



[January 2020 Parent Letter & Board Notes from Highland High School](#)

From Dr. Chris Becker, Principal- Semester II is underway as students and staff returned to classes on Tuesday, January 7. We hope you had a wonderful Winter Break and are excited for the new term. Faculty and staff continue their strong efforts to support teaching, learning, and extracurriculars, and work to prepare students for the future. During the January 6 Teacher In-Service, faculty participated in valuable Professional Development training that included a powerful keynote session from educational speaker Dr. Todd Whitaker and a *Stop the Bleed* safety training led by SRO, Chris Flake and area first responders. Recently, the HHS Varsity Cheer Team brought home a 1st place trophy at the ICCA competition in Springfield, IL and were also crowned MVC champions. Finally, please check out a copy of the newly designed [Highland CUSD 5 Strategic Planning Brochure](#) which showcases the goals and targets for the district in coming years. We are excited about the direction of the district and look forward to action plans moving forward to improve our amazing schools and community. The next Highland CUSD #5 Board Meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 27th at 6:00pm at the District Office.

Please see the information below regarding the practice SAT for Juniors on February 7, the April PSAT/SAT Test for Freshman, Sophomores, and Juniors on April 14, the Illinois Science



Assessment for Juniors on April 22, and the 5Essentials Survey. As always, please contact the HHS office with any questions, feedback, or concerns. We appreciate your continued support in making HHS the best it can be for students, faculty, parents, and community.

Attention Junior Parents: Practice SAT Test Fri., February 7

HHS juniors will take the **practice SAT test on Friday, February 7** in preparation for the required **SAT Test on Tuesday, April 14**. An additional parent letter will be sent later in the term. See the notes below for more details:

- Encourage your 11th 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 are registering all juniors for Khan Academy prep & students will have logins to practice
- Juniors will practice Khan Academy modules in English, math, & other classes during semester II

PSAT/SAT Test- Tues., April 14 for Frosh, Soph. and Juniors

-College & Career Day for Seniors Tues., April 14

-Illinois Science Assessment Test for all Juniors Wed., April 22

- Freshmen and Sophomores will take the required PSAT & Juniors will take the required SAT on Tues., April 14
- Parents of 9th, 10th, and 11th grade students are required to complete the following Participation in [College Planning Options Consent Form](#) regarding pre administration of the PSAT/SAT per College Board and ISBE. Forms should be turned into the



HHS Office by Monday, March 2nd. Forms will be handed out to students during 1st hour and extra copies are also available in the HHS Office or at the Information Desk.

- Juniors take the required Illinois Science Assessment on Wed., April 22
- Additional Parent Letters will be sent closer to test time
- Seniors have a non attendance *College/Career Day* on April 14 and will NOT attend school.
- Seniors are encouraged to spend the day visiting their college or check out career opportunities. (This day does not count as one of the students' two College/Career Days.)

5Essentials Survey- The 2019-20 Illinois Parent Survey window will close on Feb. 14, 2020. Please see the link to complete:

<http://survey.5-essentials.org/illinois/survey/parent/>

Participation in the parent portion helps us understand conditions at our school and guides improvement. Your identity and survey responses will be kept completely confidential and will never be connected to you or your child. If you have any questions, please call *5Essentials Client Services* at 1-866-440-1874. Thank you in advance for your participation!

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

Winter Sports Update-

The Dance Team will compete at Sectionals on Sat., Jan. 25. The IHSA State Tournament will be held on Fri., Jan. 31 and Sat., Feb. 1.



Cheerleading won the ICCA State Championship on Saturday, January 11 and were crowned MVC Champions at Triad on Jan.15. They will compete in the IHSA Sectional on Sat., Feb. 1. The IHSA State Tournament will be held on Fri., Feb. 7 and Sat., Feb. 8.

Wrestling will host the MVC Conference Super Duals on Sat., Feb. 1.

Boys Bowling had 5 members of the team qualify for Sectionals on January 21. Girls Bowling will be at Regionals on Sat., February 2.

Boys and Girls Basketball are still competing in regular season play. Regional play will begin mid-February for the girls and late February for the boys.

From Associate Principal, Caleb Houchins & Chris Flake, SRO-

During the Teacher In-Service on Monday, January 6, SRO Chris Flake and other members of the Highland Police Department, Grantfork Police Department, Madison County Sheriff's Department, and Highland EMT held a *Stop the Bleed* safety training for all High School and Middle School faculty. Teachers rotated through several stations that showed how to use a basic tourniquet and an Israeli Bandage, make slings, and transfer victims out of unsafe areas. This in-service was done in conjunction with the new school safety buckets that have been provided to every teacher in the district. Every teacher now has the resources and knowledge to provide first aid in any emergency situation.

On Thursday, January 9th, *Whim 'N Rhythm*, an all female a capella group from Yale University, performed a concert for the entire student



body at Highland High School. The concert ranged from present day Top 40 hits like *Rumor Has It* by Adele to classic country songs such as *Jolene* by Dolly Parton. It was an excellent concert and our student body enjoyed the show. Exposure to the arts is a key component in giving all of our students a well rounded education. Stay tuned for additional PLC assemblies that are in the works for February and March.

From the School Counselors-Mary Jackson (Department Chair),

Carrie Lieberman, and Amber Spaeth: December was busy wrapping up groups for the semester and helping students prepare for final exams. Counselors attended the ISCA Workshop, *Helping Students with Trauma and Emotional Dysregulation* and the SWIC *Partnership Day*. Approximately 106 students signed-in for individual appointments. Roughly 48% were seniors; 12% juniors; 17% sophomores and 23% freshman. Students signed in 70% of the time for Academic Reasons; 21% for College or Career Reasons, and 9% of the time for Personal (Social/ Emotional) Reasons. Counselors are busy working with students on their 2020-2021 pre-registration course selections, scholarship applications, testing prep and more. See the latest newsletter for more info: <https://www.smore.com/ggtwd>

From Natalie Propst, School Nurse- Just a friendly reminder that we are in the midst of flu season. Per the CDC, there are several steps you can take to protect your student and household from the flu, which include the following:



- Get the flu vaccination as it's recommended for those 6 months and older.
- Stay away from those who are sick.
- Keep those who are sick with flu-like illnesses away from others, and keep those with illness home until fever free for 24 hours, without the use of medication.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing.
- Wash hands often with soap and water, or alcohol based hand rub if soap and water are not available.
- Avoid touching face (eyes, nose, and mouth).
- Clean and disinfect surfaces that may be contaminated with germs with household disinfectants, according to label directions.

From Math Team Coaches- Mrs. Kimmle and Mr. James: The Math Team participated in 5 competitions last semester involving the Southwest Math Conference and Excellence in Math. Highland students earned 22 individual awards and a second place team award. The next competition will be Regionals in February. The coaches are Valerie Kimmle and Brent James.

From Andrew Gibb-Clark, Choir Director



The spring semester is a busy time for the choirs! We begin the semester with a Pancake Fundraiser that includes performances by all of the district choirs on Jan 25th. The HHS Show Choir will debut their full show this year at the event! Six choir students will be attending All-State Jan. 28-Feb. 1st. After All-State, the show choir will attend 3 competitions, Feb. 8th in Troy, Missouri, February 21st and 22nd in Davenport, Iowa, and February 29th in Sullivan, IL. Auditions for the Spring Musical were held January 14th and 15th and rehearsals have started well! This years show is "The Little Mermaid" and will take place April 3rd-5th at the Highland Elementary Auditorium.

**Highland Choir Parent Association is hosting
its 3rd annual Pancake Breakfast!!!**

Date: Saturday - January 25, 2020

Time: 8:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

**Cost: \$10.00 for all you can eat pancakes and
sausage, plus Tang, Milk and Coffee!**

**Singing provided by the Highland
Middle School Choir - 8:30**

High School Combined Choirs - 9:30

HHS Show Choir - 10:30

Location: The Middle School Plaza





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>

HHS Facebook-<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

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Mr. Caleb Houchins

Associate Principal

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Ms. Amy Boscolo

Assistant Principal/Athletics

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HIGHLAND
BULLDOGS



Parents of 9th, 10th and 11th graders must complete the [College Planning Options Consent Form](#) and return to the HHS Office by **Mon., March. 2nd.**

SAT SUITE OF ASSESSMENTS

Participation in College Planning Options Consent Form

Your child will participate in one of the SAT® Suite of Assessments on a school day—SAT®, PSAT/NMSQT® or the PSAT™ 10. The purpose of this form is to explain the information your student will be required to provide and the options available to your student related to their free SAT score sends, Student Search Service®, and the student questionnaire.

REQUIRED INFORMATION

Students will be required to provide College Board, the provider of the SAT Suite of Assessments, their first and last name, school name and school code, date of birth, grade level, gender and, for some states and districts, student identification number. This information is the minimum needed for scoring and reporting test results.

Options for Students

FREE SCORE SENDS

Students who are taking the SAT can send their scores to up to four colleges or scholarship programs at no cost. Score sends are optional, but we encourage students to demonstrate their interest in their chosen schools early. If left blank, no scores will be sent. Consent is not required for students to utilize their four free score sends.

STUDENT SEARCH SERVICE

As a parent, you can give consent for your student to opt in to Student Search Service when they complete their answer sheet. Student Search Service connects students with colleges

and scholarship organizations by sharing their information with participating organizations. This offers you and your student:

- Information about colleges and universities that match your student's academic interests
- Information on financial aid and scholarships to help deserving students access scholarships they've earned
- Information about majors, courses, and degree options

College Board only shares student data with eligible colleges, universities, scholarships, and educational opportunity programs that have signed an agreement to only communicate with students for the purposes listed above. These entities most often connect with students based on expected graduation date, cumulative grade point average (GPA), score range, and intended college major.

STUDENT QUESTIONNAIRE

As a parent, you can give consent for your student to participate in the student questionnaire. The information from these questions will be added to their College Board student record. Your child's responses to the optional questionnaire:

- Provide data used by College Board for research and planning to improve tests and services
- Help match students with colleges, universities, scholarships, and educational opportunity programs

The Student Guide describes what the questionnaire asks and how student information is used. Please review the Student Guide and indicate below if your child will or will not complete the optional questionnaire and opt in to Student Search Service.

Return this completed and signed form to your child's school by the deadline set by your school. You can learn more at the College Board Privacy Center at collegeboard.org.

- ☐ **Yes.** I give consent for my child to opt in to Student Search Service and to participate in the student questionnaire.
☐ **No.** I do not give my child consent to opt in to Student Search Service and to participate in the student questionnaire.

Student Name (Printed) _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

Note: Schools may only permit students who have parental consent to participate in Student Search Service and the student questionnaire



Highland High School
@HHSbulldogsIL

Whim 'N Rhythm, an a cappella group from Yale University, performed for students at a PLC assembly this afternoon. It was a really great show!

English II students in Mrs. Huson's class analyze and discuss elements of the novel, *The Things They Carried*, by Tim O'Brien, based on experiences of the 23rd Infantry during the Vietnam War. Some excellent conversations took place that engaged students at a high level.



AP Chem students exploring the kinetics of glow sticks.

Mr. Welz working with students during a biology lab learning about chromosomes.





DARKNESS CANNOT
DRIVE OUT
DARKNESS –
ONLY **LIGHT** CAN
DO THAT.
HATE CANNOT
DRIVE OUT HATE –
ONLY **LOVE**
CAN DO THAT.

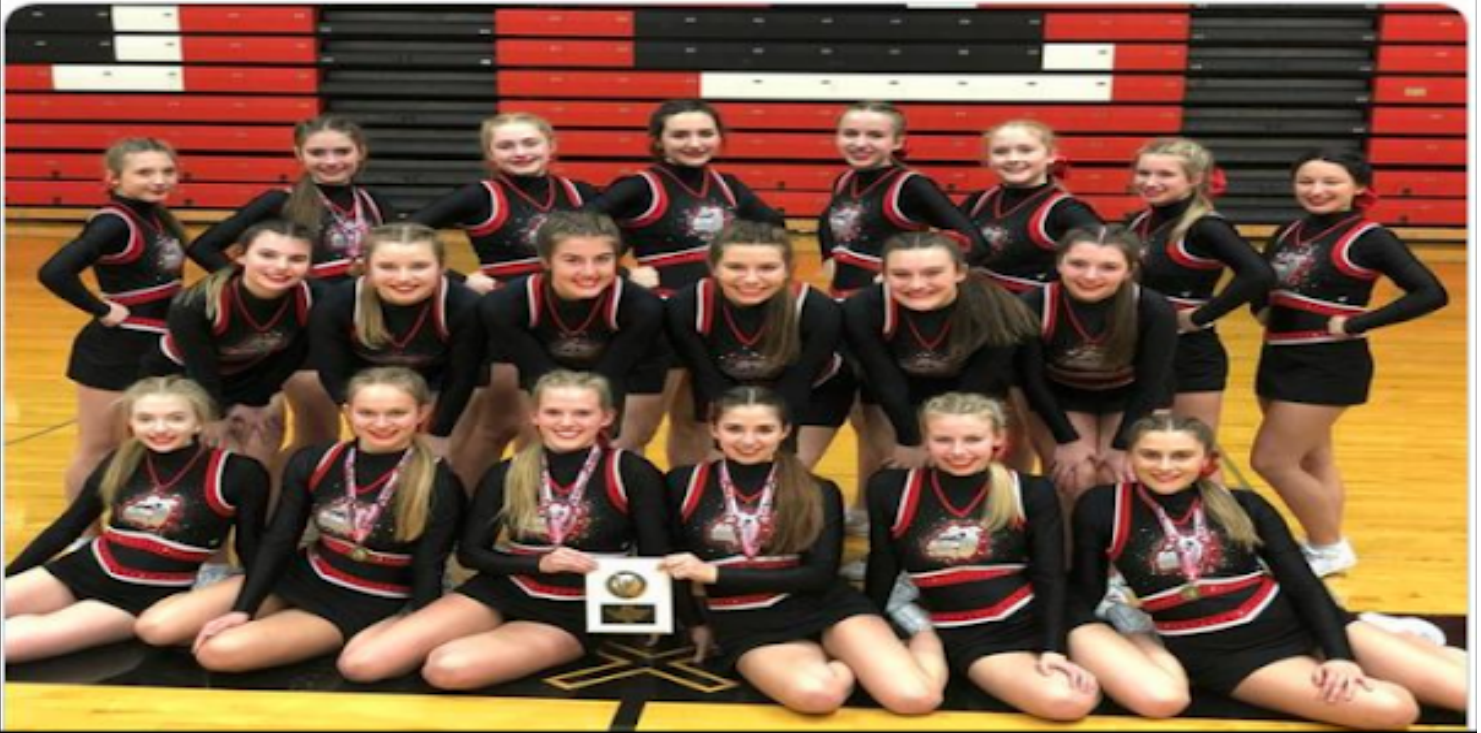
–MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.



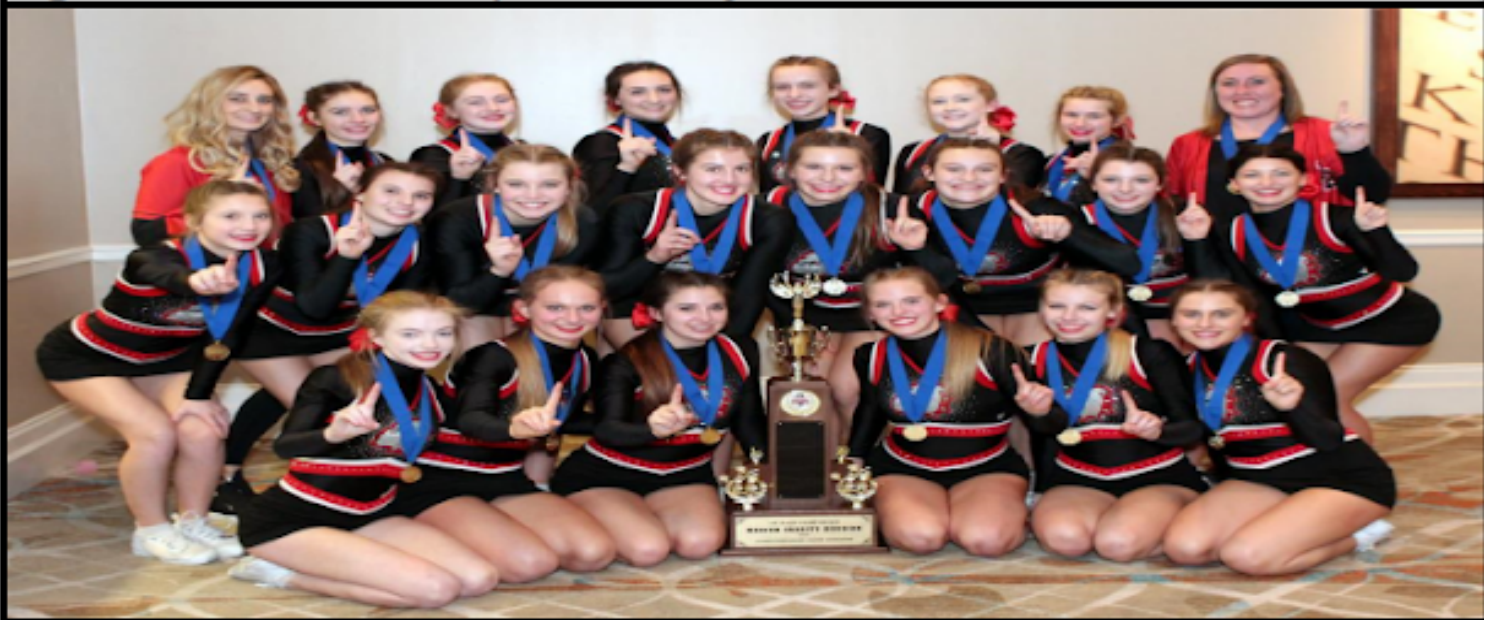
5 On Your **SIDE**



Here are your MVC Champs! Congratulations ladies!



Congratulations to our Varsity Cheerleaders for taking 1st Place at the ICCA State Championship today! Way to go ladies! We are proud of you! 🖤❤️🖤❤️





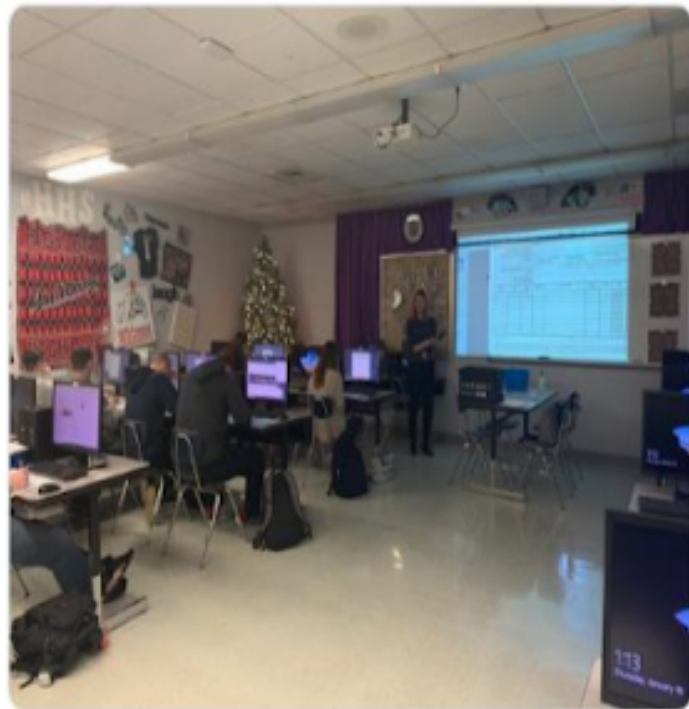
Students completing the 5 Essentials Survey for the State of Illinois. Reminder parents, if you have not completed the survey, you can do the survey as a stakeholder in our district. We value feedback, as we continue to look for ways to improve or district.



Ms. Wander's Art II class learning 2 point perspective. Not only is this important in creating art, but also in drafting and creating blue prints.



Thanks to SWIC for coming out to register students in Dual Credit courses today!



The Math Team participated in 5 competitions last semester involving the Southwest Math Conference and Excellence in Math. Highland students earned 22 individual awards and a second place team award. Regionals resume in February. Coaches are Valerie Kimmle and Brent James.





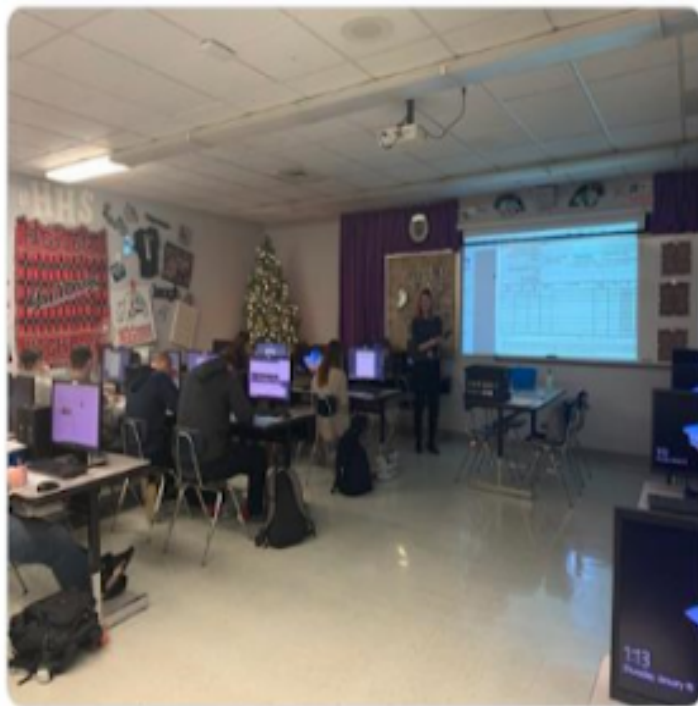
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Getting a treat after the Excellence in Math Competition at St. Louis Community College- Gabe Schwarz, Jessica Chen, Mackenzie Myer, Reagan Crask, Addison Crask, Summer Carroll, Audrey Harris Row 2: Joe Jansen, Mazzy Robertson, Grant Brinker, David Forsy, and Sylvie Carroll.



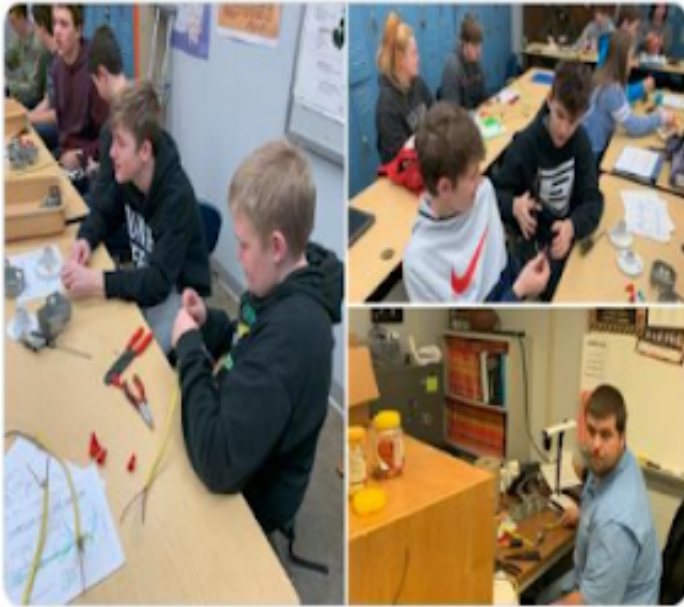
Several students in Mrs. Jones' culinary classes passed their ServSafe Food Manager's Exam. They can now own their own place of business that sells food without needing other personal certifications from the IL Department of Public Health

It's the pregame warmup! Let's go band!





Students in Mr. Lamp's Industrial Ed class learning to wire a switch



Thank you HMS Dance team for your tremendous performance at tonight's JV Basketball game! Well done!



Congratulations to HHS senior Megan Kronk who was awarded 2nd place in the region at the VFW in Alton, IL for her essay "What Makes America Great?" Additionally, congratulations to Mr. Joel Hawkins who won the teacher of the year award for the region.



The HHS Varsity Scholar Bowl Team ready for action!





Foods 2 cake decorating preparation: layering, crumb coats and piping skill practice.



Highland wrestling defeats Litchfield tonight and falls to Vandalia at home in a triangular match.





Chemistry students investigating concentration and dilution.



Thanks to SRO Chris Flake and members of the Highland Police, Fire, & EMT, Madison County Sheriffs Department and other area first responders for providing valuable safety training for middle and high school staff at today's Teacher Inservice



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SRO Flake and HHS Administrative Assistants getting some additional safety training this morning



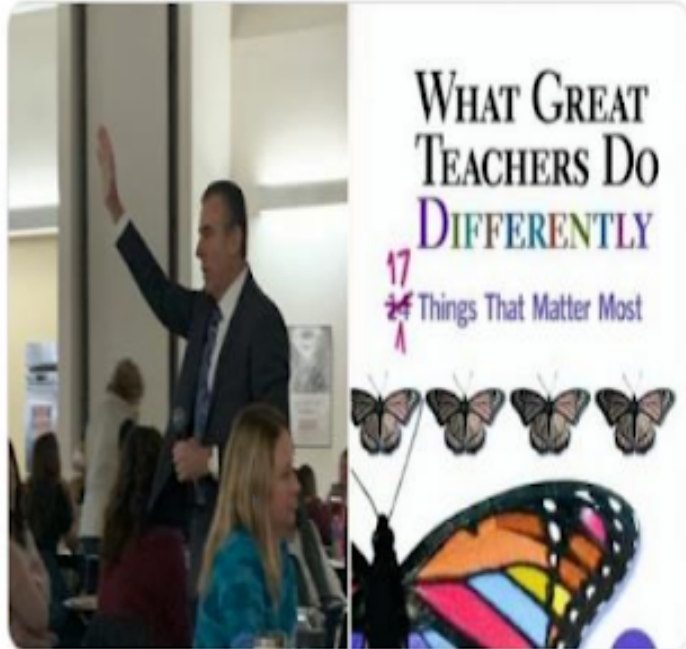
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Thanks to Dr. Todd Whitaker for a great day with Highland CUSD 5 staff at our teacher inservice this morning.



Thanks to SRO Chris Flake and members of the Highland Police, Fire, & EMT, Madison County Sheriffs Department and other area first responders for providing valuable safety training for middle and high school staff at today's Teacher Inservice



**TUESDAY
JANUARY 14, 2020
5-7:30 PM**

**HIGHLAND HIGH SCHOOL
COMMONS**

\$6.00

**CHILI
HOT DOG
OR CHILI MAC
WITH ALL THE FIXIN'S**

ICE TEA, LEMONADE, WATER
BENEFITS THE HIGHLAND
BAND PARENTS ASSOCIATION

CHILI DONATED BY
POWHATTAN RESTAURANT





It's tip-off time at the Breese Central Shootout! Let's go Dogs!



The Highland Lady Bulldogs defeated Vincennes Alices 55-49 in the Breese Central Shootout. Bella LaPorta was the Highland player of the game as she set a new shootout record for points scored, 23. Well done ladies!



HHS faculty and staff are thrilled to welcome back students on Tues., Jan. 7th. We are grateful for such amazing students, faculty, and a community who works so hard to make a positive impact. We can't wait to see you tomorrow!

Fun evening last night with most of our Highland basketball players at Edison's. The team enjoyed bowling, laser tag, arcade & eating together.



Recognize that every interaction you have is an opportunity to make positive impact on others.

- Chris Wilson

Never underestimate the valuable and important difference you make in every life you touch for the impact you make today has a powerful rippling effect on every tomorrow.





More from the Highland Varsity Cheer team took who 1st place at the Edwardsville ICCA Tournament today!



Alton Christmas Bowling Tournament results: Girls place 3rd and the Boys place 6th. Congratulations to Molly Marshall who placed 1st overall.



After the medal round in Mascoutah, Ben Mitchell took 8th as Tanner Schranz and Alex Reed took 4th for Highland. Well done fellas!



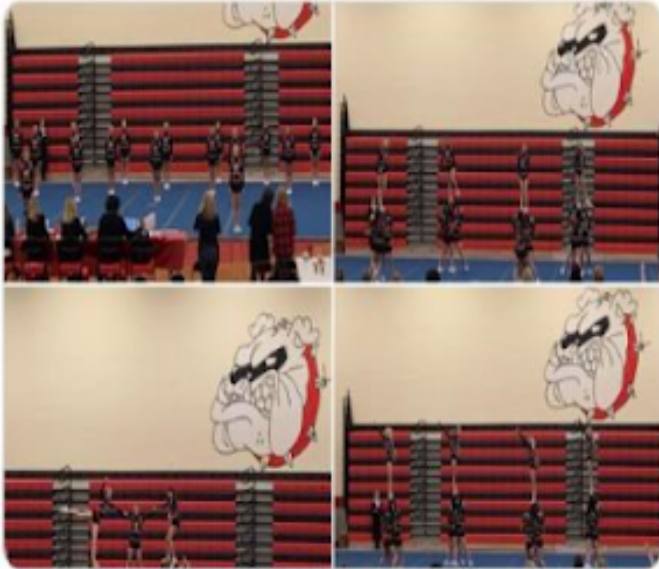
The Highland Varsity Cheer team took 1st place at the Edwardsville ICCA Tournament today! Great job ladies!





Highland High School
@HHSbulldogsIL

We're proud of our Bulldog Cheerleaders!



Highland High School
@HHSbulldogsIL

Boys place 5th and Girls 2nd at the Belleville Southern IL Team Challenge. Austin Davis has the 3rd highest game of the tournament 279. Molly Marshall places 5th individually with a 1209 series. Carissa Merkle places 4th individually with a 1262 series.



Winter view of the softball fields this morning. Finals are underway!

