Charging through failures, stampeding through challenges

Message from the Principal...

It’s been an amazing school year and has flown by! Our school has grown by leaps and bounds and so has your child. This year staff implemented multiple programs to support social-emotional learning, conflict resolution, community building, as well as created engaging academic learning experiences. Each day we worked diligently to educate, comfort, support, and develop over 500 young minds from Kindergarten through eighth grade. Our students come from as many backgrounds as colors in the rainbow, so this is no easy task, but one we take to heart.

We are starting to close out this year with many activities while preparing for next school year.

This past January, the Thompson School District Board of Education approved an adjustment to start and release times, as well as a one-hour late start on Wednesdays, beginning in the 2018-2019 school year. High Plains School’s revised schedule is:

- Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday: 8:20 am - 3:35 pm
- Wednesday: 9:20 am - 3:35 pm

Thank you for sharing your child(ren) with us and for your support throughout the school year, whether you volunteered, helped your child at home, attended student led conferences, participated on a committee, or just cheered your child on at any of the many events this year. Great students start with great parents! We hope all of our families have a relaxing, sunny, fun summer! But before then, enjoy the remaining days of school. There’s lots left to do!!

Sincerely,

Danielle Feeney, Principal
**Dress Code**

The weather is getting warmer, please remind your child to wear clothes that meet the district dress code expectations. The Board of Education revised the dress code in February of this year. The link is available here, [JICA Dress Code](#) and on the Thompson School District website under District and Board of Education.

**8th grade's last day**

Our 8th grade students' last day of school will be Wednesday, May 23rd. The middle school team is planning special activities for that day to wish our 8th graders well on their journey to high school graduation and beyond. The middle school team will communicate the days’ events, once they are finalized. The Middle School awards/recognition assembly will be held on May 23rd starting at 8am. Teachers will communicate to families of students receiving recognition.
Kinder Round Up

On May 24th starting at 8:30am we will hold our Kindergarten Round-Up. This event is for incoming kindergarteners and their parents. Incoming kinders will get to meet teachers and take part in fun activities while their parents learn about the school, kinder expectations, volunteer activities, and other information to help them prepare their child for kindergarten.

Field Day

Field Day for HPS K-5th students will be held on Tuesday, May 22, 2018. It will be from 12:00 pm – 3:00 pm. Please make sure that your child is dressed appropriately for the weather. It is recommended that 3rd-5th grade students bring a change of clothes because some games involve water. Children are advised to wear comfortable, SAFE shoes and socks! Please no flip-flops or open backed shoes - they could be difficult to run in. Students may bring hats or visors. Please label these in case they get misplaced. Water bottles and sunscreen are highly recommended. Please apply this to your child before s/he comes to school.

This year we are inviting all adult members of the HPS community to participate as helpers at the game centers. NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY! If you are interested, please complete the slip below or contact Coach B. at reid.bauersfeld@thompsonschools.org
Last Day of School

The last day of school is Friday, May 25th. This is an early release day, so High Plains’ students will be released at 11:15AM. Lunch will not be served on this day. Please feel free to send students to school with a snack. Kindergarten through fifth grade will hold their 4th quarter recognition assemblies at 10:30am. If your child earns a recognition, their classroom teacher will contact you with details. *Middle school will hold their awards recognition assemblies on May 23rd.*

Let’s Finish the Year Strong!

With less than 4 weeks remaining, it can be easy to slide a little on routines and expectations. Summer will be here soon enough, but before then please help your child finish the year strong! There is still a lot to do and learn, and we all wish to end on a positive note! Please review the Parent/Student Handbook, available on the school website under “Resources” for expectations on attendance, technology use, field trips, and more.
Thank PTCO

High Plains students and staff wish to thank our PTCO for all of the support they have given us this year. The PTCO has provided funds to support technology, field trips, professional development, academic materials, and much more. Not only do they support us monetarily, but also by organizing great community building events like the Trick or Trunk, Spring Carnival, and spirit nights. THANK YOU!!! If you want to help this great group continue to help our school, please contact Nancy Wolfgang, President, at HighPlainsK8PTCO@gmail.com
The middle school Give Next philanthropy class update:

Our Mission Statement

We, the High Plains School Give Next class, aim to address the needs of people with disabilities in our community. We will achieve our mission with the generous donations from Nancy Patton of the Public Service Credit Union and Denise and Patrick Juliana. We are looking to support nonprofit organizations that will impact and help improve the lives of people with disabilities.

THANK YOU!

- We will reward our grant awardees at our May 11th awards celebration! We would like to welcome everyone to join us that night from 5-7pm. It will be a fun evening!

- Thank you to our donors, Nancy Patton of Public Service Credit Union and Denise & Patrick Juliana for providing the funding for this experiential class.

- Thank you also to the Bohemian Foundation and Community Foundation of Northern Colorado.

UP NEXT:

We’re finishing construction of our Little Free Library and will be installing it by the end of the school year. Please feel free to utilize it throughout the summer! Yay reading!
News from the Library

Summer is a great time to enjoy reading for pleasure and entertainment. Reading over an extended break from school is especially important for maintaining reading skills and continuing growth. A number of good reading lists exist that can help guide and challenge young readers. One source for helpful book lists, curated by the Association for Library Service to Children, can be found at http://www.ala.org/alsc/publications-resources/book-lists.

Another great resource for summer reading is the public library. Not only do they provide reading lists; they also have a fun and rewarding summer reading programs for kids of all ages. To find out more about the offerings of the Loveland Public Library, visit their website at http://www.lovelandpubliclibrary.org.

Finally, don’t forget the wealth of digital resources that HPS students have at their fingertips. Thousands of ebooks can be accessed at any time—including over the summer—by following these five easy steps:

- Visit our school’s website (highplainsschool.org)
- Select "Library" under the "Resources" tab.
- Click on the Follett Destiny icon in order to search our catalog and read ebooks.
- Choose to log in using Google SSO.
  - Student email name: first initial, middle initial, last name, last two digits of graduating year, @thompsonschools.org (ex.: jtdoe23@thompsonschools.org)
  - Password: student number preceded by two zeroes (example: 00123456)
- Happy Reading!
Take a Stand and "DEACTIVATE" Bullying

The Bully Prevention Program at High Plains is pleased to announce that it has joined up with Loveland Laser Tag to remind all students to Take a Stand and "DEACTIVATE" bullying.

This effort is made possible through a partnership with the Loveland Chamber of Commerce and their 2018 Leadership Loveland class', "Random Acts of LOVEland" campaign, and through the Bully Prevention and Education grant that TSD received last year from the Colorado Department of Education.

To encourage students to spread the message, a free game of laser tag at Loveland Laser Tag (401 Denver Avenue) will be awarded to every Bison student who posts the following hashtag on their social media feeds: #deactivatebullying. To redeem their free pass, students (or parents) simply need to show their social media post to Loveland Laser Tag staff anytime from now through May 4th, 2018.

For more information about the Bully Prevention Program at High Plains School, please click here.
News from the Music Department

The High Plains music program has had a very busy and successful year of bringing music to our community with over 20 performances and events. Our band program continues to grow with the addition of 5th-grade band, our first solo & ensemble festival, and concerts. The HPS choirs have had multiple opportunities to sing in our community from Eagles games to ribbon cutting events to holiday tree lighting ceremonies. We have many students represented in district groups such as Honor Band, Honor Choir, the 6th-grade Choir Festival, and the TSD Jazz Retreat. All middle school students were also able to visit Boetcher Concert Hall to hear the Colorado Symphony Orchestra perform. Our elementary students have each had an impressive concert this year in addition to field trips, exploring new instruments, and making new musical connections. 2017-2018 was an unforgettable year and we are looking forward to making more music next year!

If you are still hoping to catch a performance, you are in luck as there will be two more HPS Music events to round out our year. These are all free, local performances that our Bison herd has worked very hard to produce and we would love to see you there! Volunteers registered through Vital are ALWAYS welcome to help at events. Please contact Mrs. Lemons. Our last event of the year will be:

- **May 12** [Saturday] 8am-12am - HPS Instrumental Solo & Ensembles Festival @ HPS (offered for 6-8th grade band - PBL)

Thank you so much for supporting the arts and please let me know if you have any questions!!!

Health Office News

Just a reminder from the health office: Since we are nearing the end of the year it's time to think about picking up remaining medication you have checked in with the nurse! The school district cannot take responsibility for medications left at school over the summer and by policy, we cannot send medications home with a student. Please make arrangements to pick up medications before or on the last day of school by 11:00 a.m.

Thank you and have a great summer!

Mrs. Q
2018 Summer Academy of Music (S.A.M)

- **WHO:** Current Band, Orchestra & Choir Students (Grades 6th – 8th)
- **WHAT:** Advanced Band & Orchestra, Jazz Band and Choir
- **WHEN:** July 16 – July 31, 2018
- **WHERE:** Thompson Valley High School ~or~ Conrad Ball Middle School
- **TIME:** One hour classes – Check the flyer on the District website for class times at each location or speak with your Music Director
- **COST:** $95.00 (1 class); $130.00 (2 classes) Includes tuition, music book and t-shirt

Watch your mail for more information and registration form after April 30th.

**IMPORTANT:** Email your Music Director **BEFORE MAY 25** to see if they have instruments available for CHECK OUT.

All percussion students must pay a $10 fee for use of school percussion equipment. Percussion students must purchase their own sticks, mallets, and drum pad.
Safe Routes to School Parent Survey

Safe Routes to School works to provide safe walking and biking for K-8 students across our district. This is done through walking and biking encouragement programs like T-n-T Tuesdays, as well as infrastructure projects such as the improvements that will be made on 4th street over the summer.

These projects are funded through a Colorado State CDOT grant, which emphasizes that SRTS programs can improve safety, not just for children, but for the entire community. It provides opportunities for people to increase their physical activity and improve their health. It reduces congestion and pollution around our schools and encourages partnerships.

As part of the grant process we are required to gather data on transportation habits and get feedback from our parents and students. This also helps us to garner funding for future program and infrastructure projects.

We now have an online survey process that makes it easy for you to go online and fill out an anonymous survey for your school. You can access the survey by clicking the link below. We encourage you to take the survey within the next month; although, the link for your school will be open until the end of the school year for your convenience.

- School: High Plains School
  - Start Date: Apr 09, 2018
  - End Date: May 25, 2018
- URL: http://www.saferoutesdata.org/surveyformparent.cfm?key=5218613

Thank you all for your time and your willingness to encourage children to be active before and after school.

Mechelle Martz Mayfield, TSD Safe Routes to School Coordinator

Computer Lab News

Summer is here and you don’t want your student to forget all the great things he/she has learned this last year. There are some great resources on the Computer Lab Website that your student can do during the summer. They can do Hour of Code, Math practice, Language Arts Practice and much more. Enjoy your summer and enjoy the website. See you next year.

HPS Computer Lab Website
High Plains PTCO
What’s Up!

May PTCO Meeting
Our next PTCO meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 15th at 6:30 pm and we would love to have you there!! Agenda items will include a picture slide show and ICE CREAM followed by an official meeting where we will discuss events for next year and more. Please come support our Bison and make your voice “Herd”!!

We Appreciate Your Support
Our Summer Movie Ticket Series fundraiser was a success! We raised $225 for our school! If you ordered tickets they will arrive the week of May 14th. Families will be contacted when they arrive and will be sent home with your child’s Thursday folders, unless other arrangements are made. If you have questions, please contact Jessica at Jessica.soulek@thompsonschools.org

The Spring Carnival was a great success!! Thank you to everyone who helped out!! We are still finalizing the totals but we brought in about $2,000 for our school! If you have any ideas on what we could do better next year or have any feedback on what went well, please shoot us an email! We would love to hear your thoughts!

In March/April the PTCO Funded $1,390 to Help Support Our School. Items approved include:

- Judges and Clinicians for the High Plains School Solo and Ensemble Festival
- Staff Pottery for the Spring Carnival
- New Bicycle Helmets, as well as Child-Sized Brooms and Shovels for Early Childhood
- Lunch for STEAM Career Day Volunteers
- Flexible Seating for 1st Graders

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High Plains PTCO
What’s Up!

Box Top Competition:
It’s Box Top Time!!! Turn in your box tops by Friday, May 11th and the Top 3 Classes to turn in the most box tops will win a Popsicle Party and Movie Day!! Here’s how it works:

- Clip box tops from hundreds of your favorite brands, including Ziploc, Nestle, Pillsbury, Kleenex, Hefty, General Mills, Huggies and much more. For a complete list of participating products, visit the Box Tops website at www.boxtops4education.com

- Please bundle box tops in a baggie, envelope or similar container and write your teacher’s name on the outside of the baggie/container. This will help to make sure that the correct class is credited.

- Box Top bundles can be turned into your classroom teacher or placed in the box top collection bucket located in the office!!

- Get friends and family involved by encouraging them to help save box tops too!

- Deadline: Friday, May 11th, 2018 is the last day to turn in your box tops to qualify for the popsicle party and movie day. The winning class will be announced during morning announcements on Monday, March 14th. Winners will get to choose the date to have their party. Thank you for supporting our school!!!

Mark Your Calendar

- May 7-11th is Teacher Appreciation Week!! Look for more information to come!

- Box Top Competition is happening NOW until Friday, May 11th! Happy Clipping!

- Ice Cream Social will be held on Tuesday, May 15th at 6:30 pm. Come join us for our end-of-year celebration! We will enjoy some yummy ice cream while we watch a slideshow recapping all of the wonderful things that happened this year! Everyone is welcome, watch for more information to come! We hope to see you there!

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High Plains PTCO
What’s Up!

Election of Officers for the 2018-2019 School Year

Elections will be happening on Tuesday, May 15th. If you are interested in being involved in the PTCO next school year or you would like to nominate someone, please send us an email at highplainsk8ptco@gmail.com or talk to any current PTCO member. For more information about the PTCO please see our website at www.highplainsptco.org.

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 smile.amazon.com.

Caps4Cash – Milk Caps

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!! Thank you for supporting our school!

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Volunteer Opportunities

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

Current Opportunities: www.highplainsptco.com/volunteer

- Bike Rodeo - **Wednesday, May 9, 2:15-5:15**
  - We need 8 volunteers for the Bike Rodeo on May 9th from 2:15-5:15. Volunteers must be 18+. Students in grades 3-5 will be participating in the bike rodeo.
  - Please contact Candie at 970-488-9160 or at candie.joshi@gmail.com if you are interested in helping or have some questions.
  - There are more details about the bike rodeo and volunteer duties at this link: https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B125jwHkKDibQ3ZMVE50MVotVDZHk25NWk9QVdSckF3RXNj/view?usp=sharing

- Recess Help – Mondays
  - We also need a volunteer to help during recess on Mondays. The schedule is K-1, 11:10-11:30, 2nd-3rd Grades, 11:30-11:50, and 4th-5th grades, 12:10-12:30. If you can help with any of those time frames, please contact our Principal, Danielle Feeney, at danielle.feeney@thompsonschools.org.

- Crossing Guard Volunteer – Ongoing
  - High Plains School is in need of volunteer crossing guards to help keep our students safe.
  - Volunteers need to be 18 or older, able to stand for an hour, walk, lift a 3-5 pound sign and have good vision. Online training will be provided and you can choose 2-5 shifts weekly. Shifts are 7:20 AM to 7:45 AM and 3:00 PM to 3:30 PM Monday through Friday.
  - We currently have an amazing volunteer taking the Tue-Wed-Thurs morning shift, and are needing someone for Monday & Friday morning and for every afternoon.
  - If interested, contact Candie Joshi at candie.joshi@gmail.com or 970-488-9160.

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High Plains PTCO
What’s Up!

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](http://www.highplainsptco.org)
- Have questions? Would like to volunteer? Shoot us an email! [highplainsk8ptco@gmail.com](mailto:highplainsk8ptco@gmail.com)
- Like us on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com) for up-to-date information!

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**SAVE the DATE**

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<td>PTCO Meeting</td>
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<td>May 15th</td>
<td>Ice Cream Social</td>
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<td>HPS Incoming Kinder Round-Up</td>
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<td>Last Day of School for Students</td>
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