



Husky Talk Newsletter

High Point Academy Thursday, November 12, 2015 Volume 10, 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

Michele Garver
Elementary School
Assistant Principal

Kelle Bongard
Middle School
Assistant Principal

Juanise Cornell
Dean of Students

Barbara Hill
Director of
Communications

Erica Konieczny
Director of Student
Services

Teresa Frasier
Office Manager

Sharla Williams
Enrollment
Coordinator

Amanda Delgado
Medical Assistant

Ryan Frazier
Governing Board
President

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If you're on Facebook, like High Point Academy to receive school updates in your newsfeed.

Yearbooks On Sale Now!

The 2015-2016 school yearbook is now on sale. Purchase forms are coming home in Thursday folders this week, but you can also order online at ybpay.lifetouch.com (yearbook code: 11891216). Order your yearbook by December 18th and you only pay \$10. After that date the yearbook purchase price goes up to \$20 (these prices do not include add-ons).

Fall Sports Update

A shout out to all of our middle school students who participated in HPA athletics this fall. All of our teams had a great season!!

The boys flag football team had an excellent end to the season. The boys finished in second place out of 18 teams in the league.

Congratulations to the girls volleyball team on the third straight championship. The girls won the championship game against Highline Academy in two sets on Thursday, October 29.

2nd Annual HPA Gives Day

Donate today through December 4th, at 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 16th-20th and November 30th -December 4th.

Volunteer Training

Are you interested in working in a classroom, going on field trips, or helping at the school? If so, you need to complete a one-time volunteer training as well as an annual background check. If you have completed the training in a previous year you still need to complete the background check annually.

Please contact Erica Wood at ekonieczny@highpointacademy.net or 303-217-5152 to find out when the next training is or to get the background check form.

Governing Board Meeting

The next Governing Board meeting is Wednesday, November 18th at 5:30pm. Families and staff are invited to attend. We hope to see you there!

PTO Meeting

PTO will be meeting in the library from 5:30-6:30pm on Thursday November 19th. Discussion will include Fall Fundraiser wrap up and upcoming events. Childcare is provided. We hope to see you there. Please see PTO display board in the front hall for last month's minutes and this month's agenda.

Winter Book Fair

The Winter Book Fair will run from December 2nd-4th. It is a BOGO sale, buy one item at regular price get a second similar item free. Come get the new and exciting titles your kids want just in time for the holidays.

Parent's Night Out—Sponsored by HPA Colorguard

Do you have any plans for Black Friday shopping? Would you like to shop without the worry of taking your children with you? Grab your shopping buddy, shop till you drop, and let us worry about the kids! High Point Academy Colorguard is sponsoring 3 parent night out events here at the school.

- Friday, November 27th (Black Friday) from 6am—2pm (breakfast included)
- Friday, December 4th from 5PM—8PM (Dinner included)
- Saturday, December 5th from 5PM—8PM (Dinner included)

The cost per event is \$20 per child, \$30 for 2-3 children, and \$5 for each additional child (over 3 children).

Important Dates:

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

November 16: Washington DC trip parent meeting for 6th and 7th grade families 5:30pm

November 17: 7th Grade Challenge Day

November 17: Power Hour 4:00-5:00pm

November 18: Governing Board Meeting 5:30pm

November 19: PTO Meeting 5:30pm

November 20: Jean Day for \$1

November 23-27: NO SCHOOL—
Thanksgiving Break

**November 30-
December 3:** Hearing and Vision Testing

December 2-4: Winter Book Fair Sale After School

Carpool Corner

In an effort to ensure our students safety we ask that students only cross Dunkirk St. at 67th Ave. or 64th Ave. where there is a staff member/police officer helping them to cross safely.

All of our procedures and expectations for carpool can be found in the [family handbook](#) on the web-site.

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Message from the Chief Academic Officer

Dear HPA Families,

Nothing like a Colorado snow storm – blizzard conditions in the morning and sunny blue skies in the afternoon, to remind us that winter is here and that Thanksgiving is right around the corner. As I know is true for many people, Thanksgiving is a time to think about and appreciate all that we have.

Spending time in our classrooms from preschool through eighth grade, you will 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 enthusiasm and creativity to the lessons they are teaching, the conversations they are facilitating, and the ways they are engaging our students. These observations remind me how special our community is and how rich in diversity we are. I am so grateful for the opportunity to work with your incredible children and our amazing staff each day.

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 participates in an annual 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 trainings with their students and parents were encouraged to do the same. The trainings 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,

Ms. Keri Melmed

Chief Academic Officer/Principal



Box Tops For Education

High Point Academy recently completed a successful drive for the Box Tops for Education program. This is an easy and fun way to generate funds for school programs. The winning classes for the contest are Mrs. Faulkenburg, Mr. Sutherland, and Ms. Rendon's advisory group. Each of these three classes received a \$50 gift card from the PTO for a group celebration. The entire school is to be commended for submitting 18,043 Box Tops. Because of the hard work of our students and families, the PTO will earn \$1,804.30 from the program. These funds will be used for such programs as Power Hour and special funding requests from teachers for projects. **A HUGE HUSKY PRIDE THANK YOU TO AUDREY BIXLER** for coordinating this effort.

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Message from the Chief Business Officer

HPA Gives Day Message

High Point Academy is excited to officially kick off our second annual HPA Gives Day campaign. As many of you may remember, last year we raised over \$5,000.00 from our community to help support the school. This year, our goal is to double this amount and raise over \$10,000.00 to support our technology throughout the school.

Recent research has shown that incorporating technology into a child's education has proven benefits, particularly when it comes to individualized learning. HPA is embarking on a one-to-one program, better known as 'anywhere, any time' or 'laptops for students'. The program is part of an international move towards individualizing learning, which can increase independence and self-initiated learning in students, and extend their learning beyond the classroom. Funds from HPA Gives Day will be used to help us enhance our technology program throughout the school.

As a valued member of the HPA Family, we are asking you to take a giant step and be a part of our Second HPA Gives Day. This is an opportunity for the governing board, staff, students, families, and community partners to come together to provide additional financial support to students at HPA.

Please plan to be a part of this campaign by giving today through December 4th. Donate at www.highpointacademy.net – click on the HPA Gives Day link at the top of the home page. Contributions are also accepted at the school.

Thank you, HPA Family, for your generosity and your support.

Chad Miller

Chief Business Officer

Donation and Volunteer Opportunities

- **Vision and Hearing Screening Volunteers Needed:** Vision and hearing testing is November 30 through December 3. We need 10 volunteers each day from 8:15am to 3:15pm; lunch will be provided. If you are interested please contact Erica Wood at ekonieczny@highpointacademy.net.
- **Winter Book Fair Volunteers Needed:** Looking for volunteers to help run the Winter Book Fair. Please reach out to Kacey Turner @ kacey_turner1@yahoo.com. Thank you.