



Husky Talk Newsletter

High Point Academy Thursday, February 4, 2016 Volume 10, Issue 11

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 Wood
Director of Student
Services

Teresa Frasier
Office Manager

Sharla Williams
Enrollment
Coordinator

Amanda Delgado
Medical Assistant

Ryan Frazier
Governing Board
President

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

Anti-Bullying Month-Thank You

We want to give a big THANK YOU for all of your support during our Anti-Bullying Month in January. Our kindness movement would not have been as impactful without you all. However, we still need your support even though the month is over. This will help us continue our progress through the end of the school year and beyond! As a friendly reminder, we are still selling anti-bullying wristbands for \$1.00 in Ms. Johnson's office (room 145) if you, or your student, would like to purchase one.

Thank you again for all of your support!

"It's Cool to be Kind"

Husky Wear is BACK!

High Point Academy Husky Wear is back. Visit <http://denver.educationaloutfitters.com/find-my-school/high-point-academy/> to order your polo shirts, hoodies, socks, and much more.

Valentine's Day Candy Reminder

As Valentine's Day approaches we would like to remind students and families that candy and soda are not allowed on campus. Please refrain from sending your child with these items. Also, classes having Valentine's Day parties will focus on arts and crafts and activities rather than food.

Middle School Spring Sports

Starting February 29, we will be offering girls soccer and boys soccer to the middle school students at High Point Academy. Please join Erica Wood for a parent meeting on February 9 at 4:00pm. At the meeting we will be talking about practice, games, paperwork requirements, and student athlete expectations. To help you plan ahead, student athletes must have a current sports physical, all required paperwork, and the \$50 participation fee turned into the school by Friday, February 26 to participate in the spring season.

School Spelling Bee Rescheduled

The school spelling bee has been rescheduled for Tuesday, February 9 at 2:30 pm in the school gym.

Girls on the Run-Spring Program

Girls on the Run will start the week of March 7th. Girls on the Run inspires girls to a lifetime of self-respect and a healthy lifestyle through an innovative program that combines training for a 3.1 mile run/walk race with a fun, health education lesson plan. We will meet Mondays and Thursdays after school from 3:45-5:00pm and is open to all 3rd through 5th grade girls at High Point Academy. Registration opens on Monday, February 8. For more information about the program and to sign up go to www.girlsontherunrockies.org. Questions? Contact High Point Academy Site Coordinator and Coach, Erica Wood.

Yearbooks On Sale!

The 2015-2016 school yearbook is now on sale. Yearbooks can be ordered online at ybpay.lifetouch.com (yearbook code: 11891216).

Tips for Students Walking to School

With the increase in traffic that we are anticipating in the near future with the construction of the Gaylord project, we will be providing 'Safety To and From School' tips. While this is exciting for our community, we want to ensure that everyone is safe.

- Choose the safest route from your home to the school.
- Select a route that is most direct and has intersections with crosswalks when possible.
- Stay on the sidewalk and be aware of traffic in the area.

Stay tuned for additional tips for a safe journey to and from HPA.

Important Dates:

February 4: Girls Basketball game at HPA at 5:00pm

February 4: Boys Basketball game at HPA at 6:00pm

February 5: Orange Friday-wear Broncos top or orange or blue top

February 9: School Spelling Bee 2:30pm

February 9: Middle School Spring Sports Parent Info Meeting 4:00pm

February 9: Girls Basketball game at HPA at 5:00pm

February 9: Boys Basketball game at HPA at 6:00pm

February 15: NO SCHOOL-President's Day

February 16: NO SCHOOL-Teacher Professional Development Day

February 23: 6th Grade Outdoor Education Parent Information Meeting 6-7pm

February 24: Governing Board Meeting 5:30pm

February 25: PTO Meeting 5:30pm

February 26: Jean Day for \$1

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Message from the Chief Academic Officer

Dear HPA Families,

We were excited to see so many families at parent-teacher conferences last week. Thank you for making conferences a priority in your busy schedules. One aspect that sets High Point Academy apart from other schools is our mission that explicitly states that we work "in partnership with family" to support our students to achieve and grow to their full potential. Parent-teacher conferences and the critical conversations and connections that are made between parents and teachers are an important part of fulfilling our mission.

As you may remember, at *Back to School Night*, we shared our school-wide goals for this year. We know that organizations that set goals are more likely to achieve their desired results than organizations that do not. To that end, each school year, the leadership team (which is made up of teacher leaders, directors, and administrators) comes together, analyzes HPA's performance results and determines areas of growth that would leverage the most change for our students at HPA. As a staff we have been working toward the following three goals over the last few years.

HPA teachers strive to maximize student learning and growth by:

- Knowing students deeply.
- Using data effectively and efficiently to inform and target instruction.
- Using explicit instructional practices to create engaging lessons where students are doing the 'work of learning'.

Each school-wide goal is aligned with what we know great schools do – establish strong relationships with students, provide targeted instruction that is driven by data, and create lessons that teach students to be creative, critical thinkers, problem-solvers, and collaborators. We know that these are the skills our students need in order to be successful in the 21st century.

Parents often wonder how we use the time on early release Wednesdays and professional development/non-contact days. Well, we use this time to do a lot of the work associated with these goals. We participate in trainings that introduce new approaches to instruction. We analyze student achievement data to identify where our students are making growth and where we need to provide more support. We come together to learn, discuss, and apply new strategies to support learning. Having the time to come together throughout the school year has been critical in our ability to meet our school-wide goals, enhance our teaching practices, and support student growth.

We have made great strides with each of these goals over the last few years. I am continuously impressed with the growth-mindset of our faculty and staff, as well as their commitment to continue to get better each day for our students.

If you'd like more information on our professional work, please reach out by email, phone, or stop by the office.

With husky pride,

Ms. Keri Melmed

Chief Academic Officer/Principal



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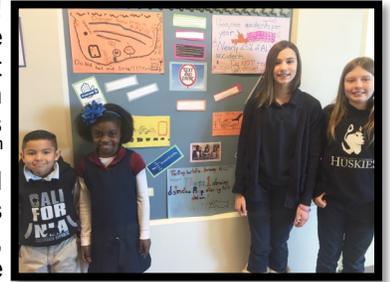
Volunteer Training

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** to see when the next training is scheduled for or to get the background check form.

Service Learning Update

There has been some exciting work around service learning! Ms. Johnson's 8th graders and Ms. Eastwood's 2nd graders have done research on littering and created informative posters about how we can keep our school clean. They will be picking up trash around the school and hope to raise money for more trash cans on campus. The 1st graders of Ms. Murray's class and the 7th graders of Mr. Tobin's class have learned about the duties and branches of our military. They also gave cards to our veterans and wrote letters to our firefighters and police officers. Finally, Ms. Propp's 2nd graders and Ms. Verdum's 6th graders have thought hard about the issue of texting and driving. They have researched the issue and made awareness posters for the HPA community. Please view the service learning board (located by the front office) to check out their hard work!



Donation and Volunteer Opportunities

- School Supply Donation: Ms. Schmidt is requesting donations of scissors and glue for her middle school science class. Please email her at jschmidt@highpointacademy.net if you can help.
- The fourth grade classes, as well as several middle school advisories, are looking for donations to the local pet shelter for our service learning project. Some of the items that can be donated include: used blankets and towels, paper towels, piddle pads, dog bowls, used toys, printing paper (any color), light bulbs, trash bags, cleaning supplies, hot water bottles, peanut butter, used newspapers, sandwich bags, cotton balls, batteries, toothbrushes, shoe boxes, and cardboard rolls. Thank you in advance for your donations!