
Welcome to Armstrong 2021-2022



July 28, 2021



July

- 29 - Back to School Sign Up begins 9am**
- 29 - Annual Proof of Residency begins**
- Registration Continues**

August

- 1 - 17 New Student Registration Continues**
- 6 - Back to School Sign Up ends**
- 13 - New Family Coffee**
- 16 - Kindergarten Family Coffee**
- 16 - Find your Place in the Eagle's Nest 5 - 6pm**
- 18 - First Day of School**
- 20 - Cafeteria Training**



Dear Armstrong Families,

Welcome to John S. Armstrong Elementary School's 107th year! I am delighted to serve as the 2021-2022 Parent Teacher Association (PTA) President. Our school year theme for 2021-2022 is "Camp Armstrong, Adventure Awaits!". We have so many fun and engaging events and activities planned for our families and students this year and we are ready for the adventure to begin!

John S. Armstrong Elementary first opened its doors in 1914 as the first school in the Highland Park Independent School District. Today, Armstrong continues to provide a uniquely positive and nurturing educational environment that allows each child to reach his or her individual potential and foster a lifelong love of learning. The mission of the Armstrong PTA is to partner with teachers, staff, and administrators to maintain Armstrong's 107 year tradition of excellence in education. You can help continue this tradition by volunteering your time and by supporting our fundraising efforts throughout the school year.

The PTA provides several opportunities for parents to become involved and connect with the school, other parents, and your children including Auction, Cafeteria, Carnival, Field Day, Garden, Community Outreach, New Families, Open House, Teacher Appreciation, Eagle Store, Teacher Workroom, Yearbook, Room Parent, and many more!

We also have a wonderfully involved Dads Club! They host several social events throughout the year, and they support Armstrong in several ways including funding teacher appreciation luncheons and gifts, serving sno-cones on the first and last days of school, opening our car doors during morning carpool, and serving lunch in the cafeteria. Please reach out to Nick Silva (nsilva424@gmail.com) for more information.

Part of continuing Armstrong's longstanding tradition of excellence in education requires fundraising for our school. Almost 70% of every property tax dollar in HPISD is recaptured by the state and redistributed to other school districts across Texas. This leaves Armstrong with a significant budgetary shortfall. The PTA helps bridge the gap between the budget shortage in state funding and the cost to educate each student. Gifts from the Armstrong PTA cannot be recaptured; each gifted dollar goes directly to Armstrong to benefit our students and staff.

Our families also give back by volunteering their time and talents, saving the district hundreds of thousands of dollars annually. The PTA operates, funds, and staffs our cafeteria in partnership with HPISD. This requires 160 parent volunteers each month to ensure the cafeteria runs smoothly. Armstrong parents have volunteered in the cafeteria since 1921; please consider becoming part of this longstanding important and fun tradition!

By coming together as a parent community and sharing our time, talents, and donations with Armstrong, we can ensure that each student receives the outstanding and meaningful education that they deserve. Thank you for your support; YOU help make Armstrong the uniquely wonderful school it is, and we appreciate your dedication to our Armstrong Eagles. Adventure Awaits! "The Greatest Adventure is what lies ahead." JRR Tolkien

Sincerely,

Suzie Curnes, PTA President 2021-2022
president@armstrongpta.org
214-232-3003
John S. Armstrong Elementary School
3600 Cornell Avenue
Dallas, TX 75205
214-780-3100



Back to School Sign Up Begins Tomorrow!

Back to School Sign Up (BSSU) begins tomorrow, July 29th, and runs through Friday, August 6th. BSSU must be completed by every HPISD family to provide important information to HPISD and the PTA. You should have received a pink envelope in the mail with information regarding BSSU. Your Skyward login and password are used to complete BSSU. If you did not receive this pink envelope, please reach out to Jamie Condon (condonj@hpsid.org). **(BSSU button below to see the BSSU letter.)**

BSSU is a convenient one stop online shop to pay for supplies, yearbooks, directories, field trips, spirit wear, 4th grade graduation events, PTA membership, Dads Club membership, auction tickets, and more. Please also show love and support to our teachers and staff by contributing to our Teacher Appreciation fund. This fund allows the PTA to provide monthly luncheons, gifts, and seasonal gift cards to our teachers and staff. You can also sign up for several volunteer opportunities at Armstrong. Being a volunteer is a wonderful way to spend time with friends and see your children at school. Your volunteered hours also save our district hundreds of thousands of dollars. We especially need someone from

every family to volunteer in the cafeteria once a month to ensure a smooth lunch service for our Armstrong Eagles.

BSSU provides a wonderful way to give back to Armstrong through our Family Giving Campaign. Armstrong faces a \$400,000 annual funding gap due to the Texas recapture laws that redistribute almost 70% of our tax dollars to other districts across the state. Money donated to Armstrong cannot be recaptured by the state. This money goes directly to Armstrong to positively impact the school environment for our students and staff. Please donate to Armstrong and help us continue to provide excellence in education for our children and allow us to continue to attract and retain talented and dedicated teachers.

BSSU also provides opportunities to give to other district wide organizations like HPEF Mad for Plaid, PC TAG, HP Arts, PCLDA, HP Sports Club, and several other important groups.

If you encounter any problems, please reach out to the BSSU Help Desk:

-Open from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. July 29th-30th and August 2nd-6th

-In Person: HPISD Administration Building ([7015 Westchester Drive](#))

-Phone: 214-780-404

-email:myhponline@hpisd.org

BSSU Letter



Dear Armstrong Elementary Families,

Welcome to John S. Armstrong's 2021-2022 school year; our 107th year! Our theme this year is "Camp Armstrong, Adventure Awaits", and we have many fun and enriching activities planned for the year ahead and we are delighted to have you as part of the Armstrong Eagle family.

Family Giving is our primary fundraising campaign where our entire school community comes together to gift financial support to our wonderful school. We need our families to help bridge the annual \$400,000 funding gap created by the Texas school finance recapture laws that redistribute almost 70% of our tax dollars to other districts across the state. **This equates to \$1,100 per student.** We

encourage every family to give at some level. **Our goal is 100% participation.**

Your financial contributions allow Armstrong to continue its tradition of excellence in education. Please support our Eagles so that we may continue providing a uniquely warm and welcoming learning environment where talented teachers want to teach, and all children reach their individual potential while gaining a lifelong love of learning.

Your donations help fund a variety of programs and operations expenses including:

- Teacher Salaries
- Professional Development and Literacy Coaching
- Teacher Graduate Course Reimbursement
- Teacher Appreciation Luncheons, Gifts, and Gift Cards
- Classroom Supplies and Books
- Curriculum Materials
- PE and Recess Equipment
- Spanish Program
- Learning Garden Supplies and Instructor Salaries
- Special Events
- Scheduled Technology Equipment Upgrades and Replacements
- Software Subscriptions
- Copier Leases and Supplies
- Teacher Workroom and Cleaning Supplies
- Improvement to the Building and Grounds

Please visit our new PTA Website and see the Family Giving details.

armstrongpta.org

Thank you for your generosity to Armstrong. Adventure Awaits!

Sincerely,

Suzie Curnes
Armstrong PTA President 2021-2022
president@armstrongpta.org

“The greatest adventure is what lies ahead.”

JRR Tolkien



Goldie's Cafe needs your help!

PLEASE SECURE YOUR 2021-2022 CAFETERIA VOLUNTEER SHIFT

We need someone from every family to volunteer once a month in order to serve lunch to our Armstrong students! Your children love seeing you in the school, you will meet lifelong friends, and your volunteered time saves the district \$400,000 annually. The shift will be 10:50 a.m. - 12:40 p.m. Thank you for volunteering your time!

MONDAY MAY 24TH

Shifts open to all volunteers

It is now time for our new and returning volunteers to claim shifts for next year. Please log into VSP to select your monthly recurring shift or email volunteers@armstrongpta.org

*Click here to
Volunteer!*

QUESTIONS:

cafquestions@armstrongpta.org
volunteers@armstrongpta.org

2021 - 2022 VSP Instructions

Volunteer Here

If you have any questions about cafeteria sign up, please email president@armstrongpta.org (Suzie Curnes), she will be happy to answer any questions.



Don't forget to let us know if you have moved. Submitting address updates in Skyward has to be done by the office staff with all proof of residency documents submitted.

You can look on the HPISD website under proof of residency to see what documents we need and they can be uploaded or sent to the office.

Thank you!

Armstrong Elementary | 214.780.3100 | [3600 Cornell Ave](#) | [Armstrong.hpsid.org](#)



[Dave Ray, Counselor](#)
214.780.3140

[Betsy Cummins, Principal](#)
214.780.3100

[Crystal Hunt, Nurse](#)
214.780.3120

[Jamie Condon,](#)
[Admin Asst](#)
214.780.3103

[Annie Celestino,](#)
[Cafeteria](#)
214.780.3125

[Hailey Dalrymple](#)
[Admin Asst](#)
214.780.3102

[Attendance Desk](#)
214.780.3100

[Cafeteria](#)

[PTA Website](#)

[PTA Auction](#)

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[Volunteer](#)
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[Skyward](#)

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ARattendance@hpsid.org