



Hardin Valley Elementary School

11445 Hardin Valley Road

Knoxville, TN 37932

Lynn Jaomen – Principal

Kristi Whited – Assistant Principal

Dr. Stephanie Taylor - Assistant Principal

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(865) 470-2088 Fax 560-1480

August 8, 2022

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to school from the Hardin Valley staff! We are all looking forward to working together to have another exciting and amazing year at HVES as we welcome over 1400 students! I am thrilled to be leading such a wonderful school and look forward to getting to know each of you better. I am also excited to be working in the community I live and love! My youngest will be a senior at HVA this year.

Please take some time to read all the information coming home with your child today. Several forms will need to be completed and returned to school.

- A Media Release form, to allow (or deny) us to use your child's picture in our school newsletter, possibly an occasional website picture, or even a newspaper article.
- Complete the Student Verification Form and return ASAP. Please include accurate phone numbers! Also, make sure you provide an email so that you can receive the weekly emails from the school.
- Yellow "dashboard sign" with your child's name on it, to be used at dismissal time to pick up your child by car. This is for your child's security during pick-up at dismissal time. Please read the letter/form attached to this yellow sign, even if your child is a bus rider. Place this yellow sign in your primary vehicle in case they need to be a car rider someday. Should you need it, we will be able to provide an additional card for you.
- School fees are \$25 per student again this year. These can be paid online using School Portal. You can also send checks payable to HVES.
- School Funds Online Information
- KCS Calendar
- Encore Schedule
- Our Student-Parent Handbook has been emailed out and can also be found on the HVES Website. Please review the handbook with your child.

School begins at 7:45 and dismissal time is 2:45 normally, except on half-days, when it is 11:15 and on our new Collaborative Planning Days which will be a 12:30 dismissal. These new early release days are 8/17, 9/21, 11/16, 1/25, 2/15, and 3/22. Please make sure you mark these on your calendar and notify your teacher on how your child goes home on those dates. Always be mindful of keeping our students safe by driving carefully and following the traffic pattern during drop-off and pick-up. Students can arrive at school via bus or car. A map in the handbook explains this traffic pattern in detail. Please study this if you drop off or pick up your child.

Breakfast will be served from 7:15 to 7:35 beginning Monday morning. This year breakfast will be \$2 and lunch will be \$2.75 for students. If you would like to apply for free or reduced-price meals, you can submit an application at www.lunchapplication.com. Due to our increased enrollment, we will not be able to host parents during lunch. We simply have no space available.

It is very important that your child comes to school, arriving on time, every day. You will receive notice through ParentSquare this year at approximately 10:15 a.m. when your child is absent. This is a safety measure and also a way to be certain attendance is always correct. If you receive a notice and your child is at school, please contact the office immediately so that we can make that correction. Read closely the Knox County attendance policy regarding excused and unexcused absences, as well as tardies, included in your handbook. Please know that multiple occurrences of tardiness and early checkouts can affect your child's attendance record. If you check your child out of school earlier in the day, please come to the office, and we will call your child down from the classroom. **After 2:00**, no early checkouts will be allowed, except for emergencies, due to the difficulties of communicating to the classrooms at the end of the day. If your child needs to change his/her method of getting home (i.e. from bus to car), a signed and dated parent note must be delivered to your teacher. Phone calls for change of plans will not be allowed due to logistics and security reasons. A pattern of routine early checkout is educationally inappropriate for children, will be addressed as a tardy situation, and will affect perfect attendance awards. Thanks in advance for working with us.

We have grade level specific "Parent Nights" scheduled, where teachers will explain their curriculum and classroom procedures. Dates for these are below.

- o 16th -1st Grade Back to School Information Night 5-6:00
- o 18th - 2nd and 3rd Parent Information Night 5-6:00
- o 22nd- 4th and 5th grade Parent Information Night 5-6:00
- o 29- K Parent Information Night 5-6:00

Teachers will schedule formal parent teacher conferences after the first mid-term report is sent home. The dates for these will be announced soon.

Please visit the Knox County Schools website at <http://knoxschools.org/> for a wealth of information! Also, follow the trail via "Schools" to the Hardin Valley Elementary site. Please also follow us on our FaceBook page "Hardin Valley Elementary School" and on Twitter. Another great resource for parents is the Hardin Valley Elementary PTO page on Facebook. This year, our district and our school will be utilizing ParentSquare as are our main source of communication. I will be sending out monthly parent letters which will highlight our learning and provide valuable information but will communicate more frequently through ParentSquare. You can download the app for your phone. This will be our mode of communication for our classrooms as well. If you have any questions at all, we will be happy to answer them for you. We are looking forward to a great year at Hardin Valley, and we count on your cooperation and support to make it the very best!

Sincerely,

Lynn Jacomen
Principal