

Welcome to Highland! The next edition of the Eagle News will be Monday, September 19th. Please submit information for the newsletter (in text format) to [hms-ptsa@live.com](mailto:hms-ptsa@live.com) by Sunday, September 18th at noon. (If you do not want to receive this newsletter, please unsubscribe at the bottom.)

## Important Dates

### September/October

- 9/6 - First Day of School!
- 9/8 - Back to School Pizza Night 5:30-7:00pm
- 9/15 - Music Department Parent Meeting, 6:00-7:00, Room 501
- 9/20 - General PTSA Meeting
- 9/22 - Back to School Night 6:30-8:30pm
- 9/24 - Bike-a-thon Fundraiser, 9:00-2:00, Marymoor Park
- 10/6 - Parent Education Night 6:00-8:30pm
- 10/18-21 - 6th Grade Camp Orkila
- 10/25 - Highland Fall Concert, 7:00-8:00, Gym

## PTSA News

### President's Message

Dear Parents!

I hope you have enjoyed the summer and are ready for another school year. If you haven't already, please consider volunteering at Highland. This year enclosed in the packet that went home on "Back to Business" day, are a few sheets from the PTSA. One of them is regarding membership and the other volunteer opportunities.

Highland PTSA promotes and funds many programs and activities for our HMS community including: publishing this informative PTSA e-newsletter, publishes a student phone directory, classroom grants to teachers, financial support for field trips and 6th grade camp, coordinates staff appreciation events, and works with the staff to support the students of Highland the best way possible. By purchasing a membership it shows that you support these programs, events, and activities. Additionally, improved membership

## In This Issue

### [Calendar](#)

### [\\*\\*PTSA News\\*\\*](#)

### [President's Message](#)

### [Highland PTSA Board](#)

### [\\*\\*School News\\*\\*](#)

### [BSD-BEA Contract Highlights](#)

### [Nurse's Corner](#)

### [Free MSP Tutoring](#)

## Quick Links

### [PTSA Website](#)

### [HMS School Website](#)

### [Bellevue Schools Foundation](#)

### [Join Our Mailing List!](#)

here in Bellevue makes us a better legislative partner in Olympia with the WEA, WSSDA, and WASA. Please consider joining Highland's PTSA.

Another great event the PTSA funds is the Welcome Back Pizza Night! You can eat some pizza, visit with new and old friends and participate in a scavenger hunt! Prizes for those who participate will be drawn the Friday. We look forward to seeing you there on Thursday, September 8th at 5:30PM.

Alison Hinojosa House

### Highland PTSA Board for 2011-2012

**President:** Alison House, [alihouse@comcast.net](mailto:alihouse@comcast.net)

**Vice President:** Elise Cottingham,  
[elisec.ptsa@live.com](mailto:elisec.ptsa@live.com)

**Treasurer:** Kristen Booth,  
[kristen\\_r\\_booth@hotmail.com](mailto:kristen_r_booth@hotmail.com)

**Secretary:** Claudia Vasquez, [kpp2206@msn.com](mailto:kpp2206@msn.com)

### School News

#### BSD-BEA Contract Highlights

A note from Amalia Cudeiro, Superintendent:

September 1, 2011

Dear Families, Staff, and Community of the Bellevue School District-

The start of school brings new beginnings and discovery; I cherish such experiences for our students. The feeling of a young person's excited anticipation on the first day of class is something we can all recall. I hope you and your family enjoy this time as well.

The start of school also often brings changes and one such change this year is the new contract recently approved by the Bellevue Education Association (BEA). As parents, staff and community members, it's important that you receive information about the highlights of the contract because a number of the items have an impact on your student. The School Board worked closely with me and the District bargaining team to ensure this contract reflected issues raised by students directly and parents on behalf of students. Also important is that the contract is an agreement

which honors teachers and the important work they do to nurture and educate the children of this community. Here are some of the key highlights of the contract:

#### Grade Reporting Practices:

Both the District and the BEA agree that timely reporting of grades is best practice. Specific timeframes now exist.

- Teachers will update grades in the online Gradebook every ten school days and every assignment and test will be graded and entered within 15 school days.
- The District will provide technology enhancements such as a 'Status Box' that will reflect assignments turned in.

#### Professional Development and Use of Early Release Wednesday Time:

The use of early release time on Wednesday afternoons is an important resource for teachers to plan and collaborate to support student learning. The new contract now allows a portion of that time in the school year to be used for professional development and collaboration in both school buildings as well as District-wide.

- Teachers will participate in 36 hours of professional development and collaboration.
- The majority of this time, 28 hours, will be professional development and collaboration at the building level. Within those 28 hours, at least eight hours will be teacher-directed collaboration time.
- Eight hours will be allocated to District-directed professional development and collaboration.

#### Teacher Evaluation:

The state has directed all districts to have a teacher and principal evaluation model in place by 2013. This work ensures teachers are evaluated fairly, and are given direction for growth and professional development.

- The District and the BEA will continue working jointly on the new teacher evaluation model.

- The District and the BEA have committed to apply for a Teacher Principal Evaluation Program (TPEP) Consortium grant through the state and will develop a teacher evaluation model. The new State teacher evaluation model in 2013-2014 will include multiple measures for determining effective teacher and principal performance. The District and BEA will jointly determine which multiple measures may be piloted in the 2012-2013 school year depending upon the work of the OSPI Taskforce on multiple measures and the sub-committee's multiple measures work. Multiple measures may include but not limited to parent surveys, student surveys, peer evaluations, student artifacts, portfolios, professional growth plans, and student growth measures. The District and the BEA will conduct a field study this year.

#### Salaries:

- Teachers will receive the same salary schedule as the previous contract because the District will make up the 1.9% salary cut previously made by the state.

### Nurse's Corner

Welcome back everyone. I hope you all had a happy and healthy summer with your children. I am looking forward to meeting your children and helping them to make good choices for their health.

This is my 4th fall at Highland and I will be here full time this year. My hours will be Monday through Friday 7:15am-3:30pm. If you have health concerns or questions you can reach me by phone 425-456-6468. I am not always at my desk so please leave a message and I will return your call. If it is of more urgent matter please call the front office and they will locate me. You can also reach me by email at [bacerdos@bsd405.org](mailto:bacerdos@bsd405.org).

Some of the most frequent complaints I see in the health room are headaches and stomach aches. Most often it is due to students not eating or drinking anything before school which may result in low blood sugar or dehydration. Please remind you child how important the first meal of the day is. Students are more alert and perform better in the class room when they have had a good breakfast and plenty of fluids to drink. Please also encourage your child to drink water throughout the day.

Please review your registration packets for the mandatory immunizations required by state law for middle school: T-Dap and Varicella. If you have not turned them in please return them to the office as soon as possible as the exclusion process will begin shortly. If you have any questions about immunizations please contact me.

We have our required 7th grade **hearing screening** scheduled for Sept. 22nd for all 7th graders and you will be notified by letter if your child **did not pass**. I will be starting the required **vision screening** for all 7th graders in late October and early November. It is very important if your child wears glasses and needs them at school to bring them. You will be contacted by letter if your child **did not pass**.

**Please review the Bellevue School Districts policy on medications at school.** We cannot give any medication which includes over the counter medications like: Tylenol, Advil or allergy medications and cough drops without a medication authorization form filled out by parent and Doctor and this applies for camp as well. Please see the Bellevue School District web site under **HEALTH SERVICES** for the forms and the medication policy and other health information such as when to keep your child home from school. Please note the medications have to come in the originally labeled container or they will not be accepted. If your child has asthma please be advised that in Middle School students run the mile. If you think that your child may need their inhaler please complete the medication authorization form and inhaler to me. If you think they are able to carry it themselves there is a box to check on the medication form. I will be working with our PE teachers to see if any students have asthma concerns and I will communicate with their parents. Please turn in all 6th grade physical forms to the office which has the PE clearance on them.

Thank you,

Sandra Bacerdo RN, BSN, CRRN

Highland Middle School Nurse

### Free MSP Tutoring

The king county library is now offering free online tutoring for the MSP

"Online tutors are available 7 days a week from 1pm until 10pm to assist students with the MSP, HSPE and SAT. Select

your test and grade level and set your own pace with expert tutors provided by Brainfuse."

Check out the link here.

<http://www.kcls.org/teens/wasl.cfm>

**SPREAD THE WORD ABOUT THE EAGLE NEWS!**

The Eagle News is the Highland PTSA e-mailed newsletter which is sent bi-weekly on Mondays (except holidays) during the school year. Make sure your friends are receiving it. To subscribe, send your name, student name and grade level, and e-mail address to: [hms-ptsal@live.com](mailto:hms-ptsal@live.com).

**SUBMISSIONS:** Please submit information for the newsletter to [hms-ptsal@live.com](mailto:hms-ptsal@live.com) by Sunday at noon before the next deadline. Thank you for your articles! Submissions should be in plain text in the body of your email message.