November 2021

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

The Youth Clinic

Your child’s Well Care Visits help us address the following:

| Diet & Nutrition | Chronic Health Issues | Parental Concerns | Growth, Development & More |

Click Here to Self-Schedule Your Child’s Well Care Visit Today!
GIVING TREE

In the spirit of the holidays, we would like to offer your family the opportunity to participate in the High Plains Giving Tree. The HPS Giving Tree is an opportunity for families to provide gifts for those families, within our HPS community, who may need a little extra help during the holiday season.

If you would like to receive gifts for your child(ren), please complete this form. The form MUST BE received, by the school office, no later than Monday, November 8th. Gifts will be given to the families on Wednesday, December 15th from 3:30-5:30pm; no gifts will be held over winter break. Please understand that even with the generosity of our community there is no guarantee all requests will be fulfilled. The giving and receiving of gifts will be strictly confidential and will be handled by the High Plains School Comment end Administration.

DRAMA CLUB NEEDS YOUR HELP!

Our workbench in the elves workshop needs a lot more toys! If you can help by donating some used toys/gently loved and no longer played with; we would be grateful. Ideas: dolls, stuffed animals, trucks, nothing glass or very breakable.

We also need some people to help make the elves shoes. I purchased 36 red/green elf hats that I need to make into 18 elf slippers (DIY project). Just a matter of sewing ribbon on the slipper so it can be tied around elves' ankles. Please contact me if you can help.

We need boxes (shoe box size or small Amazon boxes) and Christmas wrapping/scotch tape/bows so we can make ‘presents’ in the workshop. (Someone to help with the wrapping of these boxes as well:):)

Items we are looking for:
* plastic Santa / Christmas mug
* Fold up cot that can be used as Santa’s bed
* Lightweight ‘armchair’ - comfy chair for Santa to sit in
* Excess Christmas ornaments/decorations that you do not need back. Need to decorate the elves' workshop. There is also a small green ‘Christmas tree’. (Red bows, tree ornaments, garland, etc)

A large THANK YOU to Philip Reitz for making the elves workbench and the clock!
FOOD DRIVE

Help High Plains School for the month of November is doing a canned food drive to support the needy families in the Loveland/Berthoud area. We will be collecting cans and packaged foods that will be given in holiday baskets to local families in need through the Women’s Philanthropy Organization.

SPIRIT WEEK IS COMING NOVEMBER 8TH THROUGH THE 12TH

Monday November 8th - Sports Day - Support your favorite Sports team or wear your team jersey.

Tuesday November 9th - Crazy Hat/Sock Day

Wednesday November 10th – Decades Day

Kindergarten - 2nd grade 50s,
3rd - 5th grade 70s
6th - 8th grade 80s
Staff 60s

Thursday November 11th – Patriotic Day (wear Red, White, Blue, or Camo)

Friday November 12th – PJ/Comfy Clothes Day Kindergarten - 5th Grade (Bring a stuffy)
6th-8th Grade Favorite Movie Character (Middle School Dance Theme)
A Book Fair “Thank You!”

Thank you to all who came to visit the Scholastic Book Fair. Students are diving into new reading adventures, and our community raised almost $1,200 for books for the High Plains School library. We deeply appreciate everyone’s support and are looking forward to another fun fair in the spring!

Fall Reading All

With our longer nights that are perfect for 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.mcghee@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).
HIGH PLAINS SCHOOL
Kicks Off WATCH D.O.G.S.*
(Dads Of Great Students) Program

WHO:  Students and fathers and father-figures of High Plains School

WHAT:  A Dads and Kids’ Pizza Night celebration to launch a family and community engagement program called WATCH D.O.G.S.* (Dads Of Great Students). The WATCH D.O.G.S.* program was created by a group of parents and educators in a single school in 1998, and has since grown to one of the largest and most respected family and community engagement initiatives in the country. Each year thousands of schools across the country utilize the WATCH D.O.G.S.* program to reach out to the fathers and father-figures of their students and invite those men to take at least one full day off work during the school year and spend that entire day volunteering in their child’s school. Each year WATCH D.O.G.S.* generates millions of in school volunteer hours in support of our students and educators. Please call WATCH D.O.G.S.* at 888-540-DOGS (3647) for additional information.

WHEN:  Tuesday, November 9, 2012

WHERE:  High Plains School, 4255 Buffalo Mountain Drive, Loveland, 80538

WHY:  Studies by the U.S. Department of Education have demonstrated that a positive adult male role model will have a uniquely positive impact on the development and educational success of a child, dramatically increasing the child’s likelihood of graduating and getting mostly A’s along the way, while at the same time dramatically decreasing the likelihood of that child living in poverty, getting involved with drugs and alcohol, and avoiding potentially devastating choices that result in a criminal record or a teen pregnancy. The U.S. Department of Education has identified the WATCH D.O.G.S.* program as an effective way to increase male involvement in our nation’s schools.

Each school year thousands of men volunteer to work at least one day in their child’s school through the WATCH D.O.G.S.* program. These men work alongside the educators to help as crossing guards, car/bus rider facilitators, hallway monitors, library assistants, lunchroom helpers, classroom and homework tutors and playground/gymnasium coaches. The possibilities are endless. Every school year these men have a positive impact on the lives of hundreds of thousands of kids.

Program benefits
•  Students gain a positive male role model. Some students do not have a father-figure present in their home and the number of male teachers has been steadily declining in recent years. More positive male role models are needed in the school setting.
•  Schools gain an extra set of eyes and ears. The presence of WatchDOGS (Dads Of Great Students) can increase a sense of security at the building for students and staff, and it helps create an environment conducive to learning.
•  Fathers and father-figures can spend meaningful time with their students in the school setting and gain a greater awareness of the positive impact they can have on their student’s life, just by being a ‘dad’.
•  When WatchDOGS invest a day at school, they can learn how better to partner with the school to meet the educational goals of students.

FOR MORE INFORMATION on the WATCH D.O.G.S.* program, call 1-888-540-3647, e-mail info@dadsofgreatstudents.com or visit dadsofgreatstudents.com.
Pizza Night Invite

Attention All ‘DADS’ of High Plains Students!
‘Dads and Kids’ Pizza Night Event!
FREE Pizza, Drinks and Fun!

Fathers and Father-figures,

On Tuesday, November 9 from 6:00 – 7:30 pm we will be having our annual ‘Dads and Kids’ Pizza Night at our school. You will meet here at the school cafeteria at (6:00 pm) for FREE pizza and drinks. At (6:30) we will have a presentation about our WATCH D.O.G.S.® (Dads Of Great Students) Program. WATCH D.O.G.S.® is an innovative program being used by schools across America which helps them to be positively impacted by the committed involvement of fathers and father-figures in their student’s life. Our goal is to have you spend at least one day this year at the school to be a positive male role model and to provide an extra set of eyes and ears.

Dads, granddads, uncles, step-dads and adult brothers . . . this is your chance to have a night out alone with your student in a fun atmosphere at school.

In order to participate, you need to do two things:
1. Fill out the bottom portion of this slip and return it with your student (ASAP) saying that you will attend the pizza night so we’ll have an accurate head count for the food.
2. Mark your calendars, and we’ll see you Tuesday, November 9 from 6:00 – 7:30 pm. Official WATCH D.O.G.S.® Uniform T-shirts for WatchDOGS and ‘My Hero’ T-shirts for students will be available for sale.

Sincerely,
Karen Helfrich, Assistant Principal, HPS

Please Print Legibly to Complete and Return Bottom Portion to School by Friday, November 5. Return one form per family!

___ Yes!!! We’ll be there! (##) ___ of ‘Dad’ and students attending

Father/Father-figure Name ____________________________________________

Email ____________________________________________________________

Phone(s): Home ________________ Mobile ________________ Work ________________

Student(s) Name ______________________ Teacher’s Name ______________________

Student(s) Name ______________________ Teacher’s Name ______________________

Student(s) Name ______________________ Teacher’s Name ______________________

Student(s) Name ______________________ Teacher’s Name ______________________