

March 2019 Board Notes from Highland High School

From Dr. Chris Becker, Principal- Greetings from Highland High School. We are thrilled the weather is getting warmer and things are certainly heating up at HHS. It's hard to believe the final quarter of the school year has arrived. Where did the time go? Faculty and students continue to focus on teaching, learning, and extracurriculars as we prepare for the upcoming PSAT/SAT on April 9, Destress and Rest Week March 25-29, the Spring Musical, Shrek, on March 29, 30, and 31, and the start of the spring sports season. Additionally, our long awaited Spring Break (April 18-22), the Mock Crash Safety Assembly (April 25), Prom (April 27), and Graduation for the Class of 2019 (May 19) are just around the corner. Please review the March newsletter for more details and feel free to contact us with any questions, concerns, or feedback at 618-654-7131. We enjoy hearing from parents and truly appreciate your continued support.

HHS 2018-19 Important Dates & FTT Calendar for Semester II- Please review the Semester II FTT Calendar & HHS Important Dates documents for info on Spring Break, Seniors Last Day, Senior and Regular Final Exams, and the end of the school year. These dates and times are accurate at this point in time, but are subject to change based on school cancellations and other factors.

Upcoming Events-

Mon., Mar. 25- Mar. 29: **Mental Health Awareness Week-Destress & Rest Fest**Mon. Mar 25 **Junior SAT Meeting** @ Kennel-3rd Hour FTT 9:34-10:23 am
Tues., Mar. 26 **Soph PSAT Meeting** @ Kennel-2nd Hour FTT 8:40-9:29 pm
Fri. Mar. 29 **Freshman PSAT Meeting** @ Kennel 6th Hour FTT 12:52-1:41 pm

April 2019

Mon., Apr. 1 PSAT/SAT Permission Slips due for grades 9,10,11

Tues., Apr. 9 SAT/PSAT Test-9th, 10th, 11th (begins at 7:40 am)

Tues., Apr 9 College & Career Day-12th grade (No School for Seniors)

Tues., Apr. 16 Senior Graduation Meeting @ Kennel 2nd Hour FTT

Wed., Apr. 17 Letter of Intent Signing Day-Athletics Kennel 7:40-8:35 am



Thurs., Apr. 18 - Mon. 22, Spring Break - NO SCHOOL

Tues., Apr. 23 Return to Classes

Tues., April 23 SAT/PSAT Makeup Test-9th, 10th, and 11th (If missed April 9)

Thurs., Apr. 25 Mock Crash Safety Assembly 9:00-10:15 am (ALL STUDENTS)

Fri., Apr. 26 ISA Science Test in Biology Classes

Sat., Apr. 27 **PROM KC Hall** 7:00-11:00 pm

Sat., Apr. 27 Post PROM @ HHS Gym 11:30 pm-3:30 am

May 2019

Wed., May 1 Jostens Cap & Gown Delivery 11:15-12:45 (all lunch periods)

Mon., May 6-Fri., May 10 Teacher Appreciation Week

Mon., May 6-Fri., May 17 AP Testing

Tues., May 7 Seniors Last Day (Tentative)

Wed., May 8 Senior Final Exams

Thurs., May 9 Senior Final Exams

Fri., May 10 Teacher Inservice-Half-day Dismissal 11:00 am

Mon., May 13 HHS Awards Night-Commons (by invitation) 6:30 pm

Wed., May 15 Baccalaureate @ St. Paul 7:00 pm

Fri., May 17 Graduation Practice (Required) - 9:00-11:00 am Commons/Gym

Fri., May 19 Final Exams Hours 1,2,3

Sun., May 19 HHS Graduation - 2:00 pm

Mon., May 20 Final Exams Hours 4,5

Tues., May 21 Final Exams Hours 6,7

Wed., May 22 Make Up Exams

Wed., May 22 Last Day:Half-day Teacher Inservice (tentative) 11:00 am

PSAT/SAT Info-

Grades 9,10, and 11 take state required PSAT/PSAT on Tues., Apr. 9-College & Career Day for Grade 12 on Tues., Apr. 9-(Not at School)

- Seniors encouraged to visit colleges or check out career opportunities.
 -(This day does not count against attendance.)
- See <u>PSAT/SAT Parent Letter</u> for more test day information
- PERMISSION SLIPS to leave after testing due to HHS Office April 1
- Juniors practice *Khan Academy* prep on their own; students have login info
- Juniors currently practicing *Khan Academy* modules in classes



• **PSAT/SAT MAKE-UP TEST** is **TUESDAY**, **April 23rd**. Students in grade 9,10, and 11 not present on April 9th are required to test this day.

ISA SCIENCE TEST- Students currently enrolled in Biology (Honors & Regular Bio) will take the required Illinois Science Assessment (ISA) on Fri., Apr. 26 in their Biology class. See ISA PARENT LETTER for details.

Social Media Info and Highland CUSD 5 Communication Info-

Please check out the <u>Highland CUSD 5</u> and <u>HHS Web Pages</u> Below are links 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/highlandcusd5/

From Ms. Amy Boscolo, Assistant Principal/Athletic Director-Winter Sports Update-

Boys Basketball earned the title of winningest team in school history with a season record of 28-6, and an MVC record of 10-0 earning the title of Conference Champs. The boys also earned a Regional Championship against Salem on March 1. It was an outstanding season for Coach Perkes and the entire basketball program.

We honored all winter extracurriculars and athletics during the *Winter Recognition Ceremony* during the school day on March 19. Several outstanding accomplishments from the fall were also honored. These included honoring Taylor Fleming for being named to the Illinois High School All-State Class A Tennis Team - 3rd Team by the Illinois High School Tennis Coaches Association. The Girls and Boys Cross Country Teams also earned an IHSA Team Academic Achievement Award. Additionally, Katelyn Marti was named an Honorable Mention recipient to the IHSA All-State Academic Team. As an athletic department, we take great pride in being outstanding competitors and also work hard in the classroom to maintain academic excellence. We are excited to begin our spring season! Come check out



a baseball or softball game, a boys or girls track and field meet, a girls soccer game, a boys tennis match, or the bass fishing team. We would love to see you at an event.

From Officer Chris Flake, SRO- Please check out a recent Korte Construction Article highlighting, HHS junior, Jackson Marchal for his amazing Eagle Scout project helping to aid peers and first responders in the Highland area. We continue efforts to maintain a safe and secure environment at HHS and throughout the district, and truly appreciate the support for this project.

Additionally, we continue to ask parents to help support our efforts to reduce vaping and e-cigarette activity at the high school by having conversations with your son or daughter about staying away from these dangerous items. Please see the recent Highland News Leader Article outlining how schools in the Metro East area are handling this nationwide epidemic. Please contact, SRO, Chris Flake or HHS Admin at 618-654-7131 if you have questions regarding vaping or other safety concerns. Thanks for your continued support to keep HHS safe.

From Bob Vance, PE Teacher & Blood Drive SponsorThe February Blood
Drive was extremely successful with 80 units of blood collected which will serve up
to 320 patients at local hospitals. We would like to publicly thank our local
merchants who graciously supplied our donors and workers with food during the
drive - Subway, KFC/Taco Bell, Mazzio's, Sam's Pizza, Pizza Hut, Urban
Farmhouse, and Jimmy John's. Thanks to the volunteers who worked the Blood
Drive and to students who donated blood to save a life.

From Danielle Case & Stephanie Buchtel: Student Council-

Student Council sponsored and hosted the *Spring Fling* on Friday, March 8th. Students danced the night away and raised \$400 for *Got Your Six Support Dogs*, an organization that provides PTSD support dogs to veterans and first responders. Student Council officers attended the Kaskaskia District Student Council Convention at Collinsville HIgh School on Thursday, March 14th. This is the first



year that we have attended and we enjoyed connecting with other area student councils.

From the School Counselors: Mary Jackson (Department Chair), Carrie <u>Lieberman, and Amber Spaeth-</u> The school counselors had another busy February. They had 202 students walk in to see them. Of those that signed in, 17.8% were 9th grade; 20.8% were 10th grade; 43.2% were 11th grade, and 18.6% were 12th grade. Students came 44.9% of the time for academics; 25.4% of the time for college and careers, and 15.3% for personal needs. Students signed in to see the nurse 14.4% of the time. In addition to meeting with students one-on-one, counselors spent 2 days at HMS and time at St. Paul meeting with 8th grade students to complete freshman pre-registration. Counselors totalled student course requests for the 2019-2020 school year and met with department chairs and administration to determine sections numbers and teaching assignments for next school year. The school counselors attended the Special Education Department 8th Grade Parent Night and hosted a Collinsville Vocational Center and SWIC Running Start Parent Night. Counselors have also been working with students, administration, and staff preparing for State SAT/PSAT testing on April 9th. For more information check out their latest newsletter: https://www.smore.com/9tzuy

From Mrs. Laura Wander, Art Teacher—This time of year the art department is super busy with NAHS inductions, shows, and sales. We recently inducted six members into the National Art Honors Society who passed a panel of five judges who looked at their work and felt it met the high standards of the society. Members include: Heather Kim, Madison Self, Taylor Pinkel, Kate Ziegler, Anne Marie Beckemeyer, and Autumn Meyer.

The beginning of the month found two of our senior students being accepted into the juried high school show at SIUE. Only 35% of the entries qualified and we were lucky enough to enter two pieces into the show. Heather Kim entered, "Do I Pass", an acrylic mixed media, and Madison Self produced "Stitches", a watercolor and string piece. On March 28th the SWIC student show will open and seven pieces will



be on display by Heather Kim, Madison Self, Samantha Hengehold, Autumn Meyer, Geena Budwell, Reece Mercer, and Riley Thiems.

Last but not least, the ceramics class has been busy preparing for Highland's Bloom Festival. Students have hand built or wheel thrown succulent pots to sell. This is our second year joining with the FFA's plant sale. Come get your original piece of art.

From Mr. Andy Gibb-Clark, Choir and Musical Director-The choral program at the High School has been very busy over the past month! The show choir attended their 2nd competition in Quincy, IL. The group performed very well finishing 2nd in their division! The show choir will be performing in Highland a few times before the year is over. They will be at the Middle School for a PLC Assembly on Thursday March 21, an assembly for the elementary school sometime in April, and will perform at the spring choir concert on April 29. Preparations for the Spring Musical, "Shrek the Musical", are in full swing! The students have been working very hard and we hope to see everyone at the performances on March 29 & 30 at 7pm and March 31 at 2pm! Thank you for your support of the students in the choral program at HHS!

From Mr. John Case, Band Director- On February 21st, 19 band students represented Highland High School in the Mississippi Valley Conference Honor Band. These students had the opportunity to rehearse and perform with the top students from other area schools, under the direction of O'Fallon Band Director Dr. Melissa Gustafson Hinds. An amazing performance took place in the evening.

Additionally, the IHSA Solo and Ensemble contest took place earlier this month. Music students performed solos and in small groups for judges who critiqued their performances and provided overall ratings on a scale from "Division 1" to "Division 5," with Division 1 being the best. All 23 HHS band students who performed that day received either a Division 1 or a Division 2 rating. A special congratulations goes out to the saxophone quartet consisting of BayLee Wetzel, Jayson Fleming,



Delaney Grimes, and Jakob Clark, for not only receiving a Division 1 rating, but for also earning a "Best of Day" award from the judges for their performance.

From Mr. Caleb Houchins, Associate Principal- Mrs. Heidi Houchins presented to the Junior and Senior classes on February 21 during PLC time. The presentation highlighted Heidi telling the story of her best friend, April, who was killed in a drunk driving accident. Heidi used the platform of suffering this terrible loss to communicate to students that it is acceptable and appropriate to reach out for help when there is turmoil, adversity, and pain in your life. While the presentation did discuss good decision making such as not getting into a vehicle with someone who has been drinking, the message was much more about practicing good mental health and to ask for help when needed. Heidi also presented to the Freshman and Sophomore classes on March 22 sharing the same message. Other PLC assemblies included Principal, Dr. Chris Becker presenting to freshman on Perceptions of High School Life and Assistant Superintendent, Mr. Derek Hacke presenting to seniors about life after high school. Please see the <u>Highland News</u> Leader article for more information regarding the PLC assembly with Mrs. Houchins. If you need assistance with mental health, please contact the school for resources and support.

<u>From Susanne Himsel and Kelsey Huson, Brighter Futures sponsors, and Jen</u> <u>Harsy and Steve Konopka, Snowball Sponsors-</u>

From March 25th- 29th the high school will host its first ever "Destress and Rest Fest". Each day of the week will promote a different topic connected to improving or sustaining one's mental health:

- Mindfulness Monday will offer students the opportunity to do Yoga and to practice mindfulness activities. There will also be an opportunity to participate in art therapy which utilizes trauma informed coping techniques.
- <u>Time Management Tuesday</u> will focus on students' abilities to prioritize tasks and use their time productively.
- Wellness Wednesday will feature a talk with our school nurse and a chance to take an exercise class, and students will be encouraged to put away their phones and play board games during lunch.



- Therapeutic Thursday will feature support dogs from Got Your Six, an organization which trains support dogs and gifts them to veterans and first responders who suffer from PTSD. Students will have a chance to interact with the dogs- and this just may be the day that gets students most excited! We will be selling t-shirts prior to this week, and a portion of the proceeds will go to Got Your Six. Shirts can be bought through this link: https://aa-sportswear.com/hhs_got_your_6_support_dogs/shop/home. Other health and wellness organizations will also be present on this day.
- <u>Friendship Friday</u> will finish our week. Students will receive gratitude notes from their friends and we will announce the winners of various raffles.
 Students are also encouraged to wear Bulldog gear to show that we are all family at HHS.

Additionally, there will be activities hosted in the library each day during FTT. We are very excited for this week and we hope to make it a tradition at HHS!

From Susanne Himsel, NHS Sponsor-

On February 23rd, six HHS staff members and four students jumped into a frigid 34 degree Carlyle Lake- all in the name of raising money for Special Olympics! This year, we raised nearly \$1500. In addition, NHS students spent the day volunteering at the event. We appreciate the support of the HHS staff and students and the community, and we look forward to raising even more money for this great cause next year.

From Valerie Kimmle, Math Team Sponsor-

Math Team Results: Twenty-four students participated in Math Team this year. The math team is coached by Mrs. Valerie Kimmle and Mr. Brent James. In November at the Excellence in Math Competition at St. Louis Community College in Forest Park, Sophomores Jon Saathoff placed 3rd and David Forys placed 10th. Senior Emilie Hoepker placed 6th.

On Saturday, February 23, seventeen students represented Highland at the ICTM Regional Math Team Competition. Freshman Summer Carroll placed 2nd



individually on the Algebra 1 Written Test. The Geometry Team (Grant Brinker, Sylvie Carroll, David Forys, Jon Saathoff, and Abby Bowers) placed 2nd. Additionally the Freshman/Sophomore 8-person Team (Grant Brinker, Abby Bowers, Sylvie Carroll, Jon Saathoff, Shane Gruenenfelder, and Audrey Harris) and Freshman/Sophomore 2-person Team (Jon Saathoff and Summer Carroll) also placed 2nd. Grant Brinker and David Forys tied for 2nd place in the Oral Team Competition.

Freshman Summer Carroll will advance to State for the Individual Written Algebra 1 Test. Jon Saathoff and Summer Carroll also qualified for State for the Two-Person Freshman / Sophomore Team Competition which will be May 4 at the University of Illinois.

MATH TEAM ICTM REGIONALS Feb. 23, 2019





From Dawn Jones, FACS Teacher-

Adult Living: During the unit on finding an apartment, Officer Chris Flake came into the class to discuss safety in your new place. He stressed the importance of being aware of your surroundings at all times when driving, walking, and entering your home. He shared stories of his work as a police officer that definitely opened students' eyes to keeping certain information to yourself at work and on social media! Students are now beginning a short unit on cleaning and clothing care which includes learning to hand sew a button, hem, and repair a hole in a seam.

Foods and Nutrition: Students are completing a unit on baking with yeast by making pizza, pretzels, and cinnamon rolls. Baking chemistry of leavening agents as well volume vs. weight measurements has been stressed in the unit. The baking continues with making pie crust from scratch for a fruit pie. Students will practice the lattice technique for their fruit pie with play dough before working with the ingredients.

<u>Child Development:</u> Students completed an Illinois learning standards writing assignment around the importance of a safe sleeping environment for infants. The infant unit continues with students learning to bath, feed, clothe, and diaper an infant and practicing the techniques in class. Students will be individually graded on the diapering procedures in a day care as part of their Early Childhood Level 1 Credential training.

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,

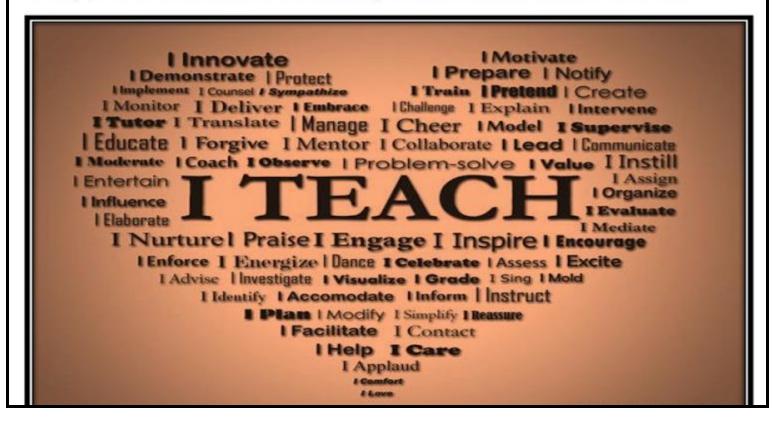
Dr. Chris Becker Mr. Caleb Houchins Ms. Amy Boscolo

Principal Associate Principal Assistant Principal/Athletics

cbecker@highlandcusd.org chouchins@highlandcusd5.org aboscolo@highlandcusd5.org

Why HHS Faculty and Staff are the Best in the Business

- They truly care about others-students, faculty, and our community.
- 2. They show up, work extremely hard, and get the job done right.
- 3. They look after students and work to establish positive relationships and connections.
- 4. They are willing to help those in need-students, staff, and families.
- 5. They collaborate, reflect, and share information with peers to get better.
- They are kind, compassionate, and empathetic towards others-They know it matters.
- They are experts in their craft; constantly improving what they do for students.
- 8. They are full of love, joy, and personality- everyone uniquely contributes to the HHS family.
- They are dedicated, motivated, and passionate about making a difference-and they do.
- 10. They put their heart and soul into teaching to make students' dreams come true.





Showcase of Excellence - 2019



Highland High School "Dissonance"

Directed By Andrew 61bb Clark & Jamis Keys

Book I Wil Labor to Both State I

Description of

Great work HHS Show Choir! See

Ms Hall's Health Class practicing conscious and unconscious choking to become certified in fFirst Aid and CPR.

















The Band and Choir directors!



Mrs. Bland and English I students taking a quick break from reading the Odyssey by Homer. She is finishing up her last few days before going on Maternity Leave for the semester. We wish her the best as a new mom!

Mrs. Simmons and Chemistry students working on a lab experiment with heat and energy transfer. Simmons is holding two different tiles and students had to predict which ice cube would melt more quickly on each tile.







Student Council sponsors and officers heading to the KDSC Convention with a \$400 donation for Got Your 6, an organization that provides therapy dogs free of cost to veterans and first responders. Students helped Student Council raise money for the donation by attending the Spring Fling dance on Friday, March



40 OLD-FASHIONED SKILLS THAT KIDS NEED TO KNOW TODAY!

- How to write a latter How to make a phone cal How to take a message How to get to know an older person How to play with a linkly How to lew on a lituition How to make a genuine apploay! How to read stowly How to hommer a nail

- checkbook

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 to completion

 I tow to write a thank-you note
 I tow to do loundry

 I tow to take care of a

- How to make a trulget
 How to wait and sole for something
 How to check tire pressure
 How to ask questions to get to know sometone tester
 How to read a map
 How to find a took in the ligrary
 How to seek coursel from someone more experienced

- How to seek coursel from someone more experienced how to care For a pet How to select a giFf that the receiver will appreciate how to aimst a mistake how to for a shirt how to give someone the lemefit of the doubt how to wish out the pros-and consists of a decision how to weigh out the pros-and consists of a decision.

- manners

 I how to read a recipe

 I how to attend a concert
 or performance

 I how to do something well,
 even if no one is watching

 How to be ISNO!





Mrs. Kimmle and Algebra I students working on



It always seems impossible until it's done.

Nelson Mandela





Highland High School IL Yesterday at 7:19 PM - Q

Mrs. Jamie Keys and HHS Jazz Band!



Highland High School IL

Yesterday at 7:21 PM - 0

Mr. Case leading Star Wars!



Highland High School IL

Yesterday at 7:39 PM - 0

Mr. Gibb-Clark leading the Combined Choirs in Never Enough









Art 2 students working on Calder sculptures in Mrs. Wander's class





Highland High School - 20h Ms Sylvies with assistance from Ms Buch helping students research their favorite musical acts from 1965-75. Nothing is more powerful then music from an era. This decade was the decade of the cultural revolution.





Highland Bulldogs - 21h

The Power of the Giraffe is an outstanding organization that makes care packages for cancer patients. Thank you for letting us be a part of the build!







FFA Faculty and Staff Breakfast this morning. Thanks to all FFA members and sponsors for an amazing meal.







心 Like

Comment

Share



Polar Plunge 2019! Glad to have awesome coworkers who support Special Olympics and NHS!



Operation Snowball students presenting at today's faculty meeting. They are working to create a sense of community, build relationships, and create an inclusive school culture that supports everyone. They did an amazing job.

O 17

1 Comment

Like

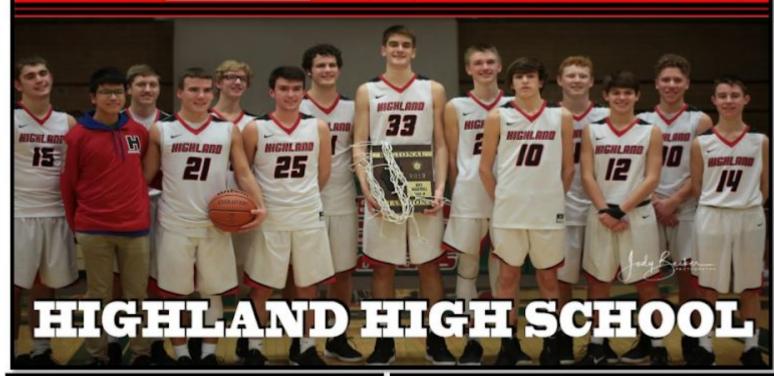








2019 CHAMPIONS REGIONAL CHAMPIONS



Mrs. Duncan talking with juniors before the SAT practice test. Students used Khan Academy Test Prep to get some work in before the actual test on April 9.



HHS Saturday Scholars at SLU -Adventures in Medicine and Science (cadaver lab). Thanks to sponsors Mrs. Twyford and Mrs. Duncan.









Mrs. Stirewalt's Algebra class applying and using order of operations. And yes, we still use Please, Excuse, My, Dear, Aunt, Sally to help remember the steps. (Parentheses-Exponents-Multiplication-Division... See More

Students in Mr. Lewis' English III class researching and preparing projects on the history of American outlaws. Students are investigating the significance and impact on American history and folklore.



Highland High School IL Yesterday at 8:25 AM - O

Congratulations to the HHS Boys and Girls Cross Country Teams who both qualified for the IHSA Team Academic Achievement Award for outstanding grade point averages for the 2018-19 season. The boys team had a GPA of 3.71 and the girls team had a GPA of 3.75. We are so proud!



Comment Comment









Dillon Powell, Connor Mortland and Chris Durbin represent the Technology Club at the March 4th Optimist Club meeting where President Rick Duft presented the club with a check as a thank you for the Broadcasting of ... See More



Students practicing and applying inscribed angles in Mr. Hawkins' Geometry class













