

August 2014

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>Welcome Back Highlands RAMS!</p>	<p>RAM PRIDE! Highlands Varsity Marching Unit</p>				1	2
3	<p>MARCHING BAND CAMP August 4-8 →</p> <p>Band Boosters Mtg. (HS Cafe) 7pm</p>	5	6	<p>Gridiron Mandatory Meeting - Meet the Coach & Trainer at 6pm and 7pm Regular Meeting (CC)</p>	8	9
10	<p>School Board Agenda Mtg. (HS Library) 7pm</p>	<p>MARCHING BAND CAMP 8am-Noon (HS/Stadium)</p> <p>6th GRADE TRANSITION (MS) 9-11am</p> <p>Cheerleader Boosters Mtg. (HS Cafe) 7pm</p>	<p>MARCHING BAND CAMP 8am-Noon (HS/Stadium)</p> <p>6th GRADE TRANSITION (MS) 9-11am</p>	<p>Varsity Marching Band Group Photos & Performance at Kennywood Park</p>	15	<p>VF: Rams vs. Hopewell 10am - Scrimmage</p>
	11	12	13	14	15	16

17	School Board Regular Mtg. (HS Library) 7pm	9th GRADE ORIENTATION (HS) 9am-12noon HS Band Pie Night Rehearsal 6-9pm (Stadium)	MARCHING BAND PIE NIGHT 7pm Golden Rams Stadium		TEACHER INSERVICE	
18	TEACHER INSERVICE	TEACHER CLERICAL DAY	FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS <i>Welcome Back!</i> Kindergarten Get Acquainted Day	Kindergarten Transition Day <i>Noon Dismissal</i>	Kindergarten Transition Day <i>Noon Dismissal</i> VF: Rams @Ford City 7pm	23
24 31	25	26	27	28	29	30

Volunteers Make A Difference!

THANK YOU! With your help, our students have been able to go on field trips, experience awesome assemblies, interact with you during lunch and reading times in elementary school, get free school spirit gear, and have amenities and equipment added to our schools through your fundraising and volunteerism.

You are INVALUABLE to our district! Volunteers are needed to coordinate extracurricular booster groups, help in hosting athletic events and pull off musical performances that are out of this world! Whether you are fitting costumes, selling popcorn in the stands, cutting Box Tops or attending your schools PTO meetings, you are making a difference in the lives of our children.

This year, parents and community members volunteered more than 1,300 hours in our primary centers!

To find out how you can help and get your name approved for volunteering, visit our website at www.goldenrams.com/volunteer.




September 2014

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<p>LABOR DAY SCHOOLS CLOSED</p> <p>CALENDAR CODES: HS - High School MS - Middle School GRV - Grandview FMT - Fairmount FAWN - Fawn VF - Varsity Football</p> <p>1</p>	<p>Variations Show Choir Informational Meeting 2:45-4pm (HS Choir Room)</p> <p>"BACK TO SCHOOL" NIGHT at Grandview 6:30-8:30pm</p> <p>2</p>	<p>Variations Auditions 2:45pm (HS)</p> <p>"BACK TO SCHOOL" NIGHT at Middle School 6:30-8:30pm</p> <p>3</p>	<p>Variations Auditions 2:45pm (HS)</p> <p>"BACK TO SCHOOL" NIGHT at Primary Centers and High School 6:30-8:30pm</p> <p>4</p>	<p>HALF DAY FOR STUDENTS & TEACHERS Gr. K-5: Noon Dismissal Gr. 6-12: 11am Dismissal</p> <p>VF: Rams vs. Deer Lakes 7pm <i>Elementary Night</i></p> <p>5</p>	
<p>GRANDPARENTS DAY</p> <p>7</p>	<p>AK Band Photos 3pm @ Penn Hills</p> <p>Variations Boosters 6pm (HS Cafe)</p> <p>Band Boosters Mtg. (HS Cafe) 7pm</p> <p>School Board Agenda Mtg. (HS Library) 7pm</p> <p>8</p>	<p>ELEMENTARY BAND NIGHT 6pm (Grandview)</p> <p>Cheerleader Boosters Mtg. (HS Cafe) 7pm</p> <p>9</p>	<p>COLLEGE FAIR @Clarion Hotel, 6-8pm</p> <p>Variations Show Choir 1st Rehearsal (HS) 6:30-8pm</p> <p>Gridiron Club Mtg. (HS Cafe) 7pm Fall Mums Orders Due</p> <p>10</p>	<p>PATRIOT DAY</p> <p>11</p>	<p>VF: Rams @ West Shamokin 7pm</p> <p>12</p>	<p>ACT @ Burrell - Gr. 12</p> <p>Mercer Band Festival (HHS Band @Mercer Jr/Sr High School) 7pm</p> <p>13</p>
<p>14</p>	<p>School Board Regular Mtg. (HS Library) 7pm</p> <p>15</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>Gridiron Fall Mums Delivery 5-7pm (HS parking lot)</p> <p>17</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>VF: Rams @ Kittanning 7pm</p> <p>19</p>	<p>20</p>

21	22	23	<p><i>ROSH HASHANAH</i></p> <p>ALLE-KISKI BAND FESTIVAL @ Penn Hills 7pm - Rain Date Sept. 25</p> <p>Baseball Boosters Mtg. (HS Cafe) 6:30pm</p>	25	<p>NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS Act 80 Teacher Inservice</p> <p>VF: Rams vs. Apollo Ridge 7pm <i>Middle School Band Night</i></p>	27
28	29	30	<p>Fall Pep Rally</p> 		 <p>Middle School Choral Concert</p>	

Band Students Receive Honors

In 2013-14, four students represented Highlands at the annual Pennsylvania Music Educators Association's Annual District I Junior High Honors Band hosted by Norwin. Congratulations to **Corey Beck, Nathan Love, Jhasmyne Gilbert, and Nathan Hoover** for an outstanding performance!

Nine High School students were selected to represent Highlands at the annual Alle-Kiski Honors Band Festival at Deer Lakes High School. Congratulations to **Michael Conrad, Dan Grove, Brandon Johnson, Megan McGinnis, Joshua Nulph, Courtney Pigott, Madison Pihony, Hannah Young, and Noah Young.**

Congratulations to the four High School students who represented Highlands at the PMEA Sr. High District I East Band (Gr. 10-12), hosted at Penn Hills: **Megan McGinnis, Mike Conrad, Madison Pihony, and Noah Young.**

The Varsity Marching Band was very active in school band festivals and community parades, including Kennywood and a trip to Disney World in April. Highlands band directors are **Mr. Lee Lynn** (Middle School) and **Mr. Matthew Beresik** (High School).



RAMS Students of the Month





October 2014

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <p>Halloween Fun!</p>			1	2	3	4
<p>Fire Prevention Week Oct. 5-11</p>	<p>PMEA Honors Band Auditions @ South Fayette - 5pm</p> <p>Fall Follies Auditions 3-5pm (HS)</p> <p>Variations Boosters 6pm (HS Cafe)</p> <p>Band Boosters Mtg. (HS Cafe) 7pm</p>		<p>Gridiron Club Mtg. (HS Cafe) 7pm Pie Orders Due</p>	<p>Homecoming Spirit Night & Pep Rally 7:30pm Golden Rams Stadium</p>	<p>NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS Act 80 Teacher Inservice</p> <p>HOMECOMING Parade: 6pm - Plaza</p> <p>VF: Rams vs. Burrell 7pm</p>	<p>SAT I&II @HIGHLANDS & Knoch - Gr. 12</p> <p>Performing Arts Day HHS Choir @Norwin 10am</p> <p>Homecoming Dance 7pm (HS)</p>
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
<p>National School Lunch Week Oct. 13-17</p>	<p>COLUMBUS DAY</p> <p>NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS Act 80 Teacher Inservice</p> <p>School Board Agenda Mtg. (HS Library) 7pm</p>	<p>Cheerleader Boosters Mtg. (HS Cafe) 7pm</p>	<p>PSAT/NMSQT @ Highlands - Gr. 10 & 11</p>		<p>VF: Rams @ Valley 7pm</p>	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18

<i>National Red Ribbon Week: Oct. 23-31</i>  19	<i>National School Bus Safety Week Oct. 20-24</i> School Board Regular Mtg. (HS Library) 7pm 20	21	Fall Follies Rehearsal 3-5pm (HS Aud.) Gridiron Pie Delivery 5-7pm (HS Cafe) 22	FIRST DAY OF AUTUMN FALL FOLLIES TALENT SHOW (HS Aud.) 7pm 23	UNITED NATIONS DAY VF: Rams vs. Shadyside Academy 7pm SENIOR NIGHT 24	ACT @Butler - Gr. 12 25
26	27	28	Baseball Boosters Mtg. (HS Cafe) 6:30pm 29	MIDDLE SCHOOL SHOWCASE OF STARS TALENT SHOW 7pm (MS) End of First Grading Period 30	HALLOWEEN NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS Teacher Clerical 31	 HHS Homecoming

"Tablets in Education" at Grandview

Grandview Upper Elementary School is the recipient of 20 Kindle Fire XDs, with shock cases, a charging cart and educational apps from the Penguins Foundation and the AIU3 "Tablets in Education" Program. The school received the tablets to be used in conjunction with the READ Dogs program, the Read Your Heart Out! Principal Challenge and various events through the school year to promote the love of reading.

The Pittsburgh Penguins Foundation and Allegheny Intermediate Unit3 (AIU3) are teaming up on a first-of-its-kind initiative - "Tablets in Education" - to provide free Kindle Fire HDX 7" tablets to 50 schools in Allegheny County.

Ten Special Education programs in the county also will benefit from the program. In all, the Penguins Foundation and AIU3 will provide 1,200 free tablets - 20 per school - as well as mass charging stations, Kindle FreeTime Kid-Proof Cases and more than \$100,000 in educational apps.



Youth Athletics Night



Halloween @HMS

November 2014

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><i>November is National Career Development Month</i></p> <p><i>STANDARD TIME BEGINS "Fall Back" One Hour</i></p> <p>2</p>	<p>High School Musical Information Meeting 2:45pm</p> <p>Variations Boosters 6pm (HS Cafe)</p> <p>HS Band Practice for Stadium Highlights 6-9pm</p> <p>Band Boosters Mtg. (HS Cafe) 7pm</p> <p>3</p>	<p>ELECTION DAY</p> <p>4</p>	<p>HS Band Practice for Stadium Highlights 2:45-4:30pm</p> <p>HHS MARCHING BAND'S STADIUM HIGHLIGHTS HS Gym - 7pm</p> <p>5</p>	<p>TITLE I FAMILY NIGHT (MS Aud.) 6:30pm</p> <p>Basketball Boosters Mtg. (HS Cafe) 7pm</p> <p>6</p>	<p>REPORT CARDS ISSUED</p> <p>HIGH SCHOOL FALL PLAY (HS) 7pm</p> <p>7</p>	<p>SAT I&II @ Springdale & Knoch - Gr. 12</p> <p>1</p> <p>8 HIGH SCHOOL FALL PLAY (HS) 7pm</p>
<p>9</p>	<p>School Board Agenda Mtg. (HS Library) 7pm</p> <p>10</p>	<p>VETERANS DAY</p> <p>NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS</p> <p>Parent-Teacher Conference Day 11:30am-2:30pm & 4-7pm - All Schools</p> <p>Cheerleader Boosters Mtg. (HS Cafe) 7pm</p> <p>11</p>	<p>Gridiron Club Mtg. (HS Cafe) 7pm</p> <p>12</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>High School Musical Auditions for "Tarzan" 4:30pm</p> <p>14</p>	<p>High School Musical Callbacks for "Tarzan" 10:30am</p> <p>15</p>
<p><i>93rd Annual National American Education Week: Nov. 17-21 "Raise Your Hand for Student Success!"</i></p> <p>16</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>Baseball Boosters Mtg. (HS Cafe) 6:30pm</p> <p>19</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>Tarentum/Brackenridge Holiday Parade 1pm</p> <p>22</p>

PMEA Honors Band Festival@ Carnegie Hall, Pittsburgh: Nov. 23-24 23 30	School Board Regular Mtg. (HS Library) 7pm 24	25	HALF DAY FOR STUDENTS Gr. K-5: Noon Dismissal Gr. 6-12: 11am Dismissal Teacher Clerical - PM ASVAB Testing @HS 7:30-11:00am GOLD CARD THANKSGIVING LUNCHEON - 11am @ HS 26	THANKSGIVING Thanksgiving Holiday → SCHOOLS CLOSED 27	SCHOOLS CLOSED 28	29
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Our Students Excel at Forbes CTC

Highlands students continue to shine at Forbes Road Career and Tech Center. HHS senior **Jonathan Hladney** (Auto Tech) was the 2014 Valedictorian at the Forbes Certificate Ceremony, which also included 22 Highlands graduates.

Highlands also had five Students of the Year: **Jonathan Hladney** (Auto Tech), **Harley Leasure** (Collision Repair Tech), **Julie Dawson** (Culinary Arts), **David Zaborowski** (HVAC) and **Dominique Jones** (Advertising Design). Top Senior Portfolios belonged to **Julie Dawson** and **Jonathan Hladney**.

Four students were inducted in to the Forbes Road National Technical Honor Society: **Nick Carrigan** (Computer Networking and Security), and **Jonathan Hladney**, **Matthew Morrow** and **Kyle Matovcik** (Auto Tech). Nick had the honor of being a student speaker.

In the spring, Highlands Middle School students had the opportunity to explore the programs available at Forbes Road CTC during a special program given by Highlands Forbes CTC students and counselors. Forbes offers 18 different programs, including Child Care Services, Culinary Arts, Landscape Design, and Health Science Technology.

For additional information about Forbes, contact your school guidance counselor or visit www.forbesroad.com.



Annual Kindergarten Thanksgiving



Teens for Jeans Charity Drive



Veterans Day Celebration



High School Fall Play


December 2014


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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	Thanksgiving Holiday SCHOOLS CLOSED <i>NOTE: The Highlands School Board December Reorganization Meeting date and time will be announced and posted on the district website.</i>		<i>Keystone Exams Testing Window: Dec. 3-17 →</i> HIGHLANDS AREA ROTARY CLUB CHRISTMAS CHORAL CONCERT (HS Aud.) 7pm Gridiron Club Mtg. (HS Cafe) 7pm	Basketball Boosters Mtg. (HS Cafe) 7pm		SAT I&II @Butler - Gr. 12
	1	2	3	4	5	6
Gridiron Football Banquet 5pm (HS Cafe)	HS Choral Rehearsal 3-5pm AK Honors Band Auditions @ Valley - 3:30pm Variations Boosters 6pm (HS Cafe) Band Boosters Mtg. (HS Cafe) 7pm	GRANDVIEW WINTER CHORAL CONCERT & ART SHOW (Time TBA) HS Choral Rehearsal 3-5pm Cheerleader Boosters Mtg. (HS Cafe) 7pm	HIGH SCHOOL WINTER CHORAL CONCERT (HS) 7pm	MIDDLE SCHOOL WINTER CHORAL CONCERT (MS) 7pm	PMEA District Jazz Festival @ Shadyside Academy	ACT @Burrell - Gr. 12 PMEA District Jazz Festival @ Shadyside Academy
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	HIGH SCHOOL FINANCIAL AID NIGHT (HS Audion) 6pm HS Band Dress Rehearsal 2:45-5pm High School Musical Cast Caroling "Tag Day" 6:30-8pm	HS Band Dress Rehearsal 2:45-5pm	HIGH SCHOOL WINTER BAND CONCERT (HS) 7pm Baseball Boosters Mtg. (HS Cafe) 6:30pm	MIDDLE SCHOOL HOLIDAY BAND & JAZZ BAND CONCERT (MS) 7pm		
14	15	16	17	18	19	20

<p>FIRST DAY OF WINTER</p> <p>21</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>HALF DAY FOR STUDENTS Gr. K-5: Noon Dismissal Gr. 6-12: 11am Dismissal Teacher Clerical - PM</p> <p>23</p>	<p>Christmas Eve</p> <p>Holiday Vacation →</p> <p>SCHOOLS CLOSED through Jan. 4</p> <p>24</p>	<p>CHRISTMAS</p> <p>25</p>	<p>KWANZAA Dec. 26-Jan. 1</p> <p>26</p>	<p>27</p>
<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>New Year's Eve</p> <p>31</p>			



"Stuff A Bus" for Toys for Tots

"Stuff A Bus" Success

Despite the wintry storm that day, the Highlands High School National Honor Society and Student Council's "Stuff A Bus" Toys for Tots Drive resulted in a stocked bus of new toys for children ages 1-12 and more than \$100 in monetary donations. All donations directly benefited families in our school district and neighboring towns.

December 2014



MS Holidays Around the World



Holiday Parade



Happy Holidays!

January 2015

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <p>5th Grade Science Project</p>	 <p>PREK</p>			<p>NEW YEAR'S DAY SCHOOLS CLOSED</p> <p>1</p>	<p>SCHOOLS CLOSED</p> <p>2</p>	<p>3</p>
<p>January is School Director Recognition Month</p> <p><i>NOTE: Highlands School Board meeting dates for 2015 were decided at the December Reorganization meeting and are posted on the district's website.</i></p> <p>4</p>	<p>SCHOOLS REOPEN</p> <p>Variations Boosters 6pm (HS Cafe)</p> <p>Band Boosters Mtg. (HS Cafe) 7pm</p> <p>5</p>	<p>6</p>	<p><i>Keystone Exams Testing Window: Jan. 7-21</i> →</p> <p>PMEA District Band @ Latrobe</p> <p>7</p>	<p>PMEA District Band @ Latrobe</p> <p>Basketball Boosters Mtg. (HS Cafe) 7pm</p> <p>8</p>	<p>PMEA District Band @ Latrobe</p> <p>9</p>	<p>10</p>
<p>11</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>Cheerleader Boosters Mtg. (HS Cafe) 7pm</p> <p>13</p>	<p>Gridiron Club Mtg. (HS Cafe) 7pm</p> <p>14</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p>

	<i>MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. HOLIDAY</i> SCHOOLS CLOSED <i>or Makeup Day</i>	End of 1st Semester			EARLY DISMISSAL ALL SCHOOLS Gr. K-5@1:28pm Gr. 6-12@12:30pm Teacher Clerical	SAT I&II @Burrell Gr. 11 & 12 HHS Musical Alumni Meet 'n Greet Rehearsal 12Noon - HS
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
			REPORT CARDS ISSUED Baseball Boosters Mtg. (HS Cafe) 6:30pm	AK Honors Band Festival @ Valley	AK Honors Band Festival @ Valley	
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

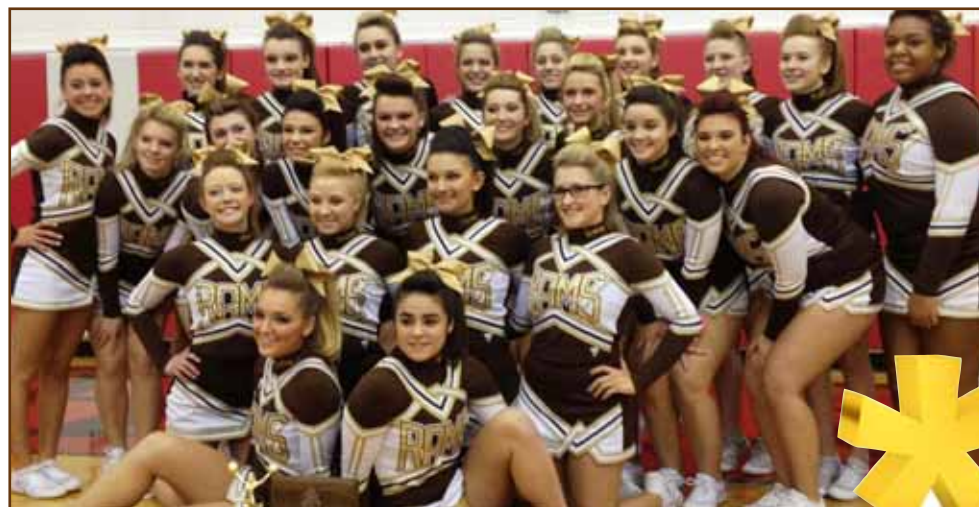
Spotlight: Athletic Achievements

Here are just a few of the MANY individual and team accomplishments in 2013-14:

Varsity Girls Soccer players **Kayla Beale, Kara Bowser, Samantha Kovach, and Hannah Ross** were selected as WPIAL Class AA Section 2 All-Stars by the Western PA High School Girls Soccer Coaches Association. Varsity Track & Field athlete **Chris Fick** placed 6th in the Long Jump event and the 400 Meter Relay Team placed 9th at WPIALS, which is the best Highlands finish in 7 years! The AK Honor Roll in Track included our own **Alex Martinetti, Robert Love, Josh Mriso, Kayla Beale, and Elise Signorella**. Logan Crise was the 400 Champ at the Mars Jr. High Invitational - a new meet record!

Varsity swimmer **Bailey Bonnett** swam a 4:56.57 in the 500 free to place third and earned her second bronze medal at the PIAA Class AA swimming and diving finals at Bucknell University. The **9th Grade Boys Basketball Team** won the North Pittsburgh Hoops Classic Tournament at Pine Richland under coach **Tyler Stoczynski**.

In its inaugural year, the **Highlands Hockey** team defeated Beaver to become PIHL Champs at the tournament held at Robert Morris University. The HHS **Competition Cheerleading Squad** competed in their *first* WPIAL Competitive Spirit Championship event and won First Place in Division AA and First Place in the Large Group category! Highlands football players were named to the 2013 Greater Allegheny All Conference Teams: **Derrick Mazur, Allan Cratsenberg, Justin Anuszek, Elijah Jackson, Zach Mazur, Will Burris, Deion Fletcher, Robert Love, Julian Flenory, Weston Bernath, Jeremy Jackson, and Sam Elliott**. Coach **Sam Albert** was named Pittsburgh Post-Gazette's Coach of the Year!



February 2015


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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><i>February is National Career and Technical Education Month / African American History Month & National Love A Book Month</i></p> <p>1</p>	<p>GROUNDHOG DAY</p> <p><i>National School Counseling Week Feb. 2-6</i></p> <p>Band Boosters Mtg. (HS Cafe) 7pm</p> <p>2</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>Basketball Boosters Mtg. (HS Cafe) 7pm</p> <p>5</p>	<p>Cabaret Concert Dress Rehearsal - 7pm</p> <p>6</p>	<p>ACT @Butler Gr. 11 & 12</p> <p>HS MUSICAL ALUMNI & CAST CABARET CONCERT HS Commons & Audion 7pm</p> <p>7</p>
<p>8</p>	<p>Variations Boosters 6pm (HS Audion)</p> <p>9</p>	<p>Cheerleader Boosters Mtg. (HS Cafe) 7pm</p> <p>10</p>	<p>PMEA Region Band @Hickory</p> <p>Gridiron Club Mtg. (HS Cafe) 7pm</p> <p>11</p>	<p>PMEA Region Band @Hickory</p> <p>12</p>	<p>NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS</p> <p>Teacher Inservice</p> <p>PMEA Region Band @Hickory</p> <p>13</p>	<p><i>VALENTINE'S DAY</i></p> <p>14</p>
<p>15</p>	<p>PRESIDENTS' DAY</p> <p>SCHOOLS CLOSED</p> <p><i>or Makeup Day</i></p> <p>16</p>	<p>HIGH SCHOOL BROWN & GOLD AWARDS for 1st Semester (HS) 7pm</p> <p>17</p>	<p>ASH WEDNESDAY</p> <p>MIDDLE SCHOOL BROWN & GOLD AWARDS for 1st Semester 8th - 11am; 7th - 12noon 6th - 1pm</p> <p>18</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>

			Baseball Boosters Mtg. (HS Cafe) 6:30pm			HS Full MANDATORY Musical <i>Marathon</i> Dress Rehearsal for "Tarzan" 9:30am-6:30pm
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

Showing Love to Our Veterans

National Salute to Veteran Patients occurs every year during Valentine's Day. Last school year, Highlands School District students sent handmade and designed Valentine's greetings to Veteran patients at the VA Pittsburgh Healthcare Hospital in Aspinwall.

Grandview student **Savannah Chybrzynski** opted to have her classmates create Valentines for vets during the Valentine's Day class party craft time. Teacher **Jody Shumaker** assisted students in creating designs on wax paper with crayon shavings, melting the design and inserting them into construction paper sleeves with messages of thanks written for the vets.

Highlands High School students in teachers **Sara Kissell's** writing classes and **Bridget Jodon's** classes wrote heartfelt messages inside full-sized, colorful Valentine's Day cards. The messages included poetry, personal sentiments and art. Highlands Middle School students in computer teacher **Christina Kurtz's** classes used lessons learned in their technology curriculum to create computer-generated Valentines from their own personal designs.

"These veterans appreciate everything people do for them," said **Shawn Brucker**, Highlands High School graduate and VA volunteer. "It's very humbling to see how grateful they are after all that they've done for us."



March 2015


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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><i>March is Music in Our Schools Month, National Nutrition Month, National Social Work Month, Youth Art Month, and Theater in Our Schools Month</i></p> <p>1</p>	<p><i>NEA'S READ ACROSS AMERICA DAY & Dr. Seuss' Birthday</i></p> <p><i>National School Breakfast Week Mar. 2-6</i></p> <p>Band Boosters Mtg. (HS Cafe) 7pm</p> <p>2</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>Basketball Boosters Mtg. (HS Cafe) 7pm</p> <p>5</p>	<p>HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL PRODUCTION: "TARZAN" (HS Aud.) 7pm</p> <p>6</p>	<p>HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL PRODUCTION: "TARZAN" (HS Aud.) 7pm</p> <p>7</p>
<p><i>DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS - "Spring Ahead" One Hour</i></p> <p>HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL PRODUCTION: "TARZAN" (HS Aud.) 2pm Matinee</p> <p>8</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>Cheerleader Boosters Mtg. (HS Cafe) 7pm</p> <p>10</p>	<p>Gridiron Club Mtg. (HS Cafe) 7pm</p> <p>11</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>SAT @Valley, Kiski, Plum, Knoch, & Burrell Gr. 11 & 12</p> <p>14</p>
<p>15</p>	<p>16</p>	<p><i>ST. PATRICK'S DAY</i></p> <p>17</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>Honors Band Recital Dress Rehearsal 2:45-4:30pm</p> <p>19</p>	<p><i>FIRST DAY OF SPRING</i></p> <p>Honors Band Recital Dress Rehearsal 2:45-4:30pm</p> <p>20</p>	<p>21</p>

22	HIGH SCHOOL HONORS BAND RECITAL (HS Stage) 7pm	24	End of 3rd Grading Period PMEA All-State Festival Baseball Boosters Mtg. (HS Cafe) 6:30pm	26	PMEA All-State Festival Cager Classic Practices PMEA All-State Festival A-K BASKETBALL CAGER CLASSIC Skills Events (HS Gym) MIDDLE SCHOOL MUSICAL (MS Aud.) 7pm Cookies with the Cast Following the Performance	28	PMEA All-State Festival A-K BASKETBALL CAGER CLASSIC GAMES (HS Gym) MIDDLE SCHOOL MUSICAL (MS Aud.) 2pm & 7pm Cookies with the Cast Following the Performance
29	30	31	 <p>2013 Highlands Middle School Musical "Beauty and the Beast Jr."</p>				

The month of March at Highlands features the BEST entertainment around! Don't miss our fabulous High School and Middle School musical productions this month!



Grandview Reading with Dogs Program



8th Grade Rollercoaster Science



2013 Highlands High School Musical "SHREK!"


March 2015


April 2015

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <p>HHS Choir Visit to the Pittsburgh Opera</p>			<p><i>APRIL FOOL'S DAY</i></p> <p>3rd Quarter Grades Due</p> <p>NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS Teacher Clerical</p> <p>GOLD CARD EASTER LUNCHEON 11am (HS)</p> <p>1</p>	<p>Spring Break SCHOOLS CLOSED <i>Or Makeup Day</i></p> <p>2</p>	<p><i>GOOD FRIDAY</i></p> <p><i>PASSOVER</i></p> <p>Spring Break SCHOOLS CLOSED</p> <p>3</p>	<p>4</p>
<p><i>EASTER SUNDAY</i></p> <p>5</p>	<p>Spring Break SCHOOLS CLOSED <i>Or Makeup Day</i></p> <p>Band Boosters Mtg. (HS Cafe) 7pm</p> <p>6</p>	<p>REPORT CARDS ISSUED</p> <p>7</p>	<p>Gridiron Club Mtg. (HS Cafe) 7pm</p> <p>8</p>	<p>Basketball Boosters Mtg. (HS Cafe) 7pm</p> <p>9</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>Variations Rehearsal 10:30am-2pm</p> <p>11</p>
<p><i>NAEYC Week of the Young Child & National Library Week: April 12-16</i></p> <p>12</p>	<p><i>PSSA Testing Window: English & Language Arts Apr. 13-17</i> →</p> <p>Variations Boosters 6pm (HS Cafe)</p> <p>13</p>	<p>Cheerleader Boosters Mtg. (HS Cafe) 7pm</p> <p>14</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>EARLY CHILDHOOD FAIR & KINDERGARTEN / Pre-K REGISTRATION 5:30-8pm (HS Cafe)</p> <p>16</p>	<p>"HIGHLANDS GIVES BACK" ALUMNI & FRIENDS CHARITY CONCERT (TBA)</p> <p>17</p>	<p>ACT @Butler Gr. 11 & 12</p> <p>18</p>

<p><i>Public School Volunteer Week: April 20-24</i></p> <p>19</p> <p>Highlands Varsity Marching Band Banquet (TBA)</p> <p>26</p>	<p><i>PSSA Testing Window: Math Apr. 20-24</i></p> <p>20</p> <p><i>PSSA Testing Window: Science Apr. 27-May 1</i></p> <p>HS Band Dress Rehearsal 2:45-5pm</p> <p>27</p>	<p>ALLE-KISKI JAZZ BAND FESTIVAL @ Burrell HS 7pm</p> <p>21</p> <p>HS Band Dress Rehearsal 2:45-5pm</p> <p>28</p>	<p><i>EARTH DAY</i></p> <p><i>ADMINISTRATIVE PROFESSIONALS DAY</i></p> <p>NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY INDUCTION (HS) 7pm</p> <p>22</p> <p>Baseball Boosters Mtg. (HS Cafe) 6:30pm</p> <p>HIGH SCHOOL SPRING BAND CONCERT (HS) 7pm</p> <p>29</p>	<p>23</p> <p>HHS Variations & Honors Choir New York City Trip: April 30-May 3</p> <p>30</p>	<p>24</p> <p>25</p> <p>Highlands Varsity Marching Band Trip to Disney World</p> 
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Spring Sanity Tradition Continues



Spring Sanity raised \$2,800 during a week of FUNdraising at Highlands High School. Student-organized and sponsored by the National Honor Society, the week of events began with students and staff taking bids to STOP annoying music from playing on the PA system, a dunk tank with faculty and Assistant Principal **Shawn Bennis**, and sumo wrestling, Gator Ball, face painting, a touching Survivor Ceremony honoring our students and staff, food



and candy sales and a competitive game between Team Bennis and Team Russo to determine which Principal got PIED in the face! To the students' delight, a four-member faculty band closed the day of fun with a live performance of songs *Royals* and *Radioactive*. Proceeds benefit Highlands Relay for Life.



April 2015



May 2015

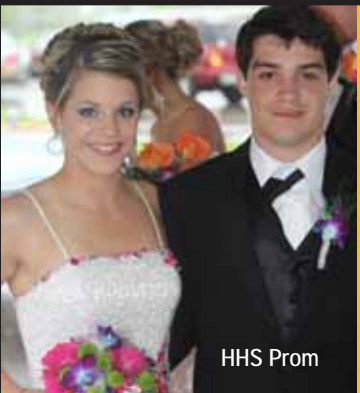

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <p>HHS Prom</p>	 <p>End of Year School Picnic</p>				<p>LAW DAY</p> <p>HHS Variations & Honors Choir New York City Trip: April 30-May 3</p> <p>HS: Armed Forces Day</p> <p>1</p>	<p>SAT I&II @HIGHLANDS, Plum & Knoch Gr. 11 & 12</p> <p>2</p>
<p>HIGHLANDS SCHOOL DISTRICT STAFF APPRECIATION WEEK May 3-9 →</p> <p><i>National Teacher Appreciation Week, Music Week, and Physical Ed & Sports Week: May 3-9</i></p> <p>3</p>	<p>PSSA Makeups May 4-8 →</p> <p>Band Boosters Mtg. (HS Cafe) 7pm</p> <p>4</p>	<p>National Teacher Appreciation Day</p> <p>GRANDVIEW SPRING CHORAL CONCERT & ART SHOW Time TBA</p> <p>5</p>	<p>National School Nurse Appreciation Day</p> <p>HIGH SCHOOL JAZZ BAND CONCERT (HS) 7pm</p> <p>6</p>	<p>Middle School 8th Grade Washington DC Trip →</p> <p>Basketball Boosters Mtg. (HS Cafe) 7pm</p> <p>7</p>	<p>HALF DAY FOR STUDENTS</p> <p>Gr. K-5: Noon Dismissal Gr. 6-12: 11am Dismissal Teacher Inservice</p> <p>Junior/Senior Prom</p> <p>8</p>	<p>9</p>
<p>MOTHER'S DAY</p> <p><i>National Children's Book Week: May 11-15</i></p> <p>10</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>HIGH SCHOOL ACADEMIC HONORS CEREMONY (HS) 5:30pm</p> <p>Cheerleader Boosters Mtg. (HS Cafe) 7pm</p> <p>12</p>	<p>Keystone Exams Testing Window: May 13-27 →</p> <p>ELEM. / MIDDLE SCHOOL ACADEMIC HONORS CEREMONY (MS) 5:30pm</p> <p>Show Choir Invitational (Variations @Norwin) 7pm</p> <p>13</p>	<p>Band Drum Major Auditions 4pm</p> <p>MIDDLE SCHOOL SPRING CHORAL CONCERT (MS) 7pm</p> <p>14</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16</p>

<i>National Educational Bosses' Week:</i> May 17-23	Band Front Auditions (HS Commons/Audion) May 18-22 →	GRANDVIEW BAND CONCERT (GV) - 6pm HS Choral Dress Rehearsal 3-5pm	FORBES ROAD CAREER AND TECH CENTER CERTIFICATE CEREMONY HS: Graduation Soloist Auditions - 2:45pm HS Choral Dress Rehearsal 3-5pm	HIGH SCHOOL SPRING CHORAL CONCERT (HS) 7pm	EARLY DISMISSAL ALL SCHOOLS Gr. K-5@1:28pm Gr. 6-12@12:30pm	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	MEMORIAL DAY SCHOOLS CLOSED		Baseball Boosters Mtg. (HS Cafe) 6:30pm	MIDDLE SCHOOL SPRING BAND & JAZZ BAND CONCERT (MS) 7pm		
BACCALAUREATE SERVICE FOR HHS SENIORS (HS) 7pm						

Community: Booker Center Mentoring

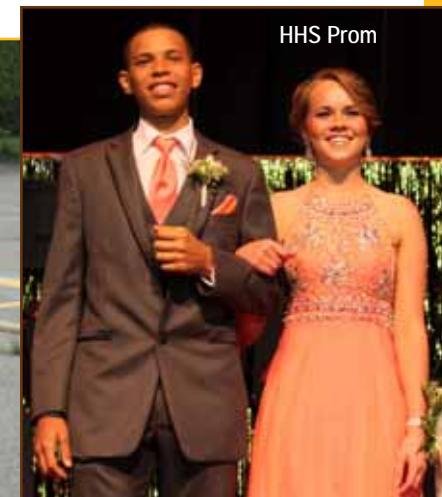
Highlands School District has partnered with Sheldon Park's Deborah D. Booker Community Center to coordinate a Mentoring Program for district students ages 13 to 18 years old and to provide a safe space for afterschool activities and programming. The mentoring program partners adult mentors with students to provide guidance, motivation, career counseling and tutoring.

Mentors will meet with students at the newly-built Community Center weekly. In addition, mentors and their students will convene for monthly gatherings involving the entire group from the program for events featuring Career Explorations, Field Trips or other activities. An academic incentive program will encourage students to achieve goals in school and career exploration events will provide information about interest in a variety of industries and post-secondary education opportunities.

Students who do not reside in the Sheldon Park Housing Development may participate in all activities, including the Mentoring Program, by signing in at Community Center. Parents or guardians may visit and tour the facility by appointment. Call or email Elaine Dillman at 724-224-1656 or edillman@achsng.com.



Grandview Getaway!



HHS Prom



June 2015


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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<p><i>June is National Safety Month</i></p> <p>Band Boosters Mtg. (HS Cafe) 7pm</p>		<p>SENIOR AWARDS (HS) 9am</p>	<p>LAST DAY OF SCHOOL - HALF DAY Gr. K-5: Noon Dismissal Gr. 6-12: 11am Dismissal Teacher Clerical</p> <p>47th Annual Commencement (Tentative) 6pm - Stadium</p> <p>REPORT CARDS ISSUED FOR GR. K-5; MAILED to GR. 6-12</p>		<p>SAT I&II @Burrell, Knoch - Gr. 11 & 12</p> <p>KENNYWOOD SCHOOL PICNIC</p>
1	2	3	4	5	6	
	<p>High School Band Percussion Camp (HS) 9am-Noon</p>	<p>High School Band Percussion Camp (HS) 9am-Noon</p> <p>Cheerleader Boosters Mtg. (HS Cafe) 7pm</p>	<p>High School Band Percussion Camp (HS) 9am-Noon</p>			<p>ACT @Butler Gr. 11 & 12</p>
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
<p>FLAG DAY</p>						
14	15	16	17	18	19	20

<i>FATHER'S DAY</i> <i>FIRST DAY OF SUMMER</i>			Baseball Boosters Mtg. (HS Cafe) 6:30pm			
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

Highlands Relay for Life

Highlands Relay for Life is an amazing event that connects the community with our schools. Held in-district at either the Golden Rams Stadium or the Nick J Staresinic Soccer Stadium, the event supports the patients, survivors and families of those with a cancer experience.

The 2014 Relay was another successful event! This year's "Score for a Cure" relay event was held on Saturday, May 31. A total of 24 teams and 298 participants raised \$56,852.10 for the American Cancer Society. Events such as the annual Mary Mele Basketball Tournament continued in to the summer to help the Highlands Relay for Life reach its \$60,000 goal!

The annual relay offers fun, food, vendors, games, spectacular shows and a dazzling array of fireworks to top off the event. Teams of cancer patient survivors and supporters open the event with a parade and Highlands High School student and Cancer FIGHTER Kelly Smith led the torch lighting lap.

Events included live music, a hula and Samoan fire dance show, Zumba, a Magic Show, CS Kim Karate demos, a Fight Back Ceremony, free haircuts for the Wigs for Kids program, a touching Survivor Celebration and a Dove Release.



HHS Class of 2014 Commencement Speakers
Jacob Diller and Nolan Wise



5th Grade
Promotion

July 2015

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4 <i>INDEPENDENCE DAY</i>
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26 	<i>Keystone Exams Testing Window: July 27-31</i> 		29	30	31	
	27	28				

August 2015

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <p style="text-align: right;">2nd Grade Picnic</p>						1
2	3 Band Boosters Mtg. (HS Cafe) 7pm	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

RAMS for Life!



2014 Fall Sports Schedules



Varsity Football

08/16/14	Hopewell HS	Home	10:00AM
08/29/14	*Ford City	Away	7:00PM
09/05/14	*Deer Lakes	Home	7:00PM
09/12/14	*West Shamokin	Away	7:00PM
09/19/14	*Kittanning	Away	7:00PM
09/26/14	*Apollo Ridge	Home	7:00PM
10/03/14	*Freeport	Away	7:00PM
10/10/14	*Burrell	Home	7:00PM
10/17/14	*Valley	Away	7:00PM
10/24/14	*Shadyside Academy	Home	7:00PM

Junior Varsity Football

08/30/14	*Ford City	Home	10:00AM
09/08/14	*Deer Lakes	Away	6:00PM
09/15/14	*West Shamokin	Home	6:00PM
09/22/14	*Kittanning	Home	6:00PM
09/29/14	*Apollo Ridge	Away	6:00PM
10/06/14	*Freeport	Home	6:00PM
10/13/14	*Burrell	Away	6:00PM
10/20/14	*Valley	Home	6:00PM
10/27/14	*Shadyside Academy	Away	6:00PM

These are the schedules that were available at the time of printing.

NOTE: Events are subject to change.



Girls Varsity Soccer

08/16/14	Bishop Canevin High School	Away	2:00PM
08/26/14	Oakland/Central Catholic	Home	4:00PM
08/30/14	Ambridge	Away	12:00PM
08/31/14	Ambridge	Away	12:00PM
09/02/14	*Mars	Home	7:00PM
09/03/14	*Burrell	Away	7:00PM
09/06/14	Kittanning	Away	10:00AM
09/08/14	*Freeport	Away	7:00PM
09/10/14	*Knoch	Home	7:00PM
09/12/14	*Valley	Away	7:00PM
09/17/14	*Deer Lakes	Home	7:00PM
09/19/14	*Burrell	Home	7:00PM
09/20/14	Springdale	Away	10:00AM
09/22/14	*Mars	Away	7:00PM
09/24/14	*Freeport	Home	7:00PM
09/29/14	*Knoch	Away	7:00PM
10/01/14	*Valley	Home	7:00PM
10/08/14	*Deer Lakes	Away	7:00PM
10/13/14	Oakland/Central Catholic	Home	7:00PM

Girls Junior Varsity Soccer

09/02/14	*Mars	Home	5:30PM
09/03/14	*Burrell	Away	5:30PM
09/08/14	*Freeport	Away	5:30PM
09/10/14	*Knoch	Home	5:30PM
09/12/14	*Valley	Away	5:30PM
09/17/14	*Deer Lakes	Home	5:30PM
09/19/14	*Burrell	Home	5:30PM
09/20/14	Springdale	Away	11:30AM
09/22/14	*Mars	Away	5:30PM
09/24/14	*Freeport	Home	5:30PM
09/29/14	*Knoch	Away	5:30PM
10/01/14	*Valley	Home	5:30PM
10/08/14	*Deer Lakes	Away	5:30PM
10/13/14	Oakland/Central Catholic	Home	5:30PM

(*) - League Event



Boys Varsity Soccer

08/30/14	Ambridge	Away	12:00PM
08/31/14	Ambridge	Away	12:00PM
09/02/14	*Kittanning	Away	7:00PM
09/04/14	*Knoch	Home	7:00PM
09/09/14	*Deer Lakes	Away	7:00PM
09/11/14	*Mars	Away	7:00PM
09/13/14	Springdale	Away	11:00AM
09/16/14	*Shadyside Academy	Home	7:00PM
09/18/14	*West Shamokin	Home	7:00PM
09/20/14	*Freeport	Away	7:00PM
09/23/14	*Kittanning	Home	7:00PM
09/25/14	*Knoch	Away	7:00PM
09/27/14	*Deer Lakes	Home	11:00AM
09/30/14	*Mars	Home	7:00PM
10/02/14	*Shadyside Academy	Away	7:00PM
10/04/14	Burrell	Home	11:00AM
10/07/14	*West Shamokin	Away	7:00PM
10/09/14	*Freeport	Home	7:00PM



For additional information regarding athletics, contact Chuck Debor, Athletic Director

724-226-0120

Middle School Schedules and
Winter & Spring Sports
Schedules will be available
on the district website:
www.GoldenRams.com



Chuck Debor, *Athletic Director* 724-226-0120



Boys Junior Varsity Soccer

09/02/14	*Kittanning	Away	5:30PM
09/04/14	*Knoch	Home	5:30PM
09/09/14	*Deer Lakes	Away	5:30PM
09/11/14	*Mars	Away	5:30PM
09/13/14	Springdale	Away	12:30PM
09/16/14	*Shadyside Academy	Home	5:30PM
09/18/14	*West Shamokin	Home	5:30PM
09/20/14	*Freeport	Away	5:30PM
09/23/14	*Kittanning	Home	5:30PM
09/25/14	*Knoch	Away	5:30PM
09/27/14	*Deer Lakes	Home	9:30AM
09/30/14	*Mars	Home	5:30PM
10/02/14	*Shadyside Academy	Away	5:30PM
10/04/14	Burrell	Home	9:30AM
10/07/14	*West Shamokin	Away	5:30PM
10/09/14	*Freeport	Home	5:30PM

Girls Varsity Volleyball

09/02/14	Valley	Away	7:00PM
09/04/14	*Knoch	Home	7:00PM
09/11/14	*Deer Lakes	Home	7:00PM
09/16/14	*Burrell	Away	7:00PM
09/22/14	Apollo Ridge	Home	7:00PM
09/23/14	*Freeport	Home	7:00PM
09/25/14	*Valley	Home	7:00PM
09/29/14	Apollo Ridge	Away	7:00PM
09/30/14	*Knoch	Away	7:00PM
10/07/14	*Deer Lakes	Away	7:00PM
10/09/14	*Burrell	Home	7:00PM
10/16/14	*Freeport	Away	7:00PM

(*) - League Event

NOTE: Events are subject to change.



Girls Junior Varsity Volleyball

09/02/14	Valley	Away	6:00PM
09/04/14	*Knoch	Home	6:00PM
09/11/14	*Deer Lakes	Home	6:00PM
09/16/14	*Burrell	Away	6:00PM
09/22/14	Apollo Ridge	Home	6:00PM
09/23/14	*Freeport	Home	6:00PM
09/25/14	*Valley	Home	6:00PM
09/29/14	Apollo Ridge	Away	6:00PM
09/30/14	*Knoch	Away	6:00PM
10/07/14	*Deer Lakes	Away	6:00PM
10/09/14	*Burrell	Home	6:00PM
10/16/14	*Freeport	Away	6:00PM

Varsity Golf

08/18/14	*Valley	Away	3:30PM
08/20/14	*Ford City	Home	3:30PM
08/22/14	*Burrell	Away	3:30PM
08/25/14	*West Shamokin	Home	3:30PM
08/27/14	*Kittanning	Away	3:30PM
08/29/14	*Leechburg	Home	3:30PM
09/02/14	Greensburg Salem	Away	3:30PM
09/03/14	*Freeport	Away	3:30PM
09/05/14	*Valley	Home	3:30PM
09/09/14	*Ford City	Away	3:30PM
09/11/14	*Burrell	Home	3:30PM
09/16/14	*West Shamokin	Away	3:30PM
09/18/14	*Kittanning	Home	3:30PM
09/22/14	*Freeport	Home	3:30PM
09/26/14	*Leechburg	Away	3:30PM

Girls Varsity Tennis

08/20/14	*St. Joseph	Away	3:30PM
08/22/14	*West Shamokin	Home	3:30PM
08/25/14	*Indiana	Home	3:30PM
08/27/14	*Southmoreland	Home	3:30PM
08/29/14	*Valley	Home	3:30PM
09/02/14	*Burrell	Away	3:30PM
09/04/14	*Ford City	Home	3:30PM
09/08/14	*Derry	Away	3:30PM
09/15/14	*Riverview	Away	3:30PM
09/22/14	*Springdale	Home	3:30PM
09/29/14	*Kittanning	Away	3:30PM
10/06/14	*Carlynton	Away	3:30PM



Annual Notices / Policies

Annual Notice: Policy #222 - Tobacco Use

The Board recognizes that tobacco use by students presents a health and safety hazard that can have serious consequences for both users and nonusers and the safety and environment of the schools.

For purposes of this policy, tobacco use shall be defined as use and/or possession of a lighted or unlighted cigarette, cigar and pipe; other lighted smoking product; and smokeless tobacco in any form.

The Board prohibits tobacco use and possession by students at any time in a school building and on any property, buses, vans and vehicles that are owned, leased or controlled by the school district.

The Board prohibits tobacco use and possession by students at school-sponsored activities that are held off school property.

The school district may initiate prosecution of a student who possesses or uses tobacco in violation of this policy.

The Superintendent or designee shall annually notify students, parents/guardians and staff about the district's tobacco use policy by publishing such policy in the student handbook, parent newsletters, posted notices, and other efficient methods.

The Superintendent or designee shall develop procedures to implement this policy.

Incidents of possession, use and sale of tobacco in violation of this policy by any person on school property shall be reported to the Office of Safe Schools on the required form at least once each year.

A student convicted of possessing or using tobacco in violation of this policy may be fined up to \$50 plus court costs or admitted to alternative adjudication in lieu of imposition of a fine.

The following procedures will be followed for violations of this policy:

1. The violator will be referred to the principal.
2. The principal shall:
 - a. File a complaint with the local district justice for violation of Act 145.
 - b. Draft letter to parents/guardians citing the offense.
3. Student offenders will return to class unless principal uses suspension option.
4. Disposition of case will be handled by the local district justice. Witnesses, as necessary, will be released from school to appear before the district justice.

Suspension Options

1st Offense: Possession - One day In-School Suspension plus Citation.
Use - Two days In-School Suspension plus Citation.

2nd Offense: Three days Out-of-School Suspension and After-School Alternative plus Citation.

3rd Offense: Three days Out-of-School Suspension and After-School Alternative plus Citation.

4th Offense: Possible recommendation for expulsion for *Willful and Persistent Violation of School Rule*

Annual Notice: Policy #235 - Student Rights / Surveys

This policy sets forth guidelines by which student rights and responsibilities are determined, consistent with law and regulations.

The Board has the authority and responsibility to establish reasonable rules and regulations for the conduct and department of district students. At the same time, no student shall be deprived of equal treatment and equal access to the educational program, due process, a presumption of innocence, and free expression and association, in accordance with Board policy and school rules.

Surveys conducted by outside agencies, organizations and individuals shall be approved by the Board, based on the Superintendent's recommendation, prior to administration to students.

Attendant upon the rights established for each student are certain responsibilities, which include respect for the rights of others; obedience to properly constituted school authority; and compliance with the policies, rules, and regulations of this district.

A student who has reached the age of eighteen (18) years possesses the full rights of an adult and may authorize those school matters previously handled by parents/guardians.

Instructional Materials

Parents/Guardians shall be notified annually that all instructional materials, including teachers' manuals, audiovisuals, or other supplementary instructional material, used in the instructional program shall be available for inspection by the parents/guardians of students, in accordance with Board policy. Instructional materials do not include tests or academic assessments.

Surveys/ Evaluations

All surveys and instruments used to collect information from students shall relate to the district's educational objectives.

Parents/Guardians shall have the right to inspect, upon request, a survey created by a third party prior to administration or distribution to a student. Such requests shall be in writing and submitted to the building principal.

No student shall be required, without written parental consent for students under eighteen (18) years of age or written consent of emancipated students or those over eighteen (18) years, to submit a survey, analysis, or evaluation that reveals information concerning:

1. Political affiliations or beliefs of student or parents/guardians.
2. Mental and psychological problems of the student or family.
3. Sexual behavior or attitudes.
4. Illegal, antisocial, self-incriminating or demeaning behavior.
5. Critical appraisals of other individuals with whom respondents have close family relationships.
6. Legally recognized privileged or analogous relationships, such as those with lawyers, physicians, and ministers.
7. Religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or parents/guardians.
8. Income, other than that required by law to determine eligibility for participation in a program or for receiving financial assistance under such program.

However, such survey, analysis or evaluation may be conducted on a voluntary basis, provided that the student and parent/guardian have been notified of their right to inspect all related materials and to opt the student out of participation. The district shall implement procedures to protect student identity and privacy when a survey contains any of the restricted subject areas listed above.

Collection of Information for Marketing

Parents/Guardians have the right to inspect the material and opt out of the student from participating in any activity that results in the collection, disclosure or use of personal information for purposes of marketing or selling that information. This does not apply to the collection, disclosure or use of personal information collected from students for the exclusive purpose of developing, evaluating, or providing educational products or services for or to students. The Superintendent or designee shall develop and promulgate procedures consistent with law and Board policy to ensure that student rights under varying conditions are properly described.

The Superintendent or designee shall annually notify parents/guardians concerning:

1. Contents of this policy and its availability.
2. Approximate dates that any surveys requesting personal information may be scheduled.
3. Procedures to request access to survey instruments prior to administration.
4. Procedures for opting students out of participation in surveys.

Personal information means individually identifiable information including a student's or parent's/guardian's name, address, telephone number, or social security number.

Annual Notice: Policy #237 - Electronic Devices

Student possession of cell phones and other personal electronic devices, such as pagers, calculators, personal assistants (PDAs), laptop computers, handheld computers, cameras, MP3 players, or any other devices designed to communicate, create or store information **is permitted** by the Highlands School Board. It should be noted that Highlands School District does not recommend bringing personal devices into schools and that owners assume all risks of damage, theft, loss or misuse of such devices. The district shall annually notify students, parent/guardians and staff about the district's electronic device policy by publishing such policy in district publications.

Devices must be powered off or silenced during the school day unless otherwise permitted by district procedures. Use of personal or district technology devices that disrupt the instructional day or includes possession, viewing, sending or sharing video or audio information having sexual, violent or threatening content on school grounds, school events or school buses is prohibited and will result in disciplinary action and/or confiscation of the personal device. Exceptions to any prohibitions set forth in this policy may be made for health, safety or emergency reasons with prior approval of the building principal or designee, or when use is provided in a student's individualized education program (IEP).

Parents and students must sign Acceptable Usage Policy Waiver acknowledging review of Board Policy #815, Acceptable Use of Internet and Computer Resources and knowledge of restrictions, responsibilities and consequences in said policy. Students may not use such devices on school property and school-sponsored activities to access and/or view Internet websites that are otherwise blocked to students at school, such as, but not limited to, FaceBook, MySpace and YouTube.

Student use of such devices in a manner that interrupts the instructional day will result in disciplinary action and/or confiscation of the device. If device is confiscated, it will only be released/returned to a parent/guardian.

Students can only utilize such devices in the classroom with the consent of the teacher. Cameras of any type in restrooms, locker rooms, swimming pool areas or during testing are prohibited. Sending text, image, sound, video or files for the purpose of cheating is grounds for confiscation and/or inspection of transmitted data.

Continued on next page

The following also is prohibited while using such devices on school grounds: sending/displaying offensive messages or pictures; using obscene language; harassing, insulting or attacking others; violating copyright laws; using another person's password/access codes; trespassing in another's digital files, work or folders. Students should not intentionally waste resources, such as excessive downloading or creating viruses. Students may not employ the district network for commercial or any non-educational purposes.

If students do not adhere to the above guidelines or if reasonable suspicion is had regarding infractions of the above guidelines, district authorities will follow these procedures:

- Staff may confiscate the device when in use outside the parameters of the acceptable use guidelines listed here and in Board Policy #815.
- School administration will receive the device and hold until parent/guardian and/or Harrison Township Police inspect device in case of guideline violations involving a sexual, violent or attacking nature.

District staff is not authorized to share, distribute or download any content from a student's personal device. Disciplinary action will be determined by the number of previous violations, the nature of the act, the context in which alleged violations occur. Consequences can vary from revocation of privileges to suspensions, expulsions or legal action.

Annual Notice: Policy #238 - Custody Issues

The district recognizes that the support of parents/guardians is vital to a student's educational success. Communication between the district and parents/guardians is essential. The school district shall promote cooperation among all parties who have a legitimate and legal interest in each student.

It is the responsibility of parents/guardians living at two (2) addresses to notify the principal(s) of their child(ren)'s schools, in writing, of address and effective date of a second parental address.

The school district will make parents/guardians aware of this responsibility through an annual notification in school district publications and/or correspondence.

Parents/Guardians must provide written authorization for the school district to speak to designated others (for example, to grandparents, significant others of parents/guardians, etc.) regarding students. Specifically, school district employees will not share information about students with anyone other than a parent/guardian unless such authorization is in place.

Non-custodial parents/guardians have the same right of access to their child during school hours as the custodial parent/guardian as long as the custodial parent/guardian is notified. However, non-custodial parents/guardians may not remove their child from school without written consent of the custodial parent/guardian.

Unless one or both parents/guardians provide a document to the contrary, the district shall presume that the custodial person will receive report cards, notices, permission slips, etc. The custodial parent/guardian is the parent/guardian with whom the child lives and sleeps, the one who has physical custody, the one who assures compulsory attendance, and the one who is called in an emergency.

Unless one or both parents/guardians provide a document to the contrary, the district shall presume that both parents/guardians have shared or joint custody, giving them the right to make educational decisions. Where legal custody is shared, or there is no order pertaining to custody, both parents/guardians have a right to exercise their rights under special education due process:

1. Both parents/guardians are entitled to notices.

2. Either parent/guardian can object to an evaluation, notice of recommended educational placement, individual education plan, or placement.

If one parent/guardian has been granted sole custody, the district shall deal exclusively with that parent/guardian on all matters, except for access to educational records.

Unless documentation is provided to the contrary, both parents/guardians have access to educational records. Where there is joint legal custody, both parents/guardians will receive copies of all IDEA paperwork, if the district is aware of the addresses of both parents/guardians:

1. If IDEA paperwork requiring a signature (Permission to Evaluate and Notice of Recommended Educational Placement) is returned by one parent/guardian and not the other, action will be taken as directed by the paperwork that was returned.

2. If the parents/guardians return paperwork indicating contrary responses, the Director of Special Education will contact the Court that granted the custody for clarification. If the Court is unable or unwilling to mediate or to render a decision, the district shall request a due process hearing through the Pennsylvania Department of Education, Bureau of Special Education.

The school district will not be responsible for enforcement of custody/visitation situations. Therefore, requests to visit during school hours should not be denied unless there is a reason. It is not the job of the school to ensure that the non-custodial parent/guardian does not pick up the student.

If a non-custodial parent/guardian requests visitation during the school day, an effort will be made to notify the custodial parent/guardian, preferably before the visitation occurs. If a non-custodial parent/guardian attempts to pick up a child, the school district will notify the custodial parent/guardian and/or police before releasing the child.

Parental rights are not affected by institutionalization of the child or by temporary custody by Children, Youth and Family Services.

Annual Notice: McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance Act: Student and Parent Rights

Students and/or parents who live in a shelter, motel, vehicle or campground, on the street, or in an abandoned building, trailer, or other inadequate accommodations because they cannot find or afford housing have certain rights and protections under the Homeless Education Act.

Contact the Highlands School District local liaison officer for homeless education, Dr. Karen King, at 724-224-5880 for information and assistance.

Highlands Media Procedure

The Highlands School District will allow a student's image, verbal or written comments, and a student's work to appear in various multimedia outlets, including newspaper features, television and radio broadcasts, district newsletters, publications, promotional videos, the district's website, and official district Facebook and Twitter pages unless the student's parent or guardian submits a written objection. A parent or guardian may object to the use of their child's image, comments, or work appearing in any form of media by notifying the child's principal within 30 calendar days from the start of the

school year. If a written objection is not received, silence will serve as implied consent. Anyone with questions should contact the district's School and Community Relations Office at 724-226-2400.

Parent Right-to-Know Notification

In compliance with the No Child Left Behind Act, Highlands School District is notifying parents of their right to request information regarding the professional qualifications of their children's classroom teachers, and to receive the information in a timely manner. Requests should be made to the building principal.

Highly Qualified Staff

In compliance with the No Child Left Behind Act, Highlands School District is notifying parents that all Highlands professional staff and paraprofessionals are highly qualified. Parents may request information regarding the professional qualifications of their children's classroom teachers and of the paraprofessionals who provide instructional services to their children. Parents will be notified if their child is assigned to or being taught for four or more consecutive weeks by a teacher who is not highly qualified in a core academic subject.

Right-to-Know Law

The Right-to-Know Law is an Act that provides for access to School District records and information that is open to the public. Requests for records or information must be made in writing and submitted to: Misty Chybrzynski, Open Records Officer, Highlands School District, PO Box 288, Natrona Heights, PA 15065. Written requests also may be sent through e-mail to mchybrzynski@goldenrams.com. A response will be issued within five business days from receipt of the request. There will be a fee charged per page of provided copies of documents.

Compliance Notice

It is the policy of the Highlands School District not to discriminate on the basis of race, sex, religion, color, national origin, disability, age, ancestry or any other legally protected classification in its educational programs, activities or employment policy as required by Title IX of the 1972 Educational Amendments, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Sections 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. For information regarding services, activities, programs and facilities that are accessible to and usable by handicapped persons or for inquiries regarding compliance with the above policies, contact Compliance Officer, Highlands Administrative Center, PO Box 288, Natrona Heights, PA 15065.

Notice of Discrimination Grievance Procedure

Highlands School District has established a comprehensive grievance procedure for complaints of sex discrimination, sexual harassment, and discrimination on the basis of physical or mental handicap. The procedure is in accordance with Title IX of the Education Amendment of 1972 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Any Highlands student or employee, or any individual or group acting in behalf of a student or employee (male or female) may file a grievance of sex discrimination or sexual harassment with the district's Title IX Coordinator. Any handicapped student or employee may file a grievance of discrimination on the basis of physical or mental handicap with the district's 504 Coordinator. Persons with complaints may obtain a copy of the grievance procedure and form from the district's coordinators by contacting Highlands Administrative Center.

Annual Notice: Grievance Procedures for Title IX of the Education Amendment of 1972 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973

I. FILING OF A GRIEVANCE

A. Eligibility for Filing: Any student or employee or any individual or group acting in behalf of a student or employee (male or female) may file any grievance of sex discrimination or sexual harassment with the Title IX Coordinators at the Administrative Center.

B. Pre-grievance Contact: Prior to the submission of a written grievance to a hearing officer, the grievant(s) may request a pre-grievance contact with the respondent alleged to be directly responsible for the violation, and/or with the persons having immediate supervisory authority related to the grievance. These persons may make reasonable efforts to meet with the Title IX or Section 504 Coordinator to discuss the grievance that the student(s) or employee(s) wishes to bring to their attention. Such pre-grievance contact, however, shall be at the option of the grievant(s); it shall not be a precondition of a written grievance to a hearing officer.

C. Grievance Filing: Grievances filed with the Title IX coordinator or Section 504 coordinator shall be in writing on a form provided by the coordinator, and shall provide the following information: *name and address of grievant; nature of alleged violation; names of persons responsible for the alleged violation (where known); requested relief or corrective action (specification of desired relief shall be at the option of the grievant), and any background information the grievant believes to be relevant (e.g. names or groups of other persons affected by the violation, etc.)*

D. Grievance Forms: A grievance form shall be prepared by the grievant and the Title IX coordinator or Section 504 coordinator who will facilitate the filing of the grievance. These forms and a copy of the Grievance Procedures may be obtained from the Title IX coordinator or from the Section 504 coordinator located at the Highlands Administrative Center. The grievant shall have the right to request assistance from the Title IX coordinator or Section 504 coordinator or other individual, group, organization to assist in the preparation of the form or in the filing of the grievance.

E. Time Limit: A grievance must be filed within 60 days of the occurrence of the alleged Title IX violation or the alleged Section 504 violation.

F. Grievance Provisions: Prior to filing a grievance, the grievant shall be informed of the provisions and their rights, and shall be given a copy of Part V: General Provisions.

Annual Notice: Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords parents and students over 18 years of age ("eligible students") certain rights with respect to the student's education records.

They are:

1. *The right to inspect and review the student's education records within thirty days of the day the District receives a request for access.*

Parents or eligible students should submit to the school principal a written request that identifies the record(s) they wish to inspect. The principal will make arrangements for access and notify the parent or eligible student of the time and place where the records may be inspected.

2. *The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the parent or eligible student believes are inaccurate or misleading.*

Parents or eligible students may ask Highlands School District to amend a record they believe is inaccurate or misleading. They should write the school principal, clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and

specify why it is inaccurate or misleading.

If the Highlands School District decides not to amend the record as requested by the parent or eligible student, the District will notify the parent or eligible student of the decision and advise them of their right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing.

3. *The right to consent to disclosure of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent.*

One exception, which permits disclosure without consent, is disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official is a person employed by the District as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel); a person serving on the School Board; a person or company with whom the District has contracted to perform a special task (such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, or therapist); or a parent or student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee, or assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks.

A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the school official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility. Upon request, the District discloses education records without consent to officials of another school district in which a student seeks or intends to enroll.

4. *The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the District to comply with the requirements of FERPA.*

The office that administers FERPA is:
Family Policy Compliance Office, U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20202-5920

Notice of Intent to Disclose Directory Information

The Highlands School District has designated the following as directory information: Name, Address, Phone Number, Height & Weight for Sports, Participation in Official Activities, E-mail Address

The District may disclose this information without prior consent after giving notice of the school's intention to release the information. **A parent or eligible student may object to the release of certain directory information by informing the school principal in writing within 30 days of this publication. Failure to object within the designated time period waives the right to object to the release of the above directory information.**

Parents Have Rights Under the Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment

The Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA) provides parents with certain rights regarding Highlands School District's conduct of surveys, the collection and use of information for marketing purposes, and certain physical exams.

These include the right to:

Consent before students are required to submit to a survey that concerns one or more of the following protected areas ("protected information survey") if the survey is funded in whole or in part by a program of the U.S. Department of Education:

1. Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or student's parent;
2. Mental or psychological problems of the student or student's family;
3. Sex behavior or attitudes;
4. Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior;
5. Critical appraisals of others with whom respondents have close family relationships;
6. Legally recognized privileged relationships, such as with lawyers, doctors, or ministers;
7. Religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or parents; or
8. Income, other than as required by law to determine program eligibility.

Receive notice and an opportunity to opt a student out of:

1. Any other protected information survey, regardless of funding;
2. Any non-emergency, invasive physical exam or screening required as a condition of attendance, administered by the school or its agent, and not necessary to protect the immediate health and safety of a student, except for hearing, vision, or scoliosis screenings, or any physical exam or screening permitted or required under State law; and
3. Activities involving collection, disclosure, or use of personal information obtained from students for marketing or to sell or otherwise distribute the information to others.

Inspect, upon request and before administration or use:

1. Protected information surveys of students;
2. Instruments used to collect personal information from students for any of the above marketing, sales, or other distribution purposes; and
3. Instructional material used as part of the educational curriculum.

These rights transfer from the parents to a student who is 18 years old or an emancipated minor under State law.

Highlands School District has developed and adopted policies regarding these rights, as well as arrangements to protect student privacy in the administration of protected information surveys and the collection, disclosure, or use of personal information for marketing, sales, or other distribution purposes. The District will directly notify parents of these policies at least annually at the start of each school year and after any substantive changes. The District will also directly notify, such as through U.S. Mail or email, parents of students who are scheduled to participate in the specific activities or surveys noted below and will provide an opportunity for the parent to opt his or her child out of participation of the specific activity or survey. For surveys and activities scheduled after the school year starts, parents will be provided reasonable notification of the planned activities and surveys listed below and be provided an opportunity to opt their child out of such activities and surveys. Parents will also be provided the opportunity to review any pertinent surveys. Following is a list of the specific activities and surveys covered under this requirement:

- ~ *Collection, disclosure, or use of personal information for marketing, sales or other distribution.*
- ~ *Administration of any protected information survey not funded in whole or in part by the U.S. Department of Education.*
- ~ *Any non-emergency, invasive physical examination or screening as described above.*

Parents who believe their rights have been violated may file a complaint with:

Family Policy Compliance Office
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, SW,
Washington, D.C. 20202-5920

Annual Notice: Programs for Exceptional Students Offered

Identification of Special Needs Children

The Highlands School District is responsible for locating, identifying and educating children who are in need of special education. If anyone in the community is aware of a child with a disability such as mental retardation, blindness, deafness or a physical disability who is not attending school, please notify Mrs. Debra Lehew at Grandview, 724-224-0300.

Services for Preschool Children

Act 212, the Early Intervention Services Act, entitles all preschool children with disabilities to appropriate early intervention services. Young children experiencing developmental delays or physical or mental disabilities and their families are eligible for early intervention services. At-risk children are eligible for screening and tracking.

The Pennsylvania Department of Education is responsible for providing services to preschool children ages three through five. For information, contact Project DART.*

Special Education Services for School-Age Exceptional Students

Highlands School District provides a free and appropriate public education for exceptional students. To qualify as an exceptional student a child must be of school age, in need of specially-designed instruction, and meet eligibility criteria for mentally gifted and/or one or more of the following physical or mental disabilities, as set forth in Pennsylvania Department of Education standards: autism, deaf/blindness, deafness, emotional disturbance, hearing impairment, mental retardation, multiple disabilities, orthopedic impairment, other health impairment, specific hearing disability, speech or language impairment, traumatic brain injury, and visual impairment.

The district provides identification procedures to ensure that eligible students receive an appropriate educational program consisting of special education and related services individualized to meet specific needs. These services are provided at no cost to parents in compliance with state and federal law, and are reasonably calculated to yield meaningful educational benefits.

To identify students who may be eligible for special education, various screening activities are conducted on an on-going basis. These screening activities include: a review of group-based data (cumulative records, enrollment records, health records, report cards, ability and achievement test scores); hearing, vision, physical and speech/language screening; and review by a building-level Instructional Support Team. When screening results suggest that a student might be exceptional, the district will seek parental consent to conduct a multidisciplinary evaluation (MDE). Parents who suspect that their child is exceptional may request a multidisciplinary evaluation at any time by a written request to the school principal or the Director of Special Education.

Services designed to meet the needs of exceptional students include the annual development of an Individualized Education Program (IEP), tri-annual multidisciplinary re-evaluation, supportive intervention in the regular class, supplemental intervention in the regular class, or in a special education itinerant, supplemental, and full-time special education class in a regular school, or placement in a full-time special education class at a location other than the regular school.

The extent of special education services, and the location for the delivery of such services are determined by the IEP team, and are based on the student's identified needs and abilities, chronological age, and the level of intensity of the specified intervention. The district provides related services, such

as transportation, physical therapy and occupational therapy, that may be required for the student to benefit from the special education program.

Parents of exceptional students should know that their children have the same rights to participate in extracurricular activities as do non-exceptional children.

Procedural Safeguards

Upon completion of the written IEP, a Notice of Recommended Educational Placement (NOREP) will be issued to the parent for the parent's signature. The parent must indicate on the NOREP whether he/she agrees or disagrees with all or certain parts of the program and placement. If the parent disagrees with the NOREP, then a prehearing conference may be held. The parents and the school district each have the right to "waive" the prehearing conference, which means they choose not to participate, and therefore give up the right to have this conference. If the conference is held, it should provide school personnel and parents an opportunity to resolve the disagreement informally. Prehearing conferences can be requested by a parent at any time.

Other methods for solving disputes are the filing of a complaint, mediation and due process hearings. Student rights also include notice, consent and confidentiality of records.

Parents may obtain additional information regarding special education services, programs, and procedural safeguards by contacting the school principal or the Director of Special Education. Students who have been identified as not being exceptional for special education, as defined by special education regulations, may have written recommendations for regular education.

Services for Protected Handicapped Students

In compliance with state and federal law, Highlands School District will provide for protected handicapped students those services or accommodations which are needed to provide equal opportunity to participate in and obtain the benefits of the school program and extracurricular activities. These related aids are provided without discrimination or cost to the student or parents. In order to qualify as a protected handicapped student, the child must be of school age with a physical or mental disability which substantially limits or prohibits participation in or access to an aspect of the school program.

Services and protections for protected handicapped students are distinct from those applicable to exceptional students enrolled or seeking enrollment in special education programs.

For further information about the evaluation procedures, and provision of services to protected handicapped students, contact the Director of Special Education.

Confidentiality

In compliance with state and federal law, Highlands School District protects the confidentiality of personally identifiable information regarding exceptional and protected handicapped students. Parents have the rights to review, inspect, make copies and request a list of all individuals having access to those records. Parents and guardians must contact the building principal to arrange to view records. Copies of the Highlands School District Policy for Collection, Maintenance, and Disclosure of Student Records may be obtained at the Highlands School District Administrative Center.

*Allegheny Intermediate Unit, 475 E. Waterfront Drive, Homestead, PA 15120, or phone 412-394-5700.

918. Title I Parental Involvement Policy

1. Purpose

The Board recognizes that parental involvement contributes to the achievement of academic standards by students participating in Title I programs. The Board views the education of students as a cooperative effort among the school, parents/guardians and community.

2. Authority 20 U.S.C. Sec. 6318

In compliance with federal law, the district and parents/guardians of students participating in Title I programs shall jointly develop and agree upon a written parental involvement policy. When developing and implementing this policy, the district shall ensure the policy describes how the district will:

1. Involve parents/guardians in the joint development of the district's overall Title I plan and the process of school review and improvement **by conducting monthly building and/or district PAC meetings attended by parents, teachers, administrators and Board members.**

2. Provide the coordination, technical assistance and other support necessary to assist participating schools in planning and implementing effective parental involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance, including assistance in understanding state academic content and performance standards, state and local assessments, requirements of Title 1.

3. Develop activities that promote the schools' and parents/guardians' capacity for strong parental involvement **by promoting an atmosphere of open communication and cooperation.**

4. Coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies with appropriate programs, as provided by law, including information on how to work with business partners and other community organizations to learn about Title 1 and to encourage school/family/community partnerships.

5. Involve parents/guardians in an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the policy in improving the academic quality of schools served under Title I **through explanation and discussion of policy details.**

6. Identify barriers to participation by parents/guardians who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority **and find ways to strengthen outreach.**

7. Use findings of annual evaluations to design strategies for more effective parental involvement that will be implemented throughout the district as appropriate.

8. Involve parents/guardians in the activities of schools served under Title I. 20 U.S.C. Sec. 6318 The Board shall adopt and distribute the parental involvement policy, which shall be incorporated into the district's Title I plan and shall be evaluated annually, with parental involvement.

3. Delegation of Responsibility

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that the district's Title I parental involvement policy, plan and programs comply with the requirements of federal law. The building principal and/or Title I staff shall provide to parents/guardians of students participating in Title I programs:

1. Explanation of the reasons supporting their child's selection for the program.

2. Set of objectives to be addressed.

Continued on next page

Title I Parent Involvement Policy cont.

3. Description of the services to be provided.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that information and reports provided to parents/guardians are in an understandable and uniform format and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents/guardians can understand.

4. Guidelines 20 U.S.C. Sec. 6318

An annual meeting of parents/guardians of participating Title I students shall be held to explain the goals and purposes of the Title I program. Parents/Guardians shall be given the opportunity to participate in the design, development, operation and evaluation of the program. Parents/Guardians shall be encouraged to participate in planning activities, to offer suggestions, and to ask questions regarding policies and programs. In addition to the required annual meeting, additional parent/guardian meetings shall be held at various times of the day and evening. At these meetings, parents/guardians shall be provided:

1. Information about programs provided under Title I.
2. Description and explanation of the curriculum in use, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress, and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet.
3. Opportunities to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children.
4. Opportunities to submit parent/guardian comments about the program to the district level.

If sufficient, Title I funding may be used to facilitate parent/guardian attendance at meetings through payment of transportation and child care costs. Opportunities shall be provided for parents/guardians to meet with the classroom and Title I teachers to discuss their child's progress. Parents/Guardians may be given guidance as to how they can assist at home in the education of their child. Whenever Title I parents/guardians are involved in the planning, review, and improvement of the educational programs of the district and require transportation, child care, home visits or other services in order to participate, related expenses may, at the discretion of the district, be paid from Title I funds. The goal of our partnership is to develop programs, activities, and procedures collaboratively, airing differences as needed to increase the capacity for parental involvement to all families in the district.

School-Parental Compact

Pol. 102

Each school in the district receiving Title I funds shall jointly develop with parents/ guardians of students served in the program a School-Parental Compact outlining the manner in which parents/guardians, school staff and students share responsibility for improved student achievement in meeting academic standards. The compact shall: 1. Describe the school's responsibility to provide high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment, enabling students in the Title I program to meet the district's academic standards.

2. Indicate the ways in which parents/guardians will be responsible for supporting their children's learning, such as monitoring attendance, homework completion, and television watching; volunteering in the classroom; and participating, as appropriate, in decisions related to their child's education and positive use of extracurricular time.

3. Address the importance of parent-teacher communication on an ongoing basis through, at a minimum, parent-teacher conferences, frequent reports to parents.

Additional Title I information and Title I newsletters are available on the district's website, www.GoldenRams.com.

CHANGING Our District ~ KEEPING with Tradition

