

The Highland School

31 Highland Avenue
Midland Park, New Jersey 07432

Highland School Weekly Updates

December 7, 2021

NEW INFORMATION:

Highland Winter Concerts: (Grade 5 and Grade 6):

Students will have the opportunity to perform live in front of an audience for the first time in more than a year and a half. The choral concert and the band concert are on 2 separate nights this year. It will be a little different this year with the mask protocols as they are still mandatory in schools, but as they say on Broadway, “the show must go on.”

- **5th and 6th grade choral concert- Wednesday December 8th at 7:00pm in the gymnasium**
 - Grade 6 students report to cafeteria at 6:40pm.
 - Grade 5 students report to the cafeteria at 6:50pm.
 - Students should wear white on top and black (dark) on the bottom.
- **5th and 6th Grade Band Concert – Thursday December 9th at 7:00pm in the gymnasium**
 - All Band members should report to the cafeteria at 6:45pm.
 - Students should wear white on top and black (dark) on the bottom.

Holiday Boutique:

The PTA is hosting a Holiday Boutique the week of December 13th. Students will have the opportunity, if they would like, to purchase a present for a family member, or themselves. All students through grade 6 will visit the boutique either Monday, Wednesday or Friday.

Midland Park Represented at NJASL State Conference:

Ms. Christine Carr presented at the state librarian convention over the past several days. She is sharing what we do with librarians, administrators, and educators all over the state. We are very proud of Ms. Carr and the work she does here at Highland and Godwin. Our students are very lucky.

Is my child too sick to come to school?

A common question we get from parents when their child is under the weather is, “Should I send my child to school?” Viruses are on the rise in the winter months and our goal is always to keep kids as healthy as possible to they can attend school as much as possible. The link below consists of recommendations that hopefully will help you navigate the aforementioned question. As always, please contact the school nurse, Mrs. Kulesha should you have any health related questions.

[Is my child too sick to come to school?](#)

Outdoor Recess:

Whenever possible we like to send students outside for recess. Recess has benefits for socialization, physical health, and even helps students academically. Please keep weather in mind when sending your child(ren) to school so they are dressed appropriately for outdoor time.

Upcoming Events:

- 12/8- *Choral Winter Concert (gr. 5,6)- 7:00pm- gymnasium*
- 12/9- *Band Winter concert (gr. 5,6)- 7:00pm- gymnasium*
- 12/10- *Half day for students- District Professional Development Day for staff*
- 12/13- *PTA Holiday Boutique begins (M,W,F)*

- 12/20- *Half way point of the 2nd marking period*
- 12/23- *½ day: Winter classroom parties 11:30am*
- 12/24- *Winter Recess Begins (No School)*
- 1/3 *Students Return to School*

OLD BUT ALWAYS RELEVANT INFORMATION:

New District quarantine procedures, including travel (UPDATED 11/16/21):

The District has released a revised quarantining procedure for students earlier this week (link: [MP Covid-19 Quarantine Procedure-11.16.21](#)). Much of the guidance is the same, however there is a big change when it comes to travel.

- Unvaccinated individuals who travel domestically do not have to quarantine from school as long as they are asymptomatic. Students can attend school after returning from vacation which eliminates asynchronous learning. Students who are quarantined for any other reason are still entitled to virtual learning and should work through the school nurse Mrs. Kulesha; akulesha@mpsnj.org

Student Vaccinations:

Students who choose to be vaccinated may submit proof of vaccination to the school nurse. This would prevent any close contact quarantine in case of an exposure at lunch or outside of school. **This is optional**. If you would like to submit a proof of vaccination, please reach out to Mrs. Kulesha, the school nurse; akulesha@mpsnj.org

Highland School Student/Parent Handbook:

Every year the Student/Parent Handbook is embedded into the student academic planner that the PTA so graciously provides. In the handbook is information related to the school, i.e. code of conduct, absences, bell schedules, and other important information. It is also posted under resources on the Highland homepage. Please use this as a resource prior to calling the main office.

- [Highland Student-Parent Handbook Link 2021-2022](#)

Absences:

If your child will be absent, the responsible adult **must call the school before 8:00am** at **(201) 445-3880** then **Press #1**: leave his or her name, the child's name, the child's teacher's name, and the reason for absence on the answering machine. Please do not just email the teacher as the teacher could be absent. Safety is always a priority. If we do not hear from a parent of an absent student, we do the following until a parent/guardian is reached:

- 1) Main office calls parents to verify absence
- 2) Main office calls emergency contacts
- 3) Main office will institute a robo call to all child contacts
- 4) Main office will contact the police

Birthday's in School:

Teachers will set up activities in grades 3-5 to celebrate your child's birthday. Please do not send in snacks, gifts, goodie bags, etc. for the class. Sometimes, not every time, it becomes a competition for the best gifts or goodie bags to send home, or there are not enough, and it all unravels. Each grade level and/or homeroom teacher will acknowledge birthdays in their own way so the students can be celebrated.