Message from the Principal...

Wow! The first week is already in the books! We had a full week. I hope you’re child(ren) shared some of the activities they engaged in to get to know their building and community better. Some reminders for parents that will greatly help you and our staff:

**Communications:** If you need to speak with your child’s teacher, please call or email them first. When the bell rings, teachers are on and need to be fully present for their classes and all students. Most classroom teachers have Class Dojo. This is a great two way communication tool for quick questions and messages. More in depth conversations are best scheduled mutually, so staff may give their full attention to the conversation and confidentiality is kept.

**Entrance to the building:** All visitors need to enter through the front door (orange tiled area), show their ID, and let the office know the purpose for their visit. This ensures the safety and security of all students, staff, and visitors to the building. Please view the [Safety & Security at TSD](https://www.thompsonschools.org/safety) video for further detail.

**Hug and Go Lane:** Parents that wish to quickly drop off or pick up their child at school may use the Hug and Go lane. This is a no parking zone. Students need to be prepared to quickly exit/enter the vehicle to keep the cars moving. Please follow Staff directions to keep everyone safe.

Please remember to check out our website ([https://www.thompsonschools.org/highplains](https://www.thompsonschools.org/highplains)) for activities, athletics, staff bios, the parent-student handbook, and much more information to help keep you and your child in the know! Happy September!

Sincerely,

Danielle Feeney, principal
Reminder for Late Start Wednesday

All TSD schools are including late start **Wednesdays** again this school year in their schedules. The late start bell time for High Plains School is **9:20 am - 3:35 pm**. Students are asked not to arrive at school before 8:00 am on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday and no earlier than 9:00 am on Wednesday. No supervision is provided prior to 8:00 am (or 9:00 am on Wednesday).

This time allows for educators to collaborate in their planning and professional growth opportunities. Parents are encouraged to take advantage of Base Camp offerings, as well as the Chess offering on Late Start Wednesday mornings. Information about BaseCamp and before/after school activities and clubs can be found on the school website under “Activities”.

**Add adventure to your family road trips.**

Visit Pedersen Toyota in Fort Collins
**PedersenToyota.com**
970-223-3100

Highlander
SAAC

We would like to invite all High Plains Community members to our first School Accountability Advisory Committee session on September 30th at 5:15pm. The School Accountability Advisory Committee supports High Plains School staff with some of the following items:

- Reviewing and providing input into the development of the School’s Unified Improvement Plan
- Providing input into budget allocation as it relates to the School’s Unified Improvement Plan
- Providing input into activities to increase parent engagement in school
- Reviewing and providing input into the implementation of the School’s Unified Improvement Plan

On September 30th community members will have an opportunity to review Colorado Measures of Academic Success data, beginning of year math and reading assessment data, as well as other sources of information that will help guide our dialogue and generate ideas to support our students’ success. At this meeting, staff will also provide an update on the modular placement and use, as well as updates on staffing.

We are also seeking a School Accountability Advisory Committee chairperson. This person meets with the principal prior to SAAC sessions (4 a year) to set the agenda, helps recruit members of our school’s community for SAAC, supports the communications and dialogues of the SAAC to community members, and participates in District Accountability Committee sessions to gain a district wide perspective that supports High Plains School’s efforts. If you are interested in chairing the School Accountability Advisory Committee, please email me at danielle.feeney@thompsonschools.org

We are trying to arrange childcare and will have some light snacks and beverages. We hope to see many new and returning families at the September 30th meeting!
BASE Camp

We are excited to partner with BASE Camp for before and after school care! If you would like to register for before and/or after school care for your child, check out the BASE Camp website at http://www.mybasecampkids.org/

Bison Stampede

Our PTCO is hosting the 4th annual Bison Stampede to support High Plains’ students, staff, and community on September 20th. Please look for information coming home in your child’s HW folder and check out the Bison Stampede link on the PTCO website at http://www.highplainsptco.org/home

Picture day

Picture day is September 30th. Please check your K-5 child's Thursday folder or middle school child's homework folder for more details closer to the date.

October Student Led Conferences

During the week of October 7th High Plains School will host student led conferences. Detailed information will come out closer to the dates, so keep an eye out! Student led conferences support students in owning their learning and truly understand what they need to achieve and the methods and pathways to fulfill their goals. Through student led conferences students practice life skills involving communication, organization, and leadership. They learn self reflection and evaluation skills that will not only support them in their K-12 studies, but throughout life as they identify goals for college, career, and life in general. Please check out this linked resource to learn more about Student Led Conferences: Empowerment and Ownership.
Volunteer and Paid Crossing Guards

Volunteer Crossing Guards and Paid Crossing Guards are needed at High Plains School for the 2019-2020 school year. Help keep kids safe. Volunteers must be 18 or older. Online training is provided. If interested, contact Candie Joshi: candie.joshi@gmail.com, or if you’d like to apply for a paid crossing guard position, please go to http://www.thompsonschools.org/page/2465 and search for vacancies under transportation.

Recess Supervision

Are you looking for an opportunity to support High Plains while also enjoying our great Colorado weather and the school’s awesome views and playground? Lunch recess supervision is a great way to do just that! You can visit with your child, get to know the other children in our school, and be a role model and support for kids from kindergarten through eighth grade. Lunch recess happens every day between 11am-2pm. Volunteers are welcome to do the entire three hours, an hour, every day, once a week, or any portion that works in your schedule. Please contact Mrs. Feeney, danielle.feeney@thompsonschools.org for details and to schedule your time.

Attendance Line

If your student is going to be absent please call the Attendance Line at 970-679-9870. This is the best way to let the office know your student will not be at school. Please leave your name, students name, grade, date and reason for absence.

When a family knows in advance that the student will be absent for consecutive days or for reasons that do not fall within Thompson School District Attendance Policy and Procedure please ask the office for a Pre-Arranged Absence Form.

New Procedures for All Visitors

Making High Plains School a safe and secure place is the office’s top priority. The district has put in place security measures that we must follow. Please know that whenever you or anyone comes to the front doors of our school we will not let you/them in without showing an ID (Drivers License) to the camera each and every time. Please know that this is for our students’ and staff’s safety. We appreciate your help with this as we learn how best to keep our school safe.
**Words from Wardlow**

Words from Wardlow  We have a couple weeks under our belts and are settling into the new year. With anything new, there may be periods of excitement or uncertainty. We may begin to see behaviors that don’t align with our Bison Respect Pillars. That leads me to our next edition of The ABC’s to Success at HPS: **B is for Bedtime and C is for Choices.**

![Image of ABC's of Student Success: B is for Bedtime]

Sleep is critical to student success. The National Sleep Foundation ([https://www.sleepfoundation.org/press-release/national-sleep-foundation-recommends-new-sleep-times](https://www.sleepfoundation.org/press-release/national-sleep-foundation-recommends-new-sleep-times)) recommends the following: School age children (6-13 years old): Sleep range 9-11, Teenagers (14-17 years old): Sleep range 8-10 hours. Adequate sleep supports a student’s ability to concentrate, process, and regulate emotions. Consistently getting quality sleep will improve a student's cognition and emotional performance. Sleep helps students recognize and manage emotions of self and others. Getting enough sleep has also been shown to improve the immune system, balance hormones, increase metabolism, and improve brain function. Some strategies to support getting a good night’s sleep include setting a bedtime routine, having a consistent bedtime and wake up time, quiet dimly lit environment, and turn off electronics 2 hours before bedtime. ([Healthline](https://www.healthline.com/health/tips-get-your-kids-sleep))

![Image of ABC's of Student Success: C is for Choices]

One way we support behavior at High Plains is to offer choices. When a student is struggling, choices may be given to empower them to make a good decision. An example: A student is involved in conflict with a peer and is showing signs of anger. The teacher/staff member may say, “Do you want 2 or 4 minutes to sit quietly before we talk about what happened?” This ensures the students take time to calm down, and they determine the amount of time they feel they need. Once they have calmed down and are in control, we can effectively make a plan to resolve the issue/assign consequences/make amends.
News from the Library

Digital Books for Everyone

At High Plains School and in the Thompson School District, we are fortunate to have a wealth of digital resources that HPS students can access at any time. Thousands of ebooks can be accessed at any time by following these four easy steps:

1. Visit our school’s website (highplainsschool.org).
2. Select "Library" under the "Resources" tab.
3. 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. Books can be read through a browser or on any device using the free OverDrive or Sora apps.
4. Have fun browsing and selecting--happy reading!

![Destiny Logo](image1.png)
![Sora Logo](image2.png)
High Plains 100 Mile Club

M-T-TH-F  7:50-8:20 am  Wed. 8:50 -9:20 am

Application and more info: HPS Website (Activities)
**Walk to school day**

It’s that time of year to get outside, get some exercise, fresh air and walk to school! Thursday October 3\(^{rd}\) will be our annual walk to school day! Stay tuned for more information and locations for our “walking school busses”

---

**Health office**

We are getting all settled in for a new school year here in the health office! Please remember that if your child will be taking medication at school, you will need a permission for medication form from your doctor. You can pick one up from the health office anytime. We also have forms for allergy/anaphylaxis and asthma care plans.

I am also in need of extra clothing! If you have any gently used underwear, leggings or shorts that are stretchy I would love to have them. Smaller sizes are used more (K-2\(^{nd}\) grade). Thank you in advance for any donations!
High Plains PTCO

What’s Up!

During the 2018-2019 School Year the PTCO Funded $23,804 to Help Support Our School!!

Your support helps fund items such as:

- Guest speakers and PBLs
- Professional Development
- Wellness Activities and Fieldtrips
- Technology – Apps, iPads, Headphones
- Student Clubs – Robotics, Give Next, Girls on the Run, Outdoor Education, Pastels on 5th
- Middle School House Competitions & Dances
- Supplies for the Learning and Rooftop Garden
- And so much more!!!

We NEED Your Support!!

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.

We have several ways to support the PTCO. If you are interested in volunteering throughout the school year, please feel out the attached Volunteer Interest Form and return it to your child’s teacher or email it to highplainsk8ptco@gmail.com and a member of the PTCO will be in touch!! Register as a new or returning volunteer here, its quick, easy and required for classroom, event and field trip volunteering.

Mark Your Calendar!!

- September 17th - PTCO meeting at 6:30 pm
- September 20th - Bison Stampede
- October 9th - Parent Teacher Conference Meals
- October 15th - PTCO Meeting at 6:30 pm
- October 25th - Trunk or Treat from 5:00-6:00 pm
- November 19th - PTCO Meeting at 6:30 pm
- December 7th - Vendor Event Fundraiser from 10:00-4:00
- December 17th - PTCO Meeting at 6:30 pm
- January 21st - PTCO Meeting at 6:30 pm
- January 24th - Bingo-for-Book 6:30-7:30 pm
- February 18th - PTCO Meeting at 6:30 pm
- February 27th - Conference Meals
- March 6th - Family Movie Night @ 5:00-7:00 pm

continued on next page
Mark Your Calendar! Continued...

- March 24th - PTCO Meeting at 6:30 pm
- April 3rd - Spring Carnival from 5:30-7:30 pm
- April 21st - PTCO Meeting at 6:30 pm
- Week of May 4th - Teacher Appreciation Week
- May 12th - Ice Cream Social & Annual Meeting from 6:00-7:00 pm
- May 19th - PTCO Meeting 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

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!

Box Tops for Education:  

continued on next page
Box Tops for Education is going digital!! Here is what you need to know:

- Traditional box tops are being phased out of production, but may continue to be found on many products throughout the store. You can still clip these and send them to school.

- 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. The NEW and improved Box Tops mobile app uses state-of-the-art technology to scan your store receipt, find participating products and instantly add Box Tops to our school's earnings online. No more clipping or counting box tops by hand and Box Tops are still worth 10¢ for your school, it's a win-win!!!

- See products and learn more about the Box Tops App at www.btfe.com

**King Soopers 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?? Follow these 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!
  *always start your shopping at www.smile.amazon.com*

*continued on next page*
## High Plains PTCO
### What’s Up!

High Plains PTCO Volunteer Interest Form 20

Volunteer’s Name: 

Phone: ______________________ E-mail: ______________________

Youngest Child’s Name: ______________________ Grade: ______ Teacher: ______

### Ongoing Volunteer Opportunities
Mark all areas that you are interested in helping to organize or assist. Thank you!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>On-Going School-Wide Support</th>
<th>Enrichment Support</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>□ Recess/Lunch Monitor or Crossing Guard</td>
<td>□ Destination Imagination</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Assist with Sponsorship &amp; Donation Requests</td>
<td>□ Spelling Bee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Count &amp; Bundle Box Tops</td>
<td>□ Robotics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Help Organize a Restaurant Spirit Night Fundraiser</td>
<td>□ Math Olympiads</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ PBL Panelist and/or Guest Speaker (Area of Expertise: )</td>
<td>□ Drama</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ 100 Mile Club</td>
<td>□ 6th Grade Outdoor Education Fundraiser(s)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### One-Time Opportunity – Fall
- □ Kindergarten Boo-Hoo Breakfast - Aug 19th
- □ Student Picture Day Assistant – Sept/Oct
- □ Bison Stampede – Sept 20th
- □ P/T Conference Meals/Snacks – Oct 9th
- □ Trunk-or-Treat – Oct 25th

### One-Time Opportunity – Spring
- □ Spring Carnival – April 3rd
- □ Class Picture Day Assistant – March/April

### One-Time Opportunity – Winter
- □ Vendor Fundraiser Event – Dec 7th
- □ Bingo-for-Books – Jan 24th
- □ P/T Conference Meals/ Snacks – Feb 27th
- □ Family Movie Night – March 6th

### On-Call Volunteer:
If you are not sure right now how you can help, but would like to be involved in the future, your name can go on our “On-Call” Volunteer list. If we find we are short-handed for an activity or event, we will go to our On-Call list and check with you to see if you can help with an activity or event.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>On-Call Volunteer:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>□ Summer Movie Ticket Fundraiser – April</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Teacher Appreciation Week of May 4th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Ice Cream Social – May 12th</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### I’m flexible: Call me anytime to work at school

### Additional Comments: