Message from the Principal...

October was full of many events and activities! We were so happy to see a great turn out for parent-teacher conferences as well! Thank you for partnering with us to support your child’s academic and social/emotional success. Please continue the conversations with your child and their teachers. Thank you to the volunteers that provided food for staff on the two conference days. It was appreciated and delicious! Thank you also to our student council, Mr. Waido, and many parent volunteers for putting on a successful middle school dance. The kids danced, ate, and had a great time! To keep up to date on school happenings, our website is the first go to source. Please check the calendar on the website for updated events. Your child’s teacher can also keep you in the know, so please don’t hesitate to contact them or check out their teacher page under “Staff” on the website.

This month please take note of pages 8-10 in the High Plains School Parent/Student Handbook found on the website under “About High Plains”, http://www.thompson.k12.co.us/HighPlains. These pages highlight information regarding field trips, cold and inclement weather procedures, personal items brought to school, and our student dress code (including PE).

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Message From The Principal continued

In an effort to provide another channel for parents/guardians to hear about school happenings and information, I would like to begin offering some “coffee talks”. This is an opportunity to visit with me, and other staff as the topic directs. To make this a valuable time for you, please take a moment to complete this survey Coffee Talk with the Principal. Once we compile the responses, we will communicate the dates and times that appear to work best for the majority of parents/guardians.

Please continue with caution, safety, and following all on campus traffic patterns and rules, as well as official road/traffic laws as you enter and exit the campus. Please only cross at designated crosswalks. Loveland Police may ticket persons crossing illegally. The crosswalks are for everyone’s safety, especially our children. Please help to set a good example for all of our children. They (children) are watching; actions speak louder than words!

Please continue reading our November newsletter to see all of the events and activities planned for November, as well as important information to keep you in the know. It’s going to be another busy but fun month filled with learning, community building, and engaging activities! Remember November 21st-25th is Thanksgiving break. We wish all of our families a pleasant, plentiful, and thankful Thanksgiving!

See you in the morning!

Sincerely,

Danielle Feeney, Principal, High Plains School
Colorado Student Perception Survey

During the week of November 14th-18th students in grades 3rd-8th will take the Colorado’s Student Perception Survey. This survey is a 34-question instrument that asks students about their classroom experience. The questions measure elements of student experience that most closely correlate to the professional practices that are demonstrated to improve student outcomes. In addition, the survey maps to Colorado’s Teacher Quality Standards; the results yield information about a teacher’s performance in the first three standards relating to professional practice.

The survey has the flexibility to be used as a formative tool or as a summative measure of teacher evaluation under Colorado’s education effectiveness law. Please read the parent message from the Colorado Education Initiative for more detail about the survey. Also included are links for the 3rd-5th grade survey and the 6th-8th grade survey.

- Parent Information About Survey
- 3rd-5th Grade Survey Information
- 6th-8th Grade Survey Information
Counselor’s Corner

Dear students and families,

It is the time of year that we begin looking forward to high school for our 8th grade students! Below, you will find several important dates for your 8th graders. Students were given a postcard with important dates for Mountain View High School (our feeder school). The following events will provide you with important information for preparing for and registering for high school.

Important Dates for 8th Graders:

Thompson School District College Fair, open to 8-12 grade

When: Tuesday, November 1, 2016, 6:00-8:00pm

Location: The Ranch at the Larimer County Fairgrounds, Thomas M. McKee Building

High School Curriculum Information Nights:

Schools will go over classes and programs offered, information about graduation requirements

- Mountain View High School: November 2nd, 6:00-7:30pm
- Loveland High School: November 3rd, 6:00-7:30pm
- Berthoud High School: November 7th, 6:00-7:30pm
- Thompson Valley High School: November 9th, 6:00-7:30pm
- Loveland Classical: November 10th, 6:00-7:30pm

continued on next page
Counselor’s Corner *continued*

High School Parent/Course Registration
Information Nights:

Information about registering for high school, graduation requirements

- *Mountain View High School: December 15th, 6:00-7:00pm
- Loveland High School: January 25th, 6:00-7:00pm
- Thompson Valley High School: January 25th, 6:00-7:00pm
- Berthoud High School: February 6th, 6:00-7:00pm

*Registration Forms for MVHS are due back at High Plains by December 19th at 3:00pm.*

Unique Program Applications:

Please see each individual application for specific requirements such as how to submit, recommendations, transcripts, etc.

- LISA Application at Mountain View: December 1st by 3:00pm
- STEM Application at Berthoud High School: December 21st
- IB Applications at Loveland High School: December 21st
- AVID Applications at Thompson Valley High School: December 21st
Health Office

It’s that time of year again for colds and flus. Did you know . . .

- When you cough, the air born germs can travel up to three feet?
- When you share a drink, 1 germ can become 8 million in 24 hours?
- When you sneeze, germs can travel out of your mouth at up to 80 MPH?
- Germs can live for 2 hours on any surface, sometimes up to 24 hours!

District policy states that if your child has a fever over 101, vomited or diarrhea they must stay home. Students can return to school once the fever has been gone for 24 hours, without medication and there has been no diarrhea episode within 24 hours. If your child has an uncontrolled cough it is recommended that your child stay home until the cough subsides as this can be very disruptive within the classroom. Keeping your child home when they are sick helps to control the spread of viruses around the school, and allows your child to focus on their academics when they return. For a complete list of common health conditions for which a student should stay home, please refer to our student handbook.

Our health office is in need of the following donations: facial tissue (Kleenex, Puffs), and Ziplock sandwich bags.
Student Scores in Parent Portal

Frequently Asked Questions for Viewing Scores in Parent Portal

What subjects will be in Parent Portal for my child this year?

There will only be scores (1-4) for math and English Language Arts in 2016-17. This will be on-going throughout the year. Other subject areas and work habits will be populated at the reporting period.

Will I still see a report card?

Teachers will post student progress reports in Parent Portal in the middle of October, the beginning of January, the middle of March and at the end of the school year.

What if I don’t see a score for a certain standard or assignment?

Remember that not all standards have been taught or will have evidence at this point in time. Some assignments may not have a score. No score, unless otherwise noted, means this wasn’t an evidence collection point for your child. As we personalize your child's learning journey, we know that students may need different ways to demonstrate their learning.

Why is my child’s progress going up and down on the same standard?

As our school year progresses, the complexity of the standards being taught increases. This dip in progress shows that your child is experiencing new learning. These points in time are great places to ask your child what new learning has happened at school.

Parent Portal - English
Parent Portal - Spanish

Spirit Wear

Here is the direct link and flyer for the upcoming spirit wear drive. Flyers will be distributed to students in the upcoming week but you can start ordering online until November 18th. If you are buying for holiday gifts, and do not want your child to know, please put XMAS on the same line as your child’s teacher’s name. This will help to ensure that items are not delivered to your child (ren).

100 Mile Club

High Plains 100 Mile Club continues to add miles and new members. K-5 students are encouraged to join at any point in the school year, just print the permission slip from the High Plains website, add $10, and bring it to the office and you’re all set. Start your morning, Monday through Friday, 7:30 - 7:45, weather permitting, moving around our ¼ mile track by the blacktop. When you reach 25 miles, you receive an official 100 Mile Club t-shirt, at 50 a “golden” 100 Mile Club pencil, at 75 a wrist band, and once you reach 100 miles, students will receive a “gold” medal at our end-of-the-year celebration. Please think about getting your day started by moving!

BStrongBFit

BStrongBFit is nearing their 5K race! This group of 4th and 5th grade girls has been meeting twice a week since the beginning of September. Our goal is to encourage positive self-image while trying new ways to exercise, along with running. We have tried yoga, obstacle courses, hip hop dancing, and various other running activities as we have been training. Our discussions have opened a lot of communication between the girls as they have shared feelings, ideas, and ways to support one another. The girls will compete on Saturday, Nov. 5th at the CSU Veteran’s Day 5K. BSBF will be back again next year and we encourage 4th and 5th grade girls to join.

Big Kahuna Fundraiser

Students who sold 20 or more items should have brought home their limo ride permission slip on Thursday, October 27th. Permission slips MUST be returned to the school by no later than Friday, November 4th. Any student who does turn in their permission slip will not be allowed to go on the limo ride, NO EXCEPTIONS!
HPS Library

Thank you to everyone who participated in supporting the Scholastic Book Fair! We had a great time, kids loved getting to see new books (and can’t wait to read the new ones!), and we raised over $2,000 to help make the High Plains School library even better. We appreciate the hard work of each of our volunteers, and we’re looking forward to another great fair in the spring!

Are you looking for quality books for your kids to read at home? If so, the HPS library is fortunate to have thousands of digital books for students of all ages and reading levels. Please visit our school's website (highplainsschool.org) and then select "Library" under the "Popular" tab. Next, simply click on the Follett Destiny icon in order to search our catalog. If your student finds a book they'd like to read digitally, their log-in is their first initial, middle initial, last name, last two digits of their graduating year (example: jtdoe23), and their password is their student number preceded by two zeroes (example: 00123456).
High Plains PTCO
What’s Up!

Net $15,432.38
Earned for our school

208 Students
Participated in sale

90 Students
Earned A LIMO RIDE!

12 teachers

1 Lucky Teacher

Had 10+ students participate

$100 gift card for having 20+ students participate

Our Fall Fundraiser was a HUGE Success - thanks to you!

- Mark your calendars - November 7th products & prizes will be sent home. Consider arranging for assistance for your child after school - it will be heavy!
- Limo ride for winners is also November 7th - permission forms will be sent to students who earned the limo ride

Amazon Smile - earn money for our school while shopping on Amazon

- Go to smile.amazon.com and login to your amazon account, then search for and select High Plains PTCO in Loveland, CO. The same Amazon products you love will be available!
- Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases the PTCO.

Smashburger School Fundraiser - Tuesday, November 29th ALL DAY LONG!!!

- Smashburger (1419 Denver Ave, Loveland, CO), 10:00 am - 10:00 pm
- Make sure to say you are with High Plains School - the school earns 20% of the sales!

Holiday Giving Tree

- Sponsor a family for holiday gifts and a holiday meal!
- Families in need check in with the front office starting November 1 - participation is anonymous
- Giving tree will be available starting 11/14, gifts due to the school by 12/16
High Plains PTCO
What’s Up!

Spiritwear
- sales start November 1st - look for order forms to home in Thursday folders.
- *Please mark on your order form if it is a gift so that we do not send it home with your child.

Volunteer Opportunities
- All Volunteers must register online: www.thompsonschools.org/volunteer
- Current Opportunities: www.highplainsptco.com/volunteer
- Help catalogue books for our Scholastic Reading Library
- Read with 3rd graders in Mrs. Bellinghausen’s class
- Help setting up and running a Spelling Club & School Spelling Bee - if interested please contact jessica.soulek@thompsonschools.org

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
- Have questions? Would like to volunteer? Shoot us an email! highplainsk8ptco@gmail.com
- Like us on Facebook for up-to-date information!

The purpose of the High Plains PTCO is to enhance and support the educational experience, to develop a close connection between school, home and community by encouraging parental involvement, and to improve the environment at High Plains School through volunteer and financial support.
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>November 1st</td>
<td>New Box Top Competition! Top 4 classes will get to read books and do crafts with preschoolers while having hot cocoa. (Nov 1st – Dec 9th)</td>
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<td>November 1st</td>
<td>Canned Food Drive (Nov 1st – Nov 18th)</td>
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<td>Spiritwear goes on sale</td>
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<td>November 2nd</td>
<td>Mountain View HS Curriculum Info Night 6:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>November 3rd</td>
<td>Vision &amp; Hearing Screenings (grades K-3, 5 &amp; 7)</td>
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<td>November 5th</td>
<td>BFitBStrong 5K 8:00 a.m.</td>
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<td>November 7th</td>
<td>Big Kahuna Orders Arrive</td>
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<td>Limo Ride</td>
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<td>November 9th</td>
<td>Community Led School Tour 3:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>November 10th</td>
<td>Kindergarten Open House (Loveland High School) 4:30</td>
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<td>November 14th</td>
<td>SAAC Meeting - 5:15 p.m.</td>
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<td>December 16 - Giving Tree</td>
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