

The Highland School

31 Highland Avenue
Midland Park, New Jersey 07432

Highland School Weekly Updates

October 10, 2023

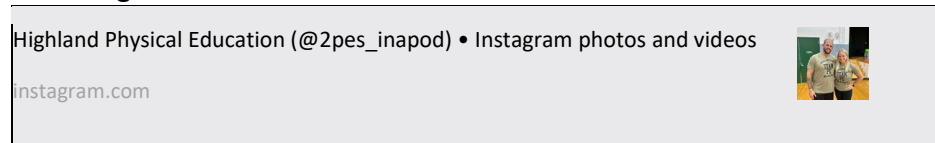
Highland School Clubs:

Clubs are being advertised now at Highland School over the announcements and morning show. If your child(ren) would like to join a club, please reach out to the supervisor of the club, or he/she should attend the interest meeting when the time comes. The link below, which is posted on the Highland website, will show the clubs that are potentially running this year, pending there is enough membership.

- [2023 Highland School Clubs, Descriptions and Supervisor Contacts](#)

PE Instagram:

Highland School is proud to present a **NEW INSTAGRAM ACCOUNT** from their **PE Department!** Mrs. Dolianitis and Mr. DeCarlo are excited to announce 2PEs_inapod. Through this Instagram account, members of our Midland Park community will see what is going on in the gym. From the units being taught to the incredible fitness equipment being used, you will get a glimpse into the world inside the Highland Gymnasium. We hope that you will click below to start following!



****We do anticipate a Highland School Instagram coming to life shortly, for those who like that sort of thing.*

Grade 3 Community Service Project:

Thank-you to all those that contributed to the Confidence Closet. Feedback from the school where supplies were donated in Paterson, was as follows; "The kids were jumping up and down when they saw all of the donations." Mrs. Ackerman and the 3rd grade team cannot thank-you enough--- "your kindness and support mean everything." Pictures to the right are some of the students who benefited from your generosity.



Back to School Night:

It was great seeing everyone at Back-to-School Night. Some of you I have seen roaming these halls for the past 6-8 years as your different children matriculated through the grade levels. Others, I am just getting to know you. Either way, I hope you feel a sense of community in Highland School and that your child enjoys coming to school.

- Some Quick Reminders of Back to School Night:
- Pull all the way up in the municipal lot when dropping off your child(ren).

- First bell rings at 8:20am
- We want your child(ren) in school and on time please, **we like them**. Attendance matters.
- Please support the PTA and MPPEF. They do absolutely exceptional things for your children. **The school would not be the same without them.**
 - PTA President: Mrs. Morris
 - MPPEF President: Mr. Beattie
- As discussed in the Opening PowerPoint (I wish I could have finished). Let your kid's struggle with a task that you know is achievable. It builds perseverance and pride in accomplishment. It is a great life skill. As life becomes more automated and easier on many levels, we need to reinforce this perseverance skill as much as possible.

Halloween at Highland: Tuesday 10/31/23

- Halloween is fast approaching. If your child chooses to celebrate Halloween by dressing up in school, please make sure that their costumes abide by the following;
 - Students **should not have to change** into the costume at school.
 - The costume must **fit properly** and cannot be too long; **cannot violate the dress code.**
 - No belly buttons, underpants/bra's
 - Leave **weapons, handcuffs, clubs** or other **props** that accompany the costume at home.
 - **Masks and extensive face paint are not allowed**-we have to be able to recognize students and we do not want excessive face paint smearing and getting all over everything.
 - The costume you wear must **allow you to sit, stand, or move** around the classroom and building without difficulty.
 - **Please, the costume should be appropriate for an elementary school.** Highland actually serves K-6 students, please consider the age of the students when choosing a costume to wear to school.
- Classroom parties will begin at 2:00 pm. Homeroom representatives will set up games and activities for the children by homeroom to partake in. If you are a homeroom rep (thank-you) and need a holiday snack list, please visit the Highland website and go to shortcuts on the right-hand side for approved holiday snacks.

Upcoming Events:

10/9 – Half Day for Students – 12:30pm dismissal: Teacher Professional Development
 10/10 – PTA Pumpkin Patch: During School Day
 10/11 – Fire Prevention Visit-during the school day/ Fire House Open House (7-8:30pm)
 10/13 – PTA Harvest Festival: 3:00pm – 7:00pm on the Highland Field
 10/16 – Read-A-Thon begins
 10/27 – Trunk or Treat
 10/31 – Halloween Class Parties

Old but always relevant information:

Nurses Contact:

Mrs. Patty Trava has returned as the Highland School nurse. Should you have any student related health questions, or need to submit vaccinations, and/or doctor's notes, please contact Mrs. Trava at HLNurse@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 School Parent Handbook 2023-2024](#)

The Car Line:

- All across America the drop off car lines at elementary schools can be stressful. We have been doing okay so far considering over 300 students are being dropped off in a 20 minute span- THANK-YOU. Traffic is not backing up to the intersection of Prospect and Godwin as much.
 - **Reminders of things we can do to keep the car line moving:**
 - **Pull all the way up as far as you can go, then let out your child(ren).** Have student exit the vehicle on left side whenever possible (safer).
 - Have student water bottles and backpacks ready to go, like a paratrooper ready to jump out of a plane. When the car stops it's a "Go, Go, Go."
 - Pre hug and kiss your child prior to getting in the car. Those are important things, but safety of kids during drop off is too. We want to avoid cars passing in line as much as possible.
 - **If you find yourself U-turning anywhere, you are doing something illegal. Let's try not to do illegal things.**

After School Pick Up:

After the bell rings at 2:50pm, students are released with the expectation that they will be watched, picked up by parents, or head to aftercare. Your child should not be playing outside if you are not present afterschool. There is limited supervision outside after school. Students who misbehave may be held accountable for their actions. Students will be released from the same door they entered in the morning so we do not have a stampede going out of one door. Please arrange a spot for your child to meet you or your 'picker-upper'. Those who walk home, please set a time for arrival home, and those who go to aftercare should head right over to Godwin so we do not have to send out a search party if they are late.

Sincerely,
Peter Galasso, Principal

