

Highland Hawks

PTA Newsletter

February 2016

Calendar

Feb. 1	PTA Board Meeting 10:00 a.m.
Feb. 1	Hawvermale/Faulk-Space Center
Feb. 2	SCC Meeting in Room 207 3:40 p.m. – Public Welcome
Feb. 3	Wykstra/Yingling-Space Center
Feb. 8-9	Parent Teacher Conferences 4:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m.
Feb. 14	Valentine's Day Parties
Feb. 17	Second Trimester Ends
Feb. 20	President's Day – NO SCHOOL
Feb. 22	1 st Grade field trip –Scera Theater
Mar. 1	General PTA Meeting 10:00 a.m.
Mar. 3	SCC Meeting in library, 3:40 PM, public welcome
Mar. 4	Employee Appreciation Day
Mar. 6	No School – Professional Dev.



Message from Mr. Hodson

Highland Elementary School is fortunate to have a wealth of parent volunteers. Parents have a tremendous influence on their children's learning.

There are many different definitions of what parent involvement means. One obvious answer is to donate time to your particular school as a parent volunteer. This volunteer

time is a tremendous asset, not only to the school, but also to your child, and yourself.

What about parents who are unable to spend time as volunteers at school because of work or other responsibilities? Are these parents involved? Yes, they can be. The most important way that any parent can be involved in their school is to make sure that their students come prepared each day to learn.

Parent involvement is more than spending time at school. Parent involvement is an attitude and a lifestyle that inspires learning. Research suggests that parents are the primary influence on any child's motivation to learn. Here are a few things that you might consider while thinking about this important issue: 1) How much time do I spend at home talking and listening to my children about school? 2) Do I praise my student for his good work at school and his good behavior at home? 3) Am I helpful in developing my student's self-confidence and self-discipline?

It is beneficial to the educational process of each child to set aside time and ask questions about homework, school lessons, and student interests regularly.

Thank you for your partnership in your child's education.

Reed Hodson, Principal



17) All the wonderful parents who support our school. Thank you!

Melissa Adams
PTA President
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Message from the PTA President

Things the PTA Loves

- 1) Book Fair shoppers, whether you're a book shopper or more of an animal eraser shopper. We love both.
- 2) No homework on the weekends.
- 3) Getting unexpected money.
- 4) Those who plan and carry out teacher lunches during conferences. Some of us have a hard enough time planning and carrying out our own kids' lunches.
- 5) When kids finally go to sleep at night.
- 6) Free samples at Costco.
- 7) Those people who plan and carry out the Spelling Bee. They are amazing!
- 8) Popcorn. Who doesn't love popcorn?
- 9) Writing articles for the newsletter. And also being sarcastic.
- 10) Board meetings every first Wednesday at 10:00. They are the highlight of our month.
- 11) When people appreciate the things we do instead of complaining about the things we don't do.
- 12) Non-slippery roads.
- 13) Red roses on Valentine's Day. Even if you had to buy them for yourself.
- 14) When you don't have to guess if the dishwasher is clean or dirty.
- 15) Warm blankets, hot chocolate, and space heaters.
- 16) President's Day.



Note From the Lunchroom

The kitchen staff is no longer able to stamp your students' hands as a reminder that they need school lunch money. So it is up to the parent to keep track of their students' accounts. They can go online through the link from Highland Elementary or just go to this URL address <https://www.mypaymentsplus.com/>. You will need to set up an online account, if you haven't done so already, and you do need to have your student ID numbers to do that. You can get those numbers from the secretary or the kitchen manager. Thank you.





We are in full swing with the Battle of the Books program! We are excited to celebrate our students reading success with an ice cream party/mock battle next week. (If your child has allergies, please email me so we can make accommodations)

We have a few **t-shirts** remaining if you would like to purchase. There is an order form in the library.

Please encourage your students to continue reading and remember to have them memorize the author's last names. There are flashcards in the library for the students to use during library time. We also have lists in the library to take home. (check the school website too)

Battle Dates

-3rd/4th grades will be March 8th and 14th
-5th/6th grades will be March 9th and 15th

We need parents to help run the battles in March, please sign up to help.

<http://signup.com/go/TCntgP>

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Carrie Watkins (watkins.cm@gmail.com)



BOOK FAIR

Did you know that nearly 60% of the money you spend at the book fair goes right back to the teachers and library? If you buy a \$5 book, nearly \$3 goes toward buying a book for the classroom or library. In the fall, every teacher at our school was able to receive \$250 in free books, thanks to your support! That represents a lot of new books for our school! That's everything from picture books, classroom sets, small reading group sets, nonfiction, Newberrys, and new releases. It's the gift that keeps giving. Thank you! Now we get the chance to again buy books for home use AND books for the school at the same time.

Tuesday, February 7: 10 am - 2 pm

Wednesday, February 8: 10 am - 2 pm and 3:30 pm - 7:30 pm

Thursday, February 9: 10 am - 2 pm and 3:30 pm - 7:30 pm

We hope to see you there!



Donations Needed

Ms. Christensen's class is collecting donations for Primary Children's Hospital. Donations may be brought to the office between Jan. 30-Feb. 14.

We are collecting any NEW games, toys, books, art supplies, CD's, and baby/children's clothing.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Staff Birthdays

Feb. 17	Karen Fugal
Feb. 17	Mae Wykstra