



December 2019 Board Notes from Highland High School

From Dr. Chris Becker, Principal- The end of the semester is just about here and final exams take place Wed., Dec. 18-Fri., Dec. 20. It has been an eventful school year thus far and we are excited to finish the decade and start fresh with the new year. We wish you and your family a Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays, and a Happy New Year, and hope you're able to spend quality time with family, friends, and loved ones over Winter Break. As a reminder, students resume classes on Tuesday, January 7, 2019.

The newsletter contains information on upcoming Final Exams, the required SAT Test on April 14, Illinois State Scholars awards, the 5 Essentials Survey, and other important items. As always, please contact the HHS office with any questions, feedback, or concerns. We appreciate your continued support in making HHS a great place for students, staff, parents, and community. Enjoy the last few weeks of the decade and we look forward to seeing you as we start fresh in 2020!

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

- [EXAM SCHEDULE](#) for SEMESTER I
- Students are required to take exams on scheduled days unless a [Final Exam CHANGE FORM](#) was 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. Changes to final exams are used for unavoidable schedule conflicts and were 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.

Required SAT Testing for 9th, 10th, and 11th graders on April 14-HHS is planning a practice SAT test for Juniors on Fri., Feb. 7, which is a ½ day of school, to help students prepare for the state assessment. The SAT Test for Juniors is Tues., April 14 and the SAT 9 and 10 assessment for 9th and 10th graders is also on Tues., Apr.14. (Tuesday after Easter). Seniors will have a non-attendance College/Career Day on April 14.

English, math, and other core teachers will assist students in registering for Khan Academy practice sessions. A parent letter will be sent next semester providing families with important information on preparing for upcoming standardized tests. Please see the following link <https://www.collegeboard.org/> for details regarding the SAT 11 and the SAT 9 and 10.

Illinois Student Assistance Commission congratulates 20 HHS students

Highland High School is pleased to announce that 20 students from the graduating class of 2020 have been recognized as Illinois State Scholars.

The [Illinois Student Assistance Commission](#) (ISAC), the state agency committed to helping make college accessible and affordable for Illinois families, confers this prestigious recognition to top Illinois high school students annually. This year,



more than 17,500 honorees join the other top students who have been honored for their academic achievements since the designation was first introduced in 1958.

“Our students continue to shine in so many ways and we are extremely proud of their efforts. They have worked so hard to reach the top of their class. We thank our students, teachers, parents, and community for their continued support,” said Dr. Chris Becker, Highland High School principal.

The 2020-21 Illinois State Scholars represent approximately the top ten percent of high school seniors from 726 high schools across the state. Illinois State Scholars are chosen based on a combination of exemplary ACT or SAT test scores and sixth semester class rank.

The following Highland High School seniors were named 2020-21 Illinois State Scholars: **Ethan Augustin, Lia Basden, Zachary Bluhm, Reagan Crask, Kamryn Daiber, Bree Etherton, Kaitlyn Feldmann, Taylor Fleming, Nicholas Hanratty, Olivia Jansen, Ashley Knackstedt, Nicole Knackstedt, Tess Korte, Jackson Marchal, Tristan Maslar, Alexander Reed, Connor Sands, Megan Vidmar, Tyler Werner, Trevor Zobrist.**

“On behalf of ISAC, we congratulate the 2020-21 Illinois States Scholars,” said Eric Zarnikow, executive director of ISAC. “I’m consistently impressed with the passion, focus, organization, and dedication of our State Scholars. It is a credit to these students--as well as to their support systems and to our schools--that so many of them are not only driven to achieve but also reflect a true love of learning and a desire to use their education to make the world a better place.”

While the State Scholar recognition does not include a monetary prize, honorees will receive a congratulatory letter from ISAC and a personalized Certificate of Achievement. Honorees can also download a digital Illinois [State Scholar badge](#) that can be displayed on their online profiles and social media platforms, and shared with high school counselors, prospective colleges, employers, family



members and others. A complete [list of the 2020-21 Illinois State Scholars](https://bit.ly/2Reh1IY) (<https://bit.ly/2Reh1IY>) can be found on ISAC's website.



Seated (Left to Right): Tyler Werner, Zachary Bluhm, Connor Sands, Alexander Reed, Trevor Zobrist, Tristan Maslar, Nicholas Hanratty, Ethan Augustin, Jackson Marchal.

Standing (Left to Right): Lia Basden, Nicole Knackstedt, Kaitlyn Feldmann, Ashley Knackstedt, Reagan Crask, Megan Vidmar, Taylor Fleming, Olivia Jansen, Tess Korte, Bree Etherton, Kamryn Daiber.



December 6 and January 6 Teacher In-Services- HHS faculty and staff continue to participate in a variety of professional development activities to improve teaching, learning, and professional practices. The December 6 in-service included activities related to formative and summative assessments. Plans for the January 6th in-service include a keynote for the entire district from educational speaker Todd Whiatker and additional safety and security training.

From Mr. Caleb Houchins, Associate Principal: 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> or https://survey.5-essentials.org/illinois/?target_name=parent.

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

Winter Sports Update-

Our winter sports are well underway and athletes have had a great start to the season. The Varsity Lady Bulldog Basketball team has a current record of 5-1. The Lady Bulldogs won the Salem Thanksgiving Tournament and are preparing for some big games over the next few weeks. The girls will play Civic Memorial (12/18), Mater Dei (12/20), Vincennes Lincoln (1/4) along with an 8:30 am game against Greenville in the Optimist Shootout on January 11.

Boys Varsity Basketball started the season at the St. Anthony Thanksgiving Tournament and battled for a win against Unity. They continue to improve and rebuild, and are excited to compete this season. The boys compete in the Mater Dei Christmas Tournament over winter break along with a 10:00 am game against Triad in the Optimist Shootout on January 11.



Varsity Boys and Girls Bowling are on a roll staying at the top of the conference at the start of the season. Bowling continues both conference and tournament play throughout Winter Break.

Wrestling is off to a great start as participation numbers are up this year. They will compete in multiple tournaments over the holidays, including the Lincoln Varsity and Carbondale Varsity Tournaments. The wrestling team will be at home on Tues., Dec. 17 versus O'Fallon and Civic Memorial beginning at 6:00 pm.

The HHS Dance Team competed in Lindbergh on Dec. 7 and took 2nd place in Lyrical and 4th place in Varsity Poms. They will be competing in Belleville on Sat., Jan., 2020.

The Cheerleading team qualified for ICCA State in their first competition in Waterloo on Nov. 23. Reliegh Bent, Kamy Daiber and Karlie Broske were selected for ICCA All State. Kamy Daiber was also selected as an ICCA Scholarship Finalist. Cheer will compete again on Dec. 22 in Edwardsville.

From Mr. Bob Vance-PE, Personal Finance, and Blood Drive Sponsor: On Nov. 18, numerous HHS students and staff participated in the first of two scheduled blood drives for the school year. Over 76 units of blood were collected that day, which according to the Mississippi Valley Regional Blood Bank representatives, provide lifesaving assistance for over 300 people. Many students were first time donors who bravely helped to save lives. We are extremely thankful for our amazing volunteers and sponsors who stepped up to help those in need. A second blood drive is scheduled in late February.

From Mr. Gibb-Clark, HHS Choral Director: This has been a fantastic month for the HHS Choirs. Both the Madrigal and Chamber singers performed in multiple community events with the highlight being the Madrigal Dinner on Dec.



6, 7, and 8. The shows were amazing and also included a newly introduced Saturday matinee. The event was held at HMS and students did a phenomenal job showcasing their singing, dancing, and acting talents. Several HHS groups and classes supported the Madrigals and this year and deserve credit. They include the Building Trades classes for constructing a stage extension, PLTW and Tech Club for decorations and a promotional commercial, the Art students for painting and decorating banners, and the Sign Language Club for interpreting the event for the hearing impaired. The Christmas Concert took place Dec. 10 in the HE auditorium at 7:00pm.

Finally, we would like to recognize and congratulate the following students who will be attending All-State this year!! They include: **Dale Miller - All-State Honors Choir, Caleb Stratton - All-State Honors Choir, Madi Crawford - All-State Choir, Daniel Williams - All-State Choir, Reyna Boergerhoff - All-State Future Music Educators, and Elizabeth Huntley - All-State Future Music Educators.** It has been an amazing semester for the choirs and we look forward to continued success this spring!



Standing (Left to Right): Mr. Andrew Gibb-Clark, Caleb Stratton, Dale Miller, Madi Crawford, Daniel Williams, Elizabeth Huntley, Reyna Boergerhoff



From the School Counselors-Mary Jackson (Department Chair), Carrie Lieberman, and Amber Spaeth: November was busy as counselors started registration, focused on academic motivation and girls support groups, and continued to learn about career opportunities for students. They attended the CTE Counselor Workshop and PowerSchool Training to advance their skills. Counselors also met individually with the HHS Class of 2021 to request courses for their senior year. Approximately 331 students signed-in for individual appointments. Of those who signed in, 15% were freshman, 6% were sophomores, 57% were juniors, and 22% were seniors. Of those signing in, approximately 66% visited for academic reasons, 17% for college and careers, 9% for the Nurse, and 8% for personal reasons. Please click the link below for the December newsletter: <https://www.smores.com/v8e4d>.

From Susanne Himself, NHS Advisor- On Wednesday, November 20th, with the help of Mr. Sutton, Mr. Hacke, and Dr. Becker, the National Honor Society had the privilege of inducting 61 new members into the organization. These members are exceptional in the areas of scholarship, leadership, service, and character. Now, NHS looks forward to February when it leads the annual Respect Awareness campaign and fundraises to send teachers and students into Carlyle Lake for the Special Olympics Polar Plunge.

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/HHSbulldogsLL>

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

HHS FINAL EXAM SCHEDULE-SEMESTER II –Fall 2019

Day 1 Exam Schedule <u>Wednesday, Dec 18</u>	Day 2 Exam Schedule <u>Thursday, Dec 19</u>	Day 3 Exam Schedule <u>Friday, Dec 20</u>
Period #1 Review/Exam 7:40 - 9:40 am	Period #4 Review/Exam 7:40 - 9:40 am	Period #6 Review/Exam 7:40 - 9:40 am
Morning Break - 10 mins.	Morning Break - 10 mins.	Morning Break -10 mins.
Period #2 Review/Exam 9:50 - 11:50 am	Period #5 Review/Exam 9:50 - 11:50 am	Period #7 Review/Exam 9:50 - 11:50 am
Lunch 11:50 - 12:30 Lunch (For all students and teachers)	Lunch - A limited lunch menu will be served in the cafeteria. * Students who do not have ride a home at 11:50 am should report to the Commons. They will be supervised until bus/parent pickup at 2:35 pm. Teacher Lunch 11:50 - 12:50 Teacher make-up exams/ Grading period 12:50-2:35 pm	Lunch - A limited lunch menu will be served in the cafeteria. * Students who do not have ride a home at 11:50 am should report to the Commons. They will be supervised until bus/parent pickup at 1:50` pm Teacher Lunch 11:50 - 12:50 Teacher make-up exams/ Grading period 12:50-1:50 pm
Period #3 Review/Exam 12:35 - 2:35 pm		



Ms. Wander teaching the Art I class how to properly color and shade along with creating appropriate designs. It was Western Wednesday in the art studio, so lots of great country music being played.



Students in Mrs. Mantz's class working with fractions today. They work with time, money, and other items to practice and learn the concept.



Students in Mrs. Stille's Parenting class make their own baby food in the lab today. Flavors included pear, banana, peas, squash, apple, mango, and green beans. They also compare homemade and store bought brands. Great skill for future parents or baby sitters.



Mr. Weber teaching his Freshman World History class about Ancient Rome and the other Ancient Civilizations in Italy. Students did a great job of comparing Ancient Rome's Government to the American Government.



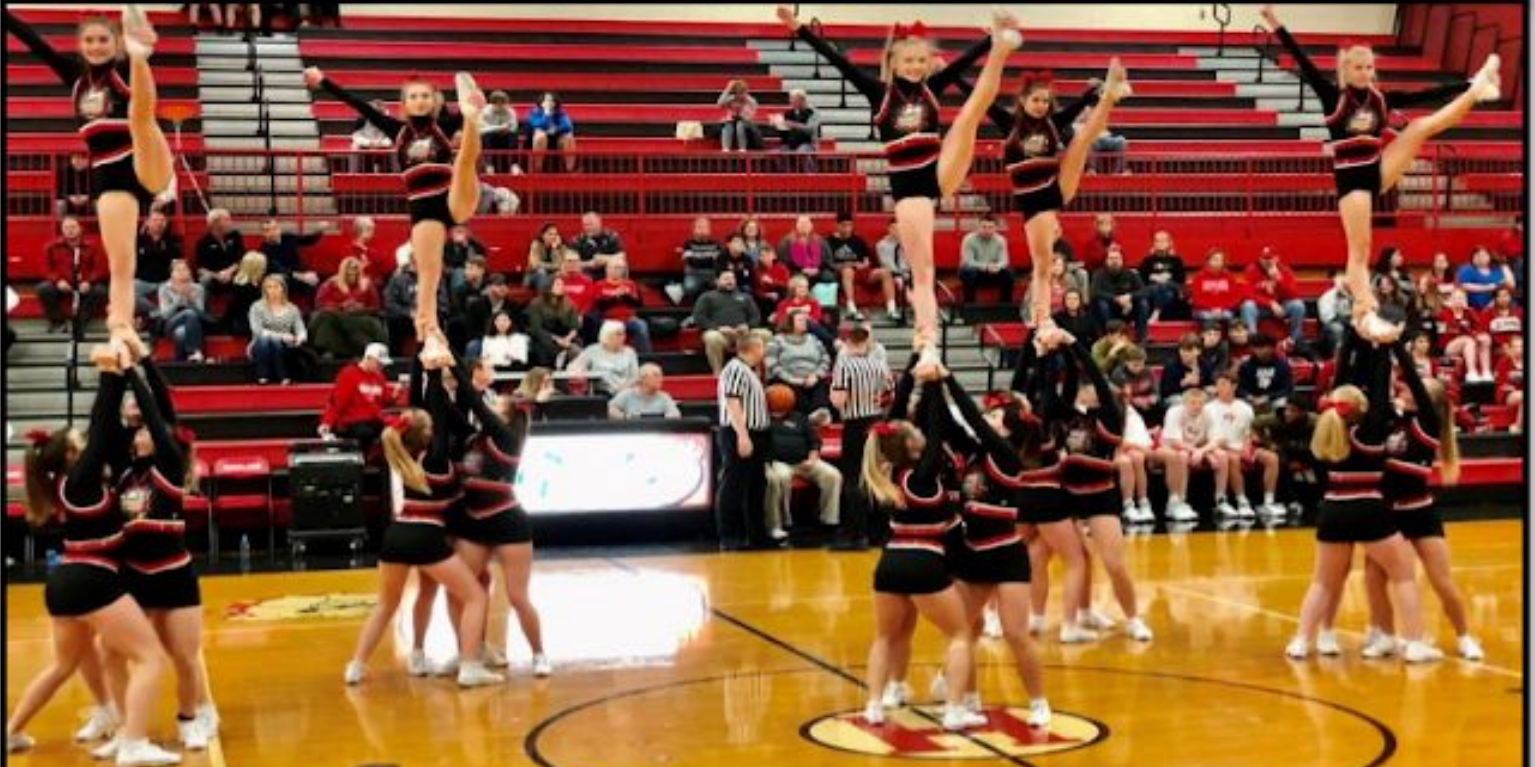
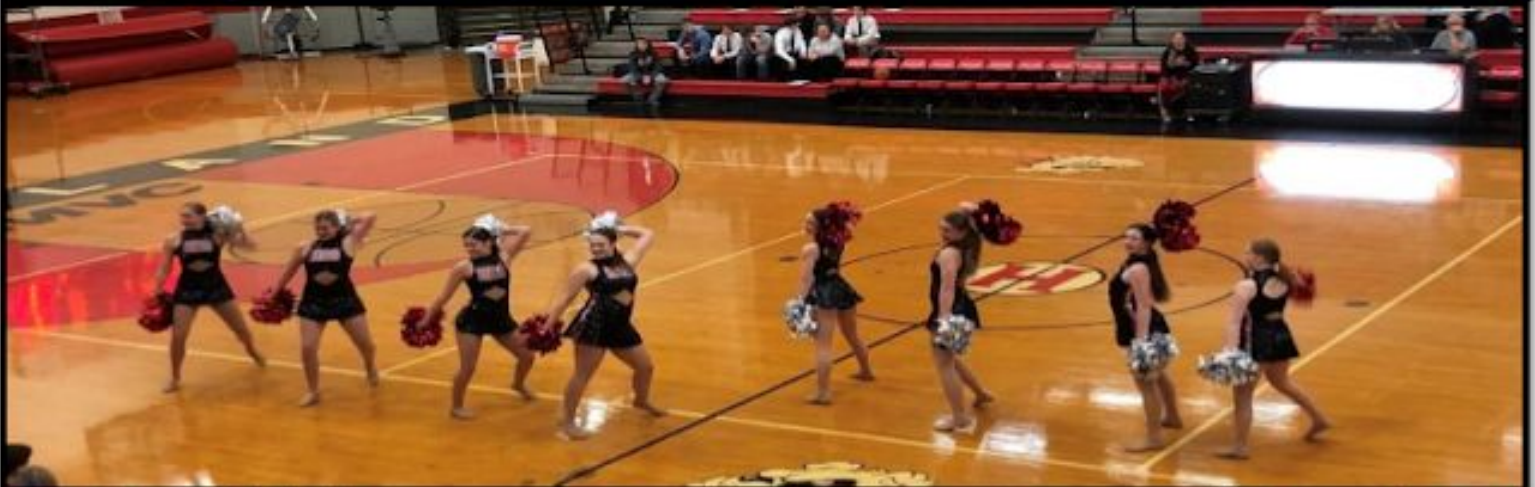
Students in Mr. Deibert's Building Trades class put the finishing touches on a few Madrigal set pieces today. They constructed a stage extension that will be used for performances this weekend this weekend.



Highland High School
@HHSbulldogs

It's game time! Highland vs. Triad! Let's go Dogs!







“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



Chamber Singers



Faerie and Gypsy Dance







Part 2 - Wrestling competed in the Civic Memorial tournament today. Alex Reed took second place. Colby Davis (not pictured) took seventh.



It's opening night for the boys. Let's go Dogs!



Part 1 - Wrestling competed in the Civic Memorial tournament today. Tanner Schranz took third place. Bryce Kirsch took fifth. Ben Mitchell took fifth.



Brody Lewis battles tonight in a JV match vs Triad and Waterloo. Let's go Dogs!



It's Highland vs. Chatham! Let's go Dogs!



The Boys and Girls Bowling Teams continue to see success!





Great seeing our students get coffee and tea for our Board Members this morning on the board tour. Jeff Williams and Gayla Stirewalt were instrumental in getting the coffee house completed with the support of Mr. Sutton, Mr. Hacke and the entire board.



Thanks to the Board of Education, Mr. Sutton, Mr. Hacke, and Mr. Williams who visited HHS as part of their district tour. Students and staff continue to do amazing things. Below they visit the Greenhouse and a World History classroom.





Congratulations to Mr. Case, Ms. Keys, the Jazz Band, Symphonic Band, and Concert Band on the great Holiday Concert tonight. All of the students did a great job.



Tonight we celebrated Ellie Brown's accomplishment of scoring 1000 points. She is one of 15 female athletes to achieve this milestone. Congratulations Ellie! 🏀❤️



HHS Winter Choir Concert





2020

Happy New Year