



# Howard Burnham Elementary April Newsletter

April 2021

## *Principal's Message*

Dear Parents,

We all had a wonderful break and now it is time to focus on learning. After this week there are only 55 days remaining with teachers and students focused on achieving all their learning goals.

It is during the 4th grading period that students show the greatest growth. This year, they had a lot of ground to make up, but happily many have done so and more. This is due to devoted parents and teachers. Everyone played a part in delivering instruction and contributed to student success.

Currently Howard Burnham has about 76% of the students back on campus. Despite having to change the way the school functions, the overall experience is positive.

For students in 3rd, 4th, and 5th grades the STAAR test will be administered this year. The data from the test will be used to assist with targeted instruction for the upcoming school year.

When teachers know what a student doesn't know, they can design lessons to target needs. This is very exciting news as we know there are learning gaps which can be addressed with data. For parents of students in 3rd, 4th and 5th grades who are in the Virtual Learning environment, we ask that you bring your student to the campus for STAAR testing. The benefits of knowing what your student needs to learn is critical to success. The testing environment will follow all CDC guidelines. I hope you will consider this opportunity.

*Martha Franco*

Principal

## **STAAR Testing**

**We will continue with STAAR testing for grades 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> in May. It is our hope that all students can participate.**

## **It may seem like there is never enough time to get everything done.**

Consider using the rhythm of your daily life to shape the values in your home – take advantage of the time you already have:

**Morning Time:** Be a coach. Help them find purpose by starting the day with encouraging words.

**Drive Time:** Be a friend. Talk about life during informal conversations as you travel.

**Meal Time:** Be a teacher. Have conversation while you eat together.

**Bed Time:** Be a counselor. Strengthen your relationship at the end of every day with heartfelt conversations about feelings.

**So, don't miss it.** Use the time you have (without technology or distractions) to deepen relationships and encourage values in your home.

## **Important Dates in April**

April 1<sup>st</sup> – 2<sup>nd</sup> (No School, Spring Holiday)

April 6<sup>th</sup> – (4<sup>th</sup> Grade Writing STAAR Test)

April 21<sup>st</sup> – (Administrative Professionals' Day)

April 22<sup>nd</sup> – (Earth Day)

April 24<sup>th</sup> – (Saturday school)

April 30<sup>th</sup> – (End of 5<sup>th</sup> – 6 weeks)