



# The Husky Herald

October 2020

Good morning, Horizon and ATEC West Community!

I hope this version of the Husky Herald finds your families well. I love this time of year—the change in seasons (cooler temperatures especially), colorful leaves, college football (sort of), Halloween preparations, and more. Even though this October looks different than previous years, we hope to make the most of the time we have to create a sense of normalcy with our students and community.

Martina Navratilova, a famous tennis player from 1975-2005, once said, “Disability is a matter of perception. If you can do just one thing well, you’re needed by someone.” I see your sons and daughters as individuals who have so much good to give to the world around them. There is time to discuss areas of weakness and disability to help students grow in critical areas of their education, but it is just as (if not more) important to find their gifts, talents, and abilities. As we discover or recognize their strengths, we can help them to share their gifts with those around them. We also learn and benefit from their perseverance, grit, and just plain goodness. I’m grateful to be surrounded by students who make their class, school, and community a richer and better place. My main message today is that our students *can* learn, grow, and contribute to society. With our faculty and in consultation with our School Community Council members, we have created a new school mission statement that reflects our school’s purpose. Our new Horizon School Mission is the following:

United as a team, we are committed to the growth of our students, empowering them to be contributing members of the community.

I believe in our mission. We exist to ensure our students grow and succeed. We want them to contribute to the community in meaningful ways. This is a possibility for every student that comes to Horizon School and ATEC West. Our attitude and belief that we hold towards these students’ potential and capacity impacts their outcomes significantly. I am confident in our teachers’ and support staff’s ability to advocate for these students and help them to be as independent and successful as possible. Thank you for being such an integral part of your son or daughter’s education. As we work unitedly as a team, we can do so much more together. Thank you for your efforts and support!

Sincerely,

Dan Heaps  
Principal

## Upcoming Events

- October 7                    Parent Teacher Conferences (4:00-7:30pm)
- Teachers are scheduling these conferences directly with parents. Each time slot is for 15 minutes each. We are making it available for parents to come in person or do the conference over the phone or Google Meet. (Teachers will break for dinner from 5:30-6:00pm) If you haven't received communication from teachers, please feel free to contact the front office (801-610-8728).
- October 14                    Minimal Day and last day of 1<sup>st</sup> Term
- ATEC loads busses at 11:30am
  - Horizon loads busses at 12:35pm
- October 14                    ATEC-West Theatre Group Performances - Charlie and the Chocolate Factory
- Performances for smaller student groups at 9:00 and 10:00 in the gym.
- October 15-19                Fall break (no classes)
- October 23                    Picture re-takes

## Important Items

**Sick Students:** We want to thank you for your efforts to keep your sons and daughters home when they are showing symptoms of illness. This is a crucial part of keeping our students safe.

**Charlie and the Chocolate Factory:** We won't be able to accommodate parents to come and watch this show in person, but we are working to record and send it out to our community.

**Halloween Costume Parade and Dance:** Due to COVID-19 concerns and district guidance we have been asked to not hold a Halloween parade and dance this year. Each classroom is welcome to have their own Halloween celebrations while still implementing safety measures.

**Facebook Group:** We have a private Facebook group for our school! We encourage any and all parents, guardians, and staff to join. We use this Facebook page to send out reminders, information, upcoming events, faculty spotlights, highlights from classes, and more.

Facebook Link:

[https://www.facebook.com/groups/289655102455482/?multi\\_permalink=305455714208754&notif\\_id=1598468796536556&notif\\_t=group\\_activity&ref=notif](https://www.facebook.com/groups/289655102455482/?multi_permalink=305455714208754&notif_id=1598468796536556&notif_t=group_activity&ref=notif)

**Substitutes:** The district is in need of substitute teachers. Feel free to go to or share the following link to get set up for substituting: [www.ess.com/alpine](http://www.ess.com/alpine). If you know of someone who is specifically interested in subbing at Horizon, please let us know so we can put them on our preferred sub list.