



Husky Talk Newsletter

High Point Academy

Thursday, March 19, 2015 Volume 9, Issue 15

Our mission is to provide a strong foundation of academic excellence in partnership with family and community in which each individual is challenged to achieve his/her highest potential academically, socially, and personally.

Keri Melmed
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Officer/Principal

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Chief Business
Officer

Kelle Bongard
Assistant Principal

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Dean of Students

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Director of
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Michele Garver
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Erica Konieczny
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Teresa Frasier
Office Manager

Sharla Williams
Enrollment
Coordinator

Amanda Molina
Medical Assistant

Ryan Frasier
Governing Board
President

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Pennies for Patients Fundraiser

There will be a \$2 dress down day this Friday, March 20 for Pennies for Patients. Students may wear dress down pants for \$1 and a dress down top for \$1. Also, next Monday, March 23, students can wear a college shirt or sweatshirt for \$1 and on Wednesday, March 25 students can wear a hat for \$1. All proceeds from these specials dress days benefit the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. Don't forget, this fundraiser goes until March 27 so make sure you are bringing in your spare change!

March 27 is the LAST day to order a 2014-2015 yearbook!

Order online at ybpay.lifetouch.com (use yearbook code 11891215). Paper order forms went home to students who have not ordered a yearbook last week in Thursday folders. All paper orders must be turned into the office by Friday, March 27 at 5:00pm.

2015-2016 School Calendar

[Click here](#) to view, download, and/or print the 2015-2016 school calendar. Paper copies are also available in the front office.

A Day of Inspiration

On Wednesday, April 15, High Point Academy will welcome author Marc Hoog, Storyteller and Youth Motivator. Mr. Hoog will be hosting assemblies for all grades kindergarten through eighth grade throughout the day. After school he will present to the staff and in the evening, from 6-7pm, he will host a community event. [Click here](#) for more information about Marc Hoog. We hope you can join us for this inspiring event.

HPA Talent Show is Coming

Talent show auditions will take place Tuesday, April 14 from 3:50-5:00 and Thursday, April 16 from 3:50-5:00. [Click here](#) for more information and to sign-up for an audition time via doodle.com.

Quarter 3 Awards Ceremonies

Quarter three awards ceremonies will take place on Thursday, March 26 for middle school and Friday, March 27 for kindergarten through fifth grade.

Thursday Award Ceremony Times:

6th grade-10:50-11:20

7th and 8th grade-11:40-12:10

4th grade-2:45-3:15

Friday Award Ceremony Times:

Kindergarten and 1st grade-12:30-1:15

2nd and 3rd grade-1:30-2:15

5th grade-2:30-3:15

HPA Open House

Saturday, April 11, 2015; 10:00 am

Tuesday, April 14, 2015; 5:30 pm

Do you have family and/or friends who are looking for a unique educational experience for their children? If so, invite them to attend the Open House event to learn more about our educational programs.

Winter Sports Season Comes to an End

Girls Basketball: Our girls basketball team finished their season with a close game against Wyatt Academy. Thanks ladies for your hard work and dedication this season.

Boys Basketball: Congratulations to the boys basketball team who won the league championship on March 8 against Omar D. Blair. Great season boys!

Please make sure all winter athletes return their basketball jersey to Ms. Konieczny by March 27, at 4:00pm

Zumba Classes Held at HPA

Mondays at 7:30pm and Thursdays at 7:00pm
Kathy Frazier, HPA parent, holds Zumba classes in the gym for adults in the community. The first class is free and each class after is \$5 each. We hope to see you there!



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Message from the Chief Academic Officer

Dear HPA Families,

We are so proud of our 3rd-8th grade students! They have worked hard and tried their best over the last two weeks during their PARCC English language arts and math tests. We appreciate the effort and focus that students showed during the testing sessions. Overall, this first round of PARCC testing was extremely successful. Gratitude and kudos goes to our amazing HPA staff, teachers, instructional assistants, and families for all they did to support our students through this process.

We've been focusing so much on state assessments over the last few weeks that I'd like to bring our attention back to the basics. In last week's *Wall Street Journal*, there was an interesting article on the importance of household chores and how chores support kids in growing into responsible and respectful adults. At HPA, both of these character traits are near and dear to our hearts. Each day staff support our students in making responsible and respectful choices, and taking the responsible and respectful route when presented with challenges and possibilities.

As you may know, one of the aspects that makes HPA unique and separates us from other schools is our strong commitment to working in partnership with our families. In that light, I thought I'd share some of the insights discussed in last week's WSJ so that we can continue to work together to grow our HPA kids. I believe something as basic as chores can impact the way students behave in this world beyond the walls of their school and home.

While most of us grew up doing chores, research shows that only 28% of kids today are required to do them. Studies show that this is resulting in kids that value grades and video games more than caring about others. I believe that we can find a healthy balance where students care about their academic achievement, their hobbies and interests, while caring about those around them.

So, if you're wondering how to get your child to do chores, or how to approach chores so that it's not always such a fight, here are a few suggestions from psychologist Madeline Levine, author of "Teach Your Children Well" and Richard Weissbourd, from the Harvard Graduate School of Education.

Be positive and use positive language: By talking positively about *our* chores and how it is a way we take care of each other, kids are typically more cooperative and willing to work with you to do chores. Thanking your child for being a 'good helper' significantly increases their desire to pitch in. It's important to stay positive about chores, remember, if you complain about doing the laundry or dishes, so will your children.

Schedule chore time: Display when chores will be completed. Write chores into the calendar, right next to soccer practice and homework. Include your child by asking them when they want to do the chores and involve them in determining the chores they will do. For instance, ask, would you prefer to sweep the kitchen or dust the living room?

Types of tasks: Start small. Young children can sort everyone's clothes after the laundry is done, while older children can do everyone's laundry. To really build the pro-social behaviors like empathy, chores should focus on taking care of everyone, like sweeping the kitchen, watering the plants, as opposed to only keeping their room clean or only clearing their plate from the table.

This article motivated me to revive and reshape the way chores look in my home. With spring break coming up, and lots of time for spring cleaning, these suggestions are quite timely. Happy cleaning!

With husky pride,

Keri Melmed
High Point Academy
Chief Academic Officer

DPS Food Service Survey

As you may know, we switched our food service provider this year to work with DPS food service. We are interested in hearing from you regarding this new partnership. Please take this short 10 question survey and provide us with valuable feedback and input.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/VFS9VBQ>

Important Dates:

March 19: Boys Soccer Game at HPA at 4:45 pm

March 19: Girls Soccer Game at KIPP: Montbello at 4:45pm

March 24: Power Hour 3:50-5:00pm

March 25: Governing Board Meeting 5:30pm

March 26: Middle School and 4th grade Awards Assemblies-see pg. 1 for times

March 26: Boys Soccer Game at Omar D. Blair at 4:45 pm

March 26: Girls Soccer Game at HPA at 4:45pm

March 26: PTO Meeting 5:30pm

March 27: Jean Day \$1

March 27: Elementary School Awards Assemblies-see pg. 1 for times

March 30-April 3: Spring Break-NO SCHOOL



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Ice Bucket Challenge Pictures

Was your child challenged to do the Ice Bucket Challenge last fall? If so and you have a picture, the yearbook committee is putting together an Ice Bucket Challenge page in this year's yearbook. Please send your picture to Erica Konieczny via [email](#) by March 27. Thanks for your help!

Family Looking for a PM Carpool

One of our families is in need of some help getting their children from school to an in-home daycare (off of 43rd and Tower Rd.) they go to after school. If you can help please contact [Erica Konieczny](#) in the front office. hours can be earned for carpooling with other families. For more information please check out the Volunteer page on the HPA website.

Seeking Young Philanthropists

The Young Philanthropists Foundation is seeking outstanding and passionate young leaders in 4th through 7th grade for the Impact Factory. [Click here](#) to learn more about the program and submit an application.

The First Tee Green Valley Ranch

[Click here](#) for program information. [Click here](#) for registration information and paperwork.

Volunteer & Donations Opportunities

None at this time.