



# Weekly Hawklined



### **Principal's Message**

Hello Skyeeehawks!

Dr. Eimear O'Brien, our superintendent, is retiring this year. She was hired as a third-grade teacher at Maple Creek when I was the school's GIS. My daughter was in her class. We go back a long time and have worked together in various roles throughout our careers—a wonderful person and educator. I will miss her. Although she has several, one of my favorite O'Brien quotes is "Clovis Unified leaders are stewards of a legacy of high standards for our students, for our teams and for ourselves". Simply, that's our job as educators: To get ALL students to meet those high standards. Another way to put it: To get ALL students on grade level in reading, writing, math, science, social studies, physical education (PE), and to behave like outstanding citizens. That is difficult work, and that's why Dr. O'Brien in her quote added "... high standards ... for our teams". The work that we do is difficult, so difficult that it takes staff and families working together (at high levels) to be successful.

How do we know that educators are getting students to meet those "high standards"? Well, we have several measurements: parent surveys, students surveys, staff surveys, grades, academic awards, etc. One of the most accurate ways to determine if students are growing towards those high academic standards are tests. Traditionally, the month of May is our heavy testing month. TK through 2<sup>nd</sup> grade take district tests, and grades 3 through 6 take a state test. Some people ask, "Why do we take testing so seriously?" or "Why do we focus on it so much?" Well, it's one of our most important indicators to determine if we're getting students to meet those "high standards". It's how we determine if we're successful or not. The test score indicates whether the student is above, on, or below grade level. We use test scores to also help us decide how to best serve the student based upon their ability level.

When someone asks us "Why are tests so important?", it's like asking a doctor "Why is surgery so important?" Well, a doctor's goal is to heal a patient, and a teacher's goal is to get a student on grade level. When we get a student, like a doctor, we assess the student's strengths and weaknesses. We apply instructional strategies, use intervention programs, develop a close relationship with the child to get to know the motivators and discouragers, etc. Once we diagnose the issues, we prescribe a plan for growth. If we have done our job well, we will hopefully cure the student of their academic difficulties. The student demonstrates his or her growth on the end-of-the-year test. Sometimes, students come to us with a lot of deficits, and so it may take more than one year to get them on grade level. But the goal is still "high standards" for all. With all the diversity of personalities and ability levels with our students, what changes is not the "high standard". We expect every student to perform at those high levels. What may change is how we get them there. One strategy may work for one student, but it may not work for another. Finding the right strategy that works may require the creative efforts for our teams, or it requires "high standards for our teams". We got to get good at what we do if we want ALL students on grade level.

Fly High, Fly Proud, Fly with High Standards

George Petersen

Liberty Elementary School



From the desk of  
Parent Club President Melissa Gullekson...

Please be sure to set up your account with Membership Toolkit! This is where you will be able to get information and purchase tickets for any PTC events!

Hope to see you at our last PTC meeting of the year on May 9!

<https://fresnolibertyptc.membershiptoolkit.com>

## Lost & Found



Our lost and found bin is full! Please stop by to check for lost items!





From the Skyhawk  
Health Office...

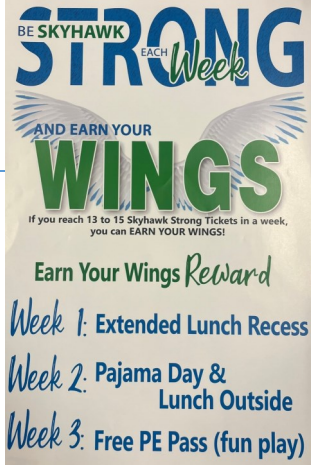


All students entering the 7th grade are required to present documentation of having received the Tdap (pertussis) booster and two doses of the Varicella vaccination. Please get those into our Health Office by May 30, 2023.

Current TK/K students, oral health exams are due by May 31st!

If you have any questions, please contact the Liberty

Monday, May 8	Tuesday, May 9	Wednesday, May 10	Thursday, May 11	Friday, May 12
<p><b>Block L Applications Due</b></p> <p><b>8:10-9:40 am</b> 4th Grade Music</p> <p><b>10:10</b> Student Council Meeting Room 19</p> <p><b>2:45 – 3:45</b> Track Practice</p>  <p>Happy Birthday, Mr. Salomonson!</p>	<p><b>Clovis West Golden Eagle Area Track Meet</b></p> <p><b>8:05 - 9:40 am</b> Choir/Band/Orchestra</p> <p><b>10:10 - 11:10</b> Classroom Music Room 12 and Room 13</p> <p><b>2:15</b> GATE Meeting - Room 19</p> <p><b>2:50 - 3:50</b> Detention - Room 9</p> <p><b>5:30 - 6:30</b> PTC Meeting</p>	<p><b>National School Nurse Day</b></p>  <p><b>8:00 - 1:00</b> Classroom Music Classes</p> <p><b>Early Release Day</b> 1:15</p> <p><b>3:30 - 4:30</b> Cheer End of Year Celebration MPR</p>	<p><b>9:00 - 2:00</b> 1st Grade Field Trip</p> <p><b>2:45 - 3:45</b> Track Practice (District Qualifiers Only)</p> <p><b>2:50 - 3:50</b> Detention - Room 9</p>	<p><b>2:45 - 3:45</b> Track Practice (District Qualifiers Only)</p> 
Monday, May 15	Tuesday, May 16	Wednesday, May 17	Thursday, May 18	Friday, May 19
<p><b>Bosses' Week</b> <b>Classified School Employees Week!</b></p> <p><b>Block L Invites Go Home</b></p> <p><b>Progress Reports Go Home</b></p> <p><b>8:10-9:40 am</b> 4th Grade Music</p> <p><b>2:45 – 3:45</b> Track Practice</p>	<p><b>Clovis West Golden Eagle Area Track Meet</b></p> <p><b>8:05 - 9:40 am</b> Choir/Band/Orchestra</p> <p><b>10:10 - 11:10</b> Classroom Music Room 12 and Room 13</p> <p><b>2:50 - 3:50</b> Detention - Room 9</p> <p><b>6:00</b> Spring Concert MPR</p>	<p><b>Carnival Winner Lunch!</b></p> <p><b>8:00 - 1:00</b> Classroom Music Classes</p> <p><b>Early Release Day</b> 1:15</p> <p><b>5:00 - 6:00</b> Kindergarten Open House</p>	<p><b>2:45 - 3:45</b> Track Practice</p> <p><b>2:50 - 3:50</b> Detention - Room 9</p>	<p><b>Last Day to Check out from LMC</b></p> <p><b>8:00</b> Volunteer Appreciation</p> <p><b>9:00</b> Teddy Bear Picnic</p> <p><b>9:45</b> District Track Championship Clovis East High School</p> <p><b>11:45</b> Teddy Bear Picnic</p> 



**BE SKYHAWK EACH Week**

**AND EARN YOUR WINGS**

If you reach 13 to 15 Skyhawk Strong Tickets in a week, you can EARN YOUR WINGS!

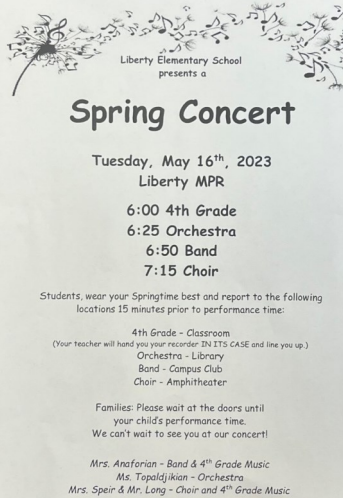
**Earn Your Wings Reward**

**Week 1: Extended Lunch Recess**

**Week 2: Pajama Day & Lunch Outside**

**Week 3: Free PE Pass (fun play)**

## Our Skyhawks are ready to be Skyhawk Strong!



Liberty Elementary School presents a

### Spring Concert

Tuesday, May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023  
Liberty MPR

6:00 4th Grade  
6:25 Orchestra  
6:50 Band  
7:15 Choir

Students, wear your Springtime best and report to the following locations 15 minutes prior to performance time:

4th Grade - Classroom  
(Your teacher will hand you your recorder. ON STS CASE and line you up.)  
Orchestra - Library  
Band - Campus Club  
Choir - Amphitheater

Families: Please wait at the doors until your child's performance time.  
We can't wait to see you at our concert!

Mrs. Anaforian - Band & 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Music  
Ms. Tapalajikian - Orchestra  
Mrs. Speir & Mr. Long - Choir and 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Music

*Check it out!*

## Time to SHOW WHAT WE KNOW!

Our Skyhawks in grades 3rd-6th are gearing up for our upcoming state assessments! Did you know that a high protein breakfast such as eggs or lean breakfast meats will help students perform better during the day? Please be sure your child eats a healthy, low sugar, high protein breakfast each morning prior to coming to school. We want to encourage our students to eat, rest, and perform well so they can reach their GOALS on their end of year assessments. Starting May 1st, Liberty will begin the first dates of the annual state assessment period, CAASPP (California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress) testing. This very important time will help gauge how Liberty is doing in our mission of educating our students..