



## **February 2019 Board Notes from Highland High School**

**From Dr. Chris Becker, Principal-** Semester II is in full swing and students are working hard to prepare for college, careers, and life beyond high school. Great things are happening at HHS with a continued focus on teaching, learning, athletics, and extracurriculars. Recent highlights include announcement of our Illinois Scholars, the Dance and Cheer teams participating at IHSA State, and the Band and Show Choir performing at area venues. See some awesome pictures of HHS accomplishments at the end of the newsletter.

Finally, please see important information below regarding the **Practice SAT (Juniors Only) on Friday, March 1** and the required **PSAT/SAT (Freshman, Sophomores, and Juniors) on Tuesday, April 9**. As always, please contact the HHS office with any questions, feedback, or concerns. We will continue to work to make HHS the best it can be for students, faculty, parents, and community. Thanks for your continued support.

### **Attention Junior Parents: Practice SAT Test Fri., March 1-**

HHS juniors will take the **Practice SAT test on March 1** in preparation for the required **SAT Test on Tuesday, April 9**. See the notes below for more SAT details:

- Encourage your 11<sup>th</sup> grader to spend time at home prepping with Khan Academy- <https://www.khanacademy.org/sat>
- Khan Academy offers free practice materials for SAT prep
- English teachers registered all juniors for Khan Academy prep & students have logins to practice at home and school.
- Juniors will practice Khan Academy modules in English, math, & other classes prior to the April 9 SAT.

### **PSAT/SAT Test- Tues., April 9 for Freshmen, Sophomores, and Juniors- College & Career Day for Seniors-**

- Freshmen and Sophomores take required PSAT on Tues., April 9



- Juniors take required SAT on Tues., April 9
- Seniors have a College/Career Day on April 9 and will NOT attend school.
- Seniors are encouraged to spend the day visiting colleges or check out career opportunities in the area. (This day does not count as one of the students' two College/Career Days and does not count against attendance.)
- See [SAT Parent Letter](#) for information for more [TEST DAY DETAILS](#) and a [PERMISSION SLIP](#) to leave after test completion
- PSAT/SAT MAKE-UP TEST is TUESDAY, April 23rd. Freshman, Sophomores, and Juniors not present on April 9th are required to test

**Social Media Info and Highland CUSD 5 App-** We are continuing to utilize electronic communication to share information. Please check out the [Highland CUSD 5](#) and [HHS web pages](#) and download the Highland CUSD 5 app. Links below are provided for HHS and Highland CUSD 5.

**HHS Smartphone App-** [Apple App Store](#)

**HHS Smartphone App-** [Google Play](#)

**HHS Twitter-** <https://twitter.com/HHSbulldogsIL>

**HHS Twitter Athletics-** <https://twitter.com/HHSBulldogAD>

**HHS Facebook-** <https://www.facebook.com/Highland-High-School-IL-501479483667441/>

**Highland CUSD 5 Facebook-** <https://www.facebook.com/highlandcud5/>

**From Ms. Amy Boscolo, Assistant Principal/Athletic Director-**

**Winter Sports Update-**

The Dance Team finished 5th in the IHSA State Dance Competition!

Cheerleading finished 9th in the IHSA State Cheerleading Competition!

Wrestling had 2 individual State Qualifiers! Devin Wills and Colton Brown finished their high school career competing at State on Friday, February 15 at the IHSA State Finals.



Girls Basketball finished their season falling in the Regional Finals. Emmy Nyquist, Megan Kronk, and Kristin Taylor are still competing in the IHSA 3-Point Contest.

Boys Basketball celebrates Senior Night on Friday, February 22 with our Dance Team and Cheerleading Team. Regional play begins on Tuesday, February 26 with the Regional Final game on Friday, March 1. Both Regional games will take place in Salem.

Katelyn Marti has been named an Honorable Mention recipient to the IHSA All-State Academic Team. She will be awarded an All-State Academic Team program and certificate in April.

**From Officer Chris Flake, SRO-**

Officer Flake will be dropping by Mrs. Jones Adult Living class to assist in teaching students on how to stay safe as they begin their adult lives and head off to college and career opportunities. Officer Flake will discuss how to stay safe in a new apartment or home, situational awareness, being aware of your surroundings, and the dangers of social media.

**From Danielle Case, English Teacher: Brighter Futures & Student Council-**

During the month of December, Brighter Futures and Student Council worked together to organize and raise money to adopt a local family for the holiday season. Through our fundraising efforts, HHS students raised over \$1,000, and we were able to provide a wonderful Christmas for four children and three adults in our community. Students from both groups helped purchase, wrap, and deliver gifts before winter break; it was a great way for students in our schools to help the community, and we look forward to doing it again next year.

**From the School Counselors-Mary Jackson (Department Chair), Carrie Lieberman, and Amber Spaeth-**

In the month of January, 505 students signed in to see the school counselor individually. Of those students, 42.8% were freshmen, 36.3% were sophomores, 8.8% were juniors, and 12.2% were seniors.



Students who signed in stated they were visiting counselors for the following reasons: 83% for Academic concerns, 8.1% for College/Career concerns, and 2.1% for Personal concerns. The counselors met individually with all freshman and sophomores on their caseloads to discuss academic planning and preparations for the 2019-2020 school year. With the help of faculty and ambassadors, 8th grade parent night was hosted on January 30th. We had an amazing turnout. In addition, the school counselors completed schedule changes the first two days of the semester and met with new students in the district. The counselors continued to prepare forms and information to meet with HMS and St. Paul students by gathering course requests for the 2019-2020 School Year. Please see our latest newsletter for additional updates: [February Counseling Newsletter-SMORES](#)

**From Mr. Caleb Houchins, Associate Principal-**

On January 24, Highland High School hosted drug and alcohol counselor Ty Bechel, a recovering addict, to tell his story of addiction, hope, and recovery. Ty shared his troubled story of drinking and smoking marijuana during high school, and eventually moving on to much stronger, more addictive drugs that turned into a monster. Ty's entire life was eventually consumed by trying to find and use heroin and other opioids he could get his hands on. Students heard firsthand details about Ty's difficult journey as he was arrested and released from jail several times. Eventually, Ty was able to find a successful program that helped to get him clean through the assistance of the Madison County Drug Courts. Today, Ty is the President and Founder of *Amare*, a Non-Profit Group that helps with addiction and recovery. He is also a Program Coordinator for Chestnut Health Systems in Granite City, IL.

This presentation was very beneficial for students as they heard first hand accounts of how easy it is to become addicted to drugs and alcohol. Ty is a fantastic storyteller who was able to hold the students' attention and deliver a strong message to avoid drugs and alcohol.



We are hopeful this message discourages students from trying drugs and alcohol, and we are also encouraging any student who is dealing with addiction to reach out and get help. Please contact your student's counselor, administration, or the [Drug Abuse Hotline](https://www.8004teen.org/) at 1-877-957-2141 for information and support.

**From Andrew Gibb-Clark, Director of Choirs-**

January and February have been busy months for the choral program at HHS. The Spring Musical, Shrek, takes place March 29, 30, and 31. Additionally, the Show Choir attended their first competition at Troy Buchanan High School on February 9th. They did an amazing job for their first ever performance at a competition and placed 2nd in their division. There are many exciting events coming up for the choirs! Before the next board meeting, the show choir has another competition in Quincy on March 9. Finally, the HHS Pops Concert will take place in the HHS Gym on March 12 at 7pm.

**From Mr. John Case, Band Director-**

Last month, the band program sent three students to the ILMEA All-State Music Festival in Peoria Illinois. Approximately 600 band, choir, and orchestra students from all across the state are selected for this event, based on auditions held back in October.

Congratulations to Brianna Korte and Amanda Penberthy for earning a spot in the All-State Band, and congratulations to William BonDurant for earning a spot in the Honors Orchestra!

Brianna and Amanda were also chosen, along Ali Kelso and BayLee Wetzel, to participate in the Bi-State Band Festival, a yearly band event held at SIU Edwardsville. Students are chosen from schools in the Metro East Area based on



musical accomplishments throughout their high school career. Congratulations to these students for this achievement!

**HHS Events and Happenings-** Please see the following links for:

[HHS Important Dates](#)

[2018-2019 School Calendar](#),

[HHS Meetings, Assemblies, PLC calendar](#),

[Athletic Website](#), [FALL SPORTS](#), [WINTER SPORTS](#) and [SPRING SPORTS](#)

Please note that dates, times, and activities are subject to change. If you have questions, concerns, or feedback, please contact HHS at 618-654-7131.

Educationally Yours,

Dr. Chris Becker

Principal

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**Twenty-seven students from the graduating class of 2019 from Highland High School have been recognized as Illinois State Scholars.**

Read more here: [Highland High School Illinois State Scholars](#)

This year's scholars are Heather Kim, Katelyn Marti, Brooke Wilson, Audrey Wilke, Emilie Hoepker, Brianna Korte, Delaney Grimes, Alexis Hartman, Mackenzie Jones, Lauren Townsend, Hailey Niebrugge, Grayson Arnold, Taylor Reidelberger, BayLee Wetzel, Emerson Nyquist, Abigail Beyer, Jennifer Taylor, Trent Lammers, William BonDurant, Mae Riffel, Megan Ramsey, Sam Segrist, Cole Diesen, Michael Barth, Megan Griesbaum, Lexys Gilliam and Kealy Korte.



Highland High School IL ...

1 hr · ⚙️

Ms. Ott's chemistry class working on a chemical reactions lab. Learning by doing, experimenting, and problem solving.



Highland High School IL ...

Tuesday at 7:16 PM · ⚙️

HHS Librarian, Ms. Kati Richardson conducting a "Book Tasting" for students in Mrs. Himself's English class. Students are able to preview a variety of genres at each table. Great to see hard copy books still in... [See More](#)



Highland High School · 17h ▾

Congrats HHS Dance!



Highland High School · 18h ▾

Congrats to the Dance Team who won their 7th straight Sectional Title today! Best of luck at State next week!!! ❤️



HHS Dance Team

Sectional Champions!





Congrats HHS Dance Team!

5<sup>th</sup> Place at IHSA State

Great job, ladies! ❤️💃🏻🖤



**Varsity Cheer is State Bound!**

Varsity Cheer- 3rd Place at Sectionals today! Qualified for State next weekend.



Highland High School · 2m

Several HHS Choir and Band students performed at ILMEA all state and honors all state this weekend in Peoria. Great...

Mrs. Basden's chemistry class learning about chemical reactions: A demonstration called the methane mamba







Congrats HHS Cheer!

9<sup>th</sup> Place at IHSA State



Highland Bulldogs  
@HHSBulldogAD

IHSA State Finals! Well done ladies!



Highland High School IL

6 mins · ⚙️

Highland Choirs performing at a fundraiser breakfast on Saturday.



Highland High School - 2d

Students taking a geometry assessment covering the Pythagorean Theorem in Mr. Miscik's class.



Highland High School - 2d

Solving trigonometry equations in PreCalculus with Mr. James







Highland High School · 1d  
HHS students had an assembly today from Chestnut Coordinator, Mr. Ty Bechel, who presented on the dangers of drugs and alcohol. Please talk at home about making positive choices. Data regarding Madison County is concerning.  
[bnd.com/news/local/art...](http://bnd.com/news/local/art...)



Highland High School  
@HHSbulldogsIL

Mrs. Wander's Advanced Drawing students gesture draw from "model", student teacher Ms. Hoelscher.







Highland IL high school  
announces Illinois State  
Scholars | Belleville News-  
Democrat



Highland High School announces  
Illinois State Scholars



Highland High School  
@HHSbulldogsIL

Mr. Holt's Economics class  
playing the Stock Market  
Game. Neat activity  
attempting to simulate real  
world economics. Who will  
come out ahead?



Highland High School · 2d  
Ms Barr working with the  
students on their Ag Projects.



Highland High School · 2d  
Some Star Wars with Mr. Case  
and band students this  
morning during 1st Hour!



348 views





Search: LTE 3:14 PM 27%

## Highland High School

1,379 Tweets

Tweets

Tweets & replies

Media



Highland High School · 2d

Mrs. Perkes and her students working on "coding" today. One student created code for building a mock website for a resort in Arizona.



Highland High School

@HHSbulldogsIL

Mrs. Heinz and Personal Finance students learning about budgeting and future planning.





### Highland High School - 4d

Ms Eaker leading a discussion on the Iditarod Race in Alaska. The students will monitor the race when it starts in a couple of weeks.



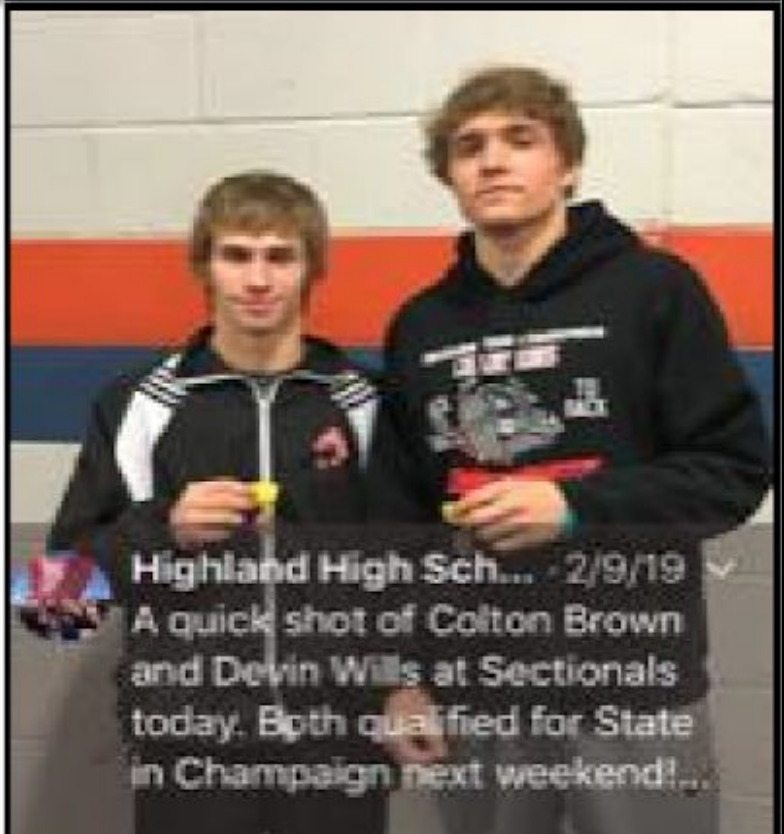
### Highland High School - 3d

Ms Hall's Health Class doing a group activity on how to overcome odds.



### Highland High School - 6d

The HHS Dance Team continued their success this weekend with a 1st place in Jazz, 2nd in Lyrical and Pom-Dance. Overall Grand Champion AA !!! Great way to cap an amazing season!



Highland High Sch... 2/9/19  
A quick shot of Colton Brown and Devin Wills at Sectionals today. Both qualified for State in Champaign next weekend!...





Highland, IL FFA Alumni

19 mins •

Historic first ride in the FFA bus to Section 15 Lock-in was a hit with the kids! Thank you to the alumni who gives us so much support!



## Pieces of Highland

BENEFITING HIGHLAND COMMUNITY

SCHOOL DISTRICT'S FINE ARTS

**MARCH 23 @ 6PM DEPARTMENT**

**Schwarz Barn** 5004 STAE ROUTE 160

food & drinks  
included

Featuring  
**BUFFALO ROAD**

must be 21  
to attend

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT **WWW.EVENTBRITE.COM**

HOSTED BY

**Schwarz  
BARN**

& **Red Barn  
Farm**



Another exciting performance at halftime! Dance and Cheer combined efforts tonight! Way to go girls! ❤️🖤



Congrats Sam LaPorta on your 1000 points! Welcome to the club!





**Highland High School - 4d** ▼  
 President Lincoln (AKA Mr. Bradley) hosts a Q and A session in history classes. They learned more about his life and impact as our 16th President.



**Highland High School - 5d** ▼  
 Ms. Connie Unruh from the TS Institute Financial Literacy presented a check to Colton Cissell, Daniel Williams and Cameron Shultz for a video they created on the benefits of saving money. Well Done!



**Highland High School - 4d** ▼  
 Working on solving Algebraic Fractions in Mrs. Korte's Algebra class. Students simplify, reduce, and multiply to solve problems.



**Highland High School - 2d** ▼  
 Ms Golder and Mr Welz teaching velocity, energy, and friction with hands on experiment.

