



Houdini Hawks Tale

September 2023

Dates to Remember

September 5 - First Day of School

September 14 - 6:00 pm
PTO Meeting

September 21 - Picture Day

September 25 - No School
Professional Development

October 6 - 4:00-7:00 pm
Fall Festival

Meals at Houdini

Daily breakfast will be offered in the classroom free of charge for ALL students. Hot Lunch is available for \$2.70, and milk can be purchased for \$0.40. Money can be added to your child's account through the Infinite Campus Portal or by sending a check or cash with your child in a sealed envelope labeled with their name and Hot Lunch. If your family may qualify for free or reduced priced meals, please complete form online on the Infinite Campus Portal.

**Lunch Supervisors
needed!**

We are looking for help from 11:45am-12:45pm supervising students in the lunchroom and out on the playground. Paid and volunteer positions are available. Commit to one day or all five days. Grandparents, friends, relatives, all are welcome! Call our office at 920-852-5490 for more information.



From the desk of

JEFF SHEPTOSKI
DEAN OF STUDENTS



About Me

My name is Jeff Sheptoski and I am super excited to be joining the Houdini family as the Dean of Students. I have been a classroom teacher for the past ten years in fourth and sixth grade, and am thrilled to step into this new role to serve all of our students. I am also an AASD parent to two kids.

Just the Facts

- Married with three kids ages 8, 6, and 1
- Michigan sports fan (yes, even the Lions)
- Enjoy golfing in my free time
- Enjoy trying different local restaurants
- Was on my college bowling team
- Fueled by coffee

I am most excited about...

getting to know our Houdini students, families and community members to give our students the best educational experience possible. It's going to be a great year!

Contact Information

Email: sheptoskijeffr@asd.k12.wi.us

Phone: 920-852-5490 ext 31021

Houdini Elementary School At-A-Glance 2023-2024 Calendar

(Dates and Times are subject to change)

Watch for updates on our website houdini.aasd.k12.wi.us and
Houdini Elementary Facebook page

August 2023

8-16 NewFamilyOrientation(6pm-7pm)
8-30 TeacherAssignmentsonPortal(8:00am)
8-31 Meet&Greet(4:30-6pm)(PTOFoodTrucks)

September 2023

9-5 FirstDayofSchool
9-14 PTOMeeting(6pm-LMC)
9-21 PictureDay
9-25 NoClasses-StaffProfessionalDevelopment 9-26
ArbitraryMonday

October 2023

10-5 PTO meeting(6pm-LMC)
10-6 PTOFallFest
10-12 Parent/TeacherConferences(4-7:30pm) 10-17
Parent/TeacherConferences(4-7:15pm) 10-26
ArbitraryFriday
10-26 PictureRetakeDay
10-27 NoClasses-StaffProfessionalDevelopment

November 2023

11-3 EndofQuarter1
11-4 PTOCraft&VendorShow(9am-2pm-Gym) 11-9
PTOMeeting(6pm-LMC)
11-22 NoClasses-ConferenceCompensation
11-23 NoClasses-Thanksgiving
11-24 NoClasses-Thanksgiving
11-27 NoClasses-StaffProfessionalDevelopment

December 2023

12-7 WinterConcert-Gr3-6pm/Gr4-6:45pm 12-12
DressRehearsal-Gr6-9am-11:30am
12-12 BandConcert@AppletonWest(7pm) 12/22-
12/29 NoClasses-WinterBreak

January 2024

1-2 ClassesResume-ArbitraryMonday
1-11 PTOMeeting(6pm-LMC)
1-15 NoSchool-MartinLutherKingJr.Day
1-16 ArbitraryMonday
1-18 Concerts - Gr 5 - 6pm / Gr 6 - 6:45pm
1-19 EndofSemester
1-22 NoClasses-StaffProfessionalDevelopment

February 2024

2-8 PTOMeeting(6pm-LMC)
2-19 NoClasses-StaffProfessionalDevelopment 2-20
ArbitraryMonday
2-22 Parent/TeacherConferences(4:00-7:30)
2-27 Parent/TeacherConferences(4:00-7:15)

March 2024

3-14 PTOMeeting(6pm-LMC)
3-21 Endof3rdQuarter
3-22 NoClasses-StaffProfessionalDevelopment
3/25-3/29 NoClasses-SpringBreak

April 2024

4/1 NoClasses-StaffProfessionalDevelopment 4-11
PTOMeeting(6pm-LMC)
4-18 Rehearsal-PRESTO/Band/Strings(1:15pm) 4-18
Strings/Band/PRESTOConcert(6:00pm)

May 2024

5-2 Concerts(Gr1@6pm/Gr2@6:45pm)
5-3 SpringRecital-Kindergarten(9am)
5-9 PTOMeeting(6pm-LMC)
5-14 KindergartenPreview(6-7pm)
5-23 ArbitraryFriday
5-24 NoClasses-StaffProfessionalDevelopment 5-27
NoClasses-MemorialDay

June 2024

6-5 Celebration-Gr5-5pm/Gr6-6:30pm 6-6 FieldDay
6-7am LastDayofSchool11:27Dismissal
6-7pm NoClasses-Records

Houdini Elementary School
2305 W. Capitol Drive
Appleton WI 54914
Phone: 920-852-5490
Fax: 920-852-5491

Watch for updates on our website
<http://houdini.aasd.k12.wi.us/>
Like our Houdini Elementary Facebook page

Girls grades 4-6 can sign up soon for Girls on the Run at Houdini season

23-24! *Join us!*

Girls in Grades: 4th - 6th

Program Days: Tuesdays and Thursdays 3:30 - 5:00

Program Starts: September 12th

Celebration 5k: November 11th

Program Ends: November 16th

Program Location: Houdini

Program Fee: \$160

Financial Assistance is Available

Please contact me with any questions

Abby Vanevenhoven

vanevenhovenab@asd.k12.wi.us



**Registration will open in
August!**

A link will be sent out later

What to expect:

- 20 interactive lessons with trained coaches
- Personal kits with materials for the season including shirt, water bottle, activity journal, snacks for each practice
- Entry into the celebration 5k race and a commemorative finisher's medal and more!

Girls on the Run

is more than a running program!



- Girls have fun making connections and meeting new friends
- Girls get outside, set goals and move more!
- Girls learn intentional decision making, how to use their voice and become confident leaders!



12th Annual "Jesse Pickett" Family Safety Day

On-site parking for this family-friendly event is free, and concessions will be available at no cost.

Saturday, September 9th, 2023 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Grand Chute Fire Station #1 - 2250 W Grand Chute Blvd



Some of the activities may include:

- Emergency Vehicles on Display
- Children's Water Fights
- Hands-On Activities
- Balloon Twisting
- "Jaws of Life" in Action
- Petting Zoo
- Free Raffles and Giveaways
- Drone Demonstration
- Obstacle Course
- Helicopter Landing
- Hands-Only CPR Training
- Live Music ...and more!



This community gathering, which aims to educate the public on a broad scope of safety-related topics, is held in honor of Fire Prevention Specialist Jesse Pickett, who tragically lost his life in a car accident in December, 2013. It serves to memorialize his diligent efforts to reduce the loss of life from fires in our community.

ELEMENTARY BAND

We're looking for YOU!



It's time to welcome our new Houdini band members!!!

All 5th & 6th Graders are invited to join the Houdini Elementary Band. No previous instrument experience is required. Mrs. Juhl will meet with all interested students to help them select the instrument that fits them best.

Being a successful band member requires hard work, dedication, and parental support, but the payoff lasts a lifetime. **The benefits of band participation include increased brain activity, improved listening skills, stronger self-esteem and confidence, stress relief, and frequent opportunities to learn critical employment skills such as creativity, teamwork, and communication.**

Are you ready to get started??? **Visit bit.ly/juhlband-join to learn more!** You can register online or pick up a paper registration form during the first week of school. Please contact Mrs. Juhl at juhlstacy@aasd.k12.wi.us with any questions. **GO HOUDINI BAND!**

ELEMENTARY BAND FAQs...

BAND OR STRINGS?

BOTH! Your student does not have to choose between strings and band in elementary school--a motivated student can do well in both classes!

TIME COMMITMENT?

Band is meant to be an enjoyable, fulfilling experience with lots of learning and fun. 15-20 minutes of practice most days of the week will ensure that your student is able to reap all of the benefits of band participation.

EXPENSE?

Most families choose to rent an instrument at first. Rental costs range from \$30 to \$75 per month depending on the instrument selected. Large instruments such as tuba and baritone are rented through AASD. The district also maintains an inventory of other instruments for students with a financial need. ***NO ONE is turned away from band because of family finances!***