

HIGHLINE HIGHLIGHTS

What YOU Need to Know

April 17, 2008



DATES TO REMEMBER

1st-3rd Wednesday Mornings

Coffee with the Principal 8-9am

Friday, April 18th

NO SCHOOL Teacher Work Day

Saturday, April 19th

Saturday Detention 8:30 – 11:00

Monday, April 21st – 23rd

8th Grade Field Trip

Thursday, April 24th

Progress Reports Home

Art Walk

Night of the Revolution

Friday, April 25th

Middle School Lucky 5

Cook Park 3:45 – 6:00

Saturday, April 26th

Saturday Academy 11:00 – 1:00

Monday, April 28th

REACH Assembly

Spring Literacy Testing Begins

Thursday, May 1st

Shakespeare Club Performance

7:00pm

Saturday, May 3rd

Saturday Academy 11:00 – 1:00

Monday, May 5th

Teacher Appreciation Week

PWP Meeting 7:00pm

Wednesday, May 7th

Eye & Ear Testing Begins

Highline Singers Spring Concert

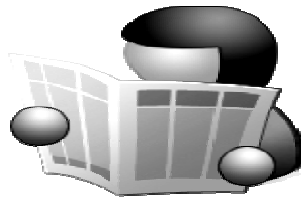
7:00pm

Friday, May 9th

NO SCHOOL Teacher

Appreciation Day

Shakespeare Festival



Tomorrow, Friday, April 18th:

No School, Teacher work day.

Enjoy your long weekend!

Thursday, April 24th, Progress

Reports Home: Look in your

student's backpack for mid-

trimester progress reports.

Thursday, April 24th, Art Walk:

April 24 is the start of the 3rd

Annual Highline Art Show. Art

work from students in grades 1

thru 5 and middle school FAAT

classes will be on

display in the

hallways surrounding

the art room until May

9th. Please join us

for an artist's

reception from 6:30 till

8:00 on Thursday,

April 24th in the art

room.



Thursday, April 24th, 4th Grade "Night of the Revolution":

You won't want to miss this year's "The Night of the Revolution".

All 4th grade students will participate in two plays and one musical. Each student will deliver a speech trying to convince us that they are the "Most Amazing American". The audience will vote for the person they deem "The Most Amazing American".

This evening is a collaborative effort of both 4th grade teachers and Mr. Apodaca. The festivities



begin at 6:30 and promises to be VERY fun.

Deliverables We Need From You

Annual School Satisfaction

Survey: Look for DPS's annual

School Satisfaction Survey is in

this weeks Thursday folder. The

information collected 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 in

the envelope provided, 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!

The Goat

Project: Got milk? Some don't. Thanks to your generous donations of spare change, Highline Academy has purchased our first two goats that will provide food for families in Haiti.



Makida Yilma, Liliya Martynyuk, Ms. Walling and I, Vanessa Padilla, have started "the goat project". We are raising money to buy families in La Gonave, Haiti, a female goat.

The families will be able to use their goat for milk and cheese. The family will also be able to take their goats to a non profit organization that allows them to have their female goats impregnated for free. This will provide them with a lasting food source.

Here is how our campaign works. Each homeroom is collecting loose change to raise money. Your child is asked to bring in pennies, nickels, dimes, quarters, bills or checks to help us help others.

We are so excited to announce that in the first week we reached our original goal and raised enough money to purchase two goats.

We would appreciate it if you would encourage your children to bring in change to help with this fundraiser. We need all the help we can get. Please see Ms. Walling or myself if you have any questions.

Games Wanted: Does your car stop at garage sales? Highline is in need of games, puzzles, markers and crayons for indoor recess next year. Summer garage sales are a great place to purchase these items. Please be on the look out for items that are in good shape and have all of the pieces that we can use on

cold snowy days. Thanks for your support and donations.

Buy One Get One, Spring Book Fair:



We are having a second Scholastic Book Fair beginning Monday, May 19th and running through Wednesday, May 21st. This is a great opportunity to purchase some books for summer reading as it's a buy one get one free!

Notes From The Music/Drama Room: Grab your planners and palm pilots 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.



Shakespeare



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.

Principal Hiring Committee Update:

The Hiring Committee has been busy! The Principal in residency job description has been posted with numerous resources serving a nationwide draw of potential applicants. We are excited to have over 40 resumes to date! During the next few weeks we will be evaluating resumes and personal

statements to determine which candidates will be asked to participate in the 1st round interview process.

Although the turn out was low for the focus groups held last week, (a total of 8 people between the 2 groups) the committee gathered some important feedback and input! Thank you to all those who came to find out more about the hiring process and to voice your thoughts and or concerns! The committee truly values what YOU have to say. If you were unable to attend, please contact any of the committee members so we can hear from you! The committee will continue to keep you informed about the process. Thank you!

Board Members:

Jennifer Douglas: 303-868-3606, jendouglas21@gmail.com

Ruth Kedzior: 303-300-1664

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Frank Tuitt: franktuitt@aol.com

Parent Representatives:

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Faculty Representatives:

Patty Siclari: psiclari@highlineacademy.org

Penny Sputh: psputh@highlineacademy.org

Chris Ziemba: cziemba@highlineacademy.org

Denver University Representative:

Frank Coyne: fcoyne@du.edu

Principal:

Alyssa Whitehead-Bust: 720-449-0317, awhitehead@highlineacademy.org

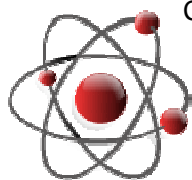
Shout Outs

Congratulations:

Patty Siclari won this year's Mile High Teacher of the Year award. Way to go Ms. Siclari you finally got the recognition you deserve! We're so lucky to have you as part of our team.



Science Fair:



Congratulations to all science fair participants. Thanks for all your efforts. Awards will be presented at next assembly.

Kindergarten:

1st place, Bailey Whalen

2nd place, Vishnu Sunil

1st Grade:

1st place, Anna Grace Benerman

2nd place, Matthew Bulger

3rd place, Joe Bulger

Honorable Mentions: Tim Bulger

2nd Grade:

1st place, Mason Paris-Bacon,

Honorable Mentions:

Rachel Albert, Nathan Vaughn

3rd Grade:

1st place, Dillon Whalen

2nd place, Brayde Reisman

3rd place, Keenan Anderson

Honorable Mentions:

Cindy Turgeman, Ekaterina Crilov, Wesley Schoettner, and

Tara Butler

4th Grade:

1st place, Hannah Golden

2nd place, Gayathri Gude

Honorable Mentions:

Bethany Vaughn, Nikki Morland

7th Grade:

1st place, Parker Engel

2nd place, Levi Waddell

3rd place Logan Nagel

8th Grade:

1st place, Cole Johnson, Jasmine Crane, and Abigail Sheldon

2nd place, Hunter Alexander

3rd place, Meaghan Owens, Lisa Tate, KC Peterson, and Kiera Classen

Elementary School winners:

1st Place Dillon Whalen, 2nd

Place Brayde Reisman, 3rd

Place Keenan Anderson

Middle School Winners:

1st Place Cole Johnson, Jasmine

Crane, and Abigail Sheldon, 2nd

Place Hunter Alexander and

Parker Engel, 3rd Place

Meaghan Owens, Lisa Tate, KC

Peterson, and Kiera Classen

Language Corner

Some "Golden Rules" from *The Bilingual Family: A Handbook for Parents*, by Edith Harding-Esch and Philip Riley

The child's happiness comes first.

If ever you should really come to the decision that trying to 'be bilingual' is in some sense a source of misery, maybe it's time to reconsider your approach. Bilingualism is a lifetime journey and each child must develop at his/her own pace.

The child should never be teased or embarrassed

in any way about his linguistic performance, particularly in his weaker language. This includes protecting the child when he is asked to 'perform' by adults and by avoiding comparisons between his performance and that of monolingual children.

The child should never be punished for making mistakes;

whenever possible you should avoid correcting your child overtly, especially if this means constantly interrupting him.

Talk to your child. Provide him with the richest linguistic environment possible (songs, playgroups, books, television, holiday's visitors, games) in **both** languages.

Be consistent in your linguistic behavior with your child, but remember that there

are many different ways of being consistent: one parent, one language; a holiday language and a round-the-year language; a weekday language and a Sunday language; the first one to speak chooses the language; everyone speaking their preferred language.

Play it down. For most bilingual children and their parents, as we have seen, their linguistic situation is just part of their life.

It is a part that can be useful, fun and interesting, but it is still something that they share with the majority of the world's population and therefore neither a cause for concern nor anything to shout about.

Love & Logic:

What's Our Job?

When asked, "What's our job as a great parent or great teacher?" most people say something like, "To raise or help create really respectful and responsible kids."



Our good friend and co-founder of Love and Logic, Foster

W. Cline, M.D., would disagree. Dr. Cline argues:

It's not our job to raise responsible kids. Our job is to consistently do the things that give kids an opportunity to become responsible.

When we spend all of our time and energy trying to make our kids respectful and responsible, we open ourselves up to major power-struggles. It's as if we send an unstated message such as, "All of my self-worth and happiness is tied up in how well you behave." This is far too much power for any child to have. Too often, strong-willed

children use this power to punish their parents. In contrast, when we focus on doing the right things and giving our kids a great *opportunity*, we place appropriate responsibility on them and they have no battle to fight. The unstated message is much different: "While I want very much for you to have a happy and responsible life, I can't make that happen for you. You are the one who has to do most of the work."

Take care of yourself by remembering that the only thing you really have complete control

over is yourself.

Thanks for reading.

Dr. Charles Fay

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.