Message from the Principal...

We hope all of our families enjoyed family and friend filled Thanksgivings. Our students have only 3 weeks remaining until winter break. How the time has flown! There are lots of important events coming up in the next 3 weeks, so read further for details, and also check out our website, Facebook, and your child’s teacher’s newsletters.

Some reminders from our Parent-Student Handbook are below.

✓ **Student attendance:** Parents must call their child’s absence to the attendance line (970) 679-9870. Alerting the teacher is great, but the office needs to receive a call from the parent. Please see more information about attendance on pages 3-4.

✓ **Not in the handbook, but important for the safety of all:** Please continue with caution, safety, and following all on campus traffic patterns and rules, as well as official road/traffic laws as you enter and exit the campus. Please only cross at designated crosswalks and follow the directions of our staff and crossing guards. Please park at least 5 feet from crosswalks, so pedestrians can cross safely. Crosswalks are located at the entrance to High Plains and the intersection of Lost Creek Drive and Buffalo Mountain Drive. Loveland Police may ticket persons crossing illegally or for unsafe driving. Please help set a good example for all of our children. They (children) are watching; actions speak louder than words!

See you in the drive line!

Danielle Feeney, principal
MLK Contest

Dr. Schaffer is excited to see student participation in the Loveland MLK Community Event to be held January 20, 2020 at MVHS. To include students in the event, TSD is hosting an Art and Essay Contest. Please encourage students to participate. Contest entries are due December 11, 2019.

English  Spanish

Chessmates

Chessmates will be starting up again in late January. Please check the HPS website under activities for details.
Front Office News

Checking Out Your Student:

Just a reminder that only parents, guardians, or persons indicated on the emergency pick up are allowed to check out a student for an appointment or early pick up. Please allow enough time for the office staff to call your student down once you have checked in at the office. Remember IDs are required for entrance into the building.

Thank You Grandparents:

Thank you to all the Grandparents and special people who came to lunch on Monday, Dec. 2nd. It was a pleasure to host the grandparents. Everyone had a great time. Please make sure to thank the grandparents for having their IDs ready and for coming early to make the process go quickly and easily. It was a great event.

Attendance Line
(970)679-9870

As soon as you know your student will be out please call this line to report the absence. This line connects directly to attendance.
Words from Wardlow

Here is the next edition of The ABC’s to Success at HPS I is for Innovation, J is for, and K is for Kindness.

I is for Innovative. What does it mean to provide an innovative education? It means, as educators, we engage students in ways we never have before, and that’s pretty incredible. At HPS we encourage students to explore, research, question, wonder and use a multitude of tools to uncover something new. We provide opportunities for students to look at problems and formulate different ways to solve them. By creating an environment of innovators we are helping students develop strong thinking processes, in order to develop their creativity and their problem solving skills.

J is for Jobs. The statistic is staggering. It is reported that 65% of children entering grade school today will end up working in jobs that don’t even exist yet. Many future jobs will require intersections between disciplines and subject areas. As educators, we are continually working to ensure students are developing the skills necessary to join the future workforce. We are addressing this need through interdisciplinary approaches to instruction. During our student’s PBL work they may be working on engineering a prototype, using math skills, communication, and collaboration skills, all at the same time. They may incorporate economics, geography, or science into their projects. During content literacy, students are exposed to highly engaging Social Studies and Science Content and literature, while using writing to communicate learning. Our goal is to prepare our future citizens with the skills, tools, and talents to support whatever path their lives take.

continued on next page
**Words from Wardlow, continued...**

*K is for Kindness.* Think about the last time someone showed you kindness. Think about the last time you showed kindness to someone. These acts of kindness have major effects. Both parties certainly have a feeling of happiness. It can also help your heart. It has been shown to slow the aging process and improves friendships/relationships. Kindness has a positive impact on mental, emotional and physical well being. It doesn’t require hard work, it is simply the act of doing for others and intentionally not causing harm. At HPS we are constantly seeing kindness in many forms. Middle school students helping our youngest learners. We see students encouraging and supporting each other, asking someone to play that is alone on the playground, holding the door for others. We see students sitting with someone who is at a table alone. Kindness can be seen in the offering of a smile, a high five, a hug. Our Second Step program provides students opportunities to learn about social-emotional skills and topics. Kindness in imbedded within the lessons through topics such as friendships, making amends, relationships, social values, just to name a few.
High Plains Girls Basketball Program 2020

www.highplainsathletics.weebly.com/girls-basketball.html

Coach Contact Information:

6th Grade - Reid Bauersfeld 970.342.1332 - reid.bauersfeld@thompsonschools.org
7th Grade - TBD
8th Grade - Kylie Boucha - 970.679.9800 - kylie.boucha@thompsonschools.org

Interscholastic Basketball Teams:

6th, 7th, and 8th grade competitive teams. These teams will compete against other teams in our athletic league - Bill Reed, Con Ball, Lucille Erwin, Severance, Turner, Walt Clark, and Windsor.

10+ players per team. As a competitive team, unfortunately, players will not have exactly equal playing time during games. Playing time is earned in practice and based on several factors including, but not limited to, attitude, coachability, skill level, attendance at practice, eligibility, and understanding of the offenses and defenses.

Basketball Camp: January 6-7 @ HPS 3:35pm-5:35pm
Tryouts: January 8-10 @ HPS
6th grade 3:35pm-5:30pm 1/8/20 and 1/9/20 only
6th will not have tryouts on 1/10/20
7th and 8th grade 5:30pm - 7:30pm 1/8/20 and 1/9/20
7th and 8th grade 3:35pm - 5:30pm 1/10/20

All teams will have district transportation to away games. Transportation will not return players to HPS for in-district games (Bill Reed, Con Ball, Erwin, Turner, Walt Clark) Transportation is provided back from out of town games (Severance, Windsor).

7th grade will practice in the morning.

TSD Paperwork, Physical Forms, and Payment:

Print out all TSD forms, including the physical form at: https://www.thompsonschools.org/cms/lib/CO01900772/Centricity/Domain/46/SportsParticipationpacketMS.pdf

For camp participants, please fill out the attached camp form and pay the $15 camp fee

Hand in all forms to the office or Coach B before the first day of tryouts on January 8th. All forms and payment must be handed in and then processed by Coach B before you can try out for the team!
High Plains Girls Basketball Program 2020, continued...

Payment for the sport is $50. If paying by check, please make it out to High Plains School and include your player’s name and “basketball fees” in the memo section. Scholarships are available to those in need. All documentation must be provided prior to waiving fees.

If a player does not make the team, all payments will be refunded. Please follow up with Nancy Payton in the front office for details on refunds.

All forms must have the proper signatures and all information completed correctly before players can participate in tryouts for the season. The most commonly missed information is insurance information, and a second emergency contact. Please double check that you have all information filled out before handing in your athletic packet. For those without insurance, it can be purchased through TSD for the athletic season. Please contact Coach B for details.

If you have already completed a packet for a fall sport, and have a current physical, all that is needed is the $50 fee for basketball.

Parents:
1. Look at this information and the TSD packet carefully.
2. Parent meeting is Monday, December 16th at 6:30pm in the Bison Cafeteria
3. As coaches have lives and jobs outside of basketball and school, please plan on picking up your athlete immediately after practice. Arriving 5 minutes before practice is most helpful. Thank you for your consideration.

Gym space and middle school staff is limited at HPS. Currently, players and/or their siblings should not wait inside HPS for their practice time to start. The coach’s responsibility is to coach the players on their team, not provide supervision players on other grade level teams and/or their siblings who are in the building. Please make arrangements for your athlete’s supervision outside the school, after school if they do not have the 3:35 practice time. Players may enter the gym through the North gym doors 10 minutes before their scheduled practice time. Players should exit through the North gym doors as well.

Discipline:
Behavior: HPS athletes are expected to be role models to younger students and examples of excellent character to their peers. Suspensions, negative office referrals, detentions, and refocus forms do not support this expectation.

Consequences for negative office referrals, detention referrals, and refocus forms
1. 1 in a season = parent notification and suspension from one contest
2. 2 in a season = parent conference and suspension from two contests
3 in a season = dismissal from team

Suspension (in school or out of school)
1. 1 suspension in a season = parent conference and suspension from athletics for one week (may not attend practices) and two contests (may not attend the games)
2 suspensions in a season = dismissal from team
High Plains Girls Basketball Program 2020, continued...

Absences:
Absences: Athletes are expected to attend all practices and contests. Please communicate one day in advance to the coach in writing or voicemail (with exceptions for emergencies). Consequences for unexcused absences:
1. 1 Unexcused absence = parent notification and suspension from one contest (may attend but not participate)
2. 2 Unexcused absences = parent conference and suspension from two contests (may attend but not participate)
3 Unexcused absences = dismissal from team

Academic Eligibility: Academic eligibility is determined by work habits. Eligibility reports will be run on Tuesdays every week following the first contest of the season. Students are considered ineligible when they have a 1.5 or less in any of their classes based on a decaying average (where more recent grades have more significance than old grades). Consequences for ineligibility:
1st ineligibility = parent notification and suspension from ½ contest
2nd ineligibility = parent notification and suspension from one contest
3rd ineligibility = parent conference and suspension from one week of practice and two contests
4th ineligibility = dismissal from team

Other issues:
1. No jewelry in practices or games (including earrings even if ears have just been pierced)
2. Please leave the gym and HPS when your practice is over
You may not use the phone in Coach B’s office. Parents should know when to pick you up.

The HPS athletics program exists to enhance the development of our students through the participation in competitive athletics. Accountability, learning to be part of a team, responsibility, academics, and student behavior are the top priority, not wins and losses.
High Plains Girls Basketball
Basketball Camp and Open Gym
Information 2020

Please fill out and bring with you the registration form on the next page.

**Basketball Camp Fundraiser ($15):**
January 6, 7 from 3:35pm-5:30pm @ High Plains School

**Open gym (free):**
12:30pm-2:30pm. Sundays starting Nov 3 - Dec 15 @ HPS

Please enter through the North Gym Doors

*No open gym December 1 due to Thanksgiving break*

*Registration for the basketball camp is not registration for the basketball season.
There is a separate $50 fee for basketball season.
Participation at open gyms and camp does not guarantee a spot on the varsity team.*

2020 Girls Basketball Camp Registration
## Girls Basketball Camp and Open Gym

### Opportunity
This camp is designed to give each athlete an opportunity to refresh their basketball skills, learn new skills, and learn new game strategies. Players will be given the opportunity to meet the High Plains coaching staff and fellow teammates.

### Please Bring:
- Court Shoes
- Athletic clothes
- Water Bottle
- Good Attitude
- Willingness to learn

I hereby authorize the coaching staff of High Plains girls basketball to act for me according to their best judgement in any emergency requiring medical attention, and hereby waive and release the staff and Thompson School District and any and all agents from liability for any injuries or illness incurred while at the camp and open gyms.

X ____________________________  ____________

Parent/Guardian Signature  Date

### camper’s Information
- **Camper’s Name:** ______________  **Age:** ___
- **Grade entering 2019:** ______
- **Parents Name:**
- **Address:**
- **Contact Number:**
- **Emergency contact:**
Bison Sports Information 12/19/19

Upcoming events:
- 12/4 - 8,7 Boys basketball @ Erwin 4:30pm
- 6th vs. Erwin @ Truscott 4:30pm
- 12/5 - 8,7 Boys basketball vs. WCMS @ Truscott 4:30pm
- 6th Boys basketball @ WCMS 4:30pm
- 12/8 - Girls 6-8 basketball open gym @ HPS 3:00pm-5:00pm
- 12/9 - Boys basketball - First round of the Tournament 3:30pm or 4:30pm Locations TBD
- 12/11 - Boys basketball - Final Four
- 6th @ WCMS
- 7th @ Windsor
- 8th @ BRMS
- 12/12 - Boys basketball Championship game 3:30pm or 4:30pm Location @ higher seed
- 12/15 - Girls 6-8 basketball open gym @ HPS 3:00pm-5:00pm
- 12/16 - Girls 6-8 basketball informational meeting @HPS 6:30pm

Drama Club

Happy Holidays from the Drama Club!
The Drama students have been working diligently to learn blocking and lines for our upcoming play, “Scrooge”. We have a choir joining our play this year, run by Mark Kubichek, and they will be singing Christmas carols at the intermission. As well, they will be singing songs at the beginning and end of the play with soloists and our new HPS Dance Team. We will also have our bake sale at intermission again. Please look for the Sign Up Genius coming to you this week. If you are able to help us by signing up for a food item, we would be so appreciative. We will also be accepting monetary donations, as we did last year. This Christmas Bake Sale is our only fundraiser for the year.

"Scrooge" will be presented Friday, December 13th at 6:30 pm. There are no tickets to purchase. Just come and enjoy the show.

Thank you.

Nanci LaBianca
News from the Library

Great Activity for a Break? Reading!

With our longer nights and times away from school, a great activity for both entertainment and the development of literacy skills is reading. HPS students can access a wealth of digital resources at any time (and while out of town). Thousands of ebooks for all ages can be accessed by following these five easy steps:

Visit our school's website (highplainsschool.org).
1. Select "Library" under the "Resources" tab.
2. Either click on the Destiny (HPS books) icon or select Sora (OverDrive--TSD books) from the menu; for each, students simply log in using their district user name and password.
3. Books can be read through a browser or on any device using the free OverDrive or Sora apps.
4. Have fun browsing and selecting, and happy reading!

Counselors Corner

Dear 8th Grade Families,

Your 8th grader will be receiving information about high school registration before Winter Break! We will go over the registration forms and help students select their 9th grade classes. Most High Plains 8th graders go to Mountain View High School. If you are interested in having your student attend a high school other than Mountain View and you do not live within the school’s boundaries, please see the image below for information about Open Enrollment. Space is often limited, so applications received after January 10th may not be considered.
Open Enrollment

APPLY NOW!
THOMPSON SCHOOL DISTRICT
OPEN ENROLLMENT
DECEMBER 2 - JANUARY 10

Whatever your interests, Thompson School District has program or choice options that are perfect for your student and family. Now is your chance to explore our diverse program lineup and choose the school community that is right for you.

» DUAL LANGUAGE IMMERSION
» INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE
» LOVELAND AREA INTEGRATED SCHOOL OF THE ARTS
» STEM/STEAM
» LEADER IN ME
» AND MORE!

#WeAreThompson
thompsonschools.org/openenrollment
Health Office

What illness can you catch from eating the holiday decorations? Tinselitis!
A HUGE thank you to all the families that donated clothing to the health office!! Just a reminder that with all the holiday gatherings it’s the perfect time for sharing the gift of flu and norovirus. Yuck! Here is our information from the student handbook about common illnesses

The following are some common health conditions for which a student will not be permitted in school; less common conditions are not listed. For vomiting and diarrhea, students need to stay home for 48 hours after symptoms have resolved.

- **Cough**: severe uncontrolled coughing or wheezing, difficulty breathing, blue or red color to face with cough, high pitched whooping sound with coughing or vomits after coughing.
- **Diarrhea** (stools that are looser or more frequent than usual) when accompanied by symptoms of illness (vomiting, fever, abdominal pain, or jaundice), when it contains blood or mucus, or when stools cannot be contained in a toilet, or when stool is not contained within a diaper for diapered children.
- **Fever** Illness: Temperature greater than 101°F: with signs of illness such as rash, sore throat, vomiting, diarrhea, stiff neck, difficulty breathing, or behavior changes. Students need to stay home until 24 hours after the fever breaks without the aid of medication.
- **Flu Symptoms** including fever (>101°), sore throat, cough, runny nose, body aches, vomiting, or diarrhea. Stay home from school until fever or symptoms of fever are gone for 24 hours without the aid of medications.
- **General Illness** with or without fever, along with changes in behavior and/or the student looks and acts sick, which the health department defines as a student who is not able to participate comfortably in his/her usual activities or if the student has persistent crying and requires more care than school personnel are able to provide.
- **Headache**: when severe and accompanied by additional symptoms like vision changes, stiff neck, fever, or behavior changes.
- **Impetigo** until 24 hours after treatment is started.
- **Jaundice or unusual color to the skin, eyes, stool, or urine**: until a medical examination indicates the student does not have Hepatitis A.
- **Mouth sores**: if the child is drooling uncontrollably.
- **Infectious Conjunctivitis** (pink eye) with yellow or green draining (bacterial) or with tearing (allergic, chemical, irritation, viral)--no exclusion, but notify the parent to call their healthcare provider for possible treatment if bacterial. Follow general illness guidelines for pink eye which is accompanied by behavior changes.
- **Rash**: when there is a rash with a fever, behavior change or the rash is oozing or causes open wounds--excluded until the origin of the rash has been deemed by the physician to be non-contagious in nature or until the rash is gone.
- **Signs of possible severe illness**: (for example: persistent crying, extreme irritability, uncontrolled coughing, difficulty breathing, wheezing, lethargy)
- **Strep Throat**, scarlet fever, or other strep infection until 24 hours after treatment started and the child no longer has a fever.
- **Vomiting**: when this occurs more than two times in 24 hours, or occurs once and is accompanied by symptoms of illness (such as fever, stomach pain, or diarrhea), is the result of a head injury, or if the vomit appears bloody.
High Plains PTCO
What's Up!

Mark Your Calendar!!
• Saturday, December 7th from 10:00 am – 4:00 pm – Bison Boutique Vendor, Craft and Bake Sale
• Monday, December 16th from 5:00-9:00 pm – Chipotle Spirit Night
• Tuesday, December 17th at 6:30 pm – December PTCO Meeting
• Tuesday, January 21st at 6:30 pm – January PTCO Meeting
• Friday, January 24th from 6:30-7:30 pm – Bingo for Books Family Night!

We Appreciate Your Support! Thank you to everyone who participated in the Artisan You Paint-Your-Own-Pottery Night! We raised $226.50 for our school!

We NEED Your Support!! We are recruiting replacements on the PTCO board for the following positions: Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, Faculty Liaison & Volunteer Coordinator. If this is something you are interested in or would like to know more about, please ask a current board member questions or send an email to HighPlainsK8PTCO@gmail.com 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.

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

Box Tops: Here is how it works for traditional box tops:

• When you see the label above, clip it and send it to school. Bundle traditional box tops in a baggie, envelope or similar container. Be sure to write your teacher’s name on the outside of the baggie/container. This will help to make sure that the correct class receives the credit.
• Box Top bundles can be turned into your classroom teacher or placed in the box top collection bucket located in the office!!

• Here is how it works with the NEW Box Top App:

⇒ 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.
⇒ In order to give your child’s class credit for the competition, first you must scan your receipt and then tap the star icon to enter your “Give Credit” memo. Please write the name of child’s teacher in the memo so that the correct class gets credit!

continued on next page
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!

King Soopers Gift 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?? AmazonSmile is the same Amazon that you know. Same products, same prices, same service. Follow these 3 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!
** In order to support the PTCO you must always start your shopping at www.smile.amazon.com.

Volunteer Opportunities   All Volunteers must register online: www.thompsonschools.org/volunteer

Current Opportunities: www.highplainsptco.com/volunteer

The High Plains Parent Teacher Community Organization (PTCO)
Visit our website to learn about who we are, why we are here, and how you can help! www.highplainsptco.org
Have questions? Would like to volunteer? 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.