

# Highlands Middle School

# SCOTTIE NEWSLETTER

January 2023

## Principal Message



Parents and families:

We made it through the first semester of the year with FLYING COLORS! I am so proud of our kids and how much they have grown this past year. The previous two years were HARD for them, for families and for our staff. This required a LOT of re-teaching, reminders and some new learning for kids who had not been to middle school before. What successes have we had?

1. Our discipline data has shown decreases in suspensions and other major offenses.
2. Our attendance rates and tardy rates have decreased.
3. Our number of students passing most classes has increased.
4. Our focus on **Kindness**—1st quarter and **Bravery**—2nd quarter has shown positive results in students.
  - a. 3rd quarter will focus on **Academics**—please talk to your students about their academic goals, check their Power School weekly with them and encourage them to do their best.
5. Instructional practices in the classrooms have re-immersed to engage students with their peers, respond to higher level questioning and take ownership in their learning. Ask your student what they are learning in their classes. They should be able to tell you!

We would love to have parents, families, grandparents and other positive adult role models involved at Highlands. We would love to have you hang out at lunch, be visible after school or volunteer in classrooms. Give us a call if you are interested. Our kids need you present.

As always, let me or one of our Assistant Principals know if we can do anything to help partner with you in your child's education.

Mrs. Lori McCord, Principal

## Highlands Highlights

**Jan. 25th:** PTO Meeting at Highlands Middle School at 5:30 P.M. in the library.



Join us here at the PTO Meeting and meet our team! There will also be a short LEVY information presentation at the meeting.

<https://www.ksd.org/levy-landing/levy>



**HIGHLANDS**  
MIDDLE SCHOOL

425 S. Tweedt St.

Kennewick, WA 99336

(509) 222-6700

<https://highlands.ksd.org/>

## 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

Yogurt Beach Fundraiser

WEB Leaders DUAL VIP Day

ATP Meeting

High School Registration Schedule

Spirit Week

## Winter 2 Sports

Winter 2 sports have begun, which includes girls basketball and wrestling. Check out our scheduled games on our Webpage under calendar



## WEB Leaders

Jan 26 from 12-2:35

WEB Leaders will be helping with DUAL VIP Day (group presentations & tours). We will have about 70 incoming dual students at Highlands.

## ATP Meeting

February 1st

The next ATP Meeting is in the Highlands Middle School Library. Come join us!

## High School Registration Schedule

March 6 & March 9

Kamiakin HS & Southridge HS are scheduled to visit Highlands MS.

*Connecting home and schools for student success.*

# Highlands Spirit Week

January 30th – February 3rd

## Monday

## Tuesday

6th  
Grade

7th  
Grade

8th  
Grade

## Wednesday

## Thursday

## Friday

### Monday, January 30

Formal Wear: Dress to impress, dress for success

### Tuesday, January 31

Team-Up Tuesday – We are all in this together. Grade Level Scottie Dress Challenge:

6th Grade Wears: Red  
7th Grade Wears: Black  
8th Grade Wears: White

### Wednesday, February 1

Wacky Wednesday: Dress like a mess, but don't be a mess.

### Thursday, February 2

Throwback Thursday (Pick any Decade): Don't live in the past, this is a fresh start.

### Friday, February 3

Spirit Day: Wear Scottie Gear and/or Highland's colors.

***A New Semester, A New Start***

## Action Team Partnership

Would you like to be part of a team to help develop engaging activities and events for the whole family? Then ATP (Action Team Partnership) is for you! We are a group that meets monthly to discuss ideas such as Science Night, Movie Night and other events that bring us all together! We would love to have you join us! Contact JoJo Davis at [Johanna.davis@ksd.org](mailto:Johanna.davis@ksd.org) for more information.



## Safety

Our staff works very hard to make sure ALL students feel safe at HMS; Physically and Emotionally. We have tons of resources (counselors, mental health therapist, Community in Schools advocate, lots of caring teachers and staff plus more). We can't help if we don't know about an issue. Please reach out to an administrator, our security person, Mr. Davila, a counselor, or any staff member so we can help. Your student can also report through the KSD website, anonymously.

[Online Safety Report](#)

## PBIS Rewards

Did you know that Highlands Middle School staff use PBIS rewards? This is a program that helps us recognize Scottie students when they have demonstrated PAWS. PAWS stands for Positive, Always Do Your Best, Work and Play Respectfully, and Safety. Students earn points and can use them to purchase fun items.



HIGHLANDS

MISSION

STATEMENT

**Scottie Way:**

**Impact each other in a positive way, every day!**