



Dear Parents/Guardians,

August 14<sup>th</sup> is near, “Oh dear!” On behalf of the staff at Helen Major Elementary, I would like to welcome you to the 2019–2020 school year! Hopefully, our students experienced an exciting summer and are ready to continue their adventures in learning. Our goal is to continue building partnerships and relationships with our parents and students. This year’s theme is *“Major All-Stars are Soaring Towards Success.”* All scholars, parents, and staff matter at Major Elementary and we are expecting excellence and growth from everyone.

We did not **SOAR** as high as we anticipated **BUT** we have great plans this year to close our achievement gaps and get parents more involved in their students’ learning. To help grow our scholars in their academics, they will participate in intervention or enrichment time, daily. During this time we will provide differentiated instruction to better meet the needs of “ALL” students. Our academic gaps are sometimes large, but we will continue to challenge our scholars to give 100% of their best in all they do.

Parents will have the opportunity to engage in “Parent Universities” this year and get a preview of concepts and skills scholars are learning in school, in order to strengthen their support at home. Our teachers will be engaged in professional learning communities of practice, data, and learning. We have new school family members who are excited and cannot wait to take our scholars on a new journey of becoming life-long learners.

Our goal is to develop a structure in which students are responsible, motivated, and highly engaged in the learning process. We will do this by equipping our educators with effective practices that will turn them into classroom champions! Spring ISD has also purchased an outstanding literacy program that will engage scholars in various genres, spelling, and even **HANDWRITING!**

**First Day of School Arrivals:** The front of the school will be used as a *“DROP-OFF ZONE ONLY.”* **All parents will be allowed to walk scholars to class on the first day of school.** New families and PK parents will be able to escort their scholars to class on the second and third day of school. Effective Monday, August 19, 2019, scholars will be escorted to class by a staff member. If you are walking your scholar in, please use Sugar Pine Drive or the back parking lot to park. Please do not block any families from entering and leaving.

**First Day of School Traffic Flow for Dismissal:**

**Car riders:** Please pack a bit of patience as our Little All-STARs are learning their routes and car tag numbers. We will get them out to your cars as soon as we can.

**Pick up zone is in the back of the school.** Please hang your car tag numbers on your mirror so that you may be served quickly. Scholars will have matching tags inside and teachers will have a roster to ensure that scholars get to their cars quickly. **Numbers are the same as the year before.** New car tag numbers will be distributed at Meet the Teacher Night.

**Bus riders:** Please confirm your child’s transportation on Meet the Teacher Night, Friday, August 9, 2019. Your child’s teacher will also make a courtesy call home to ensure that he/she know how your child is getting home in the PM.

This year, we will also be celebrating 10 years of serving our school community. Please look forward to receiving an invitation to this great celebration. Also, this year we will continue our district’s imperative, EveryChild 2020— a student-centered plan designed to fundamentally transform Spring ISD. The main imperatives for SISD are: Reach every student; Excellence in every school; High performance from every employee; Engaged stakeholders in every community; and Opportunities for choice for every family. If you have not done so, I encourage you to visit the district’s website at [www.springisd.org](http://www.springisd.org) and read EveryChild2020.

Meals will be provided at no charge thanks to the Community Eligibility Provision program. Please visit [www.springisd.org/nutrition](http://www.springisd.org/nutrition) to view upcoming menus and learn more about the free meal program.

Breakfast in the classroom will continue from 7:30–7:54 a.m. daily. Instruction will begin promptly at 7:55 a.m. In order for students to receive breakfast, they must be in the building by 7:54 am. Although breakfast will be served in the classroom, lunch will continue to be served in the cafeteria. Parents are welcome to eat lunch with students, Mondays and Tuesdays, on “Lunch Bunch” days during your child’s lunch time only. The tardy bell does ring at 8:00 a.m. and scholars are marked absent after 9:55 a.m. Please ensure that your child is at school on time.

It is my firm belief that all children can learn, but not all children learn in exactly the same way. As principal of Helen Major Elementary, I am committed to using all the resources available to help your child not only meet the standard, but excel at their highest potential. Our two counselors are also on campus as an additional resource, to help build your scholar socially and emotionally.

Keep up with campus events by accessing our school's website or our campus' Twitter page. We update our website daily to keep you informed of upcoming events. We are currently looking for members to join Parent-Teacher Organization (PTO). If you are interested, please download the form from the website under PTO, fill it out, and return it to school with your child. The fee is only \$5. The PTO consists of parents and teachers working together to support the efforts of Helen Major Elementary. PTO helps in the classroom and volunteers for various events and fundraising. If you are interested in volunteering, please check the website for our calendar of events.

We are claiming this 2019-2020 school year as a SUCCESS and we will SOAR! We are looking forward to partnering with you to ensure that your child receives an exceptional education. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Sincerely,

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