Hello to all of our returning and new families! It has been an incredible summer, and now we are looking forward to an amazing 4th year! Our custodial staff, Lisa, Mario, and Maria have done an incredible job moving LOTS of furniture and getting our school gleaming again. We wish to extend a huge thank you to Keystone Church members and members of one of their sister churches in Texas for volunteering time and muscle to help our custodial staff get everything moved and cleaned. We are so fortunate to have a great community of support. High Plains staff are now busy getting rooms organized, materials gathered, and preparing for great learning experiences when our students return.

This time of year many parents start back to school shopping, buying clothes and school items from the supply list (available at the school’s website, High Plains School). Parents are also encouraged to do a little preparation with their child to help them ease back into the routine of school. There are many resources available that offer tips and suggestions, like this link from Scholastic, 10 Ways to Make the Switch From Summer to School. As we get into the school year, parents can continue to support their child by:

- Setting a regular after school, bedtime, and morning routine
- Having their child at school before the bell rings (MTRF-8:20AM; W-9:20AM)
- Encouraging and supporting regular attendance (19-20 School Calendar)
- Checking the school’s website, Facebook, Parent Portal, and school emails for upcoming events and volunteer opportunities.

Please continue reading the newsletter for additional information on upcoming events and activities. Enjoy the remaining days of summer. We look forward to welcoming back all of the Bison herd for a fantastic fourth year of learning, laughing, and making memories!

Sincerely,
Danielle Feeney, principal
Registration

Please mark your calendars for registration on August 1st from 8AM-6PM. This is an opportunity for families new to High Plains to bring in documentation showing in boundary status, as well as other documentation needed to complete the enrollment process. Middle school student schedules will be accessible via Parent Portal starting August 12th.

Back to School Night

Please mark your calendars for Back to School Night on August 14th. The evening will offer an informal opportunity for our families to visit with teachers and all HPS Staff, drop off supplies, identify volunteer opportunities through our Parent Teacher Community Organization (PTCO), and visit with representatives from some of our before/after school programs.

Due to our growing community we are organizing BTSN differently this year to accommodate all families without pushing the boundaries of our building’s capacity. Please follow the Back to School Night schedule below.

Students with last names beginning with A-J may attend between 5pm and 6pm.

Students with last names beginning with K-Z may attend between 7pm and 8pm.

Additional details will be communicated after August 1st.
Meet Our New Staff

We are growing! HPS staff will have several new faces and a few staff members that are taking on new roles. Families will have the opportunity to meet all staff on August 14th at our Back to School Night. Until then please join me in welcoming our new staff to the herd!

Joining our Kindergarten team- Mrs. Sarah Marsh
1st grade- Mrs. Kiki Archer, Mrs. Tiffany Hansen, and Ms. Jessica Scheid
Joining our 2nd grade team- Ms. Megan Buie
Joining our 3rd grade team- Ms. Shannon Silk
6th ELA, Math, Science, and Family Consumer Sciences- Mr. Jeremy DeBoer
7th/8th Science- Mr. Christopher Dickerson
Innovation Specialist- Mrs. Lindy Jones
Joining our Gifted & Talented team- Mr. Daniel Rirdan
Middle School Instructional Aide/Media Assistant- Mr. Brian Guttman

We have some returning staff that are moving into different positions:

Secretary- Mrs. Nancy Payton
Registrar- Mr. Lamont Chatman
Late Start Wednesday

As a reminder all TSD schools are including late start Wednesdays again this school year in their schedules. The late start bell time for High Plains School is 9:20 am - 3:35 pm. Students are asked not to arrive at school before 8:00am on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday and no earlier than 9:00am on Wednesday. No supervision is provided prior to 8:00am (or 9:00am on Wednesday).

Please note the one-hour late start on all Wednesdays during the school year, beginning August 21st. This will allow time for educators to collaborate in their planning and professional growth opportunities. Parents are encouraged to take advantage of Base Camp offerings, as well as the Spanish and Chess offerings on Late Start Wednesday mornings. Information about BaseCamp and before/after school activities and clubs can be found on the school website under “Activities”.

BASE Camp

We are excited to partner with BASE Camp for before and after school care! If you would like to register for before and/or after school care for your child, check out the BASE Camp website at http://www.mybasecampkids.org/

Volunteer and Paid Crossing Guards

Volunteer Crossing Guards and Paid Crossing Guards are needed at High Plains School for the 2019-2020 school year. Help keep kids safe. Volunteers must be 18 or older. Online training is provided. If interested, contact Candie Joshi: candie.joshi@gmail.com, or if you’d like to apply for a paid crossing guard position, please go to http://www.thompsonschools.org/page/2465 and search for vacancies under transportation.

Recess Supervision

Are you looking for an opportunity to support High Plains while also enjoying our great Colorado weather and the school’s awesome views and playground? Lunch recess supervision is a great way to do just that! You can visit with your child, get to know the other children in our school, and be a role model and support for kids from kindergarten through eighth grade. Lunch recess happens every day between 11am-2pm. Volunteers are welcome to do the entire three hours, an hour, every day, once a week, or any portion that works in your schedule. Please contact Mrs. Feeney, danielle.feeney@thompsonschools.org for details and to schedule your time.
Thank You, Learning Garden Volunteers!

The long, hot days of summer are upon us, and the High Plains learning garden is thriving. We are grateful for all of the families who are caring for our garden over the summer and appreciate all the hard work and time spent watering, weeding, and harvesting. The garden would not be possible without you!
Character Counts

Welcome Back to HPS! This year is going to be AWESOME! We are looking forward to continuing our work on community building and developing lifelong habits that will prepare our students to be successful, productive and conscientious citizens. One of the ways we address this learning is through PBiS and Second Step. Each month I will be posting information and resources to support understanding of the programs we use to impact our culture and climate.

Mrs. Wardlow

PBiS in a nutshell

PBiS is a “proactive systems approach for creating and maintaining a safe and effective learning environment characterized by positive social culture and behavior supports for all students.” We explicitly teach behaviors that support social and behavioral growth. The approach is encouraging and positive, avoiding punitive and reactive response.

At HPS we use Bison RESPECT to guide our work. This year we are asking students to Go for the GOLD! Students showing exemplary and consistent character may be selected to receive the new and improved Bison Chip.

In addition, they will have their name proudly displayed on the Bison Award bulletin board in the breezeway and at the end of each quarter those who have received a chip will enjoy Doughnuts with the Dean!

What is Second Step? Second Step is a program rooted in social-emotional learning (SEL) that helps transform schools into supportive, successful learning environments uniquely equipped to help children thrive.

Here is an example of a process we teach to support students when they are struggling with a problem.

Kindness is the language which the deaf can hear and the blind can see.

~Mark Twain~
**Bully Prevention**

High Plains is excited to announce that we have been awarded continuation for the Bullying Prevention and Education Grant (BPEG) for the next three years! This competitive grant provides us with evidence based bullying prevention and educational strategies and opportunities for students, staff, and family engagement. An annual, anonymous, student perception survey will be given to students each year for student grades 3 and up to monitor prevention efforts and make decisions to continue to make High Plains a great school where all students feel safe and welcome. The survey requires parent permission; **please take an opportunity at Back to School Night to sign permission for your child to participate in the survey.** If you are interested in joining the school’s Bullying Prevention Committee, please contact Niki Van Essen. More announcements on community education and partnership opportunities on bullying prevention efforts will be made throughout the school year - we look forward to connecting with you this year!

Niki Van Essen
Bully Prevention Implementation Coordinator
niki.vanessen@thompsonschools.org
970-613-5780

**Safe 2Tell**

Thompson School District is dedicated to providing a safe school environment for all of its students. If you feel that your student has been a victim of bullying, please report your concern, orally or in writing, to any teacher or member of the school administration. Procedures also provide students the opportunity to anonymously report acts of bullying to teachers and administrators; parents/guardians may file anonymous reports of suspected bullying as well. "safe2tell Colorado" allows individuals to anonymously leave a tip.
GET INVOLVED

There are many opportunities to support High Plains School. Parents and community members are encouraged to share their time, talents, knowledge and experience. Volunteers can help in a multitude of ways that may include:

- Ongoing classroom support
- Committee participation
- Expert panels
- Chaperoning field trips and other school events
- Supporting our learning garden
- And many more!

Online Volunteer Registration and Background Checks:

All volunteers in Thompson School District must register online and pass a criminal background check before volunteering in a school, going on a field trip, etc… Once registered, volunteers can update their profiles, change their volunteer preferences, or change the schools where they volunteer. Take the time to register now; it only takes a few minutes. Click on the link in Volunteer Tab to get started!
A Note from Mrs. Lemons

Hello Bison Family,

I hope everyone has had a restful, fun and rejuvenating Summer break! As we welcome the 2019-2020 school year, I wanted to help you navigate a few changes, along with yearly traditions, in the music room so you and your musician can best prepare.

First of all, my husband and I are so excited to welcome our first baby in September! As you can imagine, I have had to rearrange the first semester of school quite a bit, and I will need to step away from the music classroom for a while; I do plan to return in January 2020!

A change to middle school music: We are graced with many musicians on our High Plains staff, and the very talented Mark Kubichek will be taking over the middle school choir program completely this school year, along with the Music X class. Both of these classes (along with Band - still taught by Mrs. Lemons) are electives for 6-8th grade students, and we encourage your student to join! If schedules need to be changed, please stop by the main office.

Please glance over the HPS music event calendar for this year and include these events on your calendars. I will have paper copies of this event calendar at Back to School Night on August 14th, and as always, this information is also shared on the music website (www.HPSmusic.com) and our Instagram (@_hpsmusic). If changes occur, they will be communicated throughout the same channels as soon as possible.

You'll notice the biggest update is the elementary concert schedule. I will still group kids K-1/2-3/4-5, but I will instead have all K-5 perform in one night, in the Spring on the MVHS stage. I have been very thoughtful in this decision, and I believe it will be the best option as I factor in my maternity leave this Fall. All K-5 students will still need a blue performance shirt/black on the bottom, they will still have a concert this year, just none in the Fall/Winter. Please purchase these performance shirts from Mrs. Lemons for $6.

Finally, we will be again kicking off the school year with some new, custom HPS apparel. We are excited to introduce new Bison gear to our students, families, staff and community members! The funds gained from these sales will support our continued growth as a program and will directly affect each K-8 student. Look out for flyers, links and information starting at Back to School Night.

Thank you so much for being a supportive community for all of these wonderful life moments! I can’t wait to see you all here soon!

Mrs. Shawna Lemons
K-8 Music Director
www.HPSmusic.com
970.679.9817
Below you will find a calendar for High Plains School events specific to the music department. Students who are performing need to arrive 30 minutes before the concert time, unless otherwise stated by Mrs. Lemons.

Note: Dates and times are subject to change for any reason. You will be notified as soon as possible.

**August 26-September 13** [three-week music fundraiser] - HPS Music Apparel Fundraiser @ www.HPSmusic.com (orders made online)

**September 3-6** [Tuesday-Friday] Before school 7:30-8:00am; After school 3:35-4:30pm - Jazz Band Auditions (sign-up on the music door)

**September** [after audition results have been posted] 7:30-8:00am - HPS Jazz Rehearsals Begin on Tuesday and Thursday mornings

**October 18** [Friday] 7 pm - MVHS Feeder Night at football game @ TVHS - Ray Patterson Stadium (5th choir & 8th Band only)

**November TBA** [two-day, after school event] 5-8 pm - TSD Jazz Retreat @ MVHS

**December 11** [Wednesday] 7 pm - Combined Band Concert with MVHS @ MVHS (Symphonic Band only)

**January** [Day/Time TBA] - TSD 4th Grade District Music Field Trip

**January** [Day/Time TBA] - TSD Honor Band Auditions DUE! (only offered for 7th & 8th grade band students)

**February** [Day/Time TBA] - TSD 3rd Grade District Music Field Trip

**March 4** [Wednesday] 6:30 pm - K-5 Concert @ MVHS Auditorium

**March 25** [Wednesday] 4-7 pm - Instrument Rental Event with Music & Arts @ HPS Music Room

**March 28** [Saturday] 8 am-1 pm - HPS Instrumental Solo & Ensemble Festival @ HPS (only offered for 6-8th grade band)

**April 7** [Tuesdays] 3:45-5:00 pm every Tuesday through April/May (6 rehearsals total) - 5th grade Beginning Band rehearsal @ HPS

**April** [Day/Time TBA] 5-7 pm - TSD Honor Band reading rehearsal @ CBMS

**April 15** [Wednesday] 7 pm - HPS Middle School Band & Choir Concert @ MVHS

**April 24** [Friday] 9-5 pm - UNC Jazz Festival (field trip and performance for Jazz Band members) @ UNC Campus, Greeley

**April 29** [Wednesday] 5-7:30 pm - TSD Honor Band rehearsal @ MVHS

**April 30** [Thursday] rehearsal 8-3pm; concert 6pm (call time of 5:30) - TSD Honor Band Rehearsals AND Concert @ MVHS
High Plains PTCO

What’s Up!

During the 2018-2019 School Year the PTCO Funded $23,804 to Help Support Our School!!

Your support helps fund items such as:

- Guest speakers and PBLs
- Professional Development
- Wellness Activities and Fieldtrips
- Technology – Apps, iPads, Headphones
- Student Clubs – Robotics, Give Next, Girls on the Run, Outdoor Education, Pastels on 5th
- Middle School House Competitions & Dances
- Supplies for the Learning and Rooftop Garden
- And so much more!!

We NEED Your Support!!

Everyone is a member of the PTCO and we welcome anyone interested in supporting our school to attend our monthly meetings! Meetings are at the school on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 6:30 pm.

We have several ways to support the PTCO. If you are interested in volunteering throughout the school year, please feel out the attached Volunteer Interest Form and return it to your child’s teacher or email it to highplainsk8ptco@gmail.com and a member of the PTCO will be in touch!! Register as a new or returning volunteer here, its quick, easy and required for classroom, event and field trip volunteering.

Mark Your Calendar!!

- August 19th - Boo Hoo Breakfast for all incoming Kindergarten parents at 8:20 am
- August 20th - PTCO meeting at 6:30 pm
- September 17th - PTCO meeting at 6:30 pm
- September 20th - Bison Stampede
- October 9th - Parent Teacher Conference Meals
- October 15th - PTCO Meeting at 6:30 pm
- October 25th - Trunk or Treat from 5:00-6:00 pm
- November 19th - PTCO Meeting at 6:30 pm
- December 7th - Vendor Event Fundraiser from 10:00-4:00
- December 17th - PTCO Meeting at 6:30 pm
- January 21st - PTCO Meeting at 6:30 pm
- January 24th - Bingo-for-Book 6:30-7:30 pm
- February 18th - PTCO Meeting at 6:30 pm

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High Plains PTCO
What’s Up!

Mark Your Calendar! Continued...

- February 27th - Conference Meals
- March 6th - Family Movie Night @ 5:00-7:00 pm
- March 24th - PTCO Meeting at 6:30 pm
- April 3rd - Spring Carnival from 5:30-7:30 pm
- April 21st - PTCO Meeting at 6:30 pm
- Week of May 4th - Teacher Appreciation Week
- May 12th - Ice Cream Social & Annual Meeting from 6:00-7:00 pm
- May 19th - PTCO Meeting at 6:30 pm

Crayola ColorCycle Program: an amazing program devised to re-purpose used markers rather than sending them to landfills! The ColorCycle program uses the most advanced plastic conversion technologies available today to make wax compounds for asphalt and roofing shingles as well as to generate electricity that can be used to heat homes, cook food, and power vehicles. Last year our school alone sent in 19 pounds of markers!!

- Please help support our efforts by sending your kids in with any used markers you may have around the house - even non-Crayola brands! Highlighters and dry erase markers can also be included.

- A container will be located in the office for your child to deposit the markers.

- Thank you in advance for participating! With the help of parents like you across the country, the Crayola ColorCycle program can continue to keep tons of plastic out of landfills each year. Remember, don’t throw out that used marker—ColorCycle it! Learn more at http://www.crayola.com/colorcycle

Caps4Cash - Morning Fresh Dairy Products:

You can earn cash for our school by drinking milk or juice! Caps4Cash is a Morning Fresh Dairy program where High Plains School can earn cash by collecting caps from Morning Fresh Dairy bottles.

Each bottle cap earns 5¢ for our school and all you have to do is save your bottle caps, bring them to school and drop them off in the collection bucket located in the office!

We can earn even more money by getting our friends and family involved! Ask them to save Morning Fresh bottle caps for our school too!

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High Plains PTCO
What's Up!

Box Tops for Education:

Box Tops for Education is going digital!! Here is what you need to know:

• Traditional box tops are being phased out of production, but may continue to be found on many products throughout the store. You can still clip these and send them to school.

• Eventually the Box Tops program will become digital-only. Participating brands are changing their packaging from a traditional Box Tops clip to the new Box Tops label seen below:

• If you see this label on products you have purchased, do not send it to school. Instead, use the new Box Tops app to scan your receipt within 14 days of purchase. The NEW and improved Box Tops mobile app uses state-of-the-art technology to scan your store receipt, find participating products and instantly add Box Tops to our school's earnings online. No more clipping or counting box tops by hand and Box Tops are still worth 10¢ for your school, it's a win-win!!!

• See products and learn more about the Box Tops App at www.btfe.com

King Soopers Card fundraiser:

King Soopers is changing its community rewards program and it is now much easier for your purchases to benefit our PTCO!

• First, make an online account and link your rewards card to it. Then, search for "High Plains PTCO" or "GK190" as your organization (don't mix it up with High Plains Elementary PTCO, choose the one in Loveland on Buffalo Mountain Dr.). Better instructions and more information is available at https://www.kingsoopers.com/topic/community-rewards-9.

• If you don't have a card yet, Sign up online to get your card

• 5% of your everything you spend will benefit the High Plains PTCO!!

Amazon Smile:

Did you know you can earn money for High Plains School while shopping on Amazon?? Follow these easy steps and Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the High Plains PTCO. Thank you for helping support our school!

Go to smile.amazon.com and login to your amazon account.

• Search for and select High Plains PTCO in Loveland, CO.

• Start Shopping!! The same Amazon products you love will be available!
  *always start your shopping at www.smile.amazon.com

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High Plains PTCO
What’s Up!

The High Plains Parent Teacher Community Organization (PTCO)

Anyone can be a member, NO membership Fees!!
Visit our website to learn about who we are, why we are here, and how you can help!
www.highplainsptco.org
Have questions? Shoot us an email! highplainsk8ptco@gmail.com
Like us on Facebook for up-to-date information!

The purpose of the High Plains PTCO is to enhance and support the educational experience, to develop a close connection between school, home and community by encouraging parental involvement, and to improve the environment at High Plains School through volunteer and financial support.

2019-2020 PTCO Meetings are at High Plains School at 6:30 pm on:

August 20th ~ September 17th ~ October 15th ~ November 19th ~ December 17th
January 21st ~ February 18th ~ March 24th ~ April 21st ~ May 19th

Everyone is a member for free!! We welcome anyone interested in supporting our school community!

Visit our website to learn about who we are, why we are here, and how you can help!
www.highplainsptco.org

Questions? Shoot us an email! highplainsk8ptco@gmail.com
Like us on Facebook for up-to-date information!

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High Plains PTCO
What’s Up!

High Plains PTCO Volunteer Interest Form 20

Volunteer’s Name: 

Phone: ___________________________ E-mail: ___________________________

Youngest Child’s Name: ___________________________ Grade: _______ Teacher: ___________________________

**Ongoing Volunteer Opportunities**

Mark all areas that you are interested in helping to organize or assist. Thank you!

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>On-Going School-Wide Support</th>
<th>Enrichment Support</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>□ Recess/Lunch Monitor or Crossing Guard</td>
<td>□ Destination Imagination</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Assist with Sponsorship &amp; Donation Requests</td>
<td>□ Spelling Bee</td>
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<tr>
<td>□ Count &amp; Bundle Box Tops</td>
<td>□ Robotics</td>
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<tr>
<td>□ Help Organize a Restaurant Spirit Night Fundraiser</td>
<td>□ Math Olympiads</td>
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<td>□ PBL Panelist and/or Guest Speaker (Area of Expertise: )</td>
<td>□ Drama</td>
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<tr>
<td>□ 100 Mile Club</td>
<td>□ 6th Grade Outdoor Education Fundraiser(s)</td>
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<tr>
<th>One-Time Opportunity</th>
<th>One-Time Opportunity – Winter</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fall</strong></td>
<td>□ Vendor Fundraiser Event – Dec 7th</td>
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<tr>
<td>□ Kinder Boo-Hoo Breakfast - Aug 19</td>
<td>□ Bingo-for-Books – Jan 24th</td>
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<tr>
<td>□ Student Picture Day Assistant – Sept/Oct</td>
<td>□ P/T Conference Meals/ Snacks – Feb 27th</td>
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<tr>
<td>□ Bison Stampede – Sept 20</td>
<td>□ Trunk-or-Treat – Oct 25</td>
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<td>□ P/T Conference Meals/ Snacks – Oct 9</td>
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<tr>
<th>One-Time Opportunity</th>
<th>On-Call Volunteer:</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Spring</strong></td>
<td>If you are not sure right now how you can help, but would like to be involved in the future, your name can go on our “On-Call” Volunteer list. If we find we are short-handed for an activity or event, we will go to our On-Call list and check with you to see if you can help with an activity or event.</td>
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<tr>
<td>□ Spring Carnival – April 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>□ Class Picture Day Assistant – March/April</td>
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| | I’m flexible: Call me anytime to work at school |
| □ Summer Movie Ticket Fundraiser – April |
| □ Teacher Appreciation – Week of May 4th |
| □ Ice Cream Social – May 12th |

Additional Comments:
August 14th  Back to School Night (A-J 5:00pm-6:00pm and K-Z 7:00pm-8:00pm)

August 19th  First Day of School for K-6th graders

Boo Hoo Breakfast for Kindergarten Parents 8:20am Rm 168

August 20th  First Day of School for 7th and 8th Graders

August 21st  Late Start Day 9:20am

August 28th  Late Start Day 9:20am

September 20th  Bison Stampede