



Scottie News

2022-2023

Back to School Message from Mrs. McCord, Principal

Every year I am more excited to start a new school year! Teachers have been dropping in for training and to get their classrooms ready for learning. I can't wait to see the returning students and meet our new Scotties!

Our focus this year is to build upon our Highland's brand. What we do at HMS. Living our Mission, Our Vision and solidifying our strong instructional practices. The Character Strong curriculum is taught in all our Leadership Classes and the philosophy is embedded in everything we do at HMS. We teach students to be kind, to be honest, to care about each other and to live the **Scottie Way: Impact each other in a positive way, every day**. Our

staff is reminded of our teacher developed Vision and we try to model our beliefs every day.

Our Vision is to prepare and motivate our students for a rapidly changing world by instilling in them critical thinking skills, global perspective, and respect for the core values of honesty, loyalty, perseverance, and compassion.

Welcoming Activities

OPEN HOUSE

You are invited to our Open House event on Wednesday, August 24th from 5:00-7:00 p.m. This will be an informal opportunity for students and parents to meet teachers and staff and explore the school. There will be hamburger meals free for all HMS students in the cafeteria. The adults will pay \$4.50

Students who are accompanied by an adult will be able to pick up their class schedule. This will be a great time for students to find their classrooms, meet their teachers, and prepare for the first day of school.

*The Scottie Shop will be open one hour early on Open House night, from 4:00-5:00 p.m. ONLY for those who would like to pay any ASB/ sports user fees. We highly encourage that you take advantage of all days before and after open house to come make any purchases. This will help to alleviate the hallway congestion and long wait lines, and give you more time to explore the school, meet teachers and have a meal with the family. The Scottie Shop is open during office hours of 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

6th GRADE ORIENTATION

Please join us for a welcome assembly, activities, campus tours, and popsicles with your school WEB leaders! Most important get all of your questions answered about starting middle school. Parents must provide

transportation to and from orientation. Student event only.

The Theme for the year is B A R K

Brave -use your voice, communication, stand up for others

Academic -do your best, ask for help, pride in yourself

Resilient -preserverance, never give up

Kind -empathy for others, respect of others

We will start with **K** first quarter.

Fall Sports

Sports are offered to all 7th and 8th grade students.

Practice start dates for fall sports are:

- Football - Monday, August 29th at 3:00 pm.
- Soccer - August 31st at 2:40 pm.
- Volleyball - August 31st at 2:40 pm.
- Cross country - August 31st at 2:40 pm.

To be eligible for practice, all students must have a current sports physical on file in the office, be completely registered online, and have their sports user fee/ASB purchased. Each sports physical expires after 2 years but registration needs to be completed, and a user fee needs to be paid every season that a student participates in a sport. Directions for the online sports clearance process and more information on fee payments can be found on our school website and through the following link:ps.ksd.org/public

During Open House on August 24th, we will be offering sports registration assistance to those who are in need. If you do not have a parent PowerSchool account, this will be a great opportunity to create one and complete your child's sports registration. Our Athletic Director, Mr. Frentzen

will be available to assist you and answer any athletic related questions that you may have.

***Sports User Fee - \$30.00 (\$.00 if qualified for free/reduced prices)**

***ASB - \$15.00 (\$.00 if qualified for free/reduced prices)** A one-time purchase of the ASB membership lasts all year long and is a requirement for students participating in sports and/or clubs.

Chromebook

All 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students will have a KSD owned Chromebook checked out to them for the 2022/23 school year. The success of the implementation will require a lot of teamwork from staff, students and families. Below are some key items all students and parents need:

- Students and parents/guardians must read and review the Chromebook Policy before students are allowed to check out their Chromebook.
- Parents/guardians must read and accept or decline the annual Insurance/Maintenance policy (\$30.00 per year or \$15.00 if child qualifies for free/reduced lunch).

You can access/review the Chromebook Policy and the Insurance/Maintenance through:

- Chromebook forms/policy on our school website link
 - <http://highlands.ksd.org/News/Chromebooks>
- Via the KSD Parent PowerSchool Portal
 - Parents must have a KSD Parent Portal Account

Information and help for parents will be available here at Highlands or by contacting our KSD IT Help Desk at 222-5555. The following events are great opportunities to come and learn more and get help with this new implementation:

- Open House on August 24th from 5:00 - 7:00 pm.

Reminders

Class Schedules: Students must be accompanied by an adult to pick up their class schedule at Open House. If you are unable to attend, students will receive their class schedule on the first day of school.

Immunizations: The 6th grade immunization requirement is for all students to receive their Tdap after their 11th birthday. This needs to be completed prior to starting school (if turning 11 after school starts, the student has 2 weeks to get the shot). Unless you are exempt, please be aware that no student is exempt from the MMR vaccine and must have it prior to starting school. 6th grade students must have their immunizations complete prior to receiving their class schedules.

Bus Routes: School bus routes are available on the KSD website under Transportation. The Tri-City Herald will also publish school bus routes the Sunday before school starts, August 28th.

Online Purchases: User fees, ASB membership, Sports user fees and other items can be purchased through our online store at payments.ksd.org. Payments accepted in the office are cash or check only.

Upcoming Events

August 24

Open House
5:00-7:00 p.m.

August 26

6th Grade Orientation
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

August 29

Football-First Practice
3:00 p.m.

August 31

First Day of School

September 5

NO SCHOOL
Labor Day

September 9

Student Picture Day
*Retakes- Nov. 4th

Highlands Middle School
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