SAAC MEETING

On December 7, 2021 at 5:30PM our School Accountability Advisory Committee will share updates on our building expansion and the revised district’s choice enrollment process, as well as information to support families in understanding how High Plains School supports student behavior and academics through our discipline process and Student Success Team (Intervention) process. Families are invited to attend in person or virtually via this Google Meet link (also available on our website calendar). All community members are invited.

Jenny Webb is our SAAC chair. If you have questions or suggestions for SAAC, please contact her at jennysue@gmail.com We appreciate your ideas, so please feel free to share at this survey link.
WINTER PRODUCTION

Dear HPS families, our drama students have been practicing and preparing all semester to present, A Christmas Gift for Santa! Please use this link to sign up for the number of seats your party needs either on Dec. 16th or 17th. To ensure the health and safety of all we are limiting seating to 110 seats per night. All audience members and production members must wear masks. We hope to see you there!

CHOICE ENROLLMENT

Choice enrollment at TSD schools opens November 29th and runs through to January 7th. Please check out the TSD link, https://www.thompsonschools.org/choiceenrollment for instructions and information.

GIVING TREE GIFTS DUE 12/8

Thank you to all who have picked up ornaments to give presents to our HPS families.

- Please bring WRAPPED gifts, with the ornament attached to the school office by December 8th. The tag MUST BE attached so we can identify the family/child receiving the gifts.

- All gifts must be to the office by Wednesday, December 8th by 3:45pm.

- If you have any questions please contact the office at 970-679-9800.
LOST AND FOUND

As the weather changes our Lost and Found grows with articles of clothing left behind. Please have your students check the Lost and Found for items they may be missing; sweatshirts, coats, long sleeve shirts, hats, lunchboxes, water bottles, etc. The items left will be bagged up and given away on Thursday, December 16th after school.

SUBSTITUTE SUPPORT

School districts are continually facing substitute teacher shortages and our District continues to experience low teacher fill rates. As we move forward with finding creative ways to attract substitutes to our district, the following is information about the application process for TSD and criteria on becoming a substitute teacher.

A high school diploma or its equivalent and successful experience working with children are the qualifications to apply for a one-year substitute teacher authorization through the Colorado Department of Education (CDE). Below is information about our District and the link to apply for a substitute teacher license: Thompson School District Employment

We are a district of 32 schools, 5 municipalities, 362 square miles in size, over 16,000 students, and more than 2,000 full and part-time positions. Our focus is on students' academic excellence, employees' success and a supportive community that sets us apart from other school districts. Our commitment to equity is the foundation of our work and promotes an inclusive culture where students and staff can feel comfortable to thrive.

Substitute Teacher Authorizations

Qualifications

- **One-Year authorization**: A high school diploma or its equivalent AND successful experience working with children (valid statewide in any accepting school district, BOCES, charter or approved facility school)
- **Three-Year authorization**: A bachelor’s or higher degree earned at a regionally accredited college or university
- **Five-Year authorization**: An active or expired Colorado teacher license (not special services, principal or administrator) OR an active teacher license issued by another state
HIGH PLAINS SEWING CLUB

SEW WHAT? Learn the basic sewing skills as we design and create a service project for a special client! We will also make other projects to keep as time allows!

SEW WHO? Grades 6-8, 3-5, K-2

SEW WHEN? Wednesdays after school 3:45-5:00

Session Dates

| Grades 3-5          | Grades 6-8          | Grades K-2 |  |
|---------------------|---------------------|------------|
| January 12          | February 9          | March 23   |
| January 19          | February 16         | March 30   |
| January 26          | February 23         | April 6    |
| February 2          | March 2             | April 13   |
| February 3 (Thursday)| March 9             | April 20   |

Design to Sew Club spaces are limited to adult help. No more than 3 students per adult per machine. Participants will be selected on a first come first serve basis. Complete this High Plains Sewing Registration Form right away to reserve your spot! Waitlist students may be placed with different grade levels if space is available.

Sewing Club Fee? $5.00 to cover the cost of materials needed for individual projects. Fees will be collected at the beginning of the first session.

Questions?? Contact Mrs. Jones
Email – lindy.jones@tsd.org
Voicemail – (970) 679-9838

Very Important Volunteers Needed
High Plains Sewing Club relies on its volunteers for help. No experience is necessary. Learn to sew with the students. Please complete this High Plains Sewing Registration Form if you would like to volunteer.

Project Request
High Plains Sewing Club follows the Design Thinking process to create products for customers. Do you have a project you would like the Sewing Club to complete for you! Complete this High Plains Sewing Club Project Request Form, and we will contact you if it is something we can do!
YEARBOOK

Hello Parents of Class of 8th graders,

Want to recognize your child’s hard work and accomplishments? Want to show your child how proud you are of them? Then an 8th grade recognition ad is the perfect way to do it! IT'S NOT TOO LATE! Click on the following link and follow the easy steps! There is still room for ads so don’t delay!

https://theyearbookcompany.com/

If you’ve already ordered a recognition ad, thank you!

NEWS FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

TROUBLE SLEEPING?

Have you heard about the Bloomsights survey? All High Plains students, grades 1-8, take this monthly survey to assess how they feel about various Social Emotional topics, then the teachers look over this information to present real-time lessons to support our students' needs. In the month of November, many students shared that they frequently felt tired and sleepy at school, and that they found it difficult to get a good night’s sleep. Although many classes have addressed this with students, the home environment is the best place to address this. Please see this document about how we can better prepare our kids for a restful night's sleep. You may also enjoy this 11 minute YouTube video for bedtime relaxation. Happy Sleeping! -Karen Helfrich

Here is a link to helpful tips!

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1JafRC9iMRb1M9r8rxAeoSo6FG5dyAD-7A3X4I-HG2Hs/edit?usp=gmail

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 Mivshek 970-420-7163 | SchoolNewsletterCompany@gmail.com
As our kids grow, many of them will increase their use of social media apps like Instagram, TikTok, and Snapchat. While recognizing the positive aspects of online connections, we also need to be aware of possible negative impacts on our students’ mental health and to know that there are healthy ways to address and minimize them. Common Sense Media, in collaboration with The Child Mind Institute, offers these seven practical tips for supporting our children in their use of social media:

1. Listen.
2. Don’t judge.
3. Encourage their offline lives.
4. Set limits.
5. Shift the focus.
6. Use social media settings.
7. Ask open-ended questions.

For more information and examples for each of these tips, you can read the full article here.

With our longer nights that are perfect for getting immersed in a good book, don’t forget about the wealth of digital resources that HPS students can access at any time. Thousands of ebooks can be accessed through Sora and the district’s partnership with the Loveland Public Library by following these steps:

⇒ 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@tsd.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.

An easy, one-time way to add the public library’s ebook collection to your child’s TSD Sora account is to select “Add a library” under settings and then choose the Front Range Downloadable Library. All TSD students can also access other Loveland Public Library resources by logging in to the LPL website using their TSD credentials (same way they log in to devices at school).
SP nu 11
EGG BEE
The Spelling Bee is coming!! Due to Covid, it will look a little different this year.

Students were given a study list of words before Thanksgiving break - I hope you're studying those words!!

Important Dates:

December 16, 2021 - all students who expressed interest in participating in the Spelling Bee will take a written test here at HPS. The top 12 students in both elementary and middle school will go on to the school's oral spelling bee.

January 6, 2022 - HPS oral spelling bee. The top 12 from the elementary written bee and the top 12 from the middle school written bee will compete in the oral spelling bee. The top 6 from both elementary and middle school will go on to the district written spelling bee.

January 13, 2022 - District written spelling bee held here at HPS. The top 6 from elementary and middle school oral spelling bee.

January 29, 2022 - The District Spelling Bee!!! The top winner at the elementary level and the top 3 at the middle school level will go on to the District Spelling Bee!

Times for each spelling bee TBD. Please look for further communication on times for each event.

MUSIC

December 8 [Wednesday] 7 pm - Combined Band Concert with MVHS & RVS @ MVHS Auditorium (Advanced Band only - call @ 5:45 pm)

Also, all K-8 students can explore the digital music classroom featuring Holiday videos and music activities. Go to hpsmusic.com/student-info and click on the music room picture. Enjoy!

DRAMA CLUB

It is that time of year when Drama Club presents their Christmas play. The performances are Thursday, December 16th and Friday, December 17th in the Bison Cafe at High Plains School. Performances start at 7:00 pm.

There is limited seating for each performance. Family members of the cast have had the sign up already sent to them. The rest of the community will have the sign up sent out soon.

It is a 5 act play that follows the antics of the elves as they try various methods to cheer Santa up. They dance and sing for him, get a doctor to the North Pole to see what is wrong with him. Eventually Santa realizes that it is Christmas itself, and the joy that he brings others, that he had forgotten about.

Concessions will be available at intermission.

We hope you come and enjoy the hard work of our 24 cast members.