

Welcome Hazen Community!

Thank you for coming tonight, for showing up! Your students know you are here, walking their halls, sitting in their classrooms, and meeting their teachers. Tonight, there may only be enough time to thank our talented Hazen teachers for teaching, and to put our contact information on a sign-up sheet. But, what is important is that you are starting a conversation that will continue in November with Parent/Teacher conferences and throughout the entire year. You will also gain information for conversations with your student around the dinner table; for example, “your language arts teacher is really tall and from Iowa”!

Hazen PTSA is like a three-legged stool, where each leg is one aspect: parents, teachers, and students. We expect the teachers and students to hold up their ends, but without parent support, the stool would fail to stand.

What does parent support mean at the High School level? Parent support means showing up, being informed about the Hazen community, and being involved. As our students become adults, their venues become larger, we still attend, but we may just need a longer telephoto lens for our camera!

Hazen PTSA believes every student has the potential to succeed and that parents are the key to that success. We also know that as parents in this busy world, we can not always make every game, concert, play, or other Hazen event in which our student is involved. We rely on other parents to support our kid when we are not there. And more importantly, other students depend on us to be there when their parent can not. The new heroes in this Hazen Community are the adults who care to support and make a positive difference in the lives of these students.

So, I challenge all of you in this next school year to attend at least one Hazen community event in which your student is not involved. And I don't mean you will hear the band play at the Homecoming football game. I mean you will be informed and mark your calendar and come to a choral concert, bring grandma and the younger cousins to the school play, attend a swim meet, watch gymnastics, whatever, just for fun, just to be supportive of our Hazen students! Once you find out how talented our Hazen students are **and** that our Hazen community depends on **you** for its success, you will find it very difficult to stay away!

These are your students, your school, your community, and your future! Working together, we can make the future a successful one!

Thank you for everything you do for **all** of our kids at Hazen!

PTSA President Address
Open House General Meeting
21 September 2009