



# Husky Talk Newsletter

High Point Academy

Thursday, October 13, 2016

Volume 11, Issue 5

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

*Jackson Westenskow*  
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

*Michael Fields*  
Governing Board  
President

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

## HPA Garden

We have a few upcoming garden volunteer days. Parents and students are invited to come and help. These events help us to maintain our garden to cafeteria program.

- Saturday, October 15th from 9-11pm
- Friday, October 28th from 4-5pm

We hope you will join us!

## Volunteer Training

The next volunteer training will take place on Friday, October 21st at 8:00am.

If you are interested in working in a classroom, going on field trips, or helping at the school and have not completed the training in previous years, you need to attend this training and clear a background check before going into classrooms. Please RSVP to Erica Wood at [ewood@highpointacademy.net](mailto:ewood@highpointacademy.net) or 303-217-5152 if you are planning to attend. If you have completed the training in a previous year you need to complete the background check annually. Please email Erica Wood to get the form to complete this process.

## Morning Carpool

For the safety of our students, please be sure to follow the following morning drop-off procedures:

Follow the school zone speed limit of 25 miles an hour on Dunkirk Street.

Families have two options: (1) to park in the parking lot—not on 67th—and walk your child into school; or (2) drive through the carpool lane and drop your child off along the sidewalk.

To ensure a steady flow of traffic through carpool please pull up and drop your child off as far up as possible.

## Husky Wear

Did you see HPA's Husky Wear items? Visit <http://denver.educationaloutfitters.com/find-my-school/high-point-academy/> to order your polo shirts, hoodies, jackets, and much more.

## Middle School Basketball Meeting

Middle school basketball starts in November. If your 6th, 7th, or 8th grader is interested in playing, please plan to attend the parent informational meeting on Tuesday, October 25 at 4:00pm at the school. All forms and sport physicals will be due November 9 this year so please plan accordingly.

## Power Hour

Power Hour – Our FREE afterschool tutoring program every Tuesday from 4-5pm. Students can receive tutoring support and/or homework support. Students must have assignments to complete to attend. If students do not have assignments, they will be asked to leave or placed in Husky PACK at parent expense.

## PTO UPDATE!!!

PTO meetings have been moved to the second Thursday of the month starting at 6pm. Our next meeting will take place on Thursday, October 13 at 6:00pm. Childcare will continue to be provided.

## Book Character Dress Day

On October 31, students can dress up as their favorite book character. Students must have their costume idea pre-approved through their teacher and have the book in hand on Character Dress Day.

## Awards Ceremonies

The quarter one awards ceremonies take place next Thursday and Friday in the gymnasium.

### **Thursday, October 20, 2016**

7th Grade—11:50-12:10

### **Friday, October 21, 2016**

6th Grade—11:20-11:40

8th Grade—11:50-12:10

Kindergarten & 1st—12:30-1:15

2nd & 5th—1:30-2:15

3rd & 4th—2:30-3:15



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## Message from the Principal

Dear HPA Families,

It is hard to believe that tomorrow is the last day of first quarter! It feels like this school year is flying by! The end of each quarter is a great time to stop and reflect on how things are going. Asking ourselves - what worked well this quarter and how can we do more of that? What can we do better next quarter? And, what can we do differently? Are we getting to school on time? Are we providing a quiet workspace to complete homework? Are we ensuring a good night's sleep? As parents and staff we are the primary caretakers of your children, and asking ourselves those very questions can help us ensure that we are doing the very best to support our students to achieve and grow.

First quarter report cards will be sent home next week, and how we respond to our child's progress can impact their attitude about learning and school. To support families in having meaningful conversations about report cards, we encourage you to take the time to go over the report card with your child by asking them two simple questions: 'how do you feel about your report card?' and 'what's your plan for next quarter?'

When you ask your child how they feel about their report card, often the responses they give are more telling than the actual grades. It also helps students take 'ownership' of their learning. By asking, "How do you feel about your report card?" we send the message that this is their report card – not yours, and therefore, you want to know how it makes *them* feel. As you know, the report card doesn't tell us the complete story of their learning and their assessment of how they did can shed light on any issues that might be interfering with their growth and learning.

While we want students to take their progress seriously, we don't want students to think it determines their worth. If your student did poorly, this can lead to feelings of despair and that doesn't motivate a student to do a better job at school. What is more supportive and motivating is creating a plan to move forward. Discuss the obstacles that got in their way, and how they can move past them. Asking, "What worked well and how can you do more of that? What can you do better? And, what can you do differently?"- are all productive, solution oriented questions. So, while we use the report card to provide valuable feedback to our students and families, it is simply one measure of success.

Each quarter we pause to recognize the hard work, growth, and learning that occurred during that time at our end of quarter award ceremonies. As I'm sure you've heard by now, we've changed the names of two awards to align with our new grading practices. As a school we are transitioning to a standards-based grading system to provide you much more information about how your child is performing in relation to the Colorado state standards. For now, here's what you need to know about the upcoming award ceremony. Students may be eligible to receive one of these awards:

**Academic Excellence**- this award goes to our highest scholars. Students who received all ACC, EXC, or A's in all their content classes will receive this highest academic award.

**Honors** – this award goes to students who received all A's and B's in their content classes.

**Husky Scholar** - this award goes to students who show outstanding habits of learning- such as responsibility, engagement, collaboration, and organization. All skills that are critical in our 21st century college and workforce environment. All students who have received all ACC, EXC, A's and B's in their responsibility grade will receive this honor.

**Core Virtue** which celebrates the student who exemplifies the virtue through their words and actions.

**Attendance** which recognizes students who have perfect attendance.

**Best Effort** which acknowledges the student who gives their best effort, works hard, and is an example to their peers of the power of perseverance.

**Specials** teachers give an award to one student per grade who has shown interest, talent, and aptitude in that area.

**Content** awards are given to middle schoolers in math, science/social studies, and English language arts.

**Habits of Learning** award is also given to middle school students.

If your child receives an award or not, we are looking forward to celebrating them and acknowledging all their hard work this first quarter of school. If you have any questions about your child's progress, please feel free to reach out by email or stop by my office.

With Husky Pride,

Ms. Keri Melmed

Chief Academic Officer/Principal

Donation and Volunteer Opportunities, Upcoming Events, and more on page 3.

## Important Dates:

**October 13:** PTO Meeting  
6:00pm

**October 15:** Cross Country Meet at 8:00am at Evie Dennis Campus

**October 17 & 18:** NO SCHOOL

**October 19:** Coffee with Keri 8:00am

**October 19:** Girls Volleyball Game vs. Global Village Academy A Team at 5:30pm at HPA

**October 20:** Boys Flag Football Game HPA Gold vs. Strive GVR at 5:00pm at Evie Dennis Campus

**October 20:** 7th Grade Awards Ceremony

**October 21:** Quarter 1 Awards Ceremonies—see page 1 for times

**October 21:** Volunteer Training at 8:00am

**October 22:** Cross Country 8:00am at Vanguard West

**October 25:** Middle School Basketball Parent Information Meeting at 4:00pm in the gym

**October 29:** Cross Country 8:00am at Vanguard West

**October 31:** Bok character Dress Day

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## Upcoming Art Fundraiser

Dear HPA Family,

Did you know the arts are the foundational building blocks for all the other educational disciplines? That's why we have partnered with your child's school to create a unique opportunity to celebrate their artistic accomplishments while raising much needed funds for the school.

Coming home soon will be your child's custom catalog featuring their artwork. Won't you help make your child feel like an accomplished artist by purchasing keepsakes for the whole family containing their masterpiece? The school earns profit from every order. And as a thank you for participating, we provide each child with a sheet of stickers imprinted with their artwork – absolutely FREE!

Watch for more details about the campaign and order deadlines. All online and paper order forms must be turned in by the due date on your child's custom catalog. (No late orders can be accepted.)

Together, we can help support the school, build your child's self-esteem, and create lasting keepsakes from your child's artistic achievements.

Mr. G (Art teacher)

## Families Looking for Carpool Help

Helping other HPA families by carpooling is a great way to build community as well as earn your parent volunteer hours. The following families are looking for help getting their children either to school or home from school. If you can help please contact Erica Wood at [ewood@highpointacademy.net](mailto:ewood@highpointacademy.net)

- Morning carpool help needed from Singletree area (58th Drive).
- Afternoon carpool help needed from 40th and Mitchell.
- Afternoon carpool help on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday needed to 6th Ave. and Chambers Rd. area.

## Donation and Volunteer Opportunities

**The Art class is starting a plastic cap drive for a school mural.** We are looking for any plastic caps that screw on (i.e. water bottle caps, orange juice caps, Gatorade caps, peanut butter caps, etc.). We need large caps too (hair products, ice cream containers, and food products). There is a drop off station in the front hallway of the school.