

Highlands Middle School

SCOTTIE NEWSLETTER

December 2022



Principal Message

Why is it important to know the lingo and applications students may be using? With many students having access to the internet, social media and texting, some have managed to create their own lingo, slang or code to communicate. Our educators at Highlands have received information about the ever-changing lingo used in today's social media. It is important for us as educators and parents to learn about what applications are trending, what students may be communicating to each other in order to keep them safe and healthy- and not to mention it helps to take an interest in their world too! We have included resource links to videos, articles and quizzes about apps, lingo, codes and more!

- <https://gamequitters.com/teen-slang-meanings/>
- <https://www.verywellfamily.com/a-teen-slang-dictionary-2610994>
- <https://smartsocial.com/teen-slang-emojis-hashtags-list>
- <https://www.dictionary.com/games/quizzes/quiz-yourself-on-gen-z-slang-that-slaps>
- <https://peatc.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/Apps-Parents-Should-Know-About-A-Resource-Document-Aug-2020.pdf>

Highlands Highlights

Grade Level Competitions

Our grade levels are competing in a challenge to see which grade level can maintain the best behavior and grades for the rest of the semester. The winning grade levels will earn a reward.

Student Showcase

Students had a successful showcase conference this past November. Students got to invite their families to share their accomplishments, goals, class work and projects.

FIFTEEN APPS EVERY PARENT SHOULD KNOW

- ASK.FM**: ASK.FM IS KNOWN FOR CYBER BULLYING. THE APP ENCOURAGES USERS TO ALLOW ANYBODY WHO WANTS TO ASK THEM QUESTIONS.
- BADOO**: BADOO IS A DATING & SOCIAL NETWORKING APP WHERE USERS CAN CHAT, SHARE PHOTOS, VIDEOS & CONNECT BASED ON LOCATION. THE APP IS INTENDED FOR ADULTS ONLY BUT TEENS ARE KNOWN TO CREATE PROFILES.
- BUMBLE**: BUMBLE IS SIMILAR TO THE POPULAR DATING APP "TINDER." HOWEVER, IT REQUIRES WOMEN TO MAKE THE FIRST CONTACT. CHILDREN HAVE BEEN KNOWN TO BE ABLE TO CREATE FIVE PROFILES FALSIFY THEIR AGE.
- CALCULATOR%**: CALCULATOR% IS ONE OF SEVERAL APPS USED TO MAKE PHOTOS, VIDEOS, FILES, AND SHARING HISTORY.
- DISCORD**: DISCORD ALLOWS USERS TO TALK TO FRIENDS OR FRIENDS OF FRIENDS VIA VOICE, TEXT OR VIDEO CHAT WHILE PLAYING VIDEO GAMES. REVIEWERS SAY THEY HAVE BEEN CONFRONTED WITH RACIAL SLURS, EXPLICIT CONTENT, CYBER BULLYING, AND MORE.
- GRINDR**: GRINDR IS A DATING APP GEARED TOWARDS LGBTQ+ PEOPLE. THE APP GIVES USERS OPTIONS TO CHAT, SHARE PHOTOS & MEET UP BASED ON A USER'S PHONE'S GPS LOCATION.
- HOLLA**: HOLLA IS A SELF-PROCLAIMED "ROCKSTAR" VIDEO CHAT APP THAT ALLOWS USERS TO MEET PEOPLE ALL OVER THE WORLD IN JUST SECONDS. REVIEWERS SAY THEY HAVE BEEN CONFRONTED WITH RACIAL SLURS, EXPLICIT CONTENT, AND MORE.
- KIK**: KIK ALLOWS ANYONE TO CONTACT AND DIRECT MESSAGE YOUR FRIENDS. KIK CAN BYPASS TRADITIONAL TEXT MESSAGING FEATURES, SUCH AS USER UNLIMITED ACCESS TO ANYONE, ANYWHERE, ANYTIME.
- LIVE.ME**: LIVE.ME IS A LIVE STREAMING VIDEO APP THAT USES GEOLOCATIONS TO SHARE VIDEOS SO USERS CAN FIND OUT A BROADCASTER'S EXACT LOCATION. USERS CAN EASILY "GHOST" AS A WAY TO "HIT" HOOKERS FOR PHOTOS.
- MEETME**: MEETME IS A DATING APP THAT ALLOWS USERS TO CONNECT WITH PEOPLE BASED ON GEOGRAPHIC PROXIMITY. AS THE APP BECOMES POPULAR, USERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO MEET EACH OTHER IN PERSON.
- SKOUT**: SKOUT IS A LOCATION-BASED DATING APP & WEBSITE. WHILE USERS CAN CHAT, PROFILE PAGES ARE UNABLE TO SHARE PRIVATE PHOTOS. CHILDREN CAN CREATE AN ACCOUNT USING A DIFFERENT AGE.
- SNAPCHAT**: SNAPCHAT IS ONE OF THE MOST POPULAR APPS. WHILE THE APP PROMOTES USERS CAN TAKE A PHOTO OR VIDEO AND IT WILL DISAPPEAR, REVIEWERS HAVE FOUND THE VIEW CONTENT FOR UP TO 24 HOURS ALLOWS USERS TO SEE YOUR LOCATION.
- TIKTOK**: TIKTOK IS A POPULAR APP USED FOR CREATING & SHARING SHORT VIDEOS. THE APP HAS VARIOUS PRIVACY CONTROLS AND USERS ARE VULNERABLE TO CYBER BULLYING AND EXPLICIT CONTENT.
- WHATSAPP**: WHATSAPP IS A POPULAR MESSAGING APP THAT ALLOWS USERS TO SEND TEXTS, PHOTOS, VIDEOS, AND VOICE CALLS AND VIDEO CHAT WORLDWIDE.
- WHISPER**: WHISPER IS AN ANONYMOUS SOCIAL NETWORK THAT PROMOTES SHARING SECRETS TO OTHERS. IT ALSO REVEALS A USER'S LOCATION SO PEOPLE CAN MEET.



HIGHLANDS
MIDDLE SCHOOL

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AT HIGHLANDS WE OFFER:

- Tutoring in all subject areas through Varsity Tutors (FREE)
- 21st Century Extended Day Program
- M-Th from 2:45-5pm

IMPORTANT Events

WINTER II SPORTS -
Jan. 4th

CANDY CANE GRAMS / WEB Club-
Dec. 14 & 15

Drama Performance
Dec. 19th & 20th

Buddy Club (New)

**Leadership Student of the
Month**

**Orchestra / Band
Performances -**
Dec. 14th

**Upcoming Yogurt Beach and
MOD Pizza Fundraiser in
January**



ART AROUND THE WORLD PROJECT

Highlands WEB Club introduced art projects from around the world in the month of November at lunch time. Students got to learn that art is fluid; it transforms when it travels from one place to another, and how everything around the world is linked to art in some form!

Mexican Paper Flowers

**Australian Indigenous Art- Aboriginal Dot
Painting**

Japanese Fans

Islamic Art - Moroccan mosaic



*Connecting home and
schools for student
success.*

