



# Husky Talk Newsletter

High Point Academy

Friday, March 3, 2017 Volume 11, Issue 13

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

*Jill Fitz*  
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.

## After School Activities

The spring session of after school activities starts the week of March 13th and will run for eight weeks every Thursday. Sign-up forms went home in Thursday folders last week, but you can **view and print** the form on the HPA website under Current Families-Activities. This round of activities features Jump Rope, Minecraft, Film Photography, Volleyball Skills, and Basketball Skills. Please turn in forms and money to the front office by Wednesday, March 15. Teachers will not accept registration or payment for activities.

## KICKING OFF 2017 WITH KINDNESS CONTINUES!

We are selling purple wristbands this year for \$1.00 and we will have a themed dress down day every month for students. Our next dress down day is Wednesday, April 5th. Wristbands are for sale in Ms. Monroe's classroom (room 25); all the money raised will go towards HPA's Student Council. Make sure you get yours today and always remember, it's cool to be kind.

## HPA Talent Show is Coming

HPA's 7th annual talent show will be on April 26th from 5:00-6:30pm. Talent show auditions will take place Tuesday, March 21st from 3:45-5:00 and Wednesday, March 22 from 2:15-4:00. Click here for more information and to sign-up for an audition time via doodle.com.

## Daylight Savings Time

A friendly reminder that Daylight Savings Time ends Sunday, March 12, so please remember to turn your clocks forward one hour before you go to bed on Saturday, March 11. We expect all students to show up on time on Monday, March 13!

## 2016-2017 School Calendar

Click here to view, download, and/or print the 2017-2018 school calendar. Paper copies are also available in the front office.

## Middle School Basketball

**Girls Basketball:** Congratulations to the girls basketball team who won the league championship on February 28 against Aurora Academy. Great season girls!

**Boys Basketball:** Our boys basketball team finished their season in second place with a close championship game against Strive Prep Sunnyside. Thanks guys for your hard work and dedication this season.

Please make sure all winter athletes return their basketball jersey to Mrs. Wood by March 10th, at 4:00pm

## 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.

## Yearbooks On Sale!

The 2016-2017 school yearbook is now on sale. Order forms are coming home in Thursday folders today. Click here for more information.

## Volunteer Training

If you are interested in working in a classroom, going on field trips, or helping at the school and have not completed the volunteer training in a previous year, you need to attend a training and clear a background check before going into classrooms and working with students. Please contact Erica Wood at [ewood@highpointacademy.net](mailto:ewood@highpointacademy.net) or 303-217-5152 to see when the next volunteer training is taking place. 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.

## **Important Dates:**

**March 6:** Spring Season of GOTR Starts

**March 8:** Coffee with Keri 8-8:30am

**March 9:** Winter After School Activities Showcase  
4:30pm

**March 9:** PTO Meeting 6:00pm

**March 13/14/16:** Spring Session of After School Activities Starts

**March 16:** End of Quarter 3

**March 17:** NO SCHOOL—Teacher Professional Development

**March 22:** Girls Soccer Game vs. Vanguard at 5:00pm at HPA

**March 22:** Boys Soccer Game vs. Vanguard at 6:00pm at HPA

**March 23:** 7th Grade Awards Ceremony

**March 24:** K-6th Grade and 8th Grade Awards Ceremonies

**March 27-31:** NO SCHOOL—Spring Break

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## Message from the Principal

Dear High Point Academy families,

As Ellen Miller from the National School Safety and Security Services states in her blog, “few things scare a parent more than a lockdown or safety crisis at their child’s school.” As both a parent and a school principal, I understand that fear and I want to assure you that our first priority is protecting our students and ensuring their safety.

At High Point Academy, we do not take safety and security issues lightly. In fact, each year we invite Aurora Police Department to observe our safety drills. Their input and partnership has been instrumental in ensuring that our policies are up to date and incorporate current best practice. We have a School Safety Committee that is made up of administrators, faculty, staff, and families. The committee is dedicated to making HPA safer for our children and staff. If you are interested in joining our safety efforts, please attend our next Safety Committee meeting (contact Mrs. Frasier at [tfrasier@highpointacademy.net](mailto:tfrasier@highpointacademy.net)).

We take time to practice these drills so that students know what to do if there is an emergency. Yesterday’s lockdown was a great example of our readiness to respond quickly and safely to a potential threat. When the school went into lockdown students and staff knew exactly what to do. The safety team was able to swiftly address the situation, assess the threat, work with police, and make sure everyone was safe. Through the entire incident each and every child and staff member was safe and well taken care of. The students knew the expectations and were able to stay calm and take care of one another. Teachers knew the procedures and did an incredible job ensuring the care and wellbeing of every child in their care. In fact, the officers from the Aurora Police Department were amazed by both our protocols and procedures, and our students and staff.

After each drill we look for ways to improve. Yesterday was another opportunity to learn and grow from our process. One area for improvement is communication. We want to be sure that families understand when and how we will communicate if there is an emergency.

- If there is a threat, the school will immediately attend to the safety of the students.
- The school will communicate through an email blast, text message, and phone call to update the parents as soon as possible.
- The school has different safety protocols that we follow based on the situation. For example, if there is a tornado, we follow the Tornado procedures. Yesterday we followed our Lockdown procedures.

As a parent, I understand the desire to come to the school when there is an emergency situation and to want information immediately; however, it is in the best interest and safety of students and staff that families remain off campus – unless directed to do so. Trust that once it has been determined that the school can return to normal operation, families will be immediately notified.

At HPA, we understand the importance of our work – and that we are trusted each and every day to care for your child. We appreciate your support and partnership.

Ms. Keri Melmed

Chief Academic Officer/Principal



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## Quarter 3 Awards Ceremonies

Quarter three awards ceremonies will take place on Thursday, March 23 for seventh grade and Friday, March 24 for kindergarten through sixth grade and eighth grade.

### **Thursday Award Ceremony Times:**

7th—11:50-12:20

### **Friday Award Ceremony Times:**

6th grade—11:20-11:50

8th grade—11:50-12:20

Kindergarten and 1st grade—12:30-1:15

2nd and 3rd grade—1:30-2:15

4th and 5th grade—2:30-3:15

## Carpool Help Needed

We have a few families who are in need of help getting their children to and from school.

\*AM and PM carpool help needed Monday-Friday from 38th Avenue and Peoria Street.

\*PM carpool help needed to 43rd and Tower Rd.

If you are able to help please contact Erica Wood at [ewood@highpointacademy.net](mailto:ewood@highpointacademy.net). **Need volunteer hours?** Helping a family with carpool qualifies as volunteer time. Contact Erica Wood for more details.

## Donation and Volunteer Opportunities

**Donations needed for upcoming film photography class:** This spring, HPA will be offering a film photography class for our 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade students. Students will be controlling everything from composition to development themselves. I have found it is a unique experience for them to be able to hold negatives they have taken or captured in this instant digital age. **However, we only have a few cameras available for the students to use. If you have a film camera, and would be willing to lend it to the school through May, or even outright donate it to us, we would be most grateful.** As long as it is in general working condition, I should be able to get new light-seals, batteries, and other incidentals to keep it working. Looking for any types, manual/automatic focus, interchangeable lens or fixed lens, SLR or rangefinder. To give you an idea, we currently have a range from a late 40's rangefinder to a 90's era auto-focus SLR. This allows students to choose their comfort level, and still allows them to get great shots. If you only have a camera, but missing a lens (or vice versa), please feel free to reach out to me. I may be able to pair it up with a camera/lens to make a working pair for a student. Thank you in advance for your help in this matter.

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