Charging through failures, stampeding through challenges

October 2021

Message from the Principal

BPEG Permission

High Plains School is entering the last year of the Bullying Prevention and Education Grant cycle. This highly competitive grant provides us with evidence based bullying prevention as well as educational strategies and opportunities for students, staff and family engagement. An annual, anonymous student perception survey will be given to students each year to monitor prevention efforts and make decisions to continue to make High Plains a great school where all students feel safe and welcome. The annual survey requires parent permission.

Thank you for "opting in" on this survey for your child to be a part of this important data piece for our school. [HPS BPEG Survey Permission Slip](#)
Conferences
On October 12th, 13th, and 14th High Plains School will host Fall Conferences. This year, due to COVID, HPS will offer both in person and virtual options. Teachers sent their conference sign ups on October 1st. If you did not receive it, please contact your child’s teacher(s).

Meet our New Staff
Please join me in welcoming our new staff to the herd! Tom Piper-Ballou is our .17 GTE Teacher and Mr. Jackson Hulett is our new .5 Middle School Math/.5 ELD Teacher. Check their bios out on our HPS website under staff.

Yearbook
Buy a 2021-2022 High Plains School Yearbook At the lowest price of the year for $35 by Oct. 29th, 2021 To order your copy today go to: WWW.JOSTENSYEARBOOKS.COM Or stop by the Main Office and place an order.

Student Ambassadors
We would like to congratulate the following students to represent High Plains Student Ambassadors.

4th Grade  Addison Marron, Ava Norvell, and Grayson Gintoli
5th Grade  Lain Carroll, Genevieve Laferriere, and Danny Tyszko
6th Grade  Jameson Crowley, Lev Paradis, and Sahari Wallace
7th Grade  Sopie Bellmar, Aven Hernandez, and Makena Martinez
8th Grade  Rachael McReynolds, Summer Tweedy
The Book Fair Is Back!

The Scholastic Book Fair is returning to High Plains and will be open for business during student-led conferences (October 12-14). After a year of virtual fairs, we're excited to have the fair with its diverse selection of books and fun school supplies back in the building. Shopping online is also available, October 3-16, at this link. Thousands of books that support your child's literacy and the joy of reading can be purchased and shipped directly to your home (free shipping is available with $25 orders). All purchases support the HPS library. Thank you for your support!

Enjoy the Fall with Ebooks for All

If you’re looking for a huge variety of good reads for your student, there are thousands of ebooks available through Sora and the district’s partnership with the Loveland Public Library.

⇒ 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).
Hello, Bison families!

Meet your School Counseling Team!

We are so excited to welcome Mrs. Chelsea Hirchert to the Bison Herd! Mrs. Hirchert is joining Mrs. Danielle Case in the Counseling Department. The mission of the High Plains counseling program is to provide all students with a comprehensive school counseling program guided by the ASCA National Model that is centered around an engaging STEAM curriculum. The counseling program is dedicated to making every student feel heard, valued, and safe. In partnership with teachers, administration, parents, guardians, and the Loveland community, the school counselors will empower all students to be successful lifelong learners engaged in real world and community issues.

Continued...
My name is Chelsea Hirchert (HerKit) and I would like to introduce myself to you as the new part-time School Counselor at High Plains School. I will be at HPS on Tuesdays and Thursdays 7:50-3:50, and Wednesdays 7:50-11:50am. I am entering my 3rd year in Thompson School District and I am thrilled to be a part of the Bison herd! I look forward to working with you and your student(s) this year toward collaborative goals.

Mrs. Hirchert previously served as the School Counselor at Centennial Elementary School (2019-2021). Prior to that, Mrs. Hirchert was a Mental Health Therapist LPC and Early Childhood Specialist for 8 years working to promote and model Social Emotional Learning (SEL) groups and coping skills with families, clients, and teachers in various preschools. Through these opportunities, Mrs. Hirchert gained a passion for supporting teachers, students, and families with SEL data and the emotional, behavioral, and social needs of children.
Hi Bison! My name is Danielle Case and I’m so excited to be back at High Plains for year six! I am so excited to have Mrs. Hirchert join the team and we are working hard to plan and develop a comprehensive school counseling program for your students. We have a strong focus on social-emotional learning and mental health, and we are developing supports for students that include Second Step, Zones of Regulation, character education, and animal therapy.

We have had an eventful start to the school year with coming back to fully in person, adjusting to mask requirements, and being able to see our friends again after summer break! There has been a lot of change in the last year and a half and we are noticing increased social-emotional needs in many of our students. The High Plains Counseling Team is dedicated to helping each student in addition to supporting families and school staff. Throughout the school year, the Counseling Team will share resources that you can implement at home with your children to support their social-emotional wellness. As always, if you have concerns or need support from your school counselors, please reach out! We look forward to working together with you this year to help ensure your child’s success in school. We are going to have a great year!
What if...

We can’t help children change their behaviour by making them feel bad for what they’ve done.

Remember, they already feel bad.

Instead, show them that you care and help them find calm.

Sometime later, when you feel regulated...

...choose a quiet moment and ask them, with kindness in your voice, to be curious about what happened...

...then you’ll help them to change their behaviour.

...we are curious about behaviour?

Third: We can support the child to reflect, learn, remember, articulate and become self-assured.

Second: We must relate and connect with the child through an attuned and sensitive relationship.

First: We must help the child to regulate and calm their fight/flight/freeze responses.

Heading straight for the ‘reasoning’ part of the brain with an expectation of learning will not work so well if the child is dysregulated and disconnected from others.
Drama Club is up and running with 30 cast members. We are practicing on Wednesday late starts and beginning in October, Tuesdays and Thursdays after school as well.

We are looking for some community helpers as we need a sleigh (that can be built out of cardboard) and a large clock (made from cardboard as well) with hands that we can move.

Since most of this play takes place in Santa’s Workshop, we are also looking for small toys that can be laid out on the workbench, small kids tools (several hammers, drills (some make sounds:), screwdrivers, wrenches, and small pieces of wood.) Every elf will need a toy or tool.

You will get these back after the play.

If you can help us in any of these ways- please contact Nanci LaBianca. We will be so grateful for any help/props that we can borrow.

Only 13 Saturdays until Christmas!
ART NEWS

Hello HPS families! We're doing a fundraiser with Original Works for the Art Program. We would love for you to participate if you can. Thank you for your support!

**Art Requirements**
All Paper should be 8.5x11" NO Glitter Florescent, Brights, Metallics Trademark or Copyrighted Images Abrasives 3-D Art Scratch Art Poor Quality Construction Paper

**Important Dates**
September 30th Order Forms and artwork go home in Thursday Folders October 18th Orders Due