

# **Crab Orchard Elementary**

## **2017-2018 School Year**

Welcome to the 2017-2018 school year! Your Crab Orchard family is excited to announce that this year we will be starting a student leadership program, as well as a new system that will support our school-wide positive behavior program. The two will tie-in together and will promote *The 7 Habits of Happy Kids*. We want to promote positive leadership throughout our school with each and every student in the building.

*The 7 Habits* is a combination of principles of personal and interpersonal effectiveness, such as responsibility, vision, integrity, teamwork, collaboration and renewal. *The 7 Habits* is a key component of *The Leader in Me* process. More information can be found on *The Leader in Me* website at [www.theleaderinme.org/what-is-the-leader-in-me/](http://www.theleaderinme.org/what-is-the-leader-in-me/). *The 7 Habits of Happy Kids* are:

1. Be Proactive
2. Begin with the End in Mind
3. Put First Things First
4. Think Win-Win
5. Seek First to Understand, Then to be Understood
6. Synergize
7. Sharpen the Saw

During the first week of school we will hold an assembly to introduce *The 7 Habits* and the new programs to the students. We will review how *The 7 Habits* will be displayed throughout the different parts of our school, e.g., bathrooms, classrooms, hallways. We will also introduce the House System we will be using for our school-wide positive behavior program.

Our House System is going to be a way to support our school-wide positive behavior program. The entire school (faculty, staff, AND students)

**H.E.R.O.E.S.**

*Here, Everyone Recognizes Our Exceptional Students*

will be sorted into one of five Houses (students will be sorted into Houses during the first week of school). By doing so, we will be able to build a sense of community among staff and students, as well as allowing EVERY student to have a connection at school. The best part? The Houses will compete with each other throughout the year for House points. The House with the most points at the end of the year will win the House Cup!

Houses will have fellowship meetings throughout the school year. House leaders, supporting teachers, and student members will get together for various activities to work on building that sense of community and to create those connections for each House member. There will also be House competitions where members of each House will compete with each other in order to earn House points. We are all very excited to implement this system!

An additional program we will be introducing is the Student Leadership program. We want to promote positive leadership throughout our school, so students will have the chance to become a “Hero”. These “Heroes” will be the face of our school. They will have daily responsibilities, meetings, and other opportunities throughout the school year. Students from each House will be given the opportunity to apply and interview for a limited number of “Hero” positions.

“Hero” positions will be open to 4th- through 8th-grade students, but there will be a “Sidekick” group for Pre-K through 3rd-grade students. These “heroes-in-training” will have the opportunity to shadow a “Hero” and learn from them.

Attached to this letter you will find a more detailed description of *The 7 Habits of Happy Kids*, a list of the ways our students will display *The 7 Habits* in the different areas of the school, and a form that each student will need to fill out in order to receive a House shirt.

We are looking forward to seeing our students develop and strengthen their positive leadership qualities, learn and display *The 7 Habits of Happy Kids*, and really come together as a school community to make this year the best yet here at Crab Orchard Elementary!