

HIGHLAND NEWSLETTER



Volume 1

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Editor: Logan Droegmiller

Superintendent's Corner

The school year is off and running, literally. Our athletic programs are in full force and approaching the middle of their seasons. As of today, we have student athletes competing in three varsity sports: Football, Volleyball and Cross Country. Approximately half our high school student population is involved in one of the three sports. The other half is involved in our FFA program. They are preparing for the upcoming fair at the end of September and other FFA activities that will be occurring throughout the school year. In addition to High School activities our Junior High also has three sports in progress. Junior High football, cross country and girls basketball are all moving quickly through their seasons as well. If you have not been to an activity yet, please remember to buy your school year activity passes that allow you as an adult to enter all activities on our campus for the entire 2017-2018 school year.

By Brad Baumberger

Principal's Corner

It is hard to believe that we are already half way through the first nine weeks of school. It sure is flying by fast. In fact, progress reports should be in your mailboxes by September 26. We would like to welcome a few new staff members to our district. You will see new faces in 6th grade, Mrs. Finnell, a new science teacher, Ms. Murt and in Kindergarten, Mrs. McMillion. We are excited to have these three new teachers on our staff.

There are a lot of activities that will be happening in the coming weeks. Besides volleyball, cross country and football, we also have homecoming right around the corner, October 2-6. You might see some kids dressed in funny attire around town, don't be alarmed they are just showing their school spirit. Fall also brings the fair; many of our students are showing their animals and projects at the fair, September 28-30 in Nezperce.

PACK

PACK (Proactive, Attitude, Character, and Kindness) is still a daily part of being a HUSKY. For those of

Principal Continued

you that are new to the district, students receive PACK tickets by being caught doing the attributes of the PACK (Proactive, Attitude, Character and Kindness). Students can redeem their PACK tickets for items such as erasers, suckers, lunch with the principal, a stuffed husky, movie night, t-shirt, sweatshirt and extra time for lunch. As a district we encourage all of our students, parents, and patrons to be part of the PACK and actively portray the attributes of the PACK. This month we are focusing on RESPECT. Respect for self, Respect for others, Respect for property, Respect for the law, and Respect for the environment.

Cell Phone Policy

Cell phones are not allowed to be used during class time. Students can use their phones between classes and at lunch. Students that choose not to use their cell phones wisely will face disciplinary action. The first offense for a student with a cell phone during class time will have the phone confiscated by the teacher and returned to the student at the end of the period, for the second offense the phone will be confiscated and turned into the office and the student can pick their phone up at the end of the school day. If there is a third offense, a parent/guardian must pick up the phone and the student will be placed on a contract where the phone is turned in each morning and returned at the end of the school day. Students who refuse to turn their phone over to the proper personnel will be subject to further disciplinary action.

Attendance Policy

Students are to be in attendance 90% of the year, which constitutes no more than 7 absences each semester. If a student is absent a parent/guardian must call, send a note, or email Shannan within 48 hours of the absence in order for the absence to be excused. If more than 48 hours lapses, then the absence will remain unexcused permanently. Students can have seven (7) excused absences for each semester. Excused absences include doctor appointments, illness, family emergencies or an excuse by a parent/guardian. Students that have more than three (3) unexcused absences or more than seven (7) excused absences or a combination of excused and unexcused absences of more than seven (7) absences face losing credit for their class(es). Students that miss class(es) due to a doctor's appointment should bring back a note from the doctor's office, when they return from the doctor's appointment (either the same day or the next).

Food/Drink Policy

There is to be no food or drink in the classroom, hallway or lockers except water in a spill proof bottle. Food and beverages attract bugs and rodents, so it is important that these items are not brought into the school. Food and beverages, excluding water, can be confiscated by any school personnel and disposed of. Lockers may be randomly checked for food/drink items, if they are found they will be thrown away. Students who have water are encouraged to have those in clear containers. Occasionally a class may have a celebration or a student might need food or a beverage for a class project or demonstration, in these circumstances they will be allowed.

By Dr. Hatfield

Counselor's Corner

Character Education this year has a cooperative teamwork theme to it, as we are meeting in the gym each week with the Kindergarten through 5th grade groups. Students are learning how to follow rules and work together to play new games such as line tag and poison ball for the kindergarten and 1st grade students, hula-hut building games for the 2nd and 3rd graders, and tic-tac-toe relay games for the 4th and 5th grade students. Each weekly group meeting lasts 40 minutes with the first ten minutes devoted to meet and greet and warm-up walk and jog in the gym. The next ten minutes has students learning a new game or a new skill of an already-learned game and the final twenty minutes is devoted to applying the skill to playing the game. Students learn how to work together either with partners or in groups of up to six in order to master new motor skills to score points for their respective team.

In Secondary Counseling news, the Junior class took the ASVAB test conducted by the United States Military on Wednesday, September 20th . The purpose of ASVAB tests is to measure skill-sets for students as a means of helping influence career choices that match student strengths from the test.

On October 11th , sophomores and juniors will be taking the PSAT/NMSQT test that is used to determine where students are strong or need improvement in their core classes of writing, reading, mathematics and science. Results from this test can help determine if a student who scores exceptionally high is worthy of National Merit Scholarship money as well as giving each student valuable practice of what to study for their upcoming SAT test in April of their junior year.

On October 30th , seniors and their parents/guardians are invited to attend FAFSA night here at Highland. FAFSA night is designed to help parents and their children apply for federal financial aid to offset costs of attending college after high school. FAFSA night will be held at 6:30 in Mrs. Hines Business Computer room 110. Be sure to bring your 2016 tax returns as an aid to assist you in your FAFSA application process.

On November 1st and 2nd , juniors and seniors, who are academically eligible and able to go, will attend a National College Fair in Boise. This allows them to meet representatives from every college in Idaho, many colleges in the Pacific Northwest, and other schools from nearly thirty states in the U.S. Once students meet representatives from their favorite schools, they will be put on a mailing list so these schools will share useful information related to their programs and campus life. In addition, students will be able to attend financial aid workshops

Parents & Guardians,

If you have an important message that needs to be given to your child here at school, please call the school office before 2:30 pm if at all possible. It is really difficult to get messages out to the students during the last hour of the school day. Thanks for your help with this!

By Shannan Randall

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