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Husky Talk Newsletter

High Point Academy Thursday, November 16, 2017 Volume 12, 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.

Preschool Pajama Drive

High Point Academy preschool classes are doing a pajama drive. Families are asked to donate new sets of pajamas in sizes newborn to 3XL through December 8th, 2017. The most needed sizes are 8 to 3XL. All pajamas must be new and a complete set or a nightgown. All pajamas will be paired with a book from Scholastic and given to at-risk children in the Denver metro area.

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 flag football team had an excellent end to the season. The HPA green team made the playoffs and finished in a tough game against Denver Language School. The HPA gold team made it to the championship game last Thursday against Omar D. Blair, they finished their season 8 and 3.

Congratulations to the undefeated girls volleyball team who won in the championship game against Global Village Academy last Thursday.

The boys and girls cross country team had an excellent season with two runners placing in the top ten runners in the final two mile race on October 24th at Vanguard West Classical School.

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 training in previous years, you need to attend a volunteer training and clear a background check before going into classrooms. Please contact Erica Wood at ewood@highpointacademy.net or 303-217-5152 to find when the next 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.

Individual Picture Retake Day

Individual picture retake day will take place on Thursday, November 30th. If you ordered your child's picture in September and would like a retake please send your child to school with the pictures you would like to return so that they can get a new picture taken. Please remember that students must be in school uniform for individual pictures.

Did you get a proof of your child's individual school picture taken in September?

These were sent home in Thursday folders last week. If you did not receive one, please contact Van Gogh School Photographers at 303-679-9003, for a second chance to preview and order you child's individual school photo.

Donation and Volunteer Opportunities

Parent volunteer needed, who has completed the volunteer training, to help with individual picture retake day on Thursday, November 30 from 8:30am to 12:30pm. Please contact Erica Wood if you are able to help for all or part of the day at ewood@highpointacademy.net.

Husky Wear

Did you see HPA's Husky Wear items? Visit <http://denver.educationalfitters.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.

Important Dates:

November 17: Student Jean Day \$1

November 20-24: NO SCHOOL—Thanksgiving Break

November 30: Individual School Picture Retake Day

December 1: Purple Out Day—Free if you wear your purple Anti-Bullying wristband, \$1 if you do not

December 6: Girls Basketball Game vs. Global Village Academy at Global Village Academy at 5:00pm

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December 8: Middle School Dance 5-7pm

December 13: Coffee with Keri 8-8:30am in the wellness classroom

December 13: Girls Basketball Game vs. Ricardo Flores Magon Academy at HPA at 5:00pm

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December 14: NFL Day—students can wear a football or sport jersey with jeans

Husky Talk Newsletter

Message from the Chief Academic Officer/Principal

Dear High Point Academy Families,

Thanks to everyone who came out and enjoyed our Cultural Potluck on Tuesday, and to all the families that have come out to support and celebrate our amazing volleyball and football athletes. Congratulations to the boys and girls for a great season. The boys came in second place and our girls won the volleyball championship. These are just a few examples of the extraordinary Fall we've had at High Point Academy. I am so proud of our students and all the hard work they've exhibited. Of course none of that would be possible without the wonderful faculty and staff at HPA.

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 participate in bully prevention trainings. Our student council runs a year-long anti-bullying Kindness campaign. This month's "Coffee with Keri" was 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. We look closely at the definition of bullying and notice 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 were given tools to help address and support any students who may be feeling bullied.

One reoccurring theme that comes up each year 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 reconnect.

With husky pride,

Ms. Keri Melmed