



# Husky Talk Newsletter

High Point Academy Thursday, November 2, 2017 Volume 12, Issue 6

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.

## High School Night

High Point Academy's first high school night will take place **TONIGHT**, Thursday November 2<sup>nd</sup> from 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM. We will be hosting several high schools from Denver Public Schools, Brighton Public Schools, and Aurora Public Schools. Please come to see what each high school has to offer so that transitioning from HPA to high school can be seamless. If you have any questions about High School Night or if you would like to volunteer to help, please contact our middle school counselor, Rachel Bauer: [rbauer@highpointacademy.net](mailto:rbauer@highpointacademy.net) or at 303-217-5152. Thank you and we look forward to seeing you there!

## Gifted & Talented Student Testing

From November 6th through the 10th, we will be administering tests to all second grade students to determine eligibility for gifted and talented services. All other students may be recommended for testing based on specific characteristics, which include but are not limited to: advanced problem-solving skills, intense interests, motivation to pursue self-selected tasks, and test scores above the 95th percentile. For a more extensive list, please visit <http://www.coloradogifted.org/>. For more information on HPA's gifted identification process or to refer your child for testing, please contact Katie Vining, [kvining@highpointacademy.net](mailto:kvining@highpointacademy.net).

## 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](mailto: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.

## HPA Movie Night

HPA Student Travel is hosting our first movie night on Friday November, 10<sup>th</sup> at 4:30pm. We will provide childcare from 3:30-4:30 in the gym. Tickets will be \$3 for the movie or \$5 for movie and popcorn. Please come and support out HPA Student Travel!

## High Point Academy Cultural Potluck

High Point Academy is celebrated as one of the most diverse schools in the state. Let's celebrate all of the cultures and traditions that make the HPA community a great place to learn and grow!

**When**—November 14th 6:00 - 7:00 PM

**Who**—All High Point Academy students and families

**Where**—High Point Academy Cafeteria

Sign up to bring a favorite family dish, dessert, or snack <http://bit.ly/2h32Si4> or email [aaustin@highpointacademy.net](mailto:aaustin@highpointacademy.net) to sign up.

**Prizes will be awarded for top dishes!**

## 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](mailto:ewood@highpointacademy.net).

## Donation and Volunteer Opportunities

Parent volunteers needed, who have completed the volunteer training, to help with class picture day on Thursday, November 9 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).

## Important Dates:

**November 2:** Flag Football GOLD Playoff Game vs. AXL Academy at HPA at 5:00pm

**November 2:** Volleyball Playoff Game vs. Denver Language School at HPA at 5:15pm

**November 2:** High School Night 6:30-8:00pm

**November 7:** Volunteer Training 2:45pm

**November 8:** Coffee with Keri 8:00-8:30am

**November 8:** Parent Love and Logic Class 6:00pm

**November 9:** Class Picture Day and Individual Retake Day

**November 9:** PTO Meeting 6:00-7:00pm

**November 10:** HPA Movie Night 4:30pm

**November 14:** HPA Cultural Potluck 6-7pm

**November 15:** Governing Board Meeting 5:00-8:00pm

**November 17:** Student Jean Day \$1

**November 20-24:** NO SCHOOL—Thanksgiving Break

# Husky Talk Newsletter

## Message from the Chief Academic Officer/Principal

Dear High Point Academy Families,

As I know is true for many people, the month of November and the upcoming Thanksgiving holiday reminds me to take time and think about the things in my life that I am thankful for and all that I have. One of the things that I am so grateful for are the people in my life. I am filled with gratitude for the amazing students, staff, and families in the High Point Academy community, and I am thankful for another year at HPA and the unique opportunity to work as HPA's Chief Academic Officer/Principal.

In the spirit of thanksgiving, my message this week is a *shout out* to all our amazing teachers at HPA. All too often we take for granted the people who add so much to our lives and I would argue that teachers often fall into that category. Teaching can feel like a thankless job. I am just as guilty as the next person in not showing my appreciation for all that teachers do. I want to encourage every family to reach out to your child's teacher before Thanksgiving break and thank them for all their hard work. You may not know how hard they work, so let me share with you what I see every day. Each day I witness teachers at work long before students arrive, or staying well into the evening; I witness teachers working on weekends and over breaks all to ensure that their lessons are prepared, their classrooms are organized, and that student work is graded. Every day I meet with teachers and hear how well they know their students, how much they care about their success, and all that they are trying to do to give just a little bit more. I am inspired by their dedication and hard work.

"Teachers open our eyes to the world. They give us curiosity and confidence. They teach us to ask questions. They connect us to our past and future. We have lots of heroes today- sports stars, super models and media personalities. They come they have their fifteen minutes of fame and then they go. But the influence of a good teacher stays with us. They are the people who really shape our lives." (Jonathan Sacks).

As we head into the month of November, before our Thanksgiving break, let's show our gratitude and appreciation to the real superheroes in our society. A hand written note, a quick email, a flower, a picture, a Starbucks, a thank you card would touch the hearts of our teachers more than you know and would show them how much we value all that they do for our students and community.

What a powerful example this would be for our children to see us showing acts of kindness and gratitude. Let's come together this thanksgiving season and appreciate the people who make HPA a great place for our students to grow and learn.

With husky pride,

Ms. Keri Melmed