



Husky Talk Newsletter

High Point Academy

Thursday, March 5, 2015 Volume 9, Issue 14

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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Daylight Savings Time

A friendly reminder that Daylight Savings Time ends this Sunday, March 8, so please remember to turn your clocks forward one hour before you go to bed Saturday night. We expect all of our students to show up on time for PARCC on Monday morning!

Middle School Boys Basketball

High Point Academy's boys basketball team will be competing this Sunday in the playoffs at the Evie Dennis Campus Gymnasium. Their first game is on Sunday, March 8 at 10:00am. The playoffs are single elimination and there is a \$1 entry fee for everyone five years of age and older. We hope you can come and support our middle school boys as they compete for the championship.

Spring After School Activities

Our spring session of after school activities will start on Thursday, March 19. Registration forms went home in Thursday folders last week. Activities include, 3D Design and Printing, Volleyball Skills, Student Leadership, Painting, Science Experiments, Games, and Yoga in Motion. [Click here](#) to learn more.

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>

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.

Volunteer Training

The next volunteer training will take place at 8:05am on Friday, March 13. Please email [Erica Konieczny](#) to RSVP.

Class Picture Day-RETAKES

Due to our delayed start on Monday, February 23 many of our students were not in attendance for class picture day. We have scheduled a retake day for all classes preschool through eighth grade to get their class photo taken. Our retake day is Wednesday, March 11. Students must be in their uniform for this picture. If you did not get an opportunity to order your child's class photo you still can by picking up an order form in the front office. If you already ordered a class photo you do not need to order another one. Parent volunteer needed-see page three.

Pennies for Patients Fundraiser

Our annual Pennies for Patients fundraiser starts on Monday, March 9th so start collecting your spare change! We will be doing a boys vs. girls penny war until March 27th. Last year we raised over \$3,000! This year our goal is to raise \$3,500. All proceeds benefit the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. Thank you for your support!

After School Activities Showcase

The winter after school activities showcase will take place next Thursday, March 12 from 4:45-5:30 in the library right after the last class. We will be doing a gallery walk style showcase so please come and see what our students have been doing after school for the last eight weeks. We hope to see you there.

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. Volunteer hours can be earned for carpooling with other families. For more information please check out the Volunteer page on the HPA website.

Colorguard Fundraiser-Chipotle

On March 10, High Point Academy's Colorguard team is hosting a fundraiser at Chipotle off of I-70 and Tower Rd. [Click here](#) to download the required flyer for the event.



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Message from the Chief Academic Officer

Dear HPA Families,

Here at High Point Academy, and throughout the state of Colorado, students and school employees have been busy getting ready for the upcoming PARCC (English language arts and math) tests. Colorado Revised Statute states, "Every student enrolled in a public school is required to take the assessments in the grade level in which the student is enrolled" C.R.S. 22-7-409 (1.2)(d)(l). PARCC is administered to 3rd-10th grade students throughout the state of Colorado and similar tests are administered to all 3rd-10th grade students throughout the entire United States. These standardized tests are designed to assess students' learning related to educational standards and the results (at least within a state) allow comparison of school achievement and student growth. These tests provide valuable information not only to the state, but also to us as we think about what we do well and what we can improve in terms of instruction, curricula, and educational program.

PARCC is considered to be a high-stakes test; a test that has a number of significant implications dependent on student results. For High Point Academy, our school is evaluated and ranked according to all other schools in the state based on our scores on PARCC, some forms of federal funding are directly related to our results, and varying levels of educational support are provided to our school based on results. In addition, many parents look at state standardized test results when they decide whether or not to enroll their child in our school. For these reasons we want to emphasize the importance of getting your student to school on time every day during the testing period (March 9-20), encouraging them to do their best, and remaining positive about the assessments.

Last night we held a state assessment (PARCC/CMAS) information night for families. Thank you to those families that were able to attend. If you were unable to be here, feel free to review the [PowerPoint presentation](#) which outlines the history of state assessments, as well as the details of the PARCC and CMAS assessments. The PowerPoint includes the testing schedule. When you look at the schedule you'll notice that the testing schedule extends over two weeks. In years past, with TCAP, we were able to administer the paper/pencil test to all students 3rd-8th grade at one time and therefore the assessments only extended over one week. The PARCC English language arts test is administered electronically on computers, which limits the numbers of students we can test at one time. We will set up three testing classrooms so that we can administer the test to one grade level at a time. Therefore, the administration takes longer.

The transition to the new assessment has required countless hours of work on behalf of our Director of Assessment and Learning Support, Mrs. Michele Garver, our Director of Student Services, Ms. Erica Konieczny, our IT Coordinator Mr. Francisco Martinez, Technology teacher Ms. Carmen Verdum, as well as the entire teaching staff, instructional assistants, and administrative team. During the course of the year, the team determined the best plan of action for providing students a positive testing experience, as well as minimizing disruption to daily instruction.

While we do not "teach to the test" HPA teachers have worked tirelessly to support students in mastering the content and skills addressed in our state standards which will be on the PARCC/CMAS assessments. Time has also been spent preparing students for the technology skills they'll need to navigate the computerized test.

My sincere thanks goes out to our extraordinary staff for all their hard work and commitment to what is best for kids.

Here's to a successful test administration!

With husky pride,
Keri Melmed
High Point Academy
Chief Academic Officer

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

Friday Award Ceremony Times:

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

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

4th and 5th grade-2:30-3:15

Order Your Yearbook Today!

The 2014-2015 school yearbook is now on sale for \$20 (these prices do not include add-ons). You can order online at ybpay.lifetouch.com (use yearbook code 11891215). Last day to order is Friday, March 27 at 5:00pm

Ice Bucket Challenge Pictures

Was your child challenged to do the Ice Bucket Challenge last fall? Is 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 Friday, February 20. Thanks for your help!

Important Dates:

March 6: NO SCHOOL
-Teacher Professional Development

March 8: Boys Basketball Game 10:00am at Evie Dennis Campus

March 9: 3rd-8th grade PARCC Testing Begins

March 9: Accountability Committee Meeting 4:00pm

March 10: Power Hour 3:50-5:00pm

March 10: Colorguard Fundraiser-see pg. 1

March 11: Class Picture Day-RETAKES

March 12: After School Activities Showcase 4:45-5:30pm

March 13: End of quarter 3

March 13: Volunteer Training 8:05am

March 13: Parent Love and Logic Class 6:00-7:30pm

March 16,17,18: 2nd Grade Insect Play

March 17: Power Hour 3:50-5:00pm



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Volunteer & Donations Opportunities

Class Picture Day: We are in need of a parent who can help with our retake day on Wednesday, March 11 from 8:00-2:00. Please contact [Erica Konieczny](#) if you can help.

The PE teachers are asking for donated computer speakers to use during class. If you are able to help please reach out to Mr. Maynes at rmaynes@highpointacademy.net.