



November 2019 Board Notes from Highland High School

From Dr. Chris Becker, Principal- We hope you and your family are preparing for an exciting, enjoyable, and restful Thanksgiving Break with friends and loved ones. We are thankful for such supportive teachers, faculty and staff, parents, and a community that takes so much pride in their schools. Our students not only work hard in the classroom, they understand the importance of showing empathy and compassion too. This past week, HHS students and staff wore red to show support for those affected by the tragic accident in Vandalia last weekend. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the entire Vandalia Community and everyone involved. Please take extra time to tell your son or daughter that you love and appreciate them. As we all know, things can change in an instant and we never know what each day will bring. So, as we break for Thanksgiving next week, count your blessings, show kindness to others, and be thankful for all that we have. And know that it matters.

As we move towards the end of the term, it's been a semester to celebrate as HHS students captured MVC titles in football, girls cross country, tennis, volleyball, and boys golf. Several teams and individuals qualified for IHSA State in cross country, girls tennis, and boys golf, and earned honors at HHS Band and Choir, Culinary, FFA, and Math Team competitions. Model UN, Brighter Futures, and Student Council participated in various workshops to improve their leadership skills, and the Highland Optimists recently recognized HHS club presidents at a dinner reception with Highland community leaders. We also held our National Honor Society induction ceremony and welcomed many new members. HHS teachers and staff, sponsors, and coaches are doing amazing things to prepare our students for college, careers, and their future, and for this we are extremely grateful.





Winter sports season is moving forward as the basketball, dance, cheer, wrestling, and bowling teams start their seasons. Madrigal singers are busy preparing for upcoming shows with dinner performances on Dec. 6 and Dec. 7 at 6:30pm, and appetizer matinees on Dec. 7 and Dec. 8 at 1:30pm. All shows take place at Highland Middle School. Please see the [Order Form](#) for tickets.

A special thanks to Mr. Joel Hawkins and others who presented at our annual schoolwide Veterans Day Assembly on Nov. 8. Hawkins puts together amazing assemblies each year that leave a lasting impression on all who attend. The assembly was an impactful experience for students, faculty, community, and our distinguished veterans. From the band and choir, individual stories of valor and sacrifice, to the recognition of those who served, it was a very special program that meant something for all who attended. So many veterans and their families have “paid the price” for our freedom. Thanks to all our veterans and especially HHS faculty and staff who have bravely served our country. They include Brenda Korte, Kirk Essenpreis, Rebecca Boyce, Michael Barford, and Natalie Propst. It was a proud day for all. Please see Mr. Houchins expanded correspondence on the Veterans Assembly later in the newsletter.

A final reminder that Thanksgiving Break begins with dismissal at 2:35pm Tues., Nov. 26 and classes resume on Mon., Dec 2. A ½ Day Teacher In-Service is scheduled for Dec. 6 with an 11:00am dismissal, and semester exams take place Dec., 18, 19, and 20. Please see Final Exam info below for more details.

Midterms for Qtr. 2- You may view your student's 2nd quarter midterm grades after 3:00 pm on Monday, Nov. 25 by accessing PowerSchool at <https://ps.highlandcusd5.org/public/>. If you're having trouble accessing PowerSchool, need assistance, or have questions, please contact HHS Administrative Assistant, Jami Jansen at 618-654-7131 or email her at jjansen@highlandcusd5.org.



Final Exam Information- Semester Exams are scheduled for Dec. 18, 19, and 20 with make-up exams occurring Jan 6, 2020. Please see info below for more details on Semester I Exams.

- [EXAM SCHEDULE](#) for SEMESTER I
- Students are required to take exams on scheduled days unless a [Final Exam CHANGE FORM](#) is signed and approved by Friday, Dec 6, 2019.
- Students wishing to leave after exams need a [PERMISSION SLIP](#) signed by parent and administrator for each exam day.
- [FINAL EXAM HANDBOOK INFO 19-20](#)
- [Electronic Device Info during exams](#)
- [Final Exam Calculator](#)
- [FINAL EXAM FLOW CHART](#)
- [ISA \(Illinois Science Assessment\) FLOW CHART](#)

Please remember that HHS enforces an academic integrity policy all year – including during final exams. Electronic devices and cell phones are not permitted during exam sessions. Students are expected to take exams on their scheduled exam day. If your student is unable to take his/her scheduled exam, please submit a “final exam change form” for approval. Changes to final exams are used for unavoidable schedule conflicts and are due on Friday, Dec 6.

Semester grades are counted as follows:

(Qtr. 1 40% + Qtr. 2 40% + Final Exam 20%) =100% (Final Semester Grade)

NOTE-Qtr. 1 and Qtr. 2 are 50% each when students are exempt from Final Exams. Please see the [exam calculator](#) to calculate grades prior to Final Exams.

Please take a moment to fill out the [5 Essentials Parent Survey](#).

Highland CUSD 5 will work in concert with the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) to conduct a statewide survey of school climate and learning conditions. The survey provides an opportunity for students, teachers, and parents to have a voice in improving their schools by taking a 25-minute research-based survey to



help identify strengths and weaknesses in their school's learning environment. This survey serves as a reflective opportunity for schools to review progress in a variety of areas. The Illinois 5Essentials Survey provides a comprehensive overview of each school's organizational culture in an individualized report measuring five areas for school success:

- Effective Leaders
- Collaborative Teachers
- Involved Families
- Supportive Environment
- Ambitious Instruction

Twenty years of research at the University of Chicago in over 400 schools has shown that schools that were strong on at least three of the 5Essentials were 10 times more likely to make significant gains in reading and math scores than schools that were weak on three or more of the Essentials. Generated from a rigorous analysis of survey responses, 5Essentials Reports demonstrate what students, teachers, and parents say about their schools and serve as important indicators for school success and areas to improve.

Highland CUSD 5 has consistently participated in the statewide 5Essentials Survey and is required by ISBE to administer the survey to students, faculty, and parents again this year to continue tracking and informing progress. Your participation in the parent portion of the survey helps us understand conditions at your child's school and guides improvement. Your identity and survey responses will be kept confidential and will never be connected to you or your child.

The Illinois 5Essentials Survey window runs Oct. 24, 2019 to Feb. 14, 2020. HHS students will take the 5Essentials survey later in the year. For more information visit: <https://www.isbe.net/Pages/5Essentials-Survey.aspx>.



From Mr. Caleb Houchins, Associate Principal- The Veterans Day Assembly is a yearly highlight at HHS which honors the brave men and women who proudly serve the Highland Community. The assembly showcases our students' talents and shares the respect and gratitude our students have for Veterans. This year's assembly began with the *Presentation of Colors* and *The Star Spangled Banner* performed by Mr. John Case and the Highland High School Band. Dr. Chris Becker welcomed everyone, and provided a heartfelt story about his father and the role veterans played in his life. Mr. Andy Gibb Clark and the HHS Chorus performed the patriotic medley, *Three Patriotic Treasures*. Finally, Mr. Joel Hawkins provided moving remarks illuminating the stories of veterans, and the price they paid for their country.

Many faculty and staff deserve credit for making the program a success. They include Cheryl Holtzclaw for programs, Dawn Jones and culinary students for the terrific breakfast, Christa Huelskamp, Joe Dant, Kirk Essenpreis, and custodians for set-up and logistics, Chris Durbin, Josh Case, and students for sound, slides, and video, FFA sponsors and students for greeting and seating veterans, Gayla Stirewalt, Shellie Donoho, and the students from the Bulldog Grounds Coffee Shop, Andy Gibb-Clark and John Case for the incredible choir and band performances, Caleb Houchins and Amy Boscolo for scheduling and logistics, and Mr. Joel Hawkins as program coordinator and historian. It was an honorable assembly and a proud day to show gratitude to those who served our great nation and paid the price for our freedom.

From Ms. Amy Boscolo, Assistant Principal/Athletic Director: Fall & Winter Athletics-

This fall we earned 5 MVC Conference Championships (girls cross country, boys golf, girls tennis, football, and volleyball). Girls cross country and boys golf took home the Regional Championships and the tennis team won Sectionals. The entire girls tennis and girls cross country team qualified for the IHSA State Tournament. Nick Hanratty also qualified for State in cross country. The girls



cross country team placed 16th in the State Meet, which is the second best finish in school history. Evan Sutton and Jaxton Black qualified for State in boys golf. Evan Sutton placed 21st overall in the State Tournament.

Winter Sports

Winter sports have already begun! Boys bowling placed 13th out of 30 teams in the Zachary Lecure Memorial Invite over the weekend. The girls and boys basketball teams both head to Thanksgiving tournaments in Salem and Effingham respectively. Cheerleading will host an ICCA competition on December 14. Wrestling hosts their first of six home meets on Tuesday, November 26 at 6pm in the HHS gym. Please come out to see our outstanding winter athletes!

National Letter of Intent - Signing Day

We are proud to announce the college commitments of Sydney Coker, Austin Toler, and Megan Vidmar. All three athletes have committed to continue their education while playing collegiate athletics.

- Sydney Coker - accounting and volleyball - John A. Logan
- Austin Toler - accounting and baseball - Harris-Stowe
- Megan Vidmar - nursing and volleyball - Blackburn

From the School Counselors-Mary Jackson (Department Chair), Carrie Lieberman, and Amber Spaeth: October continued to be busy as the HHS counselors focused on continued planning for life after high school. They attended Manufacturing Day at SWIC, met with Terry from HACF about local scholarships, assisted the military in handing out the ASVAB results, assisted SWIC with Dual Credit registration, met with juniors about future plans, had students take an interest inventory and talked about upcoming college fair opportunities; and met with freshman for “5 minute meetings.” These meetings gave students an opportunity to see where their school counselor’s office is located, start on their four year plan, and get to know their counselor. Counselors also continued to encourage seniors to complete their college and FAFSA



applications with “College Changes Everything” raffle prizes. For the month of October, 375 students signed in individually. Sixty-one percent of visitors were 9th graders, 8% were 10th graders, 10% were 11th graders, and 21% were 12th graders. Fifty-seven percent signed in for academic reasons, 22% for college and career reasons, 13% for personal or social-emotional reasons, and 8% to see the school nurse. Please see the November [Counselor Newsletter](#) and check out the [HHS Counseling Page](#) for more details.

[Check out the links for info on the HHS website & social media](#)

[Highland CUSD #5](#) and **[HHS Web Pages](#)**

HHS Smartphone App- [Apple App Store](#) & [Google Play](#)

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

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

HHSFacebook-<https://www.facebook.com/Highland-High-School-IL-501479483667441/>

Highland CUSD 5 Facebook- <https://www.facebook.com/highlandcUSD5/>

HHS Counseling-

<https://www.highlandcUSD5.org/o/highland-high-school/page/counseling-department--18>

PowerSchool Login- <https://ps.highlandcUSD5.org/public/>

[Links for HHS Events and Happenings-](#)

[2019-2020 HHS Important Dates](#) & **[2019-2020 School Calendar](#)**

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

Educationally Yours,

Dr. Chris Becker
Principal

Mr. Caleb Houchins
Associate Principal

Ms. Amy Boscolo
Assistant Principal/Athletics



“DECK THE HALLS
WITH



DINNER: 6:30PM
DOORS OPEN 5:45PM \$20
FRIDAY DECEMBER 6TH
SATURDAY DECEMBER 7TH

APPETIZERS, DESSERTS, AND DRINKS: 1:30PM
DOORS OPEN AT 12:45PM \$15
SATURDAY DECEMBER 7TH
SUNDAY DECEMBER 8TH

LOCATION
HIGHLAND MIDDLE SCHOOL PLAZA
RESERVATIONS CALL HIGH SCHOOL OFFICE AT 618-654-7131



Highland High School
@HHSbulldogsLL



Today, we wear red to show our love and support for the Vandalia community.





Great job to the cast and crew of "Who Done It and To Whom?!?" Bravo!



WhoDunit... *and to Whom?*

By Robert Frankel

November 8, 9, 2019

7:00pm

Highland High School Kennel

\$8.00 at the door

Produced by Pioneer Drama Service, Inc.
Denver, Colorado



Chem II students determining the amount of red, blue, & yellow dye in Gatorade.



Scott Credit Union's "CU 4 Reality" Day! Students were able to create a real life budget from a personal career choice. Over 200 students participated. Thank you Scott Credit Union!



The Highland Bulldogs were defeated by the Rochester Rockets 42 - 7. Thank you seniors for your dedication to Highland Bulldog Football!



Great State run Nick! Well done.





Congratulations to the girls cross country team who finished 16th in the IHSA state meet today. This is the girls second best finish in school history. Congratulations!

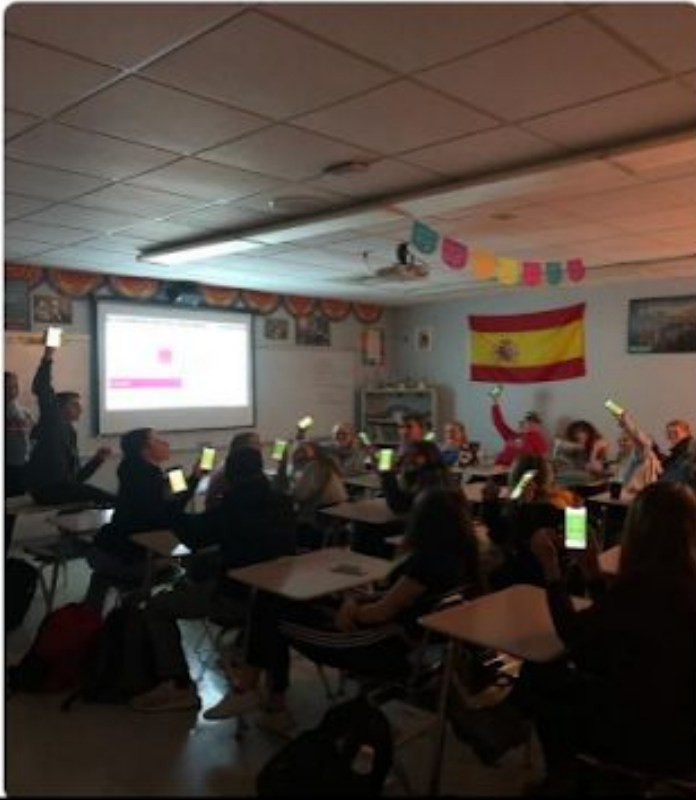


"Who Dunit...and to Whom?" Outstanding performance this evening! Come tomorrow night at 7:00pm-Doors open at 6:30pm at HHS Kennel





Honors Spanish 3 students in Mrs. Twyford's class reviewing preterite vs imperfect for their test tomorrow using Kahoot.



Students in Mrs. Hayes' and Mr. Vance's PE classes playing volleyball this morning.



Students in Mrs. Barr's Intro to Ag class learning about Record Books (SAEs). Next semester they will begin plans for their own books. They use phones or iPads as a research tool to watch SAE videos to learn more about the process.

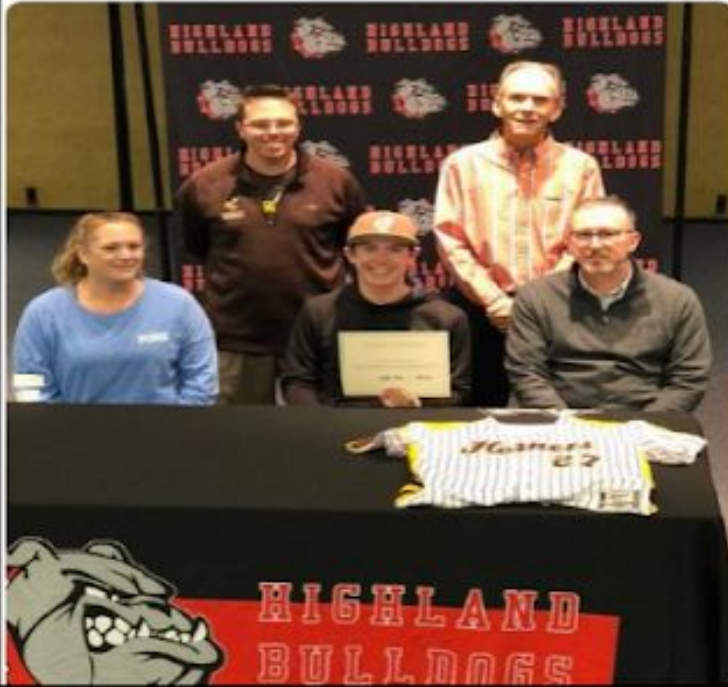


Students in Mrs. Cases's English IV class write about the genocide in Rwanda. They compare and contrast the film Hotel Rwanda with various historical articles.





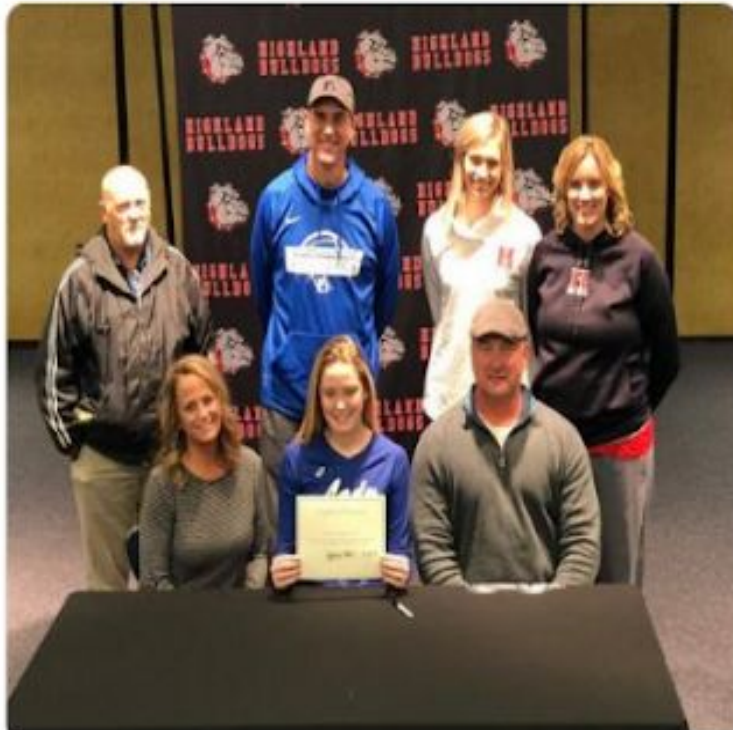
Congratulations to Austin Toler for signing his letter of intent to play baseball and study accounting at Harris-Stowe State University next year. Way to go!



Congratulations to Megan Vidmar for signing her letter of intent to play volleyball and study nursing at Blackburn College next fall. Best of luck Meg!



Congratulations to Sydney Coker for signing her letter of intent to play volleyball and study accounting at John A. Logan next fall! Go get 'em Syd!



Congratulations to HHS Junior, Madi Crawford, for being accepted into and performing in the NAFME National Honors Choir in Florida this weekend!



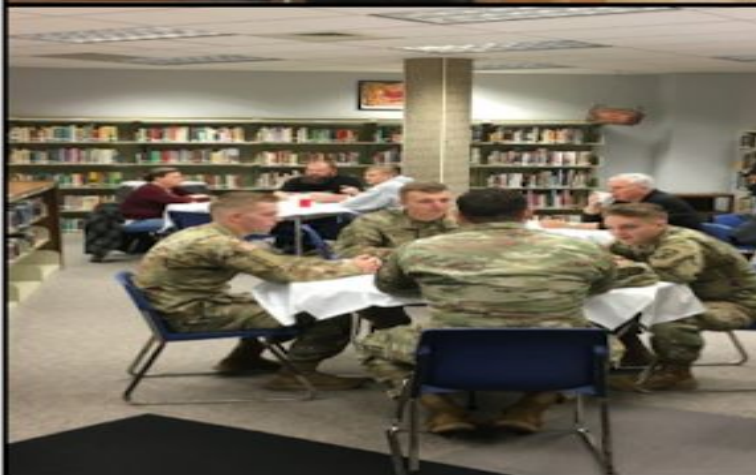


**THANK YOU
VETERANS**

VETERANS DAY

Bulldog Bulletin

Nov. 8, 2019-Week 12





VETERANS DAY

Bulldog Bulletin

Nov. 8, 2019-Week 12





VETERANS DAY

Bulldog Bulletin

Nov. 8, 2019-Week 12





Students in Mr. Durbin's PTLW Engineering and Design course working on capstone projects.



Students in Mr. Lewis' English III class studying The Crucible by Arthur Miller



Students in Mrs. Mantz's class learning about landforms and experimenting with volcanos this morning.



HHHS Spanish Teachers collaborating with Triad World Language Teachers at a conference today



Great day at the CTE Counselor Workshop





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Model UN Fall Conference at McKendree University today!



HHS Choirs participating in a workshop with Western Illinois University's University Singers and Dr. Winnie in the kennel at HHS!



Students in Mrs. Kimmle's Algebra class solve problems dealing with slope intercept.



Congratulations to all of the HHS Choir and Band students who participated in the ILMEA District 6 Honor Festival Choir, Band, and Orchestra today!!





Congratulations to both our boys and girls cross country teams! We are so proud of you!



It's game time! Let's go Dogs!

Spirit Stick...never leave home without it! Thanks Payton and Meg! At the end of the first quarter, it's Highland 14 - Cahokia 0.





The Highland Bulldogs will take on the Rochester Rockets on Saturday, November 9 at 3pm at HHS. Let's go Dogs!



Your Bulldogs held it till the end! It's a final in Cahokia, 21-20 Highland! Stay tuned for details on our game next week!



Our girls finish in 2nd place today! Is either the highest sectional finish in school history or ties the highest finish. Proud of these kids!

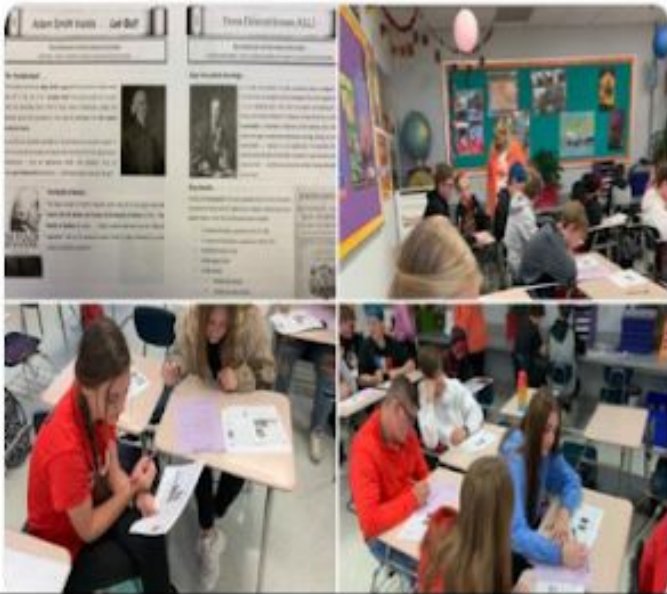


Nick Hanratty finishes 9th! First top ten boy at sectionals since 2009! Also, first boy to qualify for state since 2009. Way to go Nick!





Mrs. Beyer's World History class exploring the Enlightenment today. Students researched influential men and women from the time period with a mock newspaper and collaborated with peers.



Ms Seelhoefer's class practicing Newton's Law of Motion concerning his 1st Law and Friction. Air Hockey table is a great example of this Law.



You have to love it when kids have a desire to be in the gym! Way to go fellas. Keep pushing yourselves! ❤️🏀



Students in Mrs. Jones' Foods class learning to cook 5 different types of pasta and excited to learn a life skill.





Congratulations to our cross country team! Girls are your regional winners! Boys qualified for sectionals! Faith Brindley, Nick Hanratty, and Easton Rosen placed! We're so proud of you all! & a huge thank you to the fans who toughed it out in the rain to cheer on your bulldogs!



Coach Bradley's last pep talk worked! The boys team is headed to Sectionals! Well done fellas!

enduranceracetiming.com/live/2019/hreg/



Your Highland Bulldogs will take on the Cahokia Comanches at 2pm on Saturday, November 2 in Cahokia. Let's go Dogs!



It's a win for the ladies!

enduranceracetiming.com/live/2019/hreg/





That's a winner!!! Thank you to our seniors for their dedication to the volleyball program; congratulations on a great high school career. ❤️🐾🏐
[#WeLoveOurSeniors](#) [#HighlandBulldogs618](#)



Our first tennis team is headed home. Great job at the State Tennis tournament! Drive safe!



It's a final in Charleston. Highland 42 - Charleston 14. The Bulldogs will receive their playoff draw tomorrow evening between 9 and 10 PM on the IHSA network. Once the game time and location has been determined by school officials, it will be made public



It's 60 and sunny! (Just not here!) Let's go Dogs!





We forgot Mrs. Houchins!
Celebrating the 50th Day of School in Mrs. Mantz's class. Students shared things that they have learned during the first 50 days.



Freshmen and varsity win in 3 tonight vs Waterloo! This win makes us the MVC Conference Champions for the 3rd year in a row!
Way to go, ladies!! ❤️🏐❤️

Record: 25-7-1



Highland Show Choir performing their first three songs for their competition in January. Great job by the singers and the accompanying band.



The Highland High School Mixed Choir performing at the Fall Chorus Concert. Great job.





Highland High School A cappella Choir made up of the Chamber Choir and Madrigal Singers performing at the Fall Chorus Concert Great job by Mr Gibb Clark and all of the singers.



The Highland High School Madrigal Singers performing at the fall chorus concert.



Several members of the HHS StuCo Executive Council at the fall KDSC convention

[#thepowerofpositiveleadership](#) [#followmylead](#)



Congrats to our College Changes Everything Raffle winner! Seniors- Don't forget to complete those FAFSA and College Applications!





Thanks to paramedics Ty and Jess for speaking with the FMCC group about career opportunities as a Paramedic.



Highland High School
@HHSbulldogsLL

Some Highland FFA students participating in the Rend Lake 3D Archery Competition in Ina, Illinois this morning with Mr. Lamp.



Highland High School
@HHSbulldogsLL

Tonight is SENIOR NIGHT!! These 5 awesome seniors would love to see you help pack the gym for their last match ever at HHS! The theme is BLACK OUT! HHS students wearing black will receive free admission. Frosh at 4:15 then JV and Varsity. Go Bulldogs!! 🐾❤️🐾



It's rockin' at HHS tonight! Let's go Dogs!





November & December FTT CALENDAR

November 2019						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
11/12/19					1 7	2
3	4 6	5 5	6 4	7 3	8 2 Veteran Day Assembly 7:45-9:00 am	9
10	11 Veteran Day No School	12 Snow Day No School	13 1	14 7	15 6	16
17	18 Blood Drive 5	19 4	20 3	21 2	22 1	23
24	25 7	26 6	27 Thanksgiving No School	28 Thanksgiving No School	29 Thanksgiving No School	30

Calendar Template © calendarlabs.com

December 2019						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
11/12/19	2 5	3 4	4 3	5 2	6 Teacher Inservice 11:00 dismissal	7
8	9 1	10 7	11 6	12 5	13 4	14
15	16 3	17 2	18 Final Exams Periods 1, 2 & 3	19 Final Exams Periods 4 & 5	20 Final Exams Periods 6 & 7 Early dismissal 1:50 pm	21
22	23 Winter Holidays No School	24 Winter Holidays No School	25 Winter Holidays No School	26 Winter Holidays No School	27 Winter Holidays No School	28
29	30	31				

Calendar Template © calendarlabs.com



MCORE to Provide Cardiac Screening Opportunity for Highland Community Youth on January 6, 2020

IS YOUR CHILD AT RISK? PREVENTATIVE HEART SCREENINGS

The Greg Holthaus Memorial Fund is honored to partner with the MCORE Foundation and Anderson Hospital to provide cardiac screenings and education to Highland area youth **ages 12-22 years**.

SCA is the #1 Killer of Student Athletes Each Year, many of which could have been prevented with a simple examination like this. **Be aware, be informed!**

What Should I Expect?

- Each screening takes approximately 10-12 minutes to complete
- Each participant will receive an EKG and an Echocardiogram screening
- All screenings are completed by a Registered Diagnostic Cardiac Sonographer
- Screening results are read by the MCORE Foundation medical director and our team of pediatric cardiologists
- Blood Pressure, Heart Rate, Oxygen Saturation, and Body Mass Index screens also available
- Education on cardiac health, exercise, nutrition, weight management and substance use prevention will be provided, along with CPR demonstration and practice

****Participants must pre-register online for the screening (see below for how to register)**** (Please contact MCORE Foundation should financial hardship preclude you from taking part).

Learn more about MCORE Foundation and Preventative Heart Screenings at www.mcorefoundation.org

Greg Holthaus Memorial Fund & Anderson Hospital Screening Event & Health Fair Heart Screening

Screening Location will be at the St. Paul Parish Center
1420 9th St. Highland, IL 62249

Time: 8am – 4pm
When: Monday, January 6, 2020



Cost: \$34 (Each screening is \$79, but due to generous donations from the Greg Holthaus Memorial Fund, the cost to participants is only \$34 – Greg's baseball jersey number)

To reserve your screening time please click [Sign up](#) or www.mcorefoundation.org, click



and choose Greg Holthaus Memorial Fund & Anderson Hospital Screening Event & Health Fair



www.mcorefoundation.org
866.382.2319