



Highland School District

Back to School! 2022-2023

From the desk of the Superintendent...

Welcome to the beginning of another exciting and challenging school year! While we have not yet received exact information, updated DOH/YHD covid guidance is to be provided to districts statewide prior to the school year starting. The initial understanding is districts are to follow protocols from last spring. We do know that masking is optional as determined by parents/families. Once we receive the updated guidance, we will share the information on our website. The past 2 years have been extremely difficult, and we very much appreciate the patience, understanding and flexibility that our families and community have exhibited as we have muddled through all things covid.

We are in the process of planning for our capital levy projects made possible by the support of our community in the recent levy election. We will receive our year 1 funds (of a 6-year levy) in October. The initial priority per the Board of Directors and Facilities committee has been HVAC systems, instructional space, and roofing improvements. We will update the process of the projects as we move along.

There is no doubt we made numerous changes last year that impacted students, families, and staff. We made changes to the daily schedules, start/end times, and the instructional calendar. As a recap, our instructional calendar allows for 15 additional days of optional learning opportunities for our students in 3 separate weekly intersessions. The intersessions are student focused and designed specifically to meet the needs of ALL students who choose to attend. We are excited to provide this to our students for a second year. Our efforts to further support students have been recognized by OSPI as we have been designated as a "School of Innovation" and will receive another grant this school year to support our intersession planning and implementation. Last year we hosted over 20 districts, and ESD and university personnel from area colleges as well as UW, to observe our intersessions. During those visits, our staff and students represented Highland in exemplary fashion. We also presented to various statewide conventions last year and will present to the state WSSDA (Washington State School Directors Association) in November.

While we have made many changes, it is important to revisit the changes. As part of that process, in the previous newsletter I mentioned the goal setting session that will take place during two evenings in September, the 19th and 28th. If interested in participating in the goal setting sessions, please contact Julie Notman at the district office.

Again, please feel free to contact the district office if we can be of service. I am truly excited about the school year and look forward to working with the students and patrons of the Highland School District. There are many positive things happening in our schools and all of you are to be commended for your part in making Highland such a special place.

---Mark Anderson, Superintendent

Important Dates

- ◆ August 11 Fall Sports Parent/Student Athlete Meeting
- ◆ August 16 School Board Regular Meeting
- ◆ August 18 TIS Meet-n-Greet 4:30-5:30
- ◆ August 18 HJH & HHS Orientation 6 & 7 pm
- ◆ August 22 First Day of Class- 1st-12th grades
- ◆ August 25 First Day of Class-Kindergarten
- ◆ August 25-26 Transitional Kinder Orientations
- ◆ September 5 Labor Day-No School
- ◆ September 19 Community-School Goal Setting Mtg
- ◆ September 20 School Board Regular Board Meeting
- ◆ September 23 Early Release - HJH & HHS Only
- ◆ September 28 Community-School Goal Setting Mtg
- ◆ October 3-7 Fall Intersession
- ◆ October 21 Early Release - All grades
- ◆ October 24 Full day of classes for HJH & HHS only
- ◆ October 24-28 Conferences-watch for details
- ◆ November 11 Veterans Day- No School
- ◆ November 23 Early Release - All grades
- ◆ November 24 Thanksgiving - No School
- ◆ November 25 Native American Heritage Day - No School

Welcome back from the MWC Principal



Hello MWC Students & Families,

I hope that all of you were able to have a very relaxing and enjoyable summer and had the opportunity to spend some quality time together as a family. Here at Marcus Whitman Cowiche Elementary we are so excited to be welcoming everyone to the 2022-2023 school year! We are eager to get students back into the classroom for another wonderful year of learning.

All 1st grade through 3rd grade students will be joining us on August 22nd for the first day of school! All Kindergarten, Transitional Kindergarten, and Pre-School students and families will be scheduled to meet with their classroom teacher August 22nd through the 24th. A postcard will be going home in the mail communicating with you your designated conference time. The half-day orientation days for Kindergarten and Transitional Kindergarten students will be on Thursday, August 25th and Friday, August 26th from 8:00am to 11:30am. All Pre-School students will begin their first day of school on Monday, August 29, 2022.

Class rosters have been posted on the front windows of the building to inform you of your child's teacher. If you need to register your student for either Pre-School or Kindergarten please come and see us at the MWC office ASAP to get your student registered before school begins.

This year we are welcoming two new Transitional Kindergarten teachers **Karina Ponce** (a Highland Graduate) and **Teresita Vega**. We are so excited for them to be joining our Marcus Whitman Staff and have the opportunity to serve the students in our community. In addition, we have a few staff

changes this school year. **Yoanna Rivera** will be joining our Pre-school team. **Taya Eaton** will be returning to the Kindergarten classroom and **Dennis Richardson** will be teaching P.E at both MWC and TIS this school year.

We are currently planning our "Welcome Back Open House" to take place the last week of August, please be on the lookout for more information regarding this event once school starts. This will be an opportunity for everyone to meet their child's teacher and visit their classroom.

Throughout the school year our Marcus Whitman Parent Association and MWC staff will host family events at MWC. We will send home the Scotty News each month highlighting the events at MWC. This communication will also share any schedule changes or holidays happening each month. Please look for them in our Wednesday communication folders. If you do not receive one you can look at our school website or contact the office for a copy.

We are very excited to host our traditional Jog-a-thon fundraising event again this school year. Jog-a-thon will take place on Friday, September 30th, mark your calendars. More information regarding this event will be shared with families once school has started.

Thank you for taking the time to stay involved in your student's education. We are looking forward to seeing you soon for the start to another wonderful school year! Please feel free to stop in anytime, or contact me by calling 678-8900, or via email at awickenhagen@highland.wednet.edu.

---Andrea Wickenhagen, Principal

We remind you that ALL parents must use FinalForms to update your family and student information on an annual basis at the start of each school year. FinalForms saves data from season-to-season and year-to-year, so you do not need to re-enter the same information plus FinalForms also pre-populates information wherever possible for each of your students, saving you time. You may review your data at any time to verify it is current.

New families: Please go online at: <https://highland-wa.finalforms.com/> and follow the prompts to create your account, create or assign/register your students, and sign your forms. Current HSD families, if you haven't already, please update your information, i.e. new address, new phone numbers etc., and sign your forms for the 2022-2023 school year as soon as possible.

Note: If your student is NEW to the district (kindergarteners and transfers), please be sure to click the "New to District" checkbox when registering your student.

Thank you for your assistance in streamlining our paperwork processes at Highland School District.

FinalForms permite que completes y firmes formas para su estudiante de inscripción, regreso a clases/anual y participación atlética. FinalForms guarda datos de cada temporada y de año a año, así nunca tendrá que llenar la misma información! También, cuando sea posible, FinalForms rellenará la información previa para cada uno de su estudiante, lo que permitirá ahorrar tiempo.

Puede revisar sus datos en cualquier momento para verificar que estén actualizados. **Sera requerido firmar sus formas una vez al año y después de cualquier cambio.**

Le recordamos que TODOS los padres deben utilizar FinalForms. Favor de ir a la página web <https://highland-wa.finalforms.com/> y siga las instrucciones para crear su cuenta, crear o asignar a sus estudiantes y firmar sus formas o para las familias actuales de Highland para actualizar su información y firmar sus formas para el año escolar 2022-2023.

Nota: Si su estudiante es NUEVO al distrito (estudiantes de kinder y transferencias), asegúrese de hacer clic en la casilla de "Nuevo al Distrito" cuando registre su estudiante.

Gracias por su ayuda en la reconciliación de nuestro proceso de documentación en el Distrito Escolar de Highland.



Welcome back! The staff at Tieton Intermediate School (TIS) is looking forward to having all of our students return for the 2022-2023 school year! We hope that your summer break was restful.

As we get ready to come back, we are planning to hold a "Meet your Teacher/Orientation" opportunity on August 18th from 4:30 – 5:30. I will post class lists on that day and we will allow parents and their TIS student to enter through the front doors of the building to meet the teacher and drop off supplies prior to the first day of school.

We welcome our new 4th grade students along with those entering the 5th and 6th grades respectively. **Lori Love** will be teaching 5th grade this year and we also welcome in four new para-educators to our building, **Johana Garcia, Curtis Gomez, David Rose, and Rosa Valdez**. Like last year, we will start school at 8:15 and dismiss our students at 2:45. We are excited to for the new school year!

Our staff is tasked with challenging your son/daughter to think and grow daily. We will ensure that he/she will have a demanding, but supportive school environment. One way you can support us in meeting these expectations is to ensure that your son/daughter is at school all day, every day. Your child will find school difficult and will have a hard time meeting grade level expectations if he/she is not at school consistently.

For us all to have a successful year, we will need your help. The Tieton Intermediate School Parent Association is very important to our future success as we use this group for communication, after school activities, fundraising opportunities to support our PBIS program, and to help make school connections with our students outside of school hours. I encourage all of you that can be part of this organization to please join in to help us educate our children. Look for information on our first meeting sent home soon.

Please make sure to get into Final Forms and fill out those forms before school starts. If you have any questions or concerns, please call us at 678-8700 or email me directly at mrangel@highland.wednet.edu. Thank you!

¡Bienvenido! ¡El personal de Tieton Intermediate School (TIS) espera que todos nuestros estudiantes regresen para el año escolar 2022 y 2023! Esperamos que tus vacaciones de

verano hayan sido de descanso.

A medida que nos preparamos para regresar, estamos planeando celebrar una oportunidad de "Conozca a su maestro / orientación" el 18 de agosto de 4:30 a 5:30. Publicaré listas de clases ese día y permitiremos que los padres y nuestro estudiante de TIS ingresen por las puertas principales del edificio para reunirse con el maestro y dejar los suministros antes del primer día de clases. Damos la bienvenida a nuestros nuevos estudiantes de 4º grado junto con aquellos que ingresan a los grados 5º y 6º respectivamente. **Lori Love** enseñará 5º grado este año y también damos la bienvenida a cuatro nuevos paraeducadores a nuestro edificio, **Johana García, Curtis Gómez, David Rose y Rosa Valdez**. Al igual que el año pasado, comenzaremos la escuela a las 8:15 y despediremos a nuestros estudiantes a las 2:45. ¡Estamos emocionados por el nuevo año escolar!

Nuestro personal tiene la tarea de desafiar a su hijo / hija a pensar y crecer diariamente. Nos aseguraremos de que él / ella tenga un ambiente escolar exigente pero de apoyo. Una forma en que puede apoyarnos para cumplir con estas expectativas es asegurarse de que su hijo / hija esté en la escuela todo el día, todos los días. A su hijo le resultará difícil la escuela y tendrá dificultades para cumplir con las expectativas de nivel de grado si él / ella no está en la escuela de manera consistente.

Para que todos tengamos un año exitoso, necesitaremos su ayuda. La Asociación de Padres de la Escuela Intermedia de Tieton es muy importante para nuestro futuro éxito, ya que utilizamos este grupo para la comunicación, actividades después de la escuela, oportunidades de recaudación de fondos para apoyar nuestro programa PBIS y para ayudar a establecer conexiones escolares con nuestros estudiantes fuera del horario escolar. Les animo a todos los que pueden ser parte de esta organización a que por favor se unan para ayudarnos a educar a nuestros hijos. Busque información sobre nuestra primera reunión enviada a casa pronto.

Asegúrese de ingresar a los Formularios Finales y completar esos formularios antes de que comiencen las clases. Si tiene alguna pregunta o inquietud, llámenos al 678-8700 o envíeme un correo electrónico directamente a mrangel@highland.wednet.edu. ¡Gracias!

---**Manuel Rangel, Principal**
#EveryStudentEveryDay

REMINDER: There is an ONLINE WAY TO PAY! Log into www.highland.wednet.edu and click on "Online Payments" or go directly to: <http://Wa-highland.intouchrecepting.com>. Use the same login & password as your SKYWARD FAMILY ACCESS. All students in your family will be listed. Click on the student's name and follow the prompts to purchase items or review your history. Visa, MasterCard, and Discover cards as well as debit cards may be used.

Through InTouch you may purchase or pay for:

- School lunches
- Yearbook
- Band Rental
- Field Trips
- Fees and Fines



Welcome back from the HJH Principal



Greetings from Highland Junior High!

The Highland Junior High staff are eager to get started and back to work. We look forward to providing an excellent education for all students. We are happy to see the Class of 2027 move into the leadership role as 8th graders this year. Last year this group of students was a fun and engaging group. As the year progressed, they slowly matured and adapted to the expectations and realities of multiple classes, teachers, and transitions during the school day. I look forward to their leadership this year in our schoolhouse! And, we look forward to meeting the Class of 2028 this year! Our staff have made plans to promote educational success from the start of the school year for this group. We plan to start the year with high expectations for academics, behavior, and social emotional skills. It is going to be a great year at HJH!

We invite all HJH students and parents to our HJH Orientation night on Thursday, August 18 from 6:00-7:30pm. At this event, students and parents will be introduced to the principal, teachers, and our athletic director. We will start the evening in the HS gym with a quick introduction and highlights of student/parent expectations at HJH. Then students and parents will go to advisory classes for an overview of topics regarding schedules, PBIS Rewards, Final Forms, supply lists, and expectations. Students will receive their class schedule this evening. Laptops may be available to use but will not be allowed to go home until the first week of school. Hallway lockers will be assigned during the first week of school also.

At Highland Junior High, we are proud of the academic offering we provide to our students. Teachers have worked hard to identify essential standards that students must know and do to be successful

for the next grade level or course. Our goal is to provide class grades that accurately reflect student progress towards meeting these essential standards. These essential standards are a part of our tier 1 academic plan. Our tier 2 plan supports students who are not quite meeting these essential standards during a period we call Scottie Time. Finally, we have academic support classes that support students who have academic holes that need additional time.

Another important characteristic of Highland Junior High is our social emotional learning (SEL) offering. Students receive SEL lessons from the Second Step curriculum, which consists of more than 25 lessons to support student understanding and cognitive development. Our teachers and advisors provide support to students by establishing trusting and caring relationships, and our goal is that every student has at least one adult who they can go to when necessary.

It is imperative that students attend school every day. Our goal is for students to attend school 95% of the school year. We understand that there will be days that students must miss school. Achieving a 95% attendance rate means a student misses no more than 9 days in a school year—that is about one day per month. Please support your students in meeting our goal: On time, Every Period, Every Day! Parents must contact the office when a student is absent to excuse the absence. Absences that are not excused become unexcused, which can lead to further requirements and consequences.

I encourage you to reach out to myself, our counselor Mrs. Kok, office staff, or teachers with any questions, comments, or concerns you may have. We look forward to serving you and our community this year.

—Don Strother, Principal
dstrother@highland.wednet.edu
(509) 678-8806

College Credits Offered at HHS!

Students at Highland High School have the opportunity to earn dual-credit (college and high school) without having to leave campus through the College in High School Program (CITHS). Credits are offered through Yakima Valley College, Eastern Washington University, and Central Washington University. Also, students who attend YV-TECH part-time may earn college credit through YVC depending on the area of study. These credits are offered at a greatly reduced cost.

Many Highland students prefer our College in the High School program to the traditional Running Start program because it allows them to continue their participation in sports, clubs, and their high school experience. In addition, Running Start students have to pay for their books whereas CITHS students do not!

If you or your student is interested in learning more about dual-credit, please contact Kari Sterns, the HHS counselor or any of the college professors that work at HHS: Aimee Hostetler, Greg Wagner, or Vanessa Williams. Students in Stephani Kinney's business classes can earn YVC credit through Microsoft Certification.





Welcome to the 2022-2023 school year! The high school staff is anxious to resume the important work of teaching and student learning. Please know that our staff at Highland High School is committed to our mission of providing a quality education for all students. We expect this to be a great year!

Our daily bell schedule will be the same as last year. We will maintain our 9 AM start time and 3:30 PM end time, with classes beginning at 10 AM on Thursdays (Late Start). Research has shown that a later start time for secondary-aged students has a significant positive effect on student achievement. We will continue to collect data on its impact.

We are excited to welcome a few new staff members to our building this fall. **Shaina Mirza** is our new math teacher. **Serena Streich** is our new science teacher. **Kari Sterns** is our new high school counselor and **Kandi Vopat-Steiner** is our new SPED para educator. I know they are anxious to get to know the students and parents of HHS and will be a positive addition to our teaching and support staff. Please help us welcome them to our school community.

Our annual Orientation Night for the High School will be held on Thursday, August 18th. It will begin in the gym at 7:00 PM. It is very important to attend this meeting, as we will introduce new staff and share important information regarding attendance and dress code with parents and students. As in the past, students will have the opportunity to meet their advisor and teachers and receive their class schedule. Those unable to attend will receive their schedule on the first day of school. Student laptops will be given out on the first day of school as well.

High levels of attendance continue to be one of our main priorities this year. Remember that research shows that parent support and consistent student attendance are two of the most important factors in overall student academic success. Parental involvement in their child's education has one of the high-

est positive effects on student achievement, even more so than school resources and programs. Students that attend school regularly have stronger bonds to their school and have much higher graduation rates. Good attendance also creates a habit that can carry over into work later. Being out for even a day or two a month can hurt your child's academic performance. If a student has to miss school, please make sure to notify the office within 48 hours to verify that you excuse the absence. Unverified absences become unexcused and carry further consequences. Thank you for your help in this matter.

There will be a greater emphasis on dress code this year as well. While school dress code policies have not changed much, enforcement was loosened during the transition from online/hybrid learning to full-time in-person learning. Dress codes are established as a key component of the educational process. Its purpose is to reduce disruptions or distractions and to promote a healthy and safe learning environment. Hoods will not be allowed to be worn in the building as they present a safety issue. Clothing is considered a disruption to the educational process if it reveals cleavage or the back, reveals midriff, is see-through so that skin/or an undergarment is visible, or has overly large openings at the neck or arms. Please take note of dress code expectations when shopping for school clothes. We appreciate your support with this.

We consider it a privilege to work with the students at Highland. Please know that we want to see all of our students experience success and reach their educational potential. We strive to do this on a daily basis at Highland High School. Know that your feedback is important to us. You are welcome to contact me anytime to ask questions or give feedback by email (bjensen@highland.wednet.edu) or by phone at 678-8800. I look forward to another excellent school year of building relationships and helping all students enjoy school and be successful. Be proud to be a Highland Scottie!

—**Brandon Jensen, Principal**

Annual Career and Technical Education Nondiscrimination Notification

The Highland School District does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, color, national origin, disability, or age in its program or activities including career and technical education opportunities. The Highland School District offers classes in many career and technical education program areas, including agriculture, horticulture, metal/woods, plant and animal sciences, Microsoft Academy, marketing, leadership, yearbook, basic art, 3D art, ceramics, and bead/wire jewelry under its open admissions policy. For more information about CTE course offerings and admissions criteria, contact Brandon Jensen, Highland High School Principal and CTE Director, 17000 Summitview Rd., Cowiche, WA 98923; 509-678-8800. Lack of English language proficiency will not be a barrier to admission and participation in career and technical education programs. The following people have been designated to handle inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policies: Brandon Jensen, Highland High School Principal and Civil Rights Compliance Coordinator, 17000 Summitview Rd., Cowiche, WA 98923; 509-678-8800, bjensen@highland.wednet.edu

Welcome back from the Athletic Director



Another exciting year of Highland Scottie Athletics is set to begin. We are looking forward to the continued growth and improvement of our athletic programs in hopes of success both in the classroom and on the athletic fields and courts. This past year, our athletic successes at the state level included: the boys and girls soccer teams placing 3rd in state, Gwen Rydberg (4th) and Nevaeh Roman (7th) in Track & Field and Lucia Martinez winning the State 2B Tennis Singles title. We wish our recently graduated seniors the best of luck in their post high school aspirations and thank them for their contributions to HHS and the athletic department.

School is fast approaching and Fall sports start on Wednesday, August 17th with the Scottie football team beginning practice. Cross country, girls soccer, and volleyball begin practice for their seasons on Monday, August 22nd. Highland Junior High sports begin on August 29th and include cross country, football, boys soccer, and volleyball. **Please register for the 2022-2023 athletic year at: <https://highland-wa.finalforms.com> and follow the prompts to create/update your account, create/update your students and sign your forms.** All forms must be completed online and proof of insurance and sports physical need to be turned in to Mrs. Diaz, the athletic secretary, prior to the start of the first practice or one day prior to being eligible to participate.

The football team kicks off the varsity schedule on Friday, September 2nd when we host Wapato. All other HHS sports competitions begin the following week. Highland Junior High contests should begin the fourth week of September. You can access HHS schedules from your computer or mobile device by visiting www.goscottiesathletics.com, Junior High schedules should be added the second week of September. Ticket prices for all regular season events are going to increase to \$7 for adults and \$5 for seniors. With the ticket increase, family passes make a lot of sense to all home sporting events for the year at a cost of \$75 per family. Family passes can be purchased by contacting Mrs. Kramer in the HHS office. Please feel free to contact me with any questions you might have regarding Highland Scottie Athletics. I hope you take advantage of the opportunity to support our student-athletes at our athletic events and look forward to seeing you out there!

---Josh Borland, Athletic Director

From the Director of Special Education & Social Emotional Learning

Another summer is ending and with that comes new opportunities for social and academic growth. As we begin to get ready for school it's important to remember a few strategies to be ready for learning.

- **Routines help us to learn.** Start setting a bedtime and wake-up routine so your student's brain is ready to work hard learning new skills and remembering past information. Routines also help to create a feeling of safety and predictability, you learn to know what is happening next.
- **Positive Self-Talk.** This time of year can feel very uncertain or exciting, which can cause anxiety. It's an important skill to talk encouragingly to yourself and your student. Show your child how to do that, especially when you are doing something hard. Try it, "this is hard and I can do hard things." Adjust this as needed to fit your situation.
- **Manage your relationships.** Find different ways to spend time with people you enjoy being around and make you better. If you can't spend every minute with them, think about how they make days more enjoyable for you.

In the Highland School District, we believe that we *provide a quality education for all, by connecting with individuals to cultivate growth and possibilities.* It's important to notice that cultivating anything takes a lot of work and intention. Growth and possibilities come from making decisions that help us reach goals, complete assignments, and show up to school each day, just to name a few decisions that make us better. We believe that academics and social-emotional skills go hand in hand. The reminders listed above are just a drop in the bucket of ways that you can be the best Scottie learner. To find more ways to increase your skills, reach out to your student's teacher, building counselor, or another trusted adult.

Joyfully,

Courtney Sund, Director of Special Education and Social Emotional Learning, Section 504/ADA Coordinator

21st Century Info

Meal Application Reminder



Highland 21st Century Programs

The Highland 21st Century after school program for all schools will be taking any new as well as previously enrolled students for the upcoming school year. All students need to have completed forms returned to their appropriate school's office before starting the program. Programs will plan on starting a few weeks after the start of school.

The after-school program will run from dismissal time to 6 pm with snacks being served. The programs also offer homework support, literacy, and STEAM activities.

Before-school Breakfast Program will be starting up at all schools, please contact your child's building to get more information.

Site coordinator for MWC is Luann Anderson, for TIS it is Mike Kranz, and for HJH and HHS it is Fredy Marin.

If you have any questions, please call the main office of your child's school and leave a message or email landerson@highland.wednet.edu for MWC, mkrantz@highland.wednet.edu for TIS, and FMarin@highland.wednet.edu for HJH & HHS.

This school year, all students will again eat free of charge under guidance from the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) and in conjunction with the District's decision to obtain the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) status for the upcoming school years. However, the **Family Income Survey**, previously known as Free/Reduced Meal Application, is needed in order to calculate the percentage of students that would have received free or reduced-cost meals under the old system. The free and reduced percentages are used by the state to calculate the amount of Learning Assistance Program (LAP) funding that the district receives and for Highland's eligibility and funding for the federal government's E-Rate technology program. These funds are used to fund paraprofessionals at MWC, TIS and HJH to help students in both reading and math. Also, paid for with these funds are the additional reading and math support classes at HJH, and credit retrieval for juniors and seniors at the high school. LAP funding also provides additional reading support classes at the HJH/HHS, the PBIS reward system at all four buildings.

In order to sustain the funding level for LAP and E-Rate funding to support our students we need your help. **Family Income Surveys will be sent home with students**, by mail and through other communication means and should be returned to the District as soon as possible. All families regardless of income are requested to complete the income survey as it helps to ensure the maximum rating for district funding.

Thank you for taking the time to complete and return the form as soon as possible. If you have any questions, please contact Lizz Kramer at 678-8800.



School Wellness Policy

The board recognizes that childhood obesity has reached epidemic levels in Washington and throughout the country. Overweight children are at a higher risk for developing severe long-term health problems and overweight children are affected by discrimination, psychological stress, and low self-esteem. However, research indicates that obesity and subsequent disease are largely preventable through diet and regular physical activity.

Research also indicates that becoming physically active and maintaining a regular physical activity program significantly reduces the risk of obesity and some cancers, diabetes and other chronic diseases. The board also acknowledges these issues have multiple causational factors, many of which are outside of the school setting. To successfully address obesity, all the contributing factors will need to be analyzed and a program of individual change developed and adhered to. Highland School District has adopted Policy and Procedure 6700 Nutrition & Physical Fitness in an effort to address this health issue.

**All schools have
'Late Start' Thursdays
for Teacher Collaboration
Bus pick-up times and student start times
are one hour later
than the regular days.
Release time is the same.**

Child Find Can Help Students Find Success



Child Find Puede Ayudar a Estudiantes Encontrar El Exito

One of the most important responsibilities you have as a parent is to make sure that your child has what he/she needs. That goes beyond love, food and clothing. Approximately ten percent of all children have some special need that requires special attention. If you think your child (birth through 21) has difficulty seeing or hearing, has communication or diagnosed health problems, has difficulty learning or playing, help is as close as your Student Services Office at your local school district. Parents with children in private schools and/or parochial schools, or anyone knowing of a child who is highly mobile, homeless, migrant or living in temporary housing should contact their closest school district in which they reside for *Child Find* information.

Child Find is a process of locating children who will need special services in order to experience success in school. Schools and community agencies work together to provide these services. If you know a child that may need help, and you live in the Highland School District, please call Courtney Sund at 678-8770. *Child Find* is free to parents.

Una de las responsabilidades más importantes que tiene como padre es asegurarse de que su hijo tenga lo que necesita. Eso va más allá del amor, la comida y la ropa. Aproximadamente el diez por ciento de todos los niños tienen alguna necesidad especial que requiere atención especial. Si cree que su hijo (del nacimiento hasta los 21 años) tiene dificultades para ver o escuchar, tiene problemas de comunicación o problemas de salud diagnosticados, tiene dificultades para aprender o jugar, la ayuda está tan cerca como su Oficina de Servicios Estudiantiles en su distrito escolar local. Los padres con hijos en escuelas privadas y/o escuelas parroquiales, o cualquier persona que tenga conocimiento de un niño con alta movilidad, personas desamparadas, migrantes o que viven en una vivienda temporal deben comunicarse con el distrito escolar más cercano en el que residen para obtener información sobre *Child Find*.

Child Find es un proceso de localización de niños que necesitarán servicios especiales para tener éxito en la escuela. Las escuelas y las agencias comunitarias trabajan juntas para proveer estos servicios. Si conoce a un niño que pueda necesitar ayuda y vive en el Distrito Escolar de Highland, llame a Courtney Sund al 678-8770. *Child Find* es gratis para los padres.

AHERA Notice

As part of the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA) the EPA Federal Register stipulates under 40 CFR, Part 773.84, that school districts ensure that workers and building occupants, or their legal guardians, be informed each year about the existence of the district's Asbestos Management Plan which outlines inspections, response actions and post-response action activities, including periodic reinspection and regular surveillance activities. A copy of the Asbestos Management Plan is available for your inspection in our administrative offices during regular office hours by appointment. **Mark Williams** is our Certified Asbestos Worker and inquiries regarding the plan should be directed to him at 678-8630. The Highland School District is intent on complying with federal, state and local regulations in this area. We plan on taking whatever steps are necessary to ensure that your children and our employees have a healthy, safe environment in which to learn and work.

Parent Notification

As a provision of SB 5533 passed during the 2004 legislative session, parents are to be notified regarding any alleged sexual misconduct of a school employee which involves their son or daughter. The specific language in the law is the following:

“Sec. 3. of Chapter 28A.320 RCW : School districts must, at the first opportunity, but in all cases within forty-eight hours of receiving a report alleging sexual misconduct by a school employee, notify the parents of a student alleged to be the victim, target, or recipient of the misconduct. School districts shall provide parents with information regarding their rights under the Washington Public Disclosure Act, Chapter 42.56 RCW, to request the public records regarding school employee discipline related to this misconduct.”

Pursuant to Chapter 42.56 RCW, “Parents and other members of the public have the right to inspect and copy public records retained by the District, including records pertaining to employee discipline, unless the records are exempt from public disclosure under state law.”

Wellhead Protection for Local Wells

In accordance with Washington State Department of Health requirements, Highland School District has established a wellhead protection program. Businesses and family residences within the area surrounding the high school and elementary school have the potential to affect drinking water supply.

It is important that we all manage our businesses and properties in a way that will best prevent ground water contamination. We realize that most business and property owners are already careful to protect the environment. We hope that this message will result in an increase in precautions to ensure activities will not impact our drinking water quality.

Important News from the School Nurse and DOH - Please Read!

Parent-Are Your Kids Ready for School? Required Immunizations for School Year 2022-2023 Padres, ¿están sus hijos listos para la escuela? Vacunas requeridas para el ciclo escolar 2022-23

Parent/Guardian Instructions: To see which vaccines are required for school, find your child's grade in the first column. Look at the matching row across the page to find the amount of vaccines required for your child to enter school.

Instrucciones: Busque el grado de su hijo para ver cuáles son las vacunas obligatorias para asistir a la escuela. Observe la fila correspondiente en la página para averiguar la cantidad de vacunas requeridas para que su hijo pueda ingresar a la escuela.

	DTaP/Td/Tdap (Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis) (Difteria, Tétanos, Pertusis)	Hepatitis B	HiB (Haemophilus influenzae type B/ tipo b)	MMR (Measles, Mumps, Rubella) (Sarampión, Paperas, Rubeola)	PCV (Pneumococcal Conjugate) (neumocócica conjugada)	Polio	Varicella/ Varicela (Chickenpox)
Preschool/ Prescolar Age 19 months to <4 years on 9/1/22 Desde los 19 meses hasta antes de cumplir los 4 años el 01/09/2022	4 doses/dosis DTap	3 doses/ dosis	3 or/o 4 doses/dosis (Depending on vaccine) (según la vacuna)	1 doce/dosis	4 doses/ dosis*	3 doses/ dosis	1 doce/dosis**
Preschool/ Transitional Kindergarten Age ≥4 yrs on 9/1/22 Prescolar/jardín de infantes de transición Con 4 años o mayor el 01/09/22	5 doses/dosis DTaP*	3 doses/ dosis	3 or/o 4 doses/dosis (Depending on vaccine) (Not required at age ≥5 yrs) (según la vacuna)(No obligatoria a partir de los 5 años)	2 doses/dosis	4 doses/dosis (Not required at age ≥5 yrs) (No obligatoria a partir de los 5 años)	4 doses/ dosis	2 doses/dosis**
Kinder through 6th Grade Kinder al 6° Grado	5 doses/dosis DTaP	3 doses/ dosis	Not Required No obligatoria	2 doses/dosis	Not Required No obligatoria	4 doses/ dosis*	2 doses/dosis**
7th through 9th De 7.º grado a 9.º	5 doses/dosis DTaP* Plus Tdap at age ≥10 yrs Más Tdap a partir de los 10 años	3 doses/ dosis	Not Required No obligatoria	2 doses/dosis	Not Required No obligatoria	4 doses/ dosis*	2 doses/dosis**
10th Grade through 12th Grade 10.º al 12.º grado	5 doses/dosis DTaP* Plus Tdap at age ≥7 yrs Más Tdap a partir de los 7 años	3 doses/ dosis	Not Required No obligatoria	2 doses/dosis	Not Required No obligatoria	4 doses/ dosis*	2 doses/dosis**

*Vaccine Doses may be acceptable with fewer than listed depending on when they were given.

** Health care provider verification of history of chickenpox disease is also acceptable. Students must get vaccine doses at the correct timeframes to be in compliance with school requirements. Talk to your health care provider or school staff if you have questions. Find information on other important vaccines that are not required for school: www.immunize.org/cdc/schedules/

*Pueden aceptarse menos dosis de las vacunas indicadas según la fecha en que se administraron.

**También es posible que el proveedor de atención médica verifique los antecedentes de varicela. Los estudiantes deben recibir las dosis de vacunas en los plazos correctos para cumplir con los requisitos de la escuela. Hable con su proveedor de atención médica o con el personal de la escuela si tiene alguna pregunta. Puede encontrar información sobre otras vacunas importantes que no son obligatorias para la asistencia a la escuela en: www.immunize.org/cdc/schedules/



Highland Community Coalition

On behalf the Highland Community Coalition, I would like to welcome everyone back to a new school year!

The past couple of years have definitely been challenging. Our students might be feeling overwhelmed or stressed. We have services that might be of help to your student. Contact our Student Assistant Professional and learn about the services she could provide to you and your family.

Olga Bautista- 509-678-8795

Our mission:

Creating a safe community in Highland by making it a healthy, drug and alcohol-free community for youth through education, prevention and community support.

Curriculum Programs:



Second Step: Middle school is a time of change. Second Step helps you teach powerful skills and competencies—like handling strong emotions, setting and meeting goals, making good decisions, and forging positive relationships—while building the safe, supported learning environment middle schoolers need to succeed. (This program will be provided to all 7th and 8th grade students.)

SPORT Wellness Program



A health promotion program that highlights the positive image benefits of an active lifestyle to reduce the use of alcohol, tobacco and drug use by high school students in addition to improving their overall physical health.

Current Community Projects

Highland Community Coalition is bringing Strengthening Families to the community. This is for parents and youth who are 10-14 years of age. This session is being delivered in Spanish. We are hoping that this service will be offered in person this year. We will keep everyone informed as soon as we have dates and times.

For more information, please contact Danielle Watkins at 509-571-0233 or Danielle.watkins@esd105.org

[Highlandcoalition2019](#)

[Highland Community Coalition](#)

[Highland Community Coalition@HighlandCommuni](#)



Coalición Comunitaria de Highland

En nombre de la Coalición Comunitaria de Highland ¡me gustaría darles la bienvenida a todos a un nuevo año escolar!

Estos dos años pasados han sido definitivamente difícil. Nuestros estudiantes pueden sentirse frustrados o estresados. Tenemos servicios que podrían ayudar a sus estudiantes. Comuníquese con nuestro profesional Asistente Estudiantil y conozca los servicios que podría brindarle a usted y a su familia.

Olga Bautista- 509-678-8795

Nuestra misión:

Crear una comunidad segura en Highland al convertirla en una comunidad saludable, libre de drogas y alcohol para los jóvenes a través de la educación, la prevención y el apoyo comunitario.

Programas curriculares:



Second Step (segundo paso): La escuela media es un momento de cambio. Segundo paso le ayuda a enseñar habilidades y competencias poderosas, como manejar emociones fuertes, establecer y cumplir metas, tomar buenas decisiones y forjar relaciones positivas, mientras construye el entorno de aprendizaje seguro y apoyado que los estudiantes de medio instituto necesitan Tener éxito. (Este programa se le ofrecerá a todos los de 7^o y 8^o grado.)

SPORT Wellness Program (Programa de bienestar SPORT)



Un programa de promoción de la salud que educa las ventajas de la imagen positivas de un estilo de vida activo para reducir el uso de alcohol, tabaco y consumo de drogas por estudiantes de la escuela secundaria además del mejoramiento de su estado físico total.

Programas dirigidos a la comunidad:

La coalición comunitaria de Highland le trae Familias Fuertes a la comunidad. Este programa es para padres y jóvenes de 10 -14 años de edad. Esta sesión será en español. Esperamos que este servicio se ofrezca de forma presencial este año. Mantendremos a todos informados tan pronto como tengamos fechas y horas.

Para más información, favor de llamar Danielle Watkins a 509-571-0233 o lmaceda@highland.wednet.edu

School Bus Schedule Information

School bus route information can be found on our website at: www.highland.wednet.edu/aboutus/transportation or <https://www.highland.wednet.edu/domain/54>



Please note that bus stop times are approximate. Routes will be updated during the first two-four weeks of school as addresses for Kindergartners, Transitional Kindergartners, Preschoolers and new students are added in. We appreciate your patience during this time.

Students should be at their pickup point about 10 minutes before the time listed in the schedule. The bus may arrive from 10 minutes before the listed time to 10 minutes after.

Call Mark Williams at the Transportation Office 509-678-8645 or District Office 678-8631 if you have questions.

HHS Student Megan Jacobson wins Unleashed Awards



Maria, holding Best Story of the Year certificate, standing next to David Goehner, Unleashed program coordinator.



Maria, holding her certificates for 2021-22 Illustrator of the Year, and Best Illustration of the Year.

Several students from area high schools were recognized for their individual creative outputs in writing, photography, and illustration during the presentation of the annual Unleashed Awards on July 21. The 2022 awards honored the best work produced during the past year in the Yakima Herald-Republic's popular teen journalism section, which appears in the newspaper each Sunday.

The 2021-22 edition of the Unleashed program involved high school students from Davis, Eisenhower, Highland, Naches Valley, Riverside Christian, Selah, Sunnyside, and West Valley, through a partnership with the newspaper that also involves Educational Service District 105. The year-end awards were presented by program coordinator David Goehner during a special celebration meeting with this past year's Unleashed students. From July of 2021 through June of 2022, the students in Unleashed collectively produced 199 articles that were published in the Sunday pages of the Yakima Herald-Republic, as well as 84 photographs and 12 illustrations. An additional five articles and 49 student-generated photographs appeared as online-only pieces.

Applications for the 2022-23 Unleashed team are being accepted through the end of August at the Yakima Herald-Republic's Unleashed web page.

Highland High School's Maria Jacobson, an incoming senior and a two-year member of Unleashed, received three of the top awards for 2022. She won the award for Best Story of the Year for her feature titled "Life with my brother, John" (published April 24, 2022) about being a sister of a sibling with Down Syndrome. And, for the second consecutive year, Maria was named as both Unleashed's Illustrator of the Year and was the recipient of the Year's Best Illustration award, this year for her cartoon titled "Groundhog Day: COVID Edition" (published Jan. 23, 2022). Additionally, Maria earned the award for Best Business Story for her feature titled "Breathing new life into Tieton" about the entrepreneurship activities of Ed Marquand (published Aug. 21, 2021).

Congratulations Maria!



Maria's winning illustration

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Family Involvement Policy 4129

It is the policy of the Highland Board of Directors to encourage and support family involvement in education at home, in our schools and communities, and in school governance. The board recognizes the diversity of family structures, circumstances, and cultural backgrounds and respects families as important decision makers for their children's education. The Board is committed to the creation and implementation of culturally inclusive and effective school-family partnerships throughout the school district and in each school, and believes these partnerships to be critical to the success of every student. The district's family involvement efforts will be comprehensive and coordinated.

The board recognizes that family involvement in education has a positive effect on student achievement and is an important strategy in reducing achievement gaps. The intent of this policy is to create and maintain a district-wide climate conducive to the involvement of families and to develop and sustain partnerships that support student learning and positive child and youth development in all schools.

The board is committed to professional development opportunities for staff and leadership to enhance understanding of effective family involvement strategies. The board also recognizes the importance of administrative leadership in setting expectations and creating a climate conducive to school-family partnerships.

In support of the implementation of this policy, a copy will be distributed to all schools, school staff, families, teachers and community members. Further, the district will provide support and guidance, to parents and teachers as they plan and implement effective family involvement efforts.

The Highland Board of Directors support the development, implementation and regular evaluation of family involvement efforts that includes parents and family members at all grade levels in a variety of roles. The district will use the results of the evaluation to enhance school-family partnerships within the district.

The superintendent will develop procedures to implement this policy.

Directory Information

State Law and Highland School District policy allow for the release of student "directory information" such as student names published in activity and athletic programs and brochures (which may include height, weight, age, class and program experience) student names and activities as published in the school yearbook and newsletters, and student names as published in honor rolls and commencement programs (which may include grade point information).

Parent permission is not required for release of "directory information". **However, if you do not want the school to release this information without your specific consent, please submit that request in writing to your child's school office within 10 days of the start of school.**

State Requires School Attendance

By state statute we are required to inform you that, in the State of Washington, all parents of any child at least 8 years of age and under 18 years of age shall cause such child to attend the public schools of the district in which the child resides. Exceptions are:

- Children released by the resident district to attend another public or approved private school;
- Children receiving home-based instruction;
- Children who have been excused from attending school by the school district superintendent because they are physically or mentally unable to attend school.

"Choice" Information Available

The Choice legislation states the following: "Each school district board of directors annually shall inform parents of the availability of the district's intra-district and inter-district enrollment options and parental involvement opportunities. Information on intra-district enrollment options and inter-district acceptance policies shall be provided to nonresidents on request." Please contact the Highland School District Office at 678-8630 for further information.



Student Pictures and Videos in Schools.....

Highland School District likes to celebrate student successes and activities by including pictures of students in publications, broadcasts, social media, and on the district web page. **If you do not want your child's picture taken, please submit that request in writing to your school principal or the District Office.**

Tobacco, Substance Abuse and Dangerous Weapons Policies

On August 1, 1997, having been passed by the legislature, a state law (RCW 28A.210.310) went into effect banning the use of all tobacco products on public school property including buildings, grounds and vehicles.

Also, District Policy/Procedure 2121 and state laws prohibit the sale, possession or use of any alcoholic beverages, illegal substances or substances purported to be drugs on school grounds or in a reasonable proximity thereto, or at school-sponsored events. In addition persons under the influence of alcohol, illegal substances or substances purported to be drugs shall not be permitted on school grounds or at school-sponsored events.

Also, it is a violation of District Policy 4210 and state law (RCW 9.41.280) for any person to carry a firearm or dangerous weapon on school premises, school-provided transportation or areas of other facilities being used exclusively for school activities.

These bans apply to all students enrolled in the district's schools; all persons employed by the district; and all other persons during the time they are in/on school district property. School officials shall notify the student's parents or guardians and the appropriate law enforcement agency of known or suspected violations of this policy. Students who violate this policy shall be subject to discipline, including a one-year expulsion for a violation involving a firearm. However, the superintendent may modify the one-year expulsion on a case-by-case basis. We thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

NOTE: Any additional required notices will be published in a later Newsletter.

Parents may request teacher and para qualifications

In compliance with the requirements of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) the Highland School District would like to inform you that you may request information about the professional qualifications of your student's teacher(s) or instructional paraprofessional(s).

A. The following information may be requested for teacher(s):

1. Whether the teacher has met Washington teacher certification requirements for the grade level and subject areas in which the teacher provides instruction.
2. Whether the teacher is teaching under an emergency or other provisional status through which Washington qualifications or certification criteria have been waived.
3. The college major and any graduate certification or degree held by the teacher.
4. Whether the student is provided services by paraprofessionals, and if so, their qualifications.

B. The following information may be requested for instructional paraprofessional(s):

Paraprofessionals must work under the supervision of a certified teacher. In schools that operate a schoolwide program, all paraprofessionals must meet professional qualifications. In a Targeted Assistance program, any paraprofessional who is the direct supervision of a certificated teacher must meet the professional qualifications.

Paraeducators can provide a copy of their high school diploma — transcripts are not necessary. Schools that operate a Title I, Part A program must have a high school diploma or GED and completed the following:

1. Completed at least two years of study at an institution of higher education; or
2. Obtained an associate's or higher degree; or
3. Pass the ETS ParaPro Assessment. The assessment measures skills, and content knowledge related to reading, writing and math;
4. Completed previously the apprenticeship requirements and must present a journey card or certificate. The portfolio and apprenticeships are no longer offered for enrollment; however, the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) will continue to honor this pathway.

If you wish to request information concerning your child's teacher's and instructional paraprofessional's qualification, please contact the Highland School District Office at 678-8630 or your child's building principal.

"The secret of getting ahead is getting started. The secret of getting started is breaking your complex overwhelming tasks into small manageable tasks, and then starting on the first one."

Mark Twain

Los padres pueden solicitar calificaciones de maestros y asistentes

En cumplimiento con los requisitos de la Ley Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), el Distrito Escolar de Highland desea informarle que puede solicitar información sobre las calificaciones profesionales de los maestros o asistentes de maestro de instrucción de su estudiante.

A. Se puede solicitar la siguiente información para el(los) maestro(s):

1. Si el maestro ha cumplido con los requisitos de certificación de maestros de Washington para el nivel de grado y las materias en las que el maestro brinda instrucción.
2. Si el maestro está enseñando bajo una emergencia u otro estado provisional a través del cual se han renunciado a las calificaciones o criterios de certificación de Washington.
3. La especialización universitaria y cualquier certificación de posgrado o título que posea el maestro.
4. Si el estudiante recibe servicios de asistentes de maestros y, de ser así, sus calificaciones.

B. Se puede solicitar la siguiente información para el(los) asistente(s) de maestro(s):

Los asistentes de maestros deben trabajar bajo la supervisión de un maestro certificado. En las escuelas que operan un programa para toda la escuela, todos los asistentes de maestros deben cumplir con las calificaciones profesionales. En un programa de Asistencia Dirigida, cualquier asistente de maestro que sea la supervisión directa de un maestro certificado debe cumplir con las calificaciones profesionales.

Los asistentes de maestro pueden proporcionar una copia de su diploma de escuela secundaria; las transcripciones no son necesarias. Las escuelas que operan un programa Título I, Parte A deben tener un diploma de escuela secundaria o GED y completar lo siguiente:

1. Completado al menos dos años de estudio en una institución de educación superior; o
2. Obtuvo un título de asociado o superior; o
3. Aprobar la evaluación ETS ParaPro. La evaluación mide las habilidades y el conocimiento del contenido relacionado con la lectura, la escritura y las matemáticas;
4. Completado previamente los requisitos de aprendizaje y debe presentar una tarjeta de viaje o certificado. El portafolio y los aprendizajes ya no se ofrecen para la inscripción; sin embargo, la Oficina del Superintendente de Instrucción Pública (OSPI) continuará honrando este camino.

Si desea solicitar información sobre la calificación del maestro y del asistente de maestro de su hijo, comuníquese con la Oficina del Distrito Escolar de Highland al 678-8630 o con el director de la escuela de su hijo.

NOTE: This page contains a mandatory notice that we are required to publish each year. Please take the time to read it and call your school (HHS & HJH 678-8800, TIS 678-8700, MWC 678-8900) or the District Office (678-8630) if you have any questions.

NONDISCRIMINATION AND SEXUAL HARASSMENT

DISCRIMINATION

Highland School District does not discriminate in any programs or activities on the basis of sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, veteran or military status, sexual orientation, gender expression, gender identity, disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following employee(s) has been designated to handle questions and complaints of alleged discrimination:

Title IX Officer and Compliance Coordinator: Brandon Jensen, Highland Senior High School Principal, 17000 Summitview Rd, Cowiche, WA 98923, 509-678-8800, bjensen@highland.wednet.edu

Section 504/ADA Coordinator: Courtney Sund, Director of Social Emotional Learning and Inclusionary Practices, 17000 Summitview Rd, Cowiche, WA 98923, 509-678-8859, csund@highland.wednet.edu

Harassment, Intimidation, Bullying (HIB) Coordinator: Don Strother, Highland Jr. High Principal, 17000 Summitview Rd, Cowiche, WA 98923, 509-678-8800, dstrother@highland.wednet.edu

You can report discrimination and discriminatory harassment to any school staff member or to the district's Civil Rights Coordinator, listed above. You also have the right to file a complaint (see below). For a copy of your district's nondiscrimination policy and procedure (Policy # 3210) contact your school or district office or view it online here: <http://www.highland.wednet.edu/common/pages/DisplayFile.aspx?itemId=5138773>

SEXUAL HARASSMENT

Students and staff are protected against sexual harassment by anyone in any school program or activity, including on the school campus, on the school bus, or off-campus during a school-sponsored activity.

Sexual harassment is unwelcome behavior or communication that is sexual in nature when:

- A student or employee is led to believe that he or she must submit to unwelcome sexual conduct or communications in order to gain something in return, such as a grade, a promotion, a place on a sports team, or any educational or employment decision, or
- The conduct substantially interferes with a student's educational performance, or creates an intimidating or hostile educational or employment environment.

Examples of Sexual Harassment:

- Pressuring a person for sexual favors
- Unwelcome touching of a sexual nature
- Writing graffiti of a sexual nature
- Distributing sexually explicit texts, e-mails, or pictures
- Making sexual jokes, rumors, or suggestive remarks
- Physical violence, including rape and sexual assault

You can report sexual harassment to any school staff member or to the district's Title IX Officer, who is listed above. You also have the right to file a complaint (see below). For a copy of your district's sexual harassment policy and procedure, contact your school or district office, or view it online here: Policy 3205 Sexual Harassment of Students Prohibited <http://www.highland.wednet.edu/common/pages/DisplayFile.aspx?itemId=638600> and Policy #5011 Sexual Harassment of District Staff Prohibited <http://www.highland.wednet.edu/common/pages/DisplayFile.aspx?itemId=14433688>

COMPLAINT OPTIONS: DISCRIMINATION AND SEXUAL HARASSMENT

If you believe that you or your child have experienced unlawful discrimination, discriminatory harassment, or sexual harassment at school, you have the right to file a complaint.

Before filing a complaint, you can discuss your concerns with your child's principal or with the school district's Section 504 Coordinator, Title IX Officer, or Civil Rights Coordinator, who are listed above. This is often the fastest way to resolve your concerns.

Complaint to the School District

Step 1. Write Out Your Complaint

In most cases, complaints must be filed within one year from the date of the incident or conduct that is the subject of the complaint. A complaint must be in writing. Be sure to describe the conduct or incident, explain why you believe discrimination, discriminatory harassment, or sexual harassment has taken place, and describe what actions you believe the district should take to resolve the problem. Send your written complaint—by mail, fax, email, or hand delivery—to the district superintendent or civil rights compliance coordinator.

Step 2: School District Investigates Your Complaint

Once the district receives your written complaint, the coordinator will give you a copy of the complaint procedure and make sure a prompt and thorough investigation takes place. The superintendent or designee will respond to you in writing within 30 calendar days—unless you agree on a different time period. If your complaint involves exceptional circumstances that demand a lengthier investigation, the district will notify you in writing to explain why staff need a time extension and the new date for their written response.

Step 3: School District Responds to Your Complaint

In its written response, the district will include a summary of the results of the investigation, a determination of whether or not the district

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failed to comply with civil rights laws, notification that you can appeal this determination, and any measures necessary to bring the district into compliance with civil rights laws. Corrective measures will be put into effect within 30 calendar days after this written response—unless you agree to a different time period.

Appeal to the School District

If you disagree with the school district’s decision, you may appeal to the school district’s board of directors. You must file a notice of appeal in writing to the secretary of the school board within 10 calendar days after you received the school district’s response to your complaint. The school board will schedule a hearing within 20 calendar days after they received your appeal, unless you agree on a different timeline. The school board will send you a written decision within 30 calendar days after the district received your notice of appeal. The school board’s decision will include information about how to file a complaint with the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI).

Complaint to OSPI

If you do not agree with the school district’s appeal decision, state law provides the option to file a formal complaint with the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI). This is a separate complaint process that can take place if one of these two conditions has occurred: (1) you have completed the district’s complaint and appeal process, or (2) the district has not followed the complaint and appeal process correctly.

You have 20 calendar days to file a complaint to OSPI from the day you received the decision on your appeal. You can send your written complaint to the Equity and Civil Rights Office at OSPI:

Email: Equity@k12.wa.us | **Fax:** 360-664-2967

Mail or hand deliver: PO Box 47200, 600 Washington St. S.E., Olympia, WA 98504-7200

For more information, visit our [website](#), or contact OSPI’s Equity and Civil Rights Office at 360-725-6162/TTY: 360-664-3631 or by e-mail at equity@k12.wa.us.

Other Discrimination Complaint Options

Office for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education

206-607-1600 | TDD: 1-800-877-8339 | OCR.Seattle@ed.gov | [OCR Website](#)

Washington State Human Rights Commission

1-800-233-3247 | TTY: 1-800-300-7525 | [Human Rights Commission Website](#)

Notice to our Spanish speaking families: The information about nondiscrimination, sexual harassment and the complaint procedure is available in Spanish upon request at any school office and the Highland School District office. You may reach the district office at 509-678-8630.

Highland District’s Highly Capable Programs

Washington State requires that all school districts must provide a continuum of services from Kindergarten through 12th grade to those students assessed to be “highly capable.” “Highly capable students” perform or show potential for performing at significantly advanced academic levels when compared with others of their age, experiences, or environments. Such students possess the following learning characteristics, among others:

- Capacity to learn with unusual depth of understanding, to retain that learning, and be able to transfer that learning to new situations
- Capacity and willingness to engage with increasing levels of abstraction and complexity earlier than their peers
- Creative ability to make unusual connections between ideas and concepts
- Ability to learn quickly in their area(s) of intellectual strength
- Capacity for intense concentration and/or focus.

To receive services under this program, students are nominated by teachers, staff, parents, students or community members. Nominated students are screened using various criteria including teacher recommendations, Level 4 assessments on previous state assessments (when available), grade level team data, and input from counselors or the principal. Parents must provide written permission before a student is tested for program participation. Additional assessment data may be drawn from Dibbels, Aimes Web, Star, CogAT, Wechsler Intelligence Scale for Children, Renzulli, PSAT, SAT, ACT, or Accuplacer tests. The final selection will be made by a multi-disciplinary team (administrator, psychologist, teacher) reviewing blind (no name) files. Selected students will demonstrate that they are among the district’s most highly capable and evidence need for such program offerings.

If you are interested in having your child considered for the Highly Capable Program for this school year, please inform your child’s teacher or principal in writing prior to **October 15, 2022**.

Title I Parental Involvement Policy 4130

The board recognizes that parent and family engagement helps students participating in Title I programs achieve academic standards. To promote parent and family engagement, the board adopts the following policy, which describes how the district will involve parents and family members of Title I students in developing and implementing the district's Title I programs.

District-Wide Parent and Family Engagement

The district will do the following to promote parent and family engagement:

- A. The district will involve parents and family members in jointly developing the district's Title I plan. The Board recognizes the diversity of family structures, circumstances, and cultural backgrounds and respects families as important decision makers for their children's education, and is committed to the creation and implementation of culturally inclusive, effective and efficient school-family partnership throughout the District that are critical to the success of every student. In the fall of each school year schools will solicit parent and guardian feedback through surveys or other methods to involve parents.
- B. The district will provide the coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist and build the capacity of all participating schools within the district in the planning and implementing of effective parent and family involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance.
- C. The district will conduct, with the meaningful involvement of parents and family members, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this policy in improving the academic quality of all Title I schools. At that meeting, the following will be identified:
 1. Barriers to greater participation by parents in Title I activities;
 2. The needs of parents and family members to assist with the learning of their children, including engaging with school personnel and teachers; and
 3. Strategies to support successful school and family interactions.

The district will use the findings from the annual evaluation to design evidence-based strategies for more effective parental involvement and to revise this policy if necessary.

The district will facilitate removing barriers to parental involvement by doing the following: *Parent meetings are to be held at a time and location convenient to parents. The district will take reasonable steps to provide Interpreters at all major parent engagement functions. The district will provide written translation of vital documents in the parent's primary language. The district will take reasonable steps to include parents from all sectors (programs) in parent committees. Title I funds will be used to facilitate parent attendance.*

- D. The district will involve parents of Title I student in decisions about how the Title I funds reserved for parent and family engagement are spent. The district must use Title I funds reserved for parent and family engagement for at least one of the reasons specified in 20 U.S.C. § 6318(a)(3)(D).
- E. The district and each of the schools within the district providing Title I services will do the following to support a partnership among schools, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement:
 1. Provide assistance to parents of Title I students, as appropriate, in understanding the following topics:
 - a. Washington's challenging academic standards;
 - b. State and local academic assessments, including alternate assessments;
 - c. The requirements of Title I;
 - d. How to monitor their child's progress; and
 - e. How to work with educators to improve the achievement of their children
 2. Provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children's academic achievement, such as literacy training and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parental involvement. The district will take reasonable steps to include regular, two-way, and meaningful communication with parents involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring; (A) that parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning; (B) that parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their students education at school; (C) that parents are full partners in their student's education and are included, as appropriate, in decision-making and on advisory committees to assist in the education of their student; (D) provide materials, training opportunities to help parents work with their child to improve their academic achievement. The district, with the assistance of school staff will intergrade resources and guidance related to the education of their child at home.
 3. Educate teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, and other school leaders, and other staff with the assistance of parents, in the value and utility of contributions of parents and how to do the following:
 - a. Reach out, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners;
 - b. Implement and coordinate parent programs; and
 - c. Build ties between parents and the school.

Title I Parental Involvement Policy 4130 continued...

4. Coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement strategies, to the extent feasible and appropriate, with similar strategies used under other programs, such as:
 - a. Head Start
 - b. Even Start;
 - c. Learning Assistance Program;
 - d. Special Education; and
 - e. State-operated preschool programs.
5. Ensure that information related to the school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities, is sent to the parents of participating children. The information will be provided in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand. The district will provide information to parents and guardians about schools and programs by:
 - a. Parent Meetings/Conferences
 - b. Regular Mail
 - c. School Messenger/Facebook/District or School Website
 - d. School Flyers/Bulletins
 - e. Newspaper
 - f. District Newsletter

School-Based Parent and Family Engagement Policies

Each school offering Title I services will have a separate parent and family engagement policy, which will be developed with parents and family members of Title I students. Parents and family members will receive notice of their school's parent and family engagement policy in an understandable and uniform formant and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand.

Each school-based policy will describe how each school will do the following:

- A. Convene an annual meeting at a convenient time, to which all parents of Title I students will be invited and encouraged to attend, to inform parents of their schools' participation under Title I, to explain the requirements of Title I, and to explain the rights that parents have under Title I;
- B. Offer a flexible number of meetings, such as meetings in the morning or evening;
- C. Involve parents, in an organized, ongoing, and timely way in the planning, reviewing, and improving of Title I programs; and
- D. Provide parents of Title I students the following:
 1. Timely information about Title I programs;
 2. A description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress, and the achievement levels of the challenging state academic standards; and
 3. If requested by parents, opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children, and respond to any suggestions as soon as practicably possible.

Each school-based policy will include a school-parent compact that outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve state standards. The compact must do the following:

- A. Describe the school's responsibility to provide high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment that enables Title I students to meet Washington's challenging academic standards and describe the ways in which each parent will be responsible for supporting their children's learning, volunteering in their child's classroom, and participating, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children, including the positive use of extracurricular time; and
- B. Address the importance of communication between teachers and parents on an ongoing basis through the following:
 1. Annual parent-teacher conferences in elementary schools during which the compact will be discussed as the compact relates to the individual child's achievements;
 2. Frequent reports to parents on their children's progress;
 3. Reasonable access to staff, opportunities to volunteer and participate in their child's class, and observation of classroom activities; and
 4. Ensuring regular two-way, meaningful communication between family members and school staff and, to the extent practicable, in a language that family members can understand.

Important School District Information

Highland School District Office
17000 Summitview Road
PO Box 38 Cowiche 98923
509-678-8630 Fax: 509-678-4177
Office Hours: 7:30 a.m.- 4 p.m.
Superintendent: Mark Anderson
Director of Business and Operations: Francis Badu
Payroll/Human Resources Manager: Roberta Harris
Accounts Payable/Purchasing Officer Melissa Benicio
District Administrative Asst./HR Asst.: Julie Notman



Marcus Whitman Cowiche Elementary (K-3)

1181 Thompson Road, Cowiche 98923
(509) 678-8900 Fax: (509) 678-5494
Office Hours: 7:00 a.m.– 3:30 p.m.
Student Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
Early Release: 11:30 a.m.



Principal Andrea Wickenhagen
Head Secretary/Registrar: Lily Loza
Asst. Secretary/Meal Program: Heather Garent
School District Nurses: Scott Podruzny & Tricia Roy
School Counselor: Anna Poel

Tieton Intermediate School (4-6)

711 Franklin Rd
PO Box 6, Tieton 98947
(509) 678-8700 Fax: (509) 673-2771
Office Hours: 7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Student Hours: 8:15 a.m. - 2:45 p.m.
Early Release: 11:45 a.m.



Principal: Manuel Rangel
Head Secretary/Registrar: Carmen Rodriguez
Asst. Secretary/Meal Program: Melva St. George
School Counselor: Kendyl Preston

Highland Junior High-Senior High School (7-12)

17000 Summitview Rd
PO Box 38, Cowiche 98923
(509) 678-8800 Fax: (509) 678-4140
Office Hours: 7:30 a.m. - 4:15 p.m.
Student Hours: 9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Early Release: 12:25 p.m.



HHS Principal: Brandon Jensen
HJH Principal: Don Strother
Athletic Director/Dean of Students: Josh Borland
Registrar: Traci Connolly
Athletic/Attendance Secretary: Lourdes Diaz
ASB Secretary: Melva St. George
Meal Program Secretary: Lizz Kramer
HJH School Counselor: Rebecca Kok
HHS School Counselor: Kari Sterns

Student Services Office (P-12)

17000 Summitview Rd
PO Box 38, Cowiche 98923
(509) 678-8770 Fax: (509) 678-4006
Office Hours: 7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Director of Special Education/SEL: Courtney Sund
Director of Student Success: Mindy Schultz
School Psychologist: Tricia Parker
Secretary: Ana Garcia
Director of Federal Programs/Migrant/ELL: Kirsten Lenz
Data Entry Specialist: Angie Valdez
Migrant Recruiter } Elizabeth Thompson
McKinney Vento }



"Our greatest weakness lies in giving up. The most certain way to succeed is always to try just one more time."

– Thomas A. Edison

HIGHLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT

School Calendar



Approved by Highland School District Board of Directors on May 2, 2022

"A QUALITY EDUCATION FOR ALL STUDENTS"

Significant Dates:

July 4 4th of July Holiday

Aug. 16-18 PLD

Aug. 22 First Day of School

Aug. 25 First Day of Kindergarten

Sept. 5 Labor Day-No School

Oct. 3-7 Intersession

****Oct. 14 Early Release: HJH & HHS ONLY**

Oct. 21 Teacher Grading Day/Conf. Prep-Early Release All Schools

Oct. 24-28 Conference Week-Early Release each day MWC & TIS

****Oct. 24-25 HHS & HJH Full Days of Class**

Oct. 26-28 Conferences-Early Release-HJH & HHS

Oct. 27 NO LATE START

Nov. 11 Veterans Day-No School

Nov. 23 School Break-Early Release

Nov. 24 Thanksgiving Day-No School

Nov. 25 Native American Heritage Day-No School

****Dec. 8 Conferences for HHS and HJH only**

****Dec. 9 Early Release: HJH & HHS ONLY**

Dec. 16 Winter Break-Early Release

Dec. 19-30 Winter Break - No School

Jan. 2 New Year's Day-Observed No School

Jan. 16 MLK Jr Day-No School

Jan. 27 Teacher Grading Day/Semester End-Early Release

Feb. 13-17 Intersession

Feb. 20 President's Day - No School

Feb. 21 PLD-No School

Mar. 24 Teacher Grading Day/Conf. Prep-Early Release: All Schools

Mar. 27-31 Conference Week-Early Release each day

Mar. 30 NO LATE START

April 3-7 Spring Break - No School

May 22-26 Intersession

May 29 Memorial Day-No School

June 16 Grading Day-HHS Graduation-Early Release

June 19 Juneteenth/Emancipation Day - No School

June 23 Last Day of School-Early Release

July 2022

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
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August 2022

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September 2022

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November 2022

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December 2022

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January 2023

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February 2023

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March 2023

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April 2023

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May 2023

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
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June 2023

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
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18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

Legend

- = School Begins/Ends
- = Half-day, note: ** = Half-day for HJH/HHS only
- = Holidays - School Break/Closed
- = School Break-No School
- = Intersession Instruction
- = Conferences, Note: ** = Conferences for HJH/HHS only
- = Certificated Professional Learning Day
- [] = Early Release Days for Students

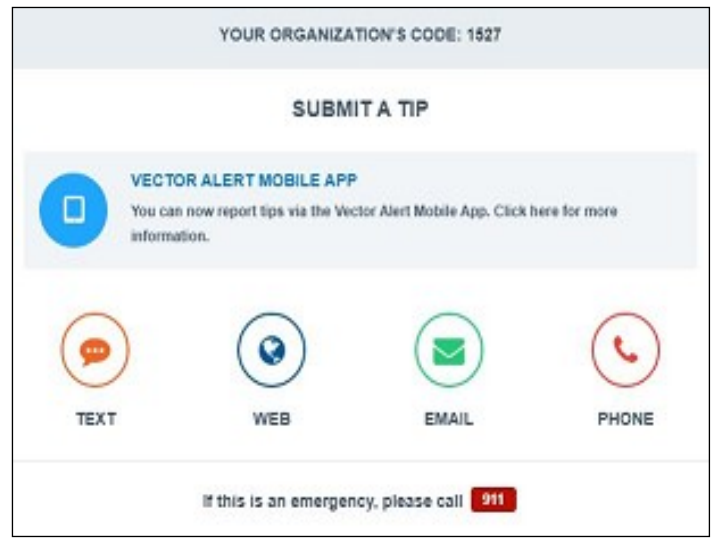
BOLD = Thursdays in **bold** are **not** Late Start Days



Safe Schools Alert



Anonymous Online Reporting: The Highland School District welcomes you to our incident reporting system. The top tab can be found on our district and school webpages. Vector Solutions is a means to report bullying, concerning behavior, or suspicious activity. To submit a tip, please click on the Safe Schools tab. You can submit via text, web browser, email, or phone. Thank you for helping keep our schools safe!



Non-Discrimination Statement

The Highland School District does not discriminate in any programs or activities on the basis of sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, veteran or military status, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following employee has been designated to handle questions and complaints of alleged discrimination: Title IX Coordinator and Compliance Coordinator (RCW 28A.640/28A.642) officer: Brandon Jensen, Highland Sr High School Principal, 17000 Summitview, Cowiche WA 98923, 509-678-8800, bjensen@highland.wednet.edu. Section 504/ADA coordinator: Courtney Sund, Director of Special Education & Social Emotional Learning, 17000 Summitview Rd, Cowiche, WA 98923, 509-678-8859, csund@highland.wednet.edu. Harassment, Intimidation, Bullying (HIB) Coordinator: Don Strother, Highland Jr High Principal, 17000 Summitview Rd, Cowiche, WA 98923, 509-678-8800, dstrother@highland.wednet.edu. The Highland School District will also take steps to assure that national origin persons who lack English language skills can participate in all education programs, services and activities. For information regarding translation services or transitional bilingual education programs, contact Ana Garcia, Student Services Secretary.

El Distrito Escolar de Highland no discrimina en sus programas o actividades por motivos de sexo, raza, credo, religión, color, origen nacional, edad, condición de veterano de guerra o grado militar, orientación sexual, expresión de género o identidad, discapacidad o uso de perro guía entrenado o animal de servicio, y ofrece igualdad de acceso a los Boy Scouts y a otros grupos de jóvenes especificados. El empleado mencionado a continuación ha sido designado para atender consultas y quejas de supuesta discriminación: Coordinador del Título IX y Coordinador de Cumplimiento de derechos civiles oficial (RCW 28A.640/28A.642): Brandon Jensen, Director de Highland Sr High School, 17000 Summitview, Cowiche WA 98923, 509-678-8800, bjensen@highland.wednet.edu. Coordinador de la sección 504/ADA: Courtney Sund, Directora de Educación Especial y SEL, 17000 Rd, Summitview Rd, Cowiche, WA 98923, 509-678-8900, csund@highland.wednet.edu. Coordinador de Acoso e Intimidación: Don Strother, Director de Highland Jr High, 17000 Summitview Rd, Cowiche, WA 98923, 509-678-8800, dstrother@highland.wednet.edu. El Distrito Escolar de Highland también tomará medidas para asegurar que las personas de origen nacional que carecen de conocimientos del idioma inglés pueden participar en todos los programas educativos, servicios y actividades. Para obtener información acerca de los servicios de traducción o programas de educación bilingüe de transición, comuníquese con Ana García, Secretaria de Servicios Estudiantil.

“A QUALITY EDUCATION FOR ALL STUDENTS”

Highland Board of Directors

Nikki Keller, Chair
David Barnes, Vice Chair
Lupita Flores, Director



Carlos López, Director
Cindy Reed, Director
Mark Anderson, Superintendent

HIGHLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT HOMEPAGE www.highland.wednet.edu

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