opens May 17th

For more information or questions please check out the [PKMS Band Website](https://sites.google.com/central301.net/pkms-band) (https://sites.google.com/central301.net/pkms-band)

Questions? Email Mrs Rennels or Mr. Fredrick!

- [Brittany.Rennels@Central301.net](mailto:Brittany.Rennels@Central301.net)
- [Kevin.Fredrick@Central301.net](mailto:Kevin.Fredrick@Central301.net)







# SAVE THE DATE!!!

FRIDAY, JUNE 4TH 2021

7:00 pm

HBT is rolling out the red carpet for the 5th grade send off!

HBT PTO is providing a FREE night of amazing magic with Jeff Evans.



## 5th Grade Graduation: Zoom Magic Show

~Celebrate the end of the school year with Jeff Evans' virtual Amazing Magic Show! This is an interactive experience, so have your camera on and be ready to un-mute and you may be part of the experience. Jeff will also teach you to perform your own magic trick. Have a deck of cards, a piece of paper, two paper clips, and a pair of scissors handy and you can amaze yourself in your own home!

~Be sure to rename your user name to your first name(s) as it makes it easier for Jeff to call on volunteers. The show time starts at 7:00 pm, the Zoom Room will be open 15 minutes beforehand. So get dressed up and join us for delicious dinner and show!

**Zoom meeting ID: 886 8456 1190**

**Password: 264010**



847-697-1400

**Before the show pick up a \$25.00 pizza deal!**

14 inch 4 topping pizza

Family size caesar or house salad

1 order of breadsticks or cinnamon sticks

2 2 liters of soda of your choice

Promo code:

**HBT 5th Graduation ONLY** valid for 6/4/2021

Hello Central Staff and Families,

As we all have heard the **amazing Teresa Cinquegrani** is retiring at the end of this school year. We are **SO** sad to see her go, but also **incredibly** excited for her as she is moving on to her next adventure!

We are looking for any staff, students, and parents in the community to **create a short video** sending Teresa **well wishes** on her **next journey**. We are asking that the video is no longer than 45 seconds - 1 minute in length. We will present this video to her at her end of the year **retirement gathering**. Your video can be emailed to Lauren Ferry at [lauren.ferry@central301.net](mailto:lauren.ferry@central301.net) and are due no later than **May 19th**.

Thank you for your help making this a **special sendoff** for our **good friend and colleague!**

# Howard B Thomas Grade School 2021-22 Supply Kit Sale

Online Sale: **Now - June 13th\***  
Kits distributed before school starts



## Easy Ordering Instructions

- ✓ Visit [www.write-stuff.com/storefront/school/HBT](http://www.write-stuff.com/storefront/school/HBT)
- ✓ Select kit needed for the 2021-22 school year
- ✓ Enter student information
- ✓ Follow prompts to check out!

Orders placed by **6/13** ship to school for **FREE**.  
Standard shipping rates apply to any orders placed for home delivery.  
Last date to order before school starts June 20<sup>th</sup>.

\*discounts & promotions offered only apply to orders placed during sale dates.

If you have any questions, please contact:  
Dawn Conklin [mydesigner@msn.com](mailto:mydesigner@msn.com)



**PLEASE NOTE:** YOUR SCHOOL IS RECEIVING DISCOUNTED PRICING DURING THE ABOVE SALE DATES ONLY. AFTER JUNE 13TH, REGULAR PRICING and SHIPPING RATES WILL APPLY & EDITING WILL NO LONGER BE AVAILABLE. THE LAST DAY KITS WILL BE AVAILABLE ONLINE IS JUNE 20<sup>TH</sup>. PLEASE REMEMBER YOUR CHILD'S SUPPLY KIT IS A CUSTOM ORDER. CAREFULLY READ THROUGH THE ORDER TERMS AT CHECKOUT.

Email: [contact@write.stuff.com](mailto:contact@write.stuff.com) • Web Site: [www.write-stuff.com](http://www.write-stuff.com)

*Quality Service + Quality Products = Quality Time*