Wow! What an amazing August! The grand opening was a huge success, and High Plains School’s Back to School Night just added to the excitement. September is now upon us and we are settling into our first weeks of school.

If you didn’t check the QR code out or pick up a hard copy of the High Plains School Parent/Student Handbook at Back to School Night, please check it out on our website under “Our School” and “About High Plains”, http://www.thompson.k12.co.us/HighPlains. You’ll also find information on the school’s website about intramural athletics (under athletics) and Chessmates (under activities). There will be a lot of activities, announcements, and events coming up this fall, so check the website!

As a new school, we are developing our culture and expectations. As part of that process, I will highlight a few segments from our Parent/Student Handbook each month. This month take special notice of the sections on pages 2-4. Attendance at school is not only a legal directive, it’s imperative to a student’s academic and social/ emotional success. It is hard to learn, develop good work habits, and establish strong relationships with inconsistent attendance. The final bell rings at 7:50AM and that is
Message From The Principal continued

when learning is beginning for our students. Please make every effort to have your child at school, ready to learn at 7:50AM. High Plains School offers breakfast at 7:30AM. Take advantage of this delicious and important meal offered by Thompson School District Nutrition Services.

Through a strong parent-school partnership we can achieve great things and ensure successful outcomes for all children attending High Plains School. Thank you for supporting your child and our school. Have a wonderful Labor Day weekend!!

Sincerely,

Danielle Feeney
Principal, High Plains School

Grandparents’ Lunch

Grandparents, please join us for a special lunch honoring you on September 9th between 11:00AM and 1:00PM. Grandparents may enjoy a delicious lunch with their grandchild(ren). Please Contact Rene Liebert at rene.liebert@thompsonschools.org for more details.

See page 9 for the RSVP flyer.
Counselor’s Corner—Ms. Burton

Dear students and families,

Welcome to High Plains School! My name is Danielle Burton and I am the school counselor for all K-8 students at High Plains. I cannot wait to start the school year with you! I would like to share with you what a school counselor does and what I will be working on this year. I will use this space in the monthly newsletter to keep you posted on the counseling activities happening!

I am available daily to support students, parents/guardians, and teachers, and I provide a number of different services to students throughout the school year, including:

Classroom Guidance

I will be working with teachers to determine the needs they see in their classroom to develop lessons in areas such as social/emotional intelligence, academic planning, career development, problem-based learning, school culture, diversity, etc.

Small Group Counseling

Small groups will be developed based on student needs. Small group topics can include such things as anxiety, self-esteem, transitions, stress, and communication.

continued on next page
Counselor’s Corner continued

Individual Counseling

Students are encouraged to meet with me for general support, crisis situations, conflict resolution, decision making, goal setting, resources, etc. The counseling relationship is confidential except in cases of child abuse and neglect, elder abuse and neglect, and harm to self and/or others. Students will be encouraged to communicate their needs with parents/guardians, and I will work to establish a collaborative relationship with you to best meet your students’ needs.

In the Works

This semester I will be developing a comprehensive school counseling program following the ASCA National Model (American School Counseling Association). A comprehensive program utilizes data to inform counseling activities and interventions. This means that I will be using student, parent/guardian, and teacher surveys to learn about our community and to develop ways to meet the various needs of our students, families, and staff.

This data will inform my classroom lessons and small groups, and here a few things already in the works:

- Classroom guidance lessons that align with the In-Focus weekly curriculum (social-emotional learning)
- 5th grade girls’ empowerment group
- 6 Months to 6th Grade
- 9 Months to 9th Grade
Health Office News

Tdap vaccine is required for all students entering 6th grade

Please have your child immunized before the start of the school year and take the records to your middle school health aide or school nurse. Please consult your healthcare provider with any questions you may have or feel free to contact the school nurse.

Thank you!

Curt VanTress, RN, School Nurse
Carey Quaratino, School Health Office Aide

Padres de Estudiantes de Quinto Grado

Recordatorio: Las regulaciones estateles requieren que todos los estudiantes que van a entrar a 6 grado en agosto, deben recibir otra dosis de la vacuna Tdap (una combinacion de vacunas contra el tetano, difteria y tos ferina). Por favor lleve a su hijo(a) a vacunar antes del principio del ano escolar y entregue el registro de vacunas a la secretaria o enfermera de la secundaria. Por favor consulte con su medico si tiene alguna pregunta.

Que la pasen DE MARAVILLA este verano y gracias!

Curt VanTress, RN, School Nurse
Carey Quaratino, School Health Office Aide
Year 3 Of Standards-Based Reporting In Grades 1st-5th

We are excited for a new school year and continuing our journey with Standards-Based Reporting. Standards-Based Reporting focuses on what a student knows and what they learn. We continue in our third year using Standards-Based Reporting in the area of math, for grades 1st through 5th and are happy to move forward with Standards-Based Reporting in English Language Arts (ELA) and work habits, which are reported separately from academics. *Please note that since kindergarten is utilizing TS GOLD, their progress reports will look different. Below is a brief overview of our progress scale. Teachers collect and score samples of student work that show their progress toward meeting grade level standards. This score is an indicator of where your child is, at that moment in time. This is a shift from previous years’ scoring which was measured against end of year expectations. The scoring shift is based off of feedback and our continuous efforts to create a seamless Early Childhood through 12th grade experience for our students and families.

- **4- Exemplary** - The student consistently produces an exemplary body of evidence that shows increased depth and complexity and transfer of understanding and flexible application of end of year grade-level concepts.
- **3- Meeting** - The student consistently meets standards as demonstrated by a body of evidence that shows independent understanding and application of grade-level concepts.
- **2- Progressing** - The student demonstrates progress toward standards as demonstrated by a body of evidence that shows incomplete/inconsistent understanding and application of grade-level concepts.
- **1- Emerging** - The student has limited understanding of standards as demonstrated by a body of evidence that shows minimal understanding and application of grade-level concepts.

More information regarding Thompson School District Work Habits for 1st -12th grade will be coming soon. We look forward to a great school year, focused on the success of your child!

Thompson School District Learning Service Team
Titlewish.com
Are you interested in helping to enrich the lives of the students of High Plains School? If so, please consider donating online at www.titlewish.com. 100% of donated funds will be used to purchase high quality, shelf-ready books and other media center materials that will inform, engage, and challenge kids. Our school goal is to raise $10,000 by the end of October. Additionally, Follett Library Resources (our Titlewish sponsor) will match 10% of every dollar raised. We appreciate your contributions!

Infinite Campus Parent Portal
At High Plains we value open, honest, and transparent communication. Home/school communication is vital in supporting student success and achievement. We are pleased to share Infinite Campus Portal is open to all parents of students in K-12 in Thompson School District.

What is Parent Portal? Infinite Campus Portal and Mobile Portal are tools that provide secure online access to pertinent student information. Infinite Campus Parent Portal is a web based site that provides parents/guardians immediate access to grades, assignments and attendance records. Having this real time access will help us maintain on-going communication between home and school.

continued on next page
Picture Day
Picture Day will take place on September 30th. Please check your K-5 child’s Thursday folders and/or your middle school child’s homework folder for details closer to the date.

Infinite Campus Parent Portal continued

Infinite Campus Portal Support For assistance in accessing your Portal account or if you have any questions pertaining to Infinite Campus Portal or Mobile Portal, contact Thompson School District Infinite Campus Support via e-mail at portal@thompsonschools.org. Please include your name, your student’s name and school name.


SAVE the DATE

Monday, September 5: No School
Tuesday, September 6: No School
Friday, September 9: Grandparents Lunch
Friday, September 9: Spiritwear Due
Wednesday, September 14: Chipotle Fundraiser
Tuesday, September 20: PTCO Meeting
Friday, September 30: Picture Day
High Plains School

Grandparent/Grandperson Day Luncheon

Come celebrate Grandparent/Grandperson Day at High Plains on Friday, September 9, 2016. It is a perfect opportunity for your child’s grandparent or a special grandperson to share some special time together over lunch.

Menu
Turkey with Mashed potatoes & gravy
Vegetable, fruit, roll
Milk
Cost: $3.95

Lunch Times
Kindergarten & 1st Grade: 11:12-11:32
2nd Grade & 3rd Grade: 11:32-11:52
4th & 5th Grade: 11:57-12:17

Please return your reservation by no later than Wednesday, September 7, 2016

Reservation Name (first and last name):

______ Number of Adult’s attending $ _________ Total Amount ($3.95/adults)

______ Number of non HPS students $ _________ Total amount ($3.95/non-student)

$ _________ GRAND TOTAL (adults & non-students)

Please return your reservation and cash or check (payable to High Plains School) no later than Wednesday, September 7, 2016
Chessmates at High Plains
Come Join Us for the Exciting Game of Chess!

Tuesdays, 3:15 – 4:15 PM

- Meet in the STEAM room 186
- All grades welcome!
- Cost is $65 for 12 weeks of class and chess instruction
- Each class includes 30 min of instruction and 30 min of playtime taught by an experienced chess coach.
- Register and pay online through our Google Form and PayPal.
- To find online registration form please do the following:
  - Go to www.chessmatesfc.com
    - Find your school under Clubs
    - Click on Register
    - Note: there is a link on the Google Form to pay registration through PayPal; if you’d rather pay cash/check please email as soon as possible.

Refund policy: That any participant may receive a full refund until after the second class is completed. After the second class there will be no refunds granted or partial credits given for any reason

Contact Us:
Chessmates Chess Clubs
www.chessmatesfc.com
info@chessmatesfc.com
Search: Chessmates
(970) 658-9976 (call or text)

Class Schedule:
Sept. 13, 20, 27
Oct. 4, 11, 18, 25
Nov. 1, 8, 15, 29
Dec. 6
LEGO Robotics

LEGO Engineering Enrichment Kids are already naturally gifted creators. They dive into our massive collections of LEGO®. And while they build elaborate objects they explore fundamentals principles of engineering and physics. They also learn to collaborate and create without fear of mistakes. The experience is joyful, the impact long lasting. Questions? Call Brie - 720-515-7309 Sign up at www.play-well.org.

High Plains School Pre-Engineering Grades K-2nd September 12th - November 7th 9 Sessions Mondays 3:15pm - 4:45pm $162. Pre-Engineering using LEGO- Grades K-2nd Let your imagination run wild with tens of thousands of LEGO®! Build engineer-designed projects such as boats, bridges, mazes and motorized cars, and use special pieces to create your own unique design! Explore the endless creative possibilities of the LEGO® building system with the guidance of an experienced Play-Well instructor. This is an ideal way to prepare young builders for the challenge of Engineering FUNdamentals.

Engineering FUNdamentals Grades 3rd - 5th September 8th - November 10th (no class 10/13) 9 Sessions Thursday 3:15pm - 4:45pm $162. Engineering FUNdamentals using LEGO- Grades 3rd-5th Power up your engineering skills with Play-Well TEKnologies and tens of thousands of LEGO®! Apply real-world concepts in physics, engineering, and architecture through engineer-designed projects such as arch bridges, skyscrapers, motorized cars, and the Battletrack! Design and build as never before, and explore your craziest ideas in a supportive environment. An experienced instructor will challenge new and returning students to engineer at the next level.

Engineering Challenge Grades 6th - 8th September 8th - November 10th (no class 10/13) 9 Sessions Thursday 3:15pm - 4:45pm $162. Engineering Challenge using LEGO- Grades 6th-8th Are you ready for the Engineering Challenge? Learn to build mechanical devices such as a scissor lift, air compressor, or drawbridge in this advanced course for our strongest LEGO® builders. Then work in teams to accomplish a large-scale mission such as a minifigure rescue or a Rube Goldberg machine!

Sign up at www.play-well.org.
High Plains PTCO
Happenings:

Chipotle School Fundraiser - September 14th, 4:00-8:00pm (note change from Chick-fil-a!)
- Plan on dinner at Chipotle at Centerra (1569 Fall River Dr #105, Loveland, CO) and a portion of the proceeds will benefit the school!
- Make sure you tell your server you are with High Plains School so your dinner counts toward our fundraiser!

King Soopers Gift Card fundraiser - Sign up online to get your card
- Simply load your card before purchasing groceries or gas and 5% of your everything you spend will benefit the High Plains PTCO
- Get more details and sign up at http://www.highplainsptco.org/fundraising
- Show your High Plains pride with Spiritwear - orders Due September 9th!
- T-shirts, sweat shirts, water bottles and more are available!!
- Order and pay online, or return the order form and payment to the High Plains front office

Save the Date:
- Garden Planting Day - September 12th - throughout school day
- Chipotle School Fundraising Night - September 14th - 4:00-8:00pm

- PTCO Meeting - September 20th - 6:30-7:30pm
- Fall Carnival - October 28th - 5:00-8:00pm

Current Volunteer Opportunities:
- All Volunteers must register online: http://www.thompsonschools.org/volunteer
- Stuffing Thursday Folders
- Garden Planting Day - Shifts available
- Building Carnival Games
- Counting & Bundling Box Tops

Next Meeting:
- Tuesday, September 20th from 6:30-7:30pm at High Plains School *Room to be determined

Contact 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!
High Plains PTCO King Soopers Gift Card Fundraiser

Help us reach our goal of $5000 for field trips and classroom supplies. Sign up online!

How do I get started?

Any High Plains supporter can purchase a reloadable gift card from the High Plains PTCO - remember the Kroger brand has stores nationwide so family near and far can participate! This gift card is specially marked and will have a small starting balance. Note that a limited number of cards are available Fall 2016 at no cost thanks to sponsorship from a generous donor!

Continue to reload your card month after month.

Take it to the customer service desk or any register at King Soopers and reload it using cash, check, or credit/debit card prior to checking out - the reload can take up to 10 minutes to show up on your card. You must reload it at least once every 90 days in order for it to remain active.

Go shopping at King Soopers and use your gift card to pay, but keep the card! 5% of every purchase goes directly back to High Plains PTCO! Treat the card like cash - if it is lost, stolen or damaged the balance is not recoverable.

Gas at King Soopers and Loaf and Jug
Groceries and other purchases at Kroger brand stores
Prescriptions

Make it a habit!

To receive 5% back from King Soopers, we must reload $5,000 in a four week cycle. This sounds like a lot but should be pretty easy to do. If 50 families load $100/month we meet the minimum and will receive $250/month - let's double that and meet our goal!

To join the program, sign up online or contact highplainsk8ptco@gmail.com for more information.

Thank you to everyone for supporting High Plains PTCO!

www.highplainsptco.org