



# Husky Talk Newsletter

High Point Academy Thursday, September 21, 2017 Volume 12, Issue 3

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  
Exploratory  
Committee 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.

### Student Jean Day \$1

Next Thursday, September 28 is a student jean day for \$1. Students can wear dress down bottoms with their uniform shirt to school. All money collected from jean days is used to keep the cost of our school yearbook down.

### School Picture Day

School picture day will be Friday, September 29. Forms to order your child's picture went home in Thursday folders last week. You can also order online at <https://ordervgco.com/> (choose "Before Picture Day", you will need the school code—30041001). Students must be in their uniform polo for these pictures (no Husky wear). Since hoodies are not allowed for pictures, please make sure your child has a uniform color polo shirt on under any hoodie that is worn that day.

### School Newsletters

HPA school newsletters are sent out bi-weekly. These publications are sent out electronically via email. For the first few editions we will also be printing them and sending them home in Thursday folders. If you would like to continue to receive a paper copy throughout the year please contact Tonya Gray at 303-217-5152 or via email at [tgray@highpointacademy.net](mailto:tgray@highpointacademy.net)

### Parenting the Love and Logic Way

What if I told you there were tools out there that could help parents "avoid un-avoidable power-struggles and arguments," or how you can "stay calm when your kids do incredibly upsetting things"? There are, and our Middle School Counselor, Rachel Bauer, will be teaching these skills in Parenting the Love and Logic Way. These classes will be held the second Wednesday of each month from 6-8pm at the school, September through March (excluding December). Dinner & Childcare are provided.

Please contact Rachel Bauer at [rbauer@highpointacademy.net](mailto:rbauer@highpointacademy.net) for more information.

### 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.

### Volunteer Training

We have several volunteer trainings coming up. 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 a previous year, you need to attend this training and clear a background check before working with children at the school.

Thursday, September 21 at 6:00pm and Thursday, October 19 at 2:45pm.

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.

### 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](mailto:macplab@regis.edu) for more information.

## **Important Dates:**

**September 21:** Conferences 4-8pm

**September 21:** Volunteer Training at 6:00pm

**September 21:** HPA Grading and Reporting Presentation 7:00pm

**September 22:** NO SCHOOL

**September 25:** Flag Football Game (GOLD) vs. Lotus at 5:00pm at High Point Field

**September 25:** Flag Football Game (GREEN) vs. Lotus at 6:00pm at High Point Field

**September 26:** Cross Country 1 Mile Meet at Vanguard Classical School—West Campus at 5:00pm

**September 27:** Volleyball Game vs. Vanguard at 5:00pm at Vanguard West

**September 28:** Student Jean Day 1

**September 28:** Flag Football Game (GREEN) vs. AXL at Tierra Park at 5:00pm

**September 28:** Flag Football Game (GOLD) vs. AXL at Tierra Park at 6:00pm

**September 28:** High Point Leadership Academy Panel 6-7pm in the gym

**September 29:** School Picture Day—uniform shirt required

**October 2:** Volleyball Games vs. Highline Academy at Highline Academy 5:00pm and 6:00pm

**October 2:** Flag Football Game (GOLD) vs. Ricardo Flores Magon Academy at Chaffee Park at 5:30pm

**October 3:** Cross Country 2 Mile Meet at Vanguard Classical School—West Campus at 5:00pm

# Husky Talk Newsletter

## Message from the Chief Academic Officer/Principal

Dear High Point Academy Families,

Thank you for taking the time to attend Parent-Teacher Conferences this week. Our goal is to meet with each family. If you were not able to attend, please schedule a time to come in next week or a time to talk on the phone. Fall conferences are extremely important, as they are a starting point for teachers and parents to develop positive relationships. When teachers and parents are on the same page, and each feels comfortable approaching the other, it sets the stage for a much more successful partnership, which will enhance students' academic achievement and well-being throughout the year. We hope the conference enabled you to get a sense of how your child is performing at school as well as a chance to get to know your child's teacher(s).

At conferences, teachers may have shared with you our grading practices. Here are the highlights of our grading system:

### **1. Separating student behaviors (effort, responsibility, participation, behavior) from content understanding.**

- This means you may see two grades for each course/class, one reflects what your child knows and is able to do according to the Colorado state standard and another that reflects your child's effort, responsibility, and participation: i.e. attributes that are important for being a successful student.
- Why is this important? When we separate content understanding and other variables such as behavior and responsibility we can more accurately assess where students struggle and what support they need to growth.

### **2. Communicating student achievement towards Colorado state standards**

- This means that you may see assignments, tests, quizzes, etc. listed in PowerSchool Gradebook as standards. For example, instead of "worksheet 2.5" you may now see it listed as "I can support my opinion by using evidence from a text."
- In grades K, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7 and 8 you will also see your child's proficiency toward standards communicated by either a BEG (beginning understanding of standard), DEV (developing proficiency toward the standard), ACC (accomplished the standard), or EXC (exceeding beyond the standard).
- Why is this important? The purpose of standards-based grading is to identify what a student knows, or is able to do, in relation to pre-established learning targets, as opposed to simply averaging grades/scores over the course of a grading period, which can mask what a student has learned, or not learned, in a specific course. By communicating your child's progress through our state standards you will have a more accurate picture of where they are in relation to state expectations.

### **3. How can I learn more about standards-based reporting?**

- As a school we are excited to provide you and your child a much clearer picture of how they are performing toward our state standards and how to think about your child's achievement and growth.
- Why is this important? It is important for parents to understand this grading system so that they can support their child at home. We know this is a new approach for some families and we are committed to helping each family learn more. We've had several information sessions and will have another one that will be held over Parent/Teacher conferences on Thursday, September 21 at 7pm. We will share much more about why this work is important and how it supports students, teachers, and families. If you are unable to attend, there will be other information nights in October and November. For your information, we have included multiple resources (links below) about standards-based grading.

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1joKyXSX0Cbb4OcEawsXu-sOvgVYf3-KwhFXAIMRd0E8/pub>

As always, please reach out with any questions, thoughts, or suggestions, my door is always open.

With husky pride,

Ms. Keri Melmed



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## Donation and Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteers needed to help with student picture day on Friday, September 29 from 8:30am to 3:00pm. Please contact Erica Wood if you are able to help for all or part of the day at [ewood@highpointacademy.net](mailto:ewood@highpointacademy.net).

Volunteers needed to help score home volleyball game on Thursday, October 5th from 4:15 to 5:30pm. Please contact Mrs. Wood at [ewood@highpointacademy.net](mailto: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](mailto: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, [pfredericks@highpointacademy.net](mailto:pfredericks@highpointacademy.net), or Emily DelRoss, [edelross@highpointacademy.net](mailto: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:** For 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](mailto:ewood@highpointacademy.net).

## NEW! Daisy Girl Scout Troop at HPA

There is a new Daisy Girl Scout troop (kindergarten and first grade) meeting at High Point Academy in Wednesday's from 6-7pm starting Wednesday, September 27. For more information please [click here](#) or see the flyer coming home in your daughter's Thursday folder today.

## 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](http://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](http://coloradoski.com/passport).

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