

# SMOKE SIGNALS

## A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL:

AUGUST, 2006

Dear Parent,

I am Althea Jackson, principal of Hiawassee Elementary. I am a graduate of Florida State University and the University of Central Florida. I am married, with one child and four stepchildren.

I begin this my 7<sup>th</sup> year at Hiawassee with twenty-seven years of experience as an OCPS educator. My career began in 1978 as a substitute teacher at various elementary schools. Later I became a permanent substitute and a compensatory education teacher at Wymore Career Education Center. In the 1979-1980 school year, I transferred to Tildenville Elementary as a music instructor. During my ten-year tenure at Tildenville, I took time to earn a master's degree in guidance and counseling from the University of Central Florida. In 1989 I transferred to Lake Silver Elementary and served there five and a half years as the school guidance counselor. I went back to UCF in 1992 and completed postgraduate studies to become certified in educational leadership. In December of 1994, I was promoted to assistant principal at Bonneville Elementary School. After a year and a half of service, I was transferred to Clarcona Elementary as assistant principal and remained there four years.

Hiawassee is my first assignment as school principal and remains my passion. My chosen career is both stimulating and fulfilling. I am excited to work at Hiawassee and look forward to getting to know you as we work together to enhance the education of our children.

The 2006-2007 school year will be filled with excitement and continued academic growth. Our motto this year is: "We can "C" our "B" while striving for an "A".

My personal goals for this school include:

- Be visible and accessible for students, teachers, and parents.
- Help Hiawassee educators grow and develop so they can make their highest contribution to our children.
- Encourage continuous assessment of student progress and tie assessment results into curriculum planning and delivery of instruction.
- Work to involve families and community partners in the academic structure of the school.
- Celebrate student and staff achievement and successes.
- Foster a love and desire for reading in the hearts and minds of our children.

**PARENT CORNER:** Students gain self-esteem by achieving milestones. Allowing a child to walk to class unescorted is a great way to build your child's self-esteem. Parents are encouraged to walk students to class during the first week of school (8/7-11/06). This will assure them that they know the way. Please allow your child to walk to class on their own at the beginning of the second week of school. Then look for the pride in your child's expression when he or she says, "I can do it myself!"

Althea Jackson

- **Principal**  
Mrs. A. Jackson
- **Assistant Principal**  
Mrs. E. Oats
- **Instructional Support**  
Mr. C. John
- **Parent Resource/Positive Behavior Support**  
Mrs. L. Nichols
- **CRT**  
Mrs. D. Harper
- **Instructional Coach**  
Mrs. E. Moore
- **Literacy Coach**  
Mrs. V. Fisher
- **Staffing Coordinator**  
Ms. L. Kroma
- **Math Coach**  
Mrs. D. Randolph
- **ESOL CCT**  
Mrs. L. Gividen

# AUGUST 2006

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3 Meet the Teacher Day 4-6pm	4	5
6	7 First Day of School 1st day of School Celebration 8:00-9:30	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29 Boys Scout School Night 6:30-8:30pm	30	31		



## MESSAGES:

- ✦ Hiawassee Elementary works very hard to provide and maintain a safe and orderly learning environment for all students, faculty, and staff. Hiawassee values the importance of building cooperative relationships between families and school and want to make sure that children have the opportunity to be successful in and out of school.
- In hopes of assuring that our students and your child has every opportunity to learn and to be successful, we ask that parent(s) / guardian(s) make every effort to have his or her child to school on time daily. Learning begins promptly at 8:15 a.m. and if your child is tardy he or she is missing valuable student learning time on task.
- Please see the schedule below for school hours, breakfast schedule, arrival / departure pick-up schedule and procedures and tardy schedule.

We thank you and looking forward to a continued collaborative partner in your child's educational future.

7:30-8:05-Breakfast

8:05 First bell rings. All students enter class and commence morning routine including Morning Announcements.

8:15 Second bell rings. Instructional Day begins.

8:15 Tardies are recorded in attendance books and attendance rosters.

8:15 Any student arriving after 8:15 must receive a tardy pass from the school office.

- ✦ The Boys Scouts of America will be having "School Night" August 29, 2006 between the hours of 6:30—8:30pm.
- ✦ Are you looking for something fun and exciting for your child to do before and after school? Then our new YMCA Before / After School Program is for you! The cost for both (before and after care) will be \$40.00 per week, after school care \$30.00 and \$15 for before school care. If you have any questions, feel free to contact the YMCA office at 407-296-6410 x 230.