



# Husky Talk Newsletter

High Point Academy

Thursday, November 13, 2014 Volume 9, Issue 7

**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*  
Chief Academic  
Officer/Principal

*Chad Miller*  
Chief Business  
Officer

*Kelle Bongard*  
Assistant Principal

*Nick Stachokus*  
Dean of Students

*Barbara Hill*  
Director of  
Communications

*Michele Garver*  
Director of  
Assessment &  
Learning Support

*Erica Konieczny*  
Director of Student  
Services

*Teresa Frasier*  
Office Manager

*Sharla Williams*  
Enrollment  
Coordinator

*Amanda Molina*  
Medical Assistant

*Ryan Frasier*  
Governing Board  
President

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## HPA Gives Day - Annual Giving Campaign

Donate today through December 5th, at [www.highpointacademy.net](http://www.highpointacademy.net)—click on the HPA Gives Day link at the top—or through the school office.

Please remind your child to bring in their donation to their homeroom or homebase teacher November 17-21 and December 1-5.

## Applebee's Fundraiser

Come join the 6<sup>th</sup> grade team at the Applebee's Pancake Breakfast! Saturday, November 15<sup>th</sup> from 7:30 am – 10:00 am at the **16485 E. 40<sup>th</sup> Circle** location. Teachers will be serving you sticky and sweet pancakes with sides of crispy brown sausage to help to cover the cost of our end of the year Outdoor Education field trip to Estes Park. Cost is \$10 per ticket and can be pre-ordered until Friday at 4:00pm using [this form](#). Bring your friends, family, and neighbors and help send 6<sup>th</sup> grade students on an adventure of a lifetime! Thank you! Questions can be directed to Angela Cummins

—  
[acummins@highpointacademy.net](mailto:acummins@highpointacademy.net)

## Support Colorguard

If you eat at Panda Express on Friday, November 21 from 12pm-8pm a portion of the sale will come back to High Point Academy's Color Guard Team. This fundraiser flyer must be presented ([print flyer here](#)).

## Order Your Yearbook Today!

The 2014-2015 school yearbook is now on sale. Purchase forms went home in Thursday folders last week, but you can also order online at [ybpay.lifetouch.com](http://ybpay.lifetouch.com) (yearbook code: 11891215). Order your yearbook by December 19th and you only pay \$10. After that date the yearbook purchase price goes up to \$20 (these prices do not include add-ons).

## Middle School Night

Attention HPA 5th grade families. Coming home in Thursday folders today is an invitation to middle school night taking place on Thursday, December 4 from 6-7pm. The flyer you will receive will have two different invitations on it, the top one is for you and the bottom one can be used to invite a friend who doesn't attend HPA to the event. Please read the top invitation for details. If you have questions please contact our Assistant Principal [Kelle Bongard](#). We hope to see you on December 4!

## 3rd Annual Candy Buy Back

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Candy Buy-Back Program was a huge success! Our students donated a High Point Academy record amount of candy... 98.2 pounds! Thank you for your donations, we are certain that the military troops overseas will greatly appreciate your generosity. A special thank you goes to the Girls on the Run athletes that advertised the program and sorted the candy. Another special thank you goes to the staff at Green Valley Ranch Kids Pediatric Dentistry for taking our donations and passing them along to Operation Gratitude.

## Governing Board Meeting

The next Governing Board meeting is Wednesday, November 19 at 5:30pm. Families and staff are invited to attend. See the [meeting agenda](#) for discussion topics and plan to attend next Wednesday.

## PTO Meeting

The next PTO meeting is Thursday, November 20 at 5:30pm. All families are invited to attend and Husky Pack will be available for child care. Please see the [agenda](#) for meeting topics. We hope to see you there.

## HPA Parent Ambassador Group

High Point Academy has formed a Parent Ambassador Group that is here to promote HPA through out the community. If you have questions or positive comments please reach us at [pag@highpointacademy.net](mailto:pag@highpointacademy.net)



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## Message from the Chief Academic Officer

Dear HPA Families,

Nothing like a bitter cold spell to remind us that winter is here and that Thanksgiving is right around the corner. As I know is true for many people, Thanksgiving reminds me to take time and think about the things in life that I am thankful for and all that I have. One of the things that I am so grateful for are the people in my life. I am filled with gratitude for my husband, my children, and for the amazing students, staff, and families in the High Point Academy community.

As I spend time in the many preschool through eighth grade classrooms I see and hear how each one of our students brings unique perspective to the conversations, activities, and work they are doing. Their different learning styles and passions are evident in their assignments and projects. And, each teacher and staff member brings their own flare and creativity to the lessons they are teaching, the conversations they are facilitating, and the ways they are engaging our students. These observations make evident the rich diversity we have here at HPA.

As with any community, there are times when we are not treating one another with kindness and respect. Some students may exhibit bullying behaviors, some may feel bullied, and others may see disrespectful behaviors and wonder what they can do about it. To support our students when these types of situations occur, the staff participated in a bully prevention training. This month's "Coffee with Keri" was also [focused on bullying](#). The goal was to get the adults in our students' lives on the same page by discussing ways we can address and support our students to navigate difficult social situations. Many grade level teachers shared the content of the training with their students and parents were encouraged to do the same. The training focused on ways teachers and students can create safe environments and support one another. We looked closely at the definition of bullying and noticed that many behaviors we are labeling as bullying are actually behaviors that are *mean* and/or *rude*, not necessarily bullying, but unacceptable all the same. Families and staff were given tools to help address and support any students who may be feeling bullied.

One of the comments that came up in both sessions (staff and parent), is that we need to model respectful behaviors to our children. How can we expect our children to treat one another with kindness and respect if we are not doing it ourselves? As a community, let's come together and hold ourselves to high standards even in stressful situations like carpool, drop off and pick up, close and exciting sporting events, as well as difficult conversations with teachers and staff members. It is during those difficult times that our children learn how to manage their anger and frustration.

Together we make HPA a great place for our students and staff to work and learn. I hope our upcoming Thanksgiving break provides you and your family time to reflect and think about what you are thankful for as well as time to rest, relax, and re-connect.

With Husky Pride,  
Keri Melmed  
Chief Academic Officer

### Important Dates:

**November 14:** 7th Grade Field Trip

**November 15:** Apple-  
bee's Fundraiser

**November 18:** Power Hour 3:45-5:00pm

**November 19:** Gov-  
erning Board Meeting 5:30pm

**November 20:** PTO Meeting 5:30pm

**November 21:** Jean Day for \$1

**November 24-28:** NO SCHOOL Thanksgiving Break

**December 4:** Prospective Family Information Meeting and Tour-Middle School Focus 5:30-6:00pm

**December 4:** Middle School Night 6-7pm

### Fundraiser Cups

Families who ordered cups from the fundraiser earlier this school year should have received their orders this week. If you did not receive your order please email [Joan Cordo](#) with your students name and any details she may need.

### Volunteer & Donations Opportunities

The health office is in need of uniform pants, in particular, sizes 5, 6, and 7. If you are able to help please bring donations to the office.

Our athletic program is in need of a volunteer who can help at the home basketball games starting up in December and going through the beginning of February. Time commitment would range from 4:00-6:30 depending on game times. Please [email Erica Konieczny](#) for more information.

The yearbook committee is looking for photographs of our HPA students. If you have some pictures you would like to submit for the yearbook please [email them to Erica Konieczny](#).