Charging through failures, stampeding through challenges

Message from the Principal

We hope all of our families enjoyed their Thanksgiving this year, even though it was likely smaller. Regardless of size and physical presence, I count my blessings for living in a time of technology that allows me to stay connected with my loved ones and friends. Our students have only 3 weeks remaining until winter break. We continue in our remote instruction schedule, and students have much more to learn and do before winter break. Below are reminders regarding HPS Remote Learning. Please also check out this link from Common Sense Education on tips to support your child during remote instruction.

- Each teacher (7-8th share as a team) will communicate learning plans on the Friday before instruction begins for that week. This will allow families to prepare for the week ahead.

- Included in this weekly learning plan communication is a link for our High Plains K-8 School Family Connection. We know that a partnership with families will increase student engagement, success, and overall emotional well-being. This form streamlines for our parents one place to go rather than multiple avenues to connect with staff. Anytime you need to check in, meet with or have a question for a classroom teacher, core extension/elective teacher, or specialist, please complete this form. Most classroom teachers also use Class Dojo. This is a great two way communication tool for quick questions and messages.

- Attendance will be taken daily for all students. Attendance includes not only live (synchronous) participation, but also completed and turned in assignments.

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**The Youth Clinic**

Since 1964 We’ve Been Growing Healthy Kids

- Well Care Visits for Kids & Teens
- Designated “Sick” & “Well” Locations
- Phone Nurse Available
- 4 Convenient Locations

Call to Schedule Your Appointment: 970.482.2515
If students will not be in attendance for a full day or more, parents need to call the attendance line: (970) 679-9870. Parents are encouraged to communicate with the teacher, if a specific synchronous session will be missed. Teachers will note this in IC and their attendance tracking.

If a student is absent for part or all of a day, students or their parents may request a recording of the synchronous session(s) the student missed. Teachers may also, at their discretion, share recordings with students.

Asynchronous (not live) time will be directed by the teacher through “Must do and May do” activities that will be shared in the weekly learning plan the prior Friday. These activities will align with instruction in synchronous time and should be work a student can accomplish on their own to further their knowledge and skill sets. If a child has difficulty, teachers will share out how students can get support.

Students with identified plans in Special Education, Gifted and Talented, and English Language areas will receive support according to their plans during synchronous times, as well as through collaboration between these specialist teachers and student’s general education teachers.

All K-8 teaching staff are using Google Classroom as the platform to house student instruction, work, communications, and apps/subscriptions students may use to support their learning.

All K-8 students will participate in synchronous Social Emotional Learning (SEL) sessions each day using our Second Step program and other resources HPS staff have been implementing the past 4 years. SEL sessions will not be recorded.

Students will continue to collect and reflect on work they complete, with teacher feedback in support of creating learning portfolios that support a student in understanding where they are as a learner, the progress they have made, and next steps in their learning journey.

Sincerely,
Danielle Feeney, principal

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Reach Parents in Larimer County through our mobile-ready newsletters

Market your business in both Poudre and Thompson school districts.
You gain visibility and targeted, increased awareness; schools gain funds from advertising revenue.

Advertise with The School Newsletter Company
Joe Milvshke 970-420-7163 | SchoolNewsletterCompany@gmail.com
Live, online tutoring 2:00 - 11:00 pm for K-12 through Brainfuse.

Free online tutoring! Brainfuse HelpNow is an all-in-one suite of tutoring services designed for a wide range of academic needs whether it’s tackling a tough homework problem, mastering a particular topic, or writing a paper. HelpNow services include live help, expert academic tutoring, and self-study tools to empower users to study at their own pace or collaborate with peers and teachers. Students access live, on-demand academic help and state-aligned skills building lessons from expert tutors. With HelpNow, tutors and students communicate in real time in our online classroom by typing, drawing, and marking-up lessons and web content. Plus, students can use our secure file sharing feature in the writing lab to submit writing assignments to our writing tutors any time of the day. Look at the link. If additional info is needed, please contact:

Claudeth Castellanos | Spanish Services Librarian
Claudeth.castellanos@cityofloveland.org

300 N. Adams Ave.
Loveland, CO 80537
970-962-2426
Loveland Public Library website: https://lovelandpubliclibrary.org/brainfuse/
Open Enrollment & Boundary

Planning is already taking place for the 21-22 school year. Open enrollment begins November 30th and runs to January 8th. Last spring our Board of Education made boundary changes, one of which impacts enrollment at High Plains School. Please use the school locator tool at https://www.thompsonschools.org/Page/9235 to determine if your household is in the affected boundary area.

In cases where a school (HPS) affected by boundary changes is designated as open, the applicable school of choice/open enrollment procedures will be followed. All K-7th students currently enrolled at HPS in the affected boundary area must open enroll, if they wish their child(ren) to remain at HPS. Current 7th-grade students at High Plains School who would be moved to the Riverview PK-8 School attendance area by the boundary change will be able to open enroll back to High Plains School for their final year, whether the school was designated for open enrollment or not. These procedures were put into place so that students going into their last year at a school could complete that level at the same school. All other grade level open enrollments from the affected boundary area, current K-6th, will be determined based on availability of space and staffing at each grade level.

Giving Tree

Thank you so much to all the families that chose ornaments from our Giving Tree. It was very exciting to see all the ornaments disappear. Reminder for those that have ornaments to please bring the wrapped gifts and the ornament to the office by Wednesday, December 9th. Even though students will be remote the office will still be open on school days from 8:00am - 3:50pm. Families receiving the gifts will be called to pick them up the following week. Thank you so much for everyone’s generosity and kindness for helping support our fellow Bison.
**Picture Retake Day**

Did you miss getting your student's photo taken in November? Are you a new family to High Plains? We will be having Picture Retakes on **Wednesday, December 16th**. We want ALL of our students (TCO and In-Person) to get their picture for our yearbook. These pictures also go into student school records (Infinite Campus, cum folders, etc.), so we can put a smiling face to a name! Plus, families will want to share these with their families and friends too! Please pick a [time slot](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0D4FACA92F9A3-pictures) that works for your family.

Picture Retakes will be taken in the Learning Nook. Please enter through the Learning Garden door (south side of the building). Only the student getting photographed will be allowed in the building. Please wear masks and practice social distancing while you wait. If you have any COVID symptoms, please do not come.

Sign Up Genius for photos - [https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0D4FACA92F9A3-pictures](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0D4FACA92F9A3-pictures)
COMMUNITY RESOURCES
Our School and Community Resources!

Clothing
Thompson School District now has a Clothing Closet open to TSD students. They have clothes, coats, hats, gloves, underwear, socks, toiletries, backpacks, school supplies, and even blankets. If you are needing any of these items for your student, please complete the Google Form.

Tutoring
The Loveland Public Library now has live, online tutoring available to students from 2:00-11:00pm through Brainfuse for K-12 students.

Loveland Public Library website:

• Brainfuse HelpNow is an all-in-one suite of tutoring services designed for a wide range of academic needs whether it’s tackling a tough homework problem, mastering a particular topic, or writing a paper
• HelpNow services include live help, expert academic tutoring, and self-study tools to empower users to study at their own pace or collaborate with peers and teachers
• Students access live, on-demand academic help and state-aligned skills building lessons from expert tutors
• With HelpNow, tutors and students communicate in real time in our online classroom by typing, drawing, and marking-up lessons and web content
• Plus, students can use our secure file sharing feature in the writing lab to submit writing assignments to our writing tutors any time of the day
• The Brainfuse full-service test center offers practice tests for all levels in math, reading, and writing as well as college preparatory tests – including the SAT.

Connect with the Counselor
The High Plains Counseling website is full of resources for online learning, self-care and wellness, basic needs, and more. Students can request to speak with the counselor or school psychologist with the Need to Talk form. Families can connect to any staff

THOMPSON CLOTHING CLOSET
@ Community Connections
1307 E. 5th Street

HIGH PLAINS SCHOOL COUNSELOR
Danielle Case
Google Voice: 970-325-3679
School Phone: 970-679-9805
danielle.case@thompsonschools.org
News from the Library

Helping Our Kids Balance Their Media Lives

A challenge for us all in today’s world is balancing our use of digital media in a way that allows an opening for the other--often more meaningful--parts of life. Common Sense Education offers five tips to help us support our children in keeping media and tech use in check:

1. Create screen-free times and zones.
2. Explore built-in digital well-being tools.
3. Model the behavior you want to see.
Understand how tech companies make money.

(For more information about each of these, you can read the full article here.)

Two Great Sources for Ebooks

With a return to remote learning and the arrival of the holiday season, don’t forget the huge number of ebooks available to your students through Sora.

- Go to Sora.
- Click on "Find my school."
- Select any Thompson School District school (all are the same account).
- Choose "Thompson School District R2-J" on the drop-down menu.
- Sign in with your child’s district log-in. Please email megan.mcgee@thompsonschools.org if you have any questions about log-ins.
- Notice the different options (you can search by popular subjects, genres, or other categories) and enjoy browsing and then checking out books.

Another great source for ebooks is now available due to the district’s recent partnership with the Loveland Public Library. The Student Success Library Initiative ensures that all of our students, K-8, have access to LPL resources--including ebooks, audiobooks, and databases--by simply using their name and their 6-digit TSD student ID number (password without the lead characters). For more information and answers to FAQs, visit https://lovelandpubliclibrary.org/TSDstudents/.

member via the Family Connection Form.
Yearbook Needs YOU!

Families and Students,

We are excited to present the 2020-2021 Yearbook theme and cover **Bison Strong**! The High Plains Bison community has heart and strength when we come together. The 2020-2021 school year is a year to achieve our school motto “Charging Through Failures; Stampeding Through Challenges”.

Virtual Spirit Week - November 30th to December 4th

- **Monday, November 30th:** Bison Day (Wear your Bison gear or High Plains school colors)
- **Wednesday, December 2nd:** Character day (Dress up as your favorite book or movie character)
- **Thursday, December 3rd:** Decorative Covid Mask Day (Show off your favorite or most colorful mask!)
- **Friday, December 4th:** Hat Day (Wear your favorite hat!)

Show your Virtual Spirit and share your pictures with this [SPIRIT WEEK link](#)!

WE NEED YOU TO HELP US CREATE THE YEARBOOK!!!
Yearbook Needs YOU! continued...

This is a different year and we are going to create a unique yearbook filled with content provided by our entire community. The High Plains and TCO Yearbook Staff need your help. Emails were sent to families asking you to share pictures for our pages. If you haven’t already, please take the time to complete one or more of the following forms on a variety of topics for our current pages.

Click on the links below to open a Google Form for submitting pictures and more!

**Remembering Summer** - Staycations, Water Pictures, Mountain Pictures, You enjoying your summer!

**Celebrating Fall** - Pumpkin Carving, Corn Mazes, Halloween Costumes, Favorite Fall Activities!

**FAMILY** - Birthday during a Pandemic, Family Game Nights, Grandparents and Siblings!

**Celebrating with Classmates** - You and your friends hanging out and spending time together!

**SPIRIT WEEK/Halloween** - Show off your Bison Spirit and Halloween costumes!

If you have any trouble uploading pictures on the Google Forms, email the pictures directly to me [lindy.jones@thompsonschools.org](mailto:lindy.jones@thompsonschools.org). Please be sure to include a short description of the events that led to the pictures along with the student’s name(s) and grade(s).

The Yearbook Staff’s first Deadline is December 9, so please share your pictures as soon as possible. Increase the chance that your photo will be featured in the Yearbook and submit photos no later than **December 6**!

**8th Grade Baby Ads - Deadline Extension!**

Even though the final deadline for submitting your child's yearbook recognition ad has passed, there is a limited amount of space still available. If you are still interested, submit your ad now. There are only a few spaces left and will be sold first come, first served. **No ads will be accepted after December 10th**. Please visit [www.TheYearbookCompany.com](http://www.TheYearbookCompany.com) for more information. If you have already submitted an ad for your student, the yearbook staff thanks you for your support!

**It’s Not Too Late to Order a Yearbook!**

This is going to be a Yearbook you don’t want to miss! You can still order a Yearbook for your student! Go to [www.jostensyearbooks.com](http://www.jostensyearbooks.com).

Thank you for helping make this an even more memorable 2020-2021 school year!

Mrs. Jones and the Bison Yearbook Staff