

HIGHLINE HIGHLIGHTS

What YOU Need to Know

April 2, 2008



DATES TO REMEMBER

1st-3rd Wednesday Mornings
Coffee with the Principal 8-9am

Friday, April 4th
Crazy Sock and Shoe Day

Saturday, April 5th
Saturday Detention 8:30-11:00

Monday, April 7th
PWP Meeting 7:00pm

Saturday, April 12th
Saturday Academy 11:00-1:00

Monday, April 14th
Board Meeting 6:15pm

Friday, April 18th
NO SCHOOL Teacher Work Day

Saturday, April 19th
Saturday Detention

Thursday, April 24th
Progress Reports Home

Friday, April 25th
Middle School Lucky 5

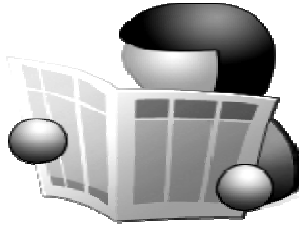
Monday, April 28th
Spring Literacy Testing Begins

Thursday, May 1st
Shakespeare Club Performance
7:00pm

Monday, May 5th
Teacher Appreciation Week

Wednesday, May 7th
Eye & Ear Testing Begins
Highline Singers Spring Concert
7:00pm

Friday, May 9th
NO SCHOOL Teacher
Appreciation Day
Shakespeare Festival



Due to her involvement with the Girls on the Run program here at Highline, Ms. Galindo will no longer hold her tutoring and drop-in hours after school on Mondays. She will be available by appointment for the remainder of the year.

Deliverables We Need From You

The district's annual School Satisfaction Survey will be delivered to Highline sometime in the next few weeks. This information is useful for school planning and decision-making and will be included in the School Performance Framework.

There is an important change to note this year with regards to the administration of the School Satisfaction Survey. DPS will not administer a kindergarten – 2nd grade survey. Schools will administer surveys for 3rd – 12th graders only.

The survey takes about 15 minutes to complete. These surveys should be returned by U.S. mail directly to the Assessment & Research Department to ensure the confidentiality of individual responses. Parents who do not receive a questionnaire should contact the school.

Parent surveys must be postmarked by May 9.

Survey information will be compiled and preliminary results released at the beginning of June. All school and district summary data are available to the public upon release. Individual survey questionnaires will remain confidential and will not be released outside the Assessment & Research Department.

Thank you for helping to make the 2008 School Satisfaction Survey a success!



Notes From The Music/Drama Room:

Grab your planners and your pens and mark these important dates on your calendar now.

The Shakespeare Club will be performing *The Comedy of Errors* on Thursday, May 1st at 7:00pm.

The Highline Singers will be performing their spring concert on Wednesday, May 7th at 7:00 pm.

All performances will be held in our concert hall (middle school cafeteria). I hope this advance notice will give you proper time to plan around these events so you can come and support the Arts here at Highline.

News from the Art Room:



Mayan Profiles- In our studies of the Mesoamerican civilizations, we learned that the Mayans liked to have their profiles used to show off their large noses (a sign of intelligence) and their sloping foreheads (a sign of beauty). The Mayans also believed that filing their teeth, piercing their bodies plus liberal use of tattoos were all signs of wealth and beauty. We tried to draw them in all their glory and then paint them with small dots of paint to portray their ideas of beauty. Hmm. Sounds familiar. Have we really evolved all that far?

Mr. Gonzales' Corner

Quote of the week: "Discipline is not something you do to a student; it's something you help a student acquire".

Discipline Questions Answered:

I don't understand our new "PBS" system. Can you help me understand what it is exactly?

PBS Defined

The positive behavior system (PBS) framework organizes adults and students to create a social-culture in schools that will encourage positive behavior and interactions while discouraging problem behaviors. This social-culture will lead to a safer environment where students achieve academically and build positive relationships with each other and adults.

Successful behavior, like successful academics, requires the learning of specific skills and knowledge. Desired behavior does not come naturally for all students. Therefore, Highline is committed to providing proactive

education and re-enforcement for all students to help them find success within our culture. Just like we do in academics, we are committed to differentiating our behavior system to meet the needs of individual students and help ensure their success. A positive behavior system allows us to accomplish our mission of preparing students for success in academic and civic life.

Positive:

Focus on what we want students to do...the positive.

Behavior:

Focus on **specific behavioral expectations**, versus **concepts** such as those espoused through REACH.

Focus on what appropriate behavior looks like.

System:

DEFINE – Clear & concise definition of behavior expectations
TEACH – Direct teaching of behavior expectation
REMIND – Daily reminders and supervision – "Positive Nag"
CELEBRATE – Consistent acknowledgement of the expected behavior
EDUCATE – Consistent correction of the problem behavior

Highline's discipline system is broken down into a four tier "behavior document".

Each tier specifies the expected behavior for students in the classroom and across common areas in the school (e.g., hallways, bathrooms, lunchroom, playground, assemblies). It organizes misbehaviors into four intensity levels, providing research-based responses to help decrease the misbehavior, while prompting, reinforcing, increasing and sustaining appropriate behavior.

Each tier outlines possible incentives for students who exhibit the expected behavior. In addition, each tier outlines a range of possible consequences and interventions. Consequences are intended to hold students accountable for their choices while interventions are intended to educate and train students to make more appropriate choices.

REACH Cards

Mr. Gonzales, Ms. Cavecchi and a group of parent/guardians will be sending home a survey to collect information on how we can continue to improve upon our REACH incentive program. Please take the time to fill it out and send back to school.

Homework Club

Due to a lack of funding, we will only be running homework club for the next two weeks in the hope that during this time it will become financially viable. Please respect that our students are working, not volunteering, and need to be compensated for their time by the families making use of it.

Important After School Reminder

Any student not picked up by 3:50 and not signed into after school tutoring will be sent to Kids Adventure. At 3:50, there will be "gong" and students remaining in the hallway will be issued a consequence and escorted to Kids Adventure. Parent/guardians will be invoiced for their childcare at the regular rate of \$10.00 per day with a \$25.00 one-time registration fee. For safety reasons we cannot have any students unsupervised after 3:50 anywhere in the building or on school grounds, including the parking lot. There will be no exceptions made.

Spirit Day

Friday April, 4th is crazy sock and shoe day. Any students may wear socks and shoes of choice (slippers are appropriate).

Please send students with change of shoes if what is worn is not appropriate for outdoor recess and/or PE.

Shout Out

Our lower school and middle school dances were a great success. We raised a lot of money to help fund our first annual 8th grade trip. Thanks to everyone for their support and help. A special shout out goes to students Emma Rush, Kayla Fessler, Gena Pinson, Meghan Reimann, Courtney Mason, Lisa Tate, Roima Paewai-Huggins, Adriea Herndon, Sara Johnson, Dylan Whalen, Adam Sputh, teachers, our wonderful parent volunteers, and of course our fabulous Ms. Cavecchi!

Love & Logic: Turning Star Bucks into Big Bucks

An excerpt from MILLIONAIRE BABIES OR BANKRUPT BRATS?

**Release date: June 2008
by Jim Fay and Kristan Leatherman, M.S.**

Darren, 16 years old, begins his school day as often as he can

with his favorite drink - triple mocha espresso, extra foam, extra hot. Not a big deal from Darren's perspective, but a VERY BIG DEAL from a financial perspective.

Here's the real jolt.

Let's say he buys a cup of coffee before going to work each morning for a year (50 weeks x 5 days = 250 days). After each preference is added in, and a tip, let's say it costs \$4.

Now if he saved that money instead, by the end of the first year he would be \$1,000 richer. And if he invested that \$1,000 each year at 9% until he was 61, he'd be \$574,186.02 richer.

Otherwise, he's investing in a one half million dollar mocha!

Perhaps Darren should consider saving his money instead - and make his own coffee.

If he did, when Darren is 61 years old, he'll probably be a little less jittery on two counts!

Bottom Line: Wise parents use everyday spending examples to teach their children the power of

choice and the wisdom of investing early and often.

Thanks for reading.

Jim and Kristan

Dr. Charles Fay is a nationally known speaker, parent, and school psychologist with the Love and Logic Institute in Golden, Colo. His book, *Love and Logic Magic: When Your Kids Leave You Speechless*, provides a host of helpful tips for teaching values, as well as handling other perplexing parenting issues. For more information about Love and Logic parenting and teaching techniques, call 1-800-LUV-LOGIC

Principal's Coffee: This year's coffee with the principal will happen the first, second, and third Wednesday of each month from 8:00-9:00am. For the 4th Wednesday of each month, I will remain available for individual drop-in conversations from 8:00-9:00am. A sign up will be on my door the last Wednesday morning of each month for first-come, first serve conversations.