



Highland School District

Back to School! 2023-2024

From the desk of the Superintendent...

Welcome to the beginning of another exciting and challenging school year! As we start the new year, a reminder that the Board of Directors approved building grade level and name changes. MWC will house PK-2nd grade, TIS will now be called Tieton Elementary School (TES) and will house grades 3-5. HJH will become Highland Middle School (HMS) with grades 6-8. Highland High School (HHS) remains the same.

We are in the process of implementing our capital levy projects made possible by the support of our community. The initial priority per the Board of Directors and Facilities committee has been HVAC systems, instructional space, and roofing improvements. We have determined that the best way to address the project costs and supply chain issues, is to run the project in 2 phases. Phase 1, which is under way, is the remodel for the HMS commons. Phase 2 will start next April and will include the HMS roof and HVAC upgrades/units for both HMS and HHS. This phase-in approach allows us to fund the HMS commons as needed to meet budget as well as accrue the allotment in April to include the phase 2 items. It will also ensure we do not extend the budget as monies come in per the capital project yearly allocations as voted on by the local taxpayers. The Board of Directors will spend time this school year mapping out priorities for the remainder of the 6-year levy.

As always, please feel free to contact the district office if we can be of service. I am optimistic 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 9 Fall Sports Parent/Student Athlete Meeting
- ◆ August 15 School Board Regular Meeting
- ◆ August 17 TES Meet-n-Greet 5 pm
- ◆ August 17 HMS & HHS Orientation 6 & 7 pm
- ◆ August 21 First Day of Class- 1st-12th grades
- ◆ August 22 HMS/HHS Picture Day
- ◆ August 24 First Day of Class-Kindergarten
- ◆ August 24-25 Kinder/Transitional Kinder Orientations
- ◆ September 4 Labor Day-No School
- ◆ September 19 School Board Regular Board Meeting
- ◆ September 22 Early Release - HJH & HHS Only
- ◆ October 6 Early Release - All grades
- ◆ October 9-13 Conferences-watch for details
- ◆ October 16-20 Fall Intersession
- ◆ October 17 School Board Meeting
- ◆ November 10 Veterans Day-Observed- No School
- ◆ 9 ago Reunión para padres/estudiantes de deportes del otoño
- ◆ 15 ago Reunión del junta de directores escolares
- ◆ 17 ago Evento de Bienvenido para TES 5 pm
- ◆ 17 ago Orientación de HMS 6 pm
- ◆ 17 ago Reunión de orientación de HHS 7 pm
- ◆ 21 ago Primer día de clases, grados 1-12
- ◆ 22 ago Día de Fotos para la HMS/HHS
- ◆ 24 ago Primer día de clases, kínder
- ◆ 24-25 ago. Orientaciones para kínder transitoria
- ◆ 4 sept Día de Trabajo - no clases
- ◆ 19 sept Reunión del junta de directores escolares
- ◆ 22 sept Salida temprano HMS y HHS solamente 6° - 12°
- ◆ 6 oct Salida temprano - para todos los grados
- ◆ 9-13 oct Conferencias-Esté atento a los detalles
- ◆ 16-20 oct Intersesión- Semana aprendizaje adicional
- ◆ 10 nov Día de los veteranos observada-no clases

Welcome from the Marcus Whitman Cowiche ES 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

All **1st grade** through **2nd grade** students will be joining us on **August 21st 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 21st through the 23rd prior to their first day on campus. 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 24th and Friday, August 25th from 8:00am to 11:30am**. All **Pre-School** students will begin their first day of school on **Monday, August 28, 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 school year we are so excited to have **Marcie O'Neal** and **Teryne Ollie** joining our Marcus Whitman Staff. **Marice O'Neal** will be taking on the role as a Science Specialist for both MWC and TES. Providing additional science and stem opportunities for our students. **Teryne Ollie** will be taking on the role as the Art/Music Specialist for both MWC and TES. In addition, we have a few staff changes this school year. **Yolanda Rivera** will be transitioning to a Transitional Kindergarten

ten position within the building, continuing to serve our pre-school students. **Brenda Marin** will be joining our 2nd grade team.

We are currently planning our **“Welcome Back Open House”** to take place on **August 17th, from 4:00-5:00 p.m.** The building will be open and staff available until 6 pm to accommodate families with students at other buildings. This will be an opportunity for everyone to meet their child's teacher and visit their classroom prior to the first day of school. Please be on the lookout for additional information regarding times.

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.

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 2023-2024 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 2023-2024.

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 from the Tieton Elementary School Principal

Welcome to the 2023-2024 school year! Everyone at Tieton Elementary School is committed to our mission of providing a place for all students to grow and we are excited to work with your students this coming school year.

I am excited to be the principal of Tieton Elementary School. For those who don't know me, I have served as the Highland High School principal for the past ten years and have eighteen years' experience as a principal. This will be my thirtieth year in education. I look forward to continuing to serve the Highland community in this new capacity. I am also excited about the change made to transition this school from an intermediate school to an elementary model, with grades 3-5. For those coming from MWC, the school schedule and teaching blocks will be very similar. We expect this will allow for a smooth transition. What has not changed is our goal of providing excellent educational opportunities and a positive learning environment for all our students.

I truly believe that communication is the key to a successful educational experience. Students benefit as parents and guardians are involved in their learning. You, as a parent, are a valuable component to your child's education. We must work as a team to guide your children toward success. As such, I hope that you will be able to join us at our "Welcome Back" event on August 17th. This event will allow me the opportunity to speak with all in attendance and give students the opportunity to meet their teachers and see the building. We plan to have a more formal event in early September.

You are welcome to contact me anytime to ask questions or give feedback. I look forward to an excellent school year of building new relationships and helping all students enjoy school and be successful. This is going to be a great year!

—Brandon Jensen, Principal



¡Bienvenidos al año escolar 2023-2024! Todos en la Escuela Primaria de Tieton están comprometidos con nuestra misión de proporcionar un lugar para que todos los estudiantes crezcan y estamos emocionados de trabajar con sus estudiantes este próximo año escolar.

Estoy feliz de ser el director de la Escuela Primaria de Tieton. Para aquellos que no me conocen, he servido como director de Highland High School durante los últimos diez años y tengo dieciocho años de experiencia como director. Este será mi trigésimo año en educación. Espero continuar sirviendo a la comunidad de Highland en esta nueva capacidad. También estoy entusiasmado con el cambio realizado para la transición de esta escuela de una escuela intermedia a un modelo elemental, con los grados 3-5. Para los que vienen del MWC, el horario escolar y los bloques de enseñanza serán muy similares. Esperamos que esto permita una transición sin problemas. Lo que no ha cambiado es nuestro objetivo de proporcionar excelentes oportunidades educativas y un ambiente de aprendizaje positivo para todos nuestros estudiantes.

Realmente creo que la comunicación es la clave para una experiencia educativa exitosa. Los estudiantes se benefician ya que los padres están involucrados en su aprendizaje. Usted, como padre, es un componente valioso para la educación de su hijo. Debemos trabajar en equipo para guiar a sus hijos hacia el éxito. Como tal, espero que pueda unirse a nosotros en nuestro evento "Bienvenido de nuevo" en 17 de agosto. Este evento me dará la oportunidad de hablar con todos los asistentes y dar a los estudiantes la oportunidad de conocer a sus maestros y ver el edificio. Planeamos tener un evento más formal a principios de septiembre.

Le invito a ponerse en contacto conmigo en cualquier momento para hacer preguntas o dar su opinión. Espero un excelente año escolar de construir nuevas relaciones y ayudar a todos los estudiantes a disfrutar de la escuela y tener éxito. ¡Este va a ser un gran año!

—Brandon Jensen, Director

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 from the Highland Middle School Principal



Greetings from Highland Middle School!

This year we welcome the 6th grade to our middle level campus. We are very excited to transition to a middle school and work with these three grade levels. Our remodel is well underway, and we eagerly await it's completion.

Highland Middle School will hold its HMS Orientation night on Thursday, August 17, from 6:00-7:30pm. All students and parents should attend orientation. The evening starts in the high school gym with information provided to parents. Then students will go and meet their advisors and receive information regarding their schedule, Final Forms, Skyward, HMS student handbook, and other details about HMS.

School starts on Monday, August 21 at 9:00am. The Highland Middle School day is from 9:00am-3:30pm (10:00am-3:30pm on Thursdays). The Highland Middle School webpage should be kept updated with important information. The student handbook is available within the "For Students" section. Please review this for further details about our school, including rules and expectations.

It is going to be a GREAT year at Highland Middle School. Thank you for your support!

Don Strother, Highland MS Principal
dstrother@highland.wednet.edu
(509) 678-8872



¡Saludos desde la Escuela Secundaria Highland!

Este año le damos la bienvenida al sexto grado a nuestro campus de nivel medio. Estamos muy emocionados de hacer la transición a una escuela intermedia y trabajar con estos tres niveles de grado. Nuestra remodelación está en marcha y esperamos ansiosamente su finalización.

Highland Middle School llevará a cabo su noche de orientación de HMS el jueves 17 de agosto de 6:00 p. m. a 7:30 p. m. Todos los estudiantes y padres deben asistir a la orientación. La noche comienza en el gimnasio de la escuela secundaria con información proporcionada a los padres. Luego, los estudiantes irán y se reunirán con sus asesores y recibirán información sobre su horario, formularios finales, Skyward, manual del estudiante de HMS y otros detalles sobre HMS.

La escuela comienza el lunes 21 de agosto a las 9:00 am. El día de Highland Middle School es de 9:00 am a 3:30 pm (10:00 am a 3:30 pm los jueves). La página web de Highland Middle School debe mantenerse actualizada con información importante. El manual del estudiante está disponible en la sección "Para estudiantes". Revise esto para obtener más detalles sobre nuestra escuela, incluidas las reglas y expectativas.

Va a ser un GRAN año en Highland Middle School. ¡Gracias por tu apoyo!

Don Strother, director de Highland MS
dstrother@highland.wednet.edu
(509) 678-8872

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 no cost.

Many Highland students prefer our College in the High School program to the traditional Running Start program because it makes it easier for 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 from the Highland High School Principal



Hello Highland Families and Community,

Welcome everyone to the 2023-2024 school year! I am honored to serve in a new role as principal of Highland High School. I graduated from Highland in 1998 and have been a Social Studies teacher and coach here since 2010. I have enjoyed my time here and look forward to continuing to work with the students and families of the Highland community in this new capacity. My goal is to ensure the school offers positive growth opportunities for all students in both academics and extracurriculars.

PLEASE NOTE: FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL CHANGES

We will have a new format for the first day of school this year. Freshman Orientation for 9th graders will take place at the normal start time of 9:00am and continue with classes in the afternoon. Students in grades 10-12 will attend a shortened schedule that includes all classes in the afternoon only. Buses will run twice to provide transportation for both start times. Further details will be available at the Open House on 8/17.

Back to School Dates

8/17 = Back to School Open House at 7:00 pm to get schedules, meet teachers, visit classrooms, and receive first day of school details.

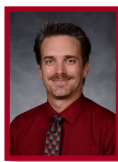
8/21 = First Day of School. Grade 9 begins at 9:00. Grades 10-12 will attend for the afternoon only.

9/13 = Parent Night at HHS. Specific times will be announced as the date approaches.

A few other reminders as we approach the start of the school year include the importance of student attendance, parental involvement, and ongoing communication. Consistent student attendance is the best strategy for academic success. Research also shows that parental involvement has a tremendous impact on student outcomes. The school uses many methods of communication including emails, phone calls, and the website. We strive to be receptive to concerns. Please contact me at jgillespie@highland.wednet.edu or 509-678-8800 to share questions or concerns. Thank you!

Hola familias y comunidad de Highland,

---Jeremy Gillespie
Principal



¡Bienvenidos todos al año escolar 2023-2024!

Me siento honrado de servir en un nuevo rol como director de Highland High School. Me gradué de Highland en 1998 y he sido profesor de estudios sociales, y entrenadora aquí desde 2010. He disfrutado mi tiempo aquí y espero continuar trabajando con los estudiantes y las familias de la comunidad de Highland en esta nueva capacidad. Mi objetivo es garantizar que la escuela ofrezca oportunidades de crecimiento positivo para todos los estudiantes, tanto en lo académico como en lo extracurricular.

TENGA EN CUENTA: PRIMER DÍA DE CAMBIOS DE ESCUELA

Tendremos un nuevo formato para el primer día de clases este año. La orientación de primer año para estudiantes de 9^o grado se llevará a cabo a la hora de inicio normal de las 9:00 a.m. y continuará con clases por la tarde. Los estudiantes en los grados 10-12 asistirán a un horario reducido que incluye todas las clases solo por la tarde. Los autobuses funcionarán dos veces para proporcionar transporte en ambos horarios de inicio. Más detalles estarán disponibles en la Casa Abierta el 17/8.

Fechas de regreso a clases

8/17 = Casa Abierta de Regreso a la Escuela a las 7:00 pm para obtener horarios, conocer a los maestros, visitar las aulas y recibir detalles sobre el primer día de clases.

8/21 = Primer día de clases. El grado 9 comienza a las 9:00. Los grados 10-12 asistirán solo por la tarde.

9/13 = Noche de padres en HHS. Los horarios específicos se anunciarán a medida que se acerque la fecha. Algunos otros recordatorios a medida que nos acercamos al comienzo del año escolar incluyen la importancia de la asistencia de los estudiantes, la participación de los padres y la comunicación continua. La asistencia constante de los estudiantes es la mejor estrategia para el éxito académico. La investigación también muestra que la participación de los padres tiene un tremendo impacto en los resultados de los estudiantes. La escuela utiliza muchos métodos de comunicación, incluidos correos electrónicos, llamadas telefónicas y el sitio web. Nos esforzamos por ser receptivos a las preocupaciones. Comuníquese conmigo a jgillespie@highland.wednet.edu o al 509-678-8800 para compartir preguntas o inquietudes.

¡Gracias!

---Jeremy Gillespie
Director

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, Tieton Elementary 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, Tieton Elementary School Principal and Civil Rights Compliance Coordinator, 17000 Summitview Rd., Cowiche, WA 98923; 509-678-8800, bjensen@highland.wednet.edu

Welcome from the Athletic Director



It is time to gear up for another thrilling year of Highland Scottie Athletics. Before we preview the 2023-2024 year, I would like to congratulate the boys and girls soccer teams on earning 3rd and 4th place finishes in State last year. Way to go Scotties!

Kicking off the fall sports season, the HS football team will be taking the field for their first practice on August 16th in preparation for their first game at Wapato on September 1st. Cross country, girls soccer, and volleyball begin practice for their seasons on Monday, August 21st and contests begin the week of September 4th. For our Middle School athletes, practices begin on August 28th and contests will begin the week of September 11th. It's an exciting time as our young athletes showcase their talents in cross country, football, volleyball, and boys soccer. These young student-athletes are the future of our sports programs, and we can't wait to witness their growth and achievements. All athletic schedules can be accessed from your computer or mobile device by visiting www.goscottiesathletics.com. HMS schedules will be available the second week of September.

In addition to the fall sports, we'll also have an array of winter and spring sports, offering a diverse range of opportunities for students to get involved and represent Highland with pride. **Please register for the 2023-2024 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 needs to be turned in to athletic secretaries, Mrs. Silva (HHS) or Mrs. Diaz (HMS), prior to the start of the first practice or one day prior to being eligible to participate.

As we look forward to the upcoming year, I want to emphasize the importance of communication, sportsmanship, teamwork, and dedication on and off the field. Highland has always been known for its supportive community, and I have no doubt that this year will be any different. The energy and enthusiasm you bring to the stands make a world of difference for our young competitors, boosting their morale and igniting their passion for the game. They put in hours of hard work and dedication, and now they need you to witness their achievements firsthand. Let's create an electric atmosphere, cheering the Scotties on to victory and showing them that we stand by their side every step of the way.

Remember to purchase your family passes for 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.



---Josh Borland, Athletic Director

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.

All students will be screened at end of 2nd grade using the Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT). Students who are identified as possibly Highly Capable will receive a parent letter and be referred to the Multi-Disciplinary Committee. The Committee will analyze multiple data points to determine eligibility for Highly Capable Services. IN addition to the school-wide screening students may be referred to the Multi-Disciplinary Committee by teachers, staff, parents, students or community members. The Committee will analyze multiple data points to determine eligibility for Highly Capable Services. Additional assessment data may be drawn from DIBELS, STAR, iXL, CogAT, Wechsler Intelligence Scale for Children, Renzulli, PSAT, SAT, ACT, or Accuplacer tests.

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 13, 2023**.

21st Century Info



Highland 21st Century Programs

The 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 TES it is Mike Kranz, and for HMS 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 TES, and FMarin@highland.wednet.edu for HMS & HHS.

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

~Thomas A. Edison

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.

Important! Family Income Survey

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, TES and HMS to help students in both reading and math. Also, paid for with these funds are the additional reading and math support classes at HMS, and credit retrieval for juniors and seniors at the high school. LAP funding also provides additional reading support classes at the HMS/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 your child's school 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.

**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.**

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

Parent-Are Your Kids Ready for School? Required Immunizations for School Year 2023-2024 Padres, ¿están sus hijos listos para la escuela? Vacunas requeridas para el ciclo escolar 2023-24

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/

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.

Highland Community Coalition Updates:

National Take Back Day (October 2023)

We are hosting our next National Prescription Take Back Day on **October 2023 please stand by for the date. This will take place at the Highland Community Food Bank, 414 Maple St, Tieton.** Come and drop off your unused and unwanted medication The first 25 people to show up will get a surprise box.

Starts with one Campaign:

We will start our Starts with One Campaign. Lock up your medications and safely dispose of unused medications. Learn more by visiting: <https://getthefactsrx.com/storage-disposal>



Second Step :

We are serving about 175 students in social emotional learning through our partnership with the Junior High School

If you are interested in learning more about these programs, you are welcome to attend our Coalition meetings. Our next tentative Coalition meeting will be on September 11 from **4:00-6:00 pm**. We are meeting in person at the **Highland Jr/Sr High School library** and via Zoom. Join using the link: <https://bit.ly/HighlandCoalition2022>

If you cannot attend, but you would like to stay in touch, please like/follow us in our social media pages and help us spread the words. We are better together.

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

Actualizaciones de la Coalición de Highland:

Día internacional de devolución de medicamentos será en **(Octubre 2023)** La coalición de Highland será parte del día nacional de devolución de medicamentos. **El evento será en Octubre tendremos más información sobre el día pronto.** Los esperamos en el banco de comida de Highland. La dirección es **414 Maple St, Tieton, WA 98947**. Las primeras 25 personas en llegar recibirán una bolsa de premio.

Campaña Comienza con Uno:

Empezaremos con nuestra campaña Comienza con Uno. Esta campaña le enseña la importancia de aguardar sus medicamentos y la importancia de desecharla de forma segura cuando ya no la necesita. Para obtener más información, visite: <https://es.getthefactsrx.com/en/almacenamiento-y-eliminacion>



HIGHLAND
Community Coalition

Segundo Paso:

175 estudiantes están recibiendo educación de emocional social gracias a la colaboración que la coalición tiene con la escuela secundaria. (Junior High)

Si está interesado en aprender más sobre estos programas, está cordialmente invitado a nuestras juntas de coalición. Nuestra próxima Junta será 11 de Septiembre de 4:00-6:00 pm. Nos reuniremos en persona en la escuela Highland Jr/Sr High biblioteca y por zoom. <https://bit.ly/HighlandCoalition2022>

Si no puede asistir a las juntas, pero le gustaría participar en los eventos o le gustaría ayudar, por favor dele me gusta en nuestras redes sociales. Ayúdenos a compartir la información para educarnos. ¡Somos mejor Juntos!



Highlandcoalition2019



Highland Community Coalition



Highland Community Coalition@HighlandCommuni

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 Maritza Silva-Transportation 678-8631 if you have ques-

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.

Recent HHS Grad Megan Jacobson wins Unleashed Awards



Maria, holding Best Community Feature, Year's Best Illustration & Illustrator of the Year certificates, standing next to David Goehner, Unleashed program coordinator.



Maria, holding her certificates for 2022-23 Best Community Feature, and Year's Best Illustration.

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 11. The 2023 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 2022-23 edition of the Unleashed program involved high school students from Davis, East Valley, Eisenhower, Highland, La Salle, Naches Valley, Riverside Christian, Selah, Sunnyside, Toppenish, 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 at the newspaper's building.

From July of 2022 through June of 2023, the students in Unleashed collectively produced 251 articles that were published in the Sunday pages of the Yakima Herald-Republic, as well as 108 photographs and 8 illustrations. An additional eight articles and 67 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.

HHS 2023 grad Maria Jacobson, a three-year member of Unleashed, was named Illustrator of the Year for the third consecutive year. Additionally, Maria's original artwork for her review of the TV series, "The Umbrella Academy" (pub. 7/31/22) earned the award for Year's Best Illustration and, by a vote of the Unleashed team, the Staff Choice Award for favorite Illustration. She also received the award for Best Community Feature for her article on how body donations are used in the education of medical students at Pacific Northwest University (pub. 6/25/23).



2023-2024 Unleashed Year's Best Illustration
The Umbrella Academy

NOTE: This page contains mandatory notices that we are required to publish each year. Please take the time to read them and call your school (HHS 678-8800, HMS 678-8870, TES 678-8700, MWC 678-8900) or the District Office (678-8630) if you have any questions.



HSD launched ParentSquare—a simple and unified school-to-home communication platform—to reach and engage every parent, helping ensure all parents have the opportunity to actively participate in their children's education. ParentSquare is now available for staff and parents to use on their computers or mobile devices.

By unifying multiple tools into one communications app and service, ParentSquare provides a seamless experience for parents and staff. Parents will be able to keep track of news, activities and events from all their children's schools in one place.

HSD hopes that ParentSquare's intuitive, two-way platform will foster greater communication and family involvement. With ParentSquare, parents can enjoy photos posted by teachers, fill out forms and permission slips, sign up for parent-teacher conferences, check grades and attendance, and much more. School staff and parents can engage in both one-to-one and group messaging with real-time language translation.



iOS



Android

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:

- a) Children released by the resident district to attend another public or approved private school;
- b) Children receiving home-based instruction;
- c) 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 678-8800, HMS 678-8870, TES 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.

District Information Available Online

Highland School District Bus Schedules; Board meeting agendas and minutes; Policies; Instructional Calendar; News and Notes— An Education Update for the Highland Community (District Newsletter) are available online at the **district website:** www.highland.wednet.edu If you have questions please call the District Office at 678-8630 or your student’s school. Copies of the 2023-2024 Instructional Calendar are also available at the school offices and the District Office.

Update on H.A.L.E.

Highland’s Alternative Learning Experience, H.A.L.E, originally set to begin with the 2023-2024 school year has experienced a snag and has been paused. The updated expected implementation is for the 2024-2025 school year. In the coming months, please watch for more details about the program, where to get information and how to enroll.

Highland Country Fair August 25-27, 2023 - Tieton, WA



COME ONE, COME ALL!

FUN FOR EVERYONE AT THE CITY SQUARE IN TIETON

- ◇ Street Dances Friday & Saturday Nights
- ◇ Parade Saturday Morning
- ◇ Pancake Feed Sunday Morning

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



Marcus Whitman Cowiche Elementary (K-2)

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
Director of Federal Programs: Kirsten Lenz
Data Entry Specialist: Angie Valdez
School District Nurse: Amanda Baughman
School Counselor: TBD

Highland Middle School (6-8)

17000 Summitview Rd
PO Box 38, Cowiche 98923
(509) 678-8870 Fax: (509) 678-4006
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.
HMS Principal: Don Strother
Athletic Director/Dean of Students: Josh Borland
Athletic/Attendance Secretary: Lourdes Diaz
Meal Program Secretary: Lizz Kramer
HJH School Counselor: Rebecca Kok

Student Services Offices (P-12)

17000 Summitview Rd / 1181 Thompson 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: Kyara Halls
Secretary: Ana Garcia
Migrant Recruiter } Elizabeth Thompson
McKinney Vento }

Tieton Elementary School (3-5)

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: Brandon Jensen
Head Secretary/Registrar: Carmen Rodriguez
Meal Program/Transportation Secretary: Maritza Silva
School Counselor: TBD

Highland High School (9-12)

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: Jeremy Gillespie
Athletic Director/Dean of Students: Josh Borland
Registrar: Traci Connolly
Athletic/Attendance Secretary: Geobany Silva
ASB Secretary: Melva St. George
Meal Program Secretary: Lizz Kramer
HHS School Counselor: Kari Sterns

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
A/-Purchasing Officer Melissa Benicio
District Admin Asst./HR Asst.: Julie Notman

HIGHLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT

School Calendar



2023-2024

Approved by Highland School District
Board of Directors on February 6, 2023.

“A QUALITY EDUCATION FOR ALL STUDENTS”

Significant Dates:

- Aug.15-17 PLD
- Aug. 21 First Day of School: 1st-12th grades
- Aug. 24 First Day of Kindergarten
- Sept. 4 Labor Day-**No School**
- **Sept. 22 Early Release: **HMS & HHS ONLY (6-12)**
- Oct. 6 Teacher Grading Day/Conf. Prep-**Early Release**
- **Oct. 9 **HHS & HMS ONLY-Full day of classes**
- Oct. 9-13 Conferences: **Early Release-MWC & TES**
- Oct. 10-13 Conferences: **Early Release-HMS & HHS**
- Oct. 12 **NO LATE START**
- Oct.16-20 **Intersession Week**
- Nov. 10 Veterans Day Observed-**No School**
- Nov. 21 School Break-**Early Release**
- Nov. 22-23 Thanksgiving Break- **No School**
- Nov. 24 Native American Heritage Day-**No School**
- Dec. 19 Winter Break-**Early Release**
- Dec.20–Jan.2 Winter Break - **No School**
- Jan. 15 MLK Jr Day-**No School**
- Jan. 19 Teacher Grading Day/Semester End-**Early Release**
- Feb. 12-16 **Intersession Week**
- Feb. 19 President’s Day - **No School**
- Feb. 20 PLD-**No School**
- Mar. 22 Teacher Grading Day/Conf. Prep-**Early Release**
- Mar. 25-29 Conference Week-**Early Release each day**
- Mar. 28 **NO LATE START**
- April 1-5 Spring Break - **No School**
- May 20-24 **Intersession Week**
- May 27 Memorial Day-**No School**
- June 14 Grading Day-HHS Graduation-**Early Release**
- June 19 Juneteenth/Emancipation Day - **No School**
- June 21 Last Day of School-**Early Release**
- July 4 4th of July Holiday

August 2023

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		1	2	3	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		

September 2023

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					1	2
3	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

October 2023

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	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				

November 2023

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	2	3	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		

December 2023

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					1	2
3	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

January 2024

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	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			

February 2024

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	2	3
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		

March 2024

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					1	2
3	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

April 2024

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	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				

May 2024

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	2	3	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	

June 2024

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						1
2	3	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

July 2024

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	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			

Legend

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

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

ECRWSS
Postal Customer

“A QUALITY EDUCATION FOR ALL STUDENTS”

Highland Board of Directors

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

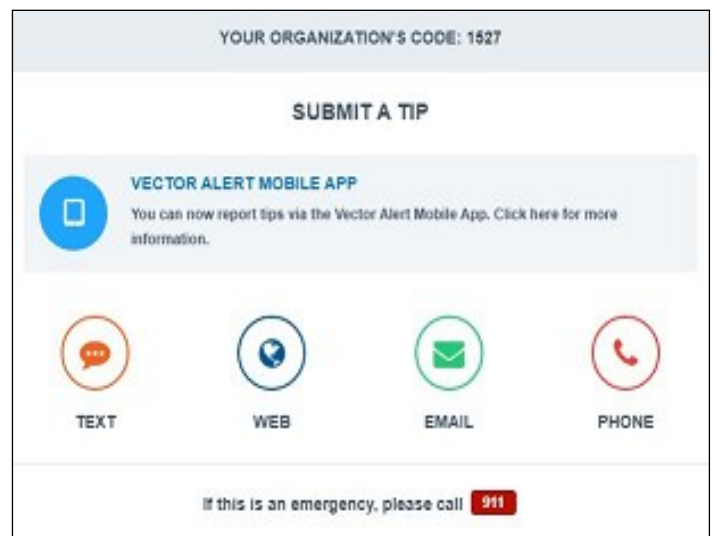


Carlos López, Director
Cindy Reed, Director
Mark Anderson, Superintendent

HIGHLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT HOMEPAGE www.highland.wednet.edu



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, Tieton Elementary School Principal, 711 Franklin Rd, Tieton WA 98947, 509-678-8900, 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 Middle School Principal, 17000 Summitview Rd, Cowiche, WA 98923, 509-678-8870, 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 Tieton Elementary School, 711 Franklin Rd, Tieton WA 98947, 509-678-8900, bjensen@highland.wednet.edu. Coordinador de la sección 504/ADA: Courtney Sund, Directora de Educación Especial y SEL, 17000 Summitview Rd, Cowiche, WA 98923, 509-678-8900, csund@highland.wednet.edu. Coordinador de Acoso e Intimidación: Don Strother, Director de Highland Middle School, 17000 Summitview Rd, Cowiche, WA 98923, 509-678-8870, 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.