



Husky Talk Newsletter

High Point Academy

Thursday, October 5, 2017 Volume 12, Issue 4

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

Jessica Ranalletta
Middle School
Assistant Principal

Juanise Cornell
Dean of Students

Jackson Westenskow
High School Planning
Liaison

Erica Wood
Director of Student
Services

Teresa Frasier
Office Manager

Jill Fitz
Enrollment
Coordinator

Amanda Delgado
Medical Assistant

Michael Fields
Governing Board
President

Like HPA of Facebook

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

Bikes and Scooters On Campus

Please encourage your child(ren) to not ride bikes or scooters on the sidewalks around the school. Students are asked to walk their bikes or scooters when they are near the school. This will ensure that everyone is safe while coming to school and leaving school each day.

Students Wearing Helmets

High Point Academy strongly encourages all students who ride bikes or scooters to school to wear a helmet. When there are a lot of students around it can be hard to avoid others and prevent a fall or injury. Please make sure you are sending your child to school with a helmet and encourage them to wear the helmet when they are riding their scooter or bike.

Math and Literacy Night

One of the best ways for families to help students succeed is to read together. In fact, there are many games and activities that families can do that are both fun and educational! Join us for a night of learning, creating and fun!

Teachers will provide students and families with math and reading ideas, games, and activities to take home and enjoy together. Enjoy "MAKE and TAKE" activities with teachers and enter a drawing to win **PRIZES!**

Who - All High Point Academy students and families

When - Wednesday October 11, from 5:30 - 6:30 PM

Where - High Point Academy

Handicapped Parking Spaces in Parking Lot

Parents please do not park in the designated handicapped parking spots without the handicap placard or license plate. Thank you for your consideration.

Fall Session of After School

Activities

The fall session of after school activities starts today Thursday, October 5 and will run for eight weeks every Thursday through November 30 (except soccer skills club). Sign-up forms went home in Thursday folders two weeks ago, but you can view and print the form on the HPA website under Current Families-Activities. This round of activities features the following: Minecraft, American Sign Language, Soccer Skills, and Healthy Snacking. Please turn in forms and money to the front office; teachers will not accept registration or payment for activities.

Middle School Basketball Parent Information Meeting

High Point Academy 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 24th at 4:00pm at the school. All forms, fees, and sport physicals will be due November 16th this year so please plan accordingly.

Quarter 1 Awards Ceremonies

The quarter one awards ceremonies take place Friday, October 20th in the gymnasium.

Friday, October 20th, 2017

7th and 8th Grade—11:50-12:10

Kindergarten & 1st—12:30-1:15

2nd & 3rd—1:30-2:15

4th & 5th—2:30-3:15

Tuesday, October 24th, 2017

6th Grade—11:20-11:40

Important Dates:

October 5: Volleyball Game vs. Omar D. Blair at 4:30pm at High Point Academy

October 5: Flag Football Game (GOLD) vs. RFMA at Chaffee Park at 5:30pm

October 9-12: Hearing and Vision Screening

October 9: Flag Football Game (GOLD) vs. HPA (GREEN) at High Point Park at 4:30pm

October 10: Cross Country 2 Mile Meet at Vanguard Classical School—West Campus at 5:00pm

October 11: Flag Football Game (GREEN) vs. Omar D. Blair at 4:30pm at High Point Field

October 11: Flag Football Game (GOLD) vs. Omar D. Blair at 5:30pm at High Point Field

October 12: Volleyball Game vs. Aurora Academy at 5:00pm at Aurora Academy

October 13: Last Day of Quarter 1

October 16: NO SCHOOL

October 17: NO SCHOOL—Teacher Professional Development

October 17: Garden Work Day 4-5pm

October 18-20: 6th Grade Outdoor Education Trip to YMCA of the Rockies in Estes Park

October 19: Volunteer Training at 2:45pm

October 20: K-5 and 7-8 Quarter 1 Awards Ceremonies

October 21: Middle School State Cross Country Meet 8am-NOON

October 24: 6th Grade Quarter 1 Awards Ceremonies 11:20am

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Message from the Chief Academic Officer/Principal

Dear High Point Academy Families,

Don't miss our Math and Literacy Night next week on October 11, 2017 from 5:30-6:30pm. Teachers and students are preparing 'take home' materials and games that you can play with your child to support their academics while having a good time together.

To that end, you may be wondering how to support your child academically. Families often find themselves unsure or unable to provide assistance with the work that is being asked of their child to complete at home. Homework may also be a source of stress or frustration for your student, or in many cases, the family members trying to help. Here are some strategies that I share with families that may help avoid some of the battles we face when it's homework time.

Asking questions...The best way to help your child when they are stuck or frustrated is to ask probing questions that can help empower them. Such as: "Where have you seen this before?" "How are you going to break down this question?" "Does that make sense? How do you know?" If the answer is, "no" you can ask, "what else can you try?" All of these questions help students in any content area. This helps students persevere when it gets hard and can avoid some of the battles that are associated with homework.

Location, location, location... make sure your child has a quiet place to work (NO: TV, computer, ipad, cell phone, or other electronic). As simple as this sounds, when asked, most children say they are completing their homework in their living rooms in front of the TV, with their cell phone in one hand and the pen/pencil in the other. Too many distractions result in incomplete or inaccurate work. It's also important that your child has the appropriate materials to complete the work. This may be a calculator, computer, graph paper, etc. If you do not have the supplies your child needs, please reach out to the office so that we can arrange for you to borrow what you need.

90% of success is attitude... homework historically may have been a source of conflict between students and families which has resulted in a negative attitude around homework. As much as possible, even if you have to 'fake it', have a positive attitude about homework. If you are positive about the work your child needs to complete, they are more likely to be positive about it. When your child is working on their homework model 'homework' behaviors such reading a book, balancing your checkbook, writing an email, or researching a question you have or something you've heard on the news.

It takes a village...you are your child's first teacher and you know them best, communicate with your child's teacher about what you are noticing during homework time or any concerns you may have. Research shows that parent involvement is more important to a child's academic success than IQ, economic status, or school programming.

Helping hands, means...the best ways to support your child with homework are around organization, and pacing. Help them do the 'hard' work first before fatigue sets in and the 'easy' homework last. Make sure they take a break, or get started at a reasonable hour. And most importantly, and usually the most difficult for parents, provide guidance, *not* answers, when your child asks for help.

While the scientific research regarding homework is inconclusive as to whether or not it increases academic achievement, we do believe that homework is a worthwhile practice that has significant benefits. Homework helps students develop time management and research skills, build self-discipline and independence, grow responsibility and ownership of their learning, as well as improve thinking and memory.

If you have any questions about the work your child is doing, please feel free to reach out by email or stop by my office.

With husky pride,

Ms. Keri Melmed



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Donation and Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteers needed to help score the home volleyball game on Thursday, October 5th from 4:15 to 5:30pm. Please contact Mrs. Wood at ewood@highpointacademy.net if you are able to help out.

Volunteers needed to help with hearing and vision screening on October 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th from 8:00am to 3:30pm. Please contact Teresa Frasier at tfrasier@highpointacademy.net if you are available for any of the dates either for the whole day or part of the day.

Upcoming Garden Work Day Opportunities: Tuesday, October 17th from 4-5pm and Tuesday, October 24th from 4-5pm. Please contact Garden Coordinators, Paige Fredericks, pfedericks@highpointacademy.net, or Emily DelRoss, edelross@highpointacademy.net, if you are interested in joining the fun.

Book Donations Needed: Our 7th grade English language arts teacher is in need of donations of the following books: five copies of *Summer of Mariposas*, five copies of *Under a Painted Sky*, five copies of *Weedflower*, five copies of *Inside Out and Back Again*, and five copies of *Red Pencil*.

Note: Every \$10 spent on a school donation equals one parent volunteer hour. High Point Academy asks all families to volunteer 10 hours for a single parent home and 20 hours for a two-parent home.

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.

HPA Has Partnered with American Furniture Warehouse

Are you thinking of home furnishings? If so, support our school at the same time. Questions regarding the program can be directed to Erica Wood at ewood@highpointacademy.net.

Reduced Cost Individual, Couple, and Family Therapy

Regis University's Division of Counseling and Family Therapy provides progressive, experiential learning in a state-of-the-art counseling center. At the Thornton campus, our clients will have access to designated Child and Adolescent Play Therapy rooms. This campus has earned the esteemed designation as an Approved Center of Play Therapy Education by the Association for Play Therapy (APT). Please visit <http://www.regiscounseling.com>, call 303-964-5786, or email macplab@regis.edu for more information.

Volunteer Training

The next volunteer training will take place on Friday, October 19th at 2:45pm.

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 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.

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.

Free Skiing for K-5th Grade Students

The Epic SchoolKids Colorado Pack is a free program for Kindergarten through 5th graders that provides four days of skiing and riding at each of the state's top-ranked resorts: Vail, Beaver Creek, Breckenridge, and Keystone.

Registration Deadline is October 8th.

www.epicpass.com/info/epic-schoolkids.aspx

Free Skiing for Fifth Grade Students & Discounted Skiing for Sixth Grade Students

Colorado Ski Country USA believes that every student should have the opportunity to learn Colorado's signature winter sports. That's why for over 20 years the CSCUSA Passport Program has helped thousands of 5th and 6th graders ski or snowboard for free. With no parent purchase required, CSCUSA's 5th grade Passport Program is the only ski pass that gives your kiddos **THREE (3) FREE DAYS** of skiing or snowboarding at 22 of Colorado's premier mountains. 6th Grade participants receive **FOUR (4)** days of skiing or snowboarding at each resort for \$105 if you register before Wednesday, November 30th. Make sure your child does not miss out on the fun and sign them up today! The quickest and easiest way to register for the 5th and 6th Grade Passport Program is online at coloradoski.com/passport.