



# Heights Happenings

## The Monthly Newsletter of Heights Elementary IB World School

**Vision:** *To be a world-class school.*

**Mission:** *Heights Elementary IB World School is dedicated to developing balanced, life long learners through educational excellence, a global perspective, reflection and action.*

### Message from Administration

Dear Heights Family,

The past two weeks have been an exceptionally challenging time for our community and school district. Whether you evacuated the area, stayed in a shelter, or hunkered down at your home, all of us were greatly affected by Hurricane Irma. The recent storm resulted in loss of power, property damage, changes to school schedules, and work disruptions. Getting back to a routine and consistency for students can often be the greatest approach to dealing with a crisis.

We are currently working to help students, families and staff who are in need, so if you hear of any needed assistance, please contact me here at the school, 239-481-1761 or via email [douglascp@leeschools.net](mailto:douglascp@leeschools.net). Also, should you at any time feel you need any additional support or assistance for your child in the days, weeks, or months ahead, please feel free to contact the school and we will do our best to provide materials or resources for your family.

Hurricane Irma has changed us all and we will rebuild and become stronger because of it. It truly has been inspiring to hear the number of Heights students, parents, and staff that have come together to help support our community and each other. We are incredibly fortunate to be part of the Heights Elementary IB World School Family.

Sincerely,

Doug Palow, Principal

### Notification to Parents Regarding Out-Of-Field Teachers

Florida State Statute 1012.42 recognizes that teachers at times must be assigned duties in a class outside the field in which the teacher is certified. The following teachers at Heights Elementary are certified, but may be assigned one or more classes outside their areas of certification and are required to take appropriate steps to comply with the statutory regulation. In addition, the following teachers are engaged in training to add the endorsement, English to Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) to their certificates:

Peggy Stamper, Rachael Komrowski, Jordon Stamper, Austin McElyea, Mandy Ryan, Janet Elrubaie, Sally Kee, Lorraine Trina, Briana Grelinski, Stacey Head, Janelle Babinski, Derrick Talbert, Allison Hlavach.

Traducion disponible: Si desean información sobre este boletín por favor de llamar a Lizzette Roman (481-1761) de 7:45am-2:00pm.



**Volume 4, Issue 2**  
**September 25, 2017**



**Breakfast: 7:25 AM - 7:45 AM**

**Student Hours: 7:55 AM - 2:10 PM**

**Office Hours: 7:30 AM - 3:30PM**

**<http://het.leeschools.net>**

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### Upcoming Events

- Sep 29 Back to School Night at Zoomers - 6:00 PM
- Oct 2 Interim Reports
- Oct 12 4:30 PM Open House for PreK, Kindergarten, 1st, 2nd and ESE  
5:45 PM Watch D.O.G.S. Meeting
- Oct 9-13 Celebrating Reading Raising Pennies for
- Oct 13 End of 1st Quarter
- Oct 16 Regular School Day (Make Up Hurricane Day)
- Oct 20 Heights PTA Auction - 6:00 PM
- Oct 25 Report Cards

### IB Profile Word for October

**Thinker**

*We use critical and creative thinking skills to analyze and take responsible action on complex problems.*

*We exercise initiative in making reasoned, ethical decisions.*

*"Nuture your mind with great thoughts; to believe in the heroic makes heroes." Benjamin Disraeli*



### The School Board of Lee County, Florida

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**Dr. Gregory K. Adkins, Superintendent**

# Hurricane Irma—Resources for Helping Families Cope

Here are a couple of resources for Helping Families/Children Cope with events such as Hurricane Irma. There are many more available on the world-wide web.

**Sesame Street and PSEG (Public Serviced Electric and Gas Company) offers a Family Guide: *Here for Each Other, Helping Families After a Hurricane*.** This resource can be found at [www.sesamestreet.org/emergencies](http://www.sesamestreet.org/emergencies). Here are a few highlights from this publication:

For children, comfort and reassurance help them to feel secure:

- \* Try to keep to as much of your regular routine as possible.
- \* Children may see the storm played over and over through various media outlets or overhear stories about the storm. Remind your child that the storm is over and they are safe now.
- \* Your child needs to know that it's okay to ask questions at his/her own pace. Questions they may ask are: What happened? Will we be okay? Why did this happen? Did we do something bad? Who will take care of me? When can we go home? There are questions you may not have an answer to, so it is okay to say, "I don't know." "But what I do know is that I love you and I'm going to keep you safe."

Here are some ways to support children and move forward after an emergency:

- \* Spend time together—can be as simple as drawing a picture or singing a song together.
- \* Look for the helpers—help your child focus on all of the helpers around. Do you notice the volunteers at shelters, handing out food and water, helping to repair/protect homes, police officers, firefighters, utility workers? It may be comforting to know that many people are working together to make things better.
- \* Empower your child—give him/her simple responsibilities; encourage to help others such as drawing a picture or writing cards to those in need, or simply to say "thank you" for someone they have seen helping others.

***Helping Children Cope with Disaster*** made available through FEMA and American Red Cross. This resource offers suggestions on how to help children cope with the effects of disaster and **some common reactions that children may exhibit, birth through 6 years, 7 through 10 years and 11 through 18 years.** This resource can be found at: <https://www.fema.gov/pdf/library/children.pdf>



We are so excited to once again welcome **OMEGA MAN** on 09/26/17. Back by popular demand, this highly entertaining show teaches children about respect, confidence, making good choices and being a good person. This anti-bullying lesson kicks off Anti-Bullying month in October so make sure you ask your kiddos about the show and lessons they learned. I bet you they say they LOVED it!

**ZOOMERS BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT:** Third times the charm right? After being flooded out and then evacuated, we are going to try this once more. Please join us Friday, 9/29/17 from 6-9 PM at Zoomers! \$10 wrist band for unlimited go-cart and rides. Dinner and drinks available for purchase. Yes, ladies, Lu La Roe will be there to allow you to do some shopping while the kids are playing. We are back to school (AGAIN) so come have some fun with your Heights families!

Reminder: As you clean up and restock, don't forget to look for BoxTops on cleaning supplies in addition to foods. If you use the BoxTops for Education app, there are BIG bonuses available at Walmart and Sam's Club on products like Annie's and Lysol.

Spirit Wear: Please bear in mind that due to Hurricane Irma, Spirit Wear orders will be delayed from our suppliers. Thank you for your understanding.

It's that time! We are excited for our largest fundraiser of the year, our upcoming Fall Auction! We need all hands on deck. We have lost a little time in our planning and organization of this event and would be thankful for any help we can get. Our "Mardi Gras" Auction is being held on October 20th at Barbara B. Mann at 6:30 PM. Invitations will be coming home soon with ticket purchase information. If you can donate, sponsor, or volunteer, please email [heightselempta@gmail.com](mailto:heightselempta@gmail.com). Thank you in advance for your support!

Our first PTA general meeting of the year, previously scheduled for 9/14/17, will be rescheduled once we have a confirmed date for Open House. It will be held in the evening.

[heightselempta@gmail.com](mailto:heightselempta@gmail.com) Facebook, "Heights Elementary PTA"