HIGHLANDS ELEMENTARY ODYSSEY MAGNET





FEBRUARY 2025 HAPPY WINTER!!

Highlands/Odyssey

Elementary

Phone: 920-852-5480

Fax: 920-852-5481



Highlands/Odyssey

2024-2025

Parent Handbook

What's For Breakfast & Lunch

February Breakfast Menu

February Lunch Menu







Does your student get a milk at school with their packed from home lunch? The cost of a milk is \$.40. Students can bring exact change or use their positive lunch account balance to pay for a milk.

Highlands/Odyssey Vocal Music Concerts

February 13, 2025 2:30 p.m.

Highlands/Odyssey 4th & 5th Grade and Choir



March 4, 2025 2:30 p.m.

Highlands/Odyssey 2nd and 3rd Grade



Highlands Kindergarten and 1st Grade





Highlands Elementary School & Odyssey Magnet School

Kari Krueger, Principal Michael Dexheimer, Associate Principal

Hello Highlands & Odyssey Families,

My name is Karen Brice, and I am excited to serve as the interim principal at Highlands/Odyssey while Mrs. Krueger is at home with her new baby (see pictures below). I have been enjoying the opportunity to get to know the students, staff, and families of this special school. A particularly fun moment for me was meeting a kindergarten student whose mom I had the pleasure of working with early in my career at Foster School in Appleton. It's been wonderful to discover the many connections with students, staff, and families here!

I am looking forward to meeting more of you at Parent-Teacher Conferences in a few weeks! As a reminder, the date and time from your fall conferences will carry over to the spring schedule. Please keep an eye out for communication from your child's teacher and reach out to them if any changes need to be made.

If you have any questions, celebrations, or concerns, please don't hesitate to call, email, or stop by. I'm here to help!

Warm regards,

Karen Brice Interim Principal









February Spirit Days

Feb. 10-14

Monday 2/10	School Shirt Day Shirts will be delivered to your classroom on Friday, Feb. 7th Please pass them out Monday morning and have students wear them!	
Tuesday 2/11	Hat Day	
Wednesday 2/12	Pajama Day	
Thursday 2/13	Career Day What do you want to be when you grow up? Dress the part!	
Friday 2/14	Red & Pink Day	

Conferences

Conferences will be held on February 25th and 27th. Soon you will be receiving a confirmation slip from your child's teacher with your conference date and time!

HIGHLANDS & ODYSSEY BRING YOUR FAMILY TO PE





LEARN AND BE ACTIVE WITH YOUR STUDENT FOR THEIR 30 MINUTE PHYSICAL EDUCATION CLASS WITH MR. VERHEYEN OR MR. HEURKENS DURING THE WEEK OF FEB. 10-14, 2025

SIGN UP MITH THE QR CODE OR MITH THS LINK



DATES TO REMEMBER

February 7th - No Boys & Girls Club

February 10th - PTO Meeting - 6:00-7:00 pm (LMC)

February 13th - Music Concert - Highlands & Odyssey Gr. 4 & 5 and Choir - 2:30 pm

February 17th - No School - Staff Development

February 25th & 27th - Parent/Teacher Conferences - 4:00-7:30 pm

on the 25th & 4:00-7:15 pm on the 27th

March 1st - Chipotle Fundraiser (PTO Sponsored) - 4:00-8:00 pm

March 4th - Music Concert - Highlands & Odyssey Gr. 2 & 3 - 2:30 pm

March 7th - No Boys & Girls Club

March 10th - PTO Meeting - 3:45-4:45 pm (LMC)

Highlands/Odyssey Family Calendar

District Calendar

Important Yearly Reminders

- We are looking for donations of boys and girls pants to keep in our Health Room for student accidents. Donations can be dropped off in the office. Thank you!
- Accidents happen! Please keep a change of clothes for your student in their backpack, including a
 pair of socks. This is helpful if they have an accident or get wet or muddy during recess.
- If you are submitting an absence request for your child or leaving a message that they will be late,
 please also include their lunch choice for the day if they need to order hot lunch.
- Please make after school plans with your children in the morning before school. This helps avoid interruptions to classrooms while students are learning.
- If you haven't already, please be sure to pay your child's school fees for the 2024-2025 school year.
 You can pay fees online with a debit/credit card through the Parent Portal or in the office with cash or check.
- During the cold months, we see an increase in Health Room visits due to chapped lips. If you are
 able to, please send lip balm with your student if they have chapped lips. This helps eliminate time
 out of the classroom and we do not have a large enough supply for every student.



Winter **

CLOTHING DRIVE











DECEMBER II 2024 - FEBRUARY 28 2025

Appleton Area School District Winter Clothing Drive
We are collecting new winter items for AASD families in need

Collection Dates

December 11, 2024- February 28, 2025 between the hours of 9:00 am - 2:30 pm *Donations are only accepted on days when school is in session.

Drop-Off Location

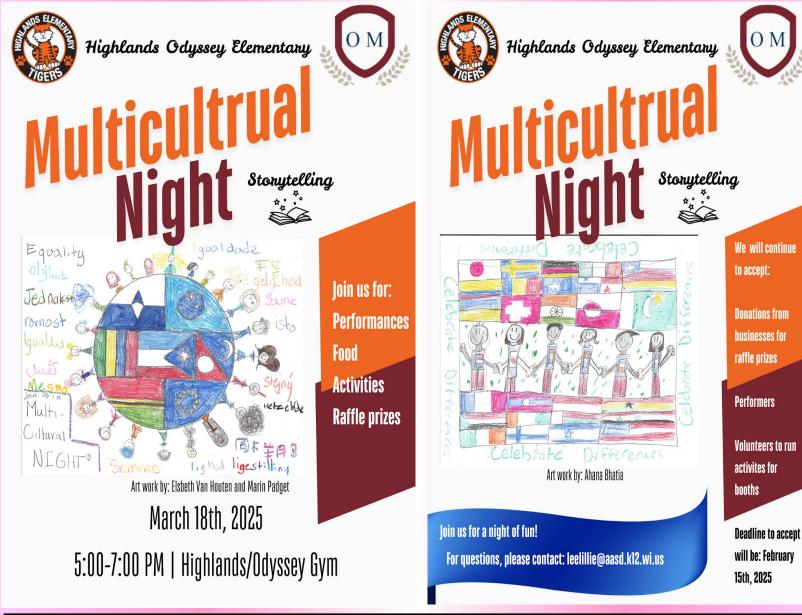
Welcome Center
Family and Community Engagement Office
2701 N Oneida Street,
Appleton WI

Items Needed

- Gloves
- Boots and Shoes
- Warm Hats and Headbands
- Coats and Jackets
- Snow Pants
- Warm/Heavy Duty Socks

*Please consider donating waterproof and warm items to ensure our students stay comfortable during the winter months

Questions? Please contact: Julie Bargholtz at bargholtzjulie@aasd.k12.wi.us



Multicultural Night on March 18th from 5-7pm

We are reaching out to families who own businesses to consider donating items or gift certificates to be used as prizes during the event. Not only will your generosity help make the event a success, but it's also a great opportunity to promote your business to the families in our school community! Prizes could include anything from your business, such as:

·Gift cards or certificates

Products or services

·Discounts or special offers

How it works: Attendees will earn tickets by visiting each booth, and they can enter their tickets for a chance to win one of the amazing prizes donated by our community members.

If you're interested in donating, please contact Alyssa Dalton at (920)852-5480 x81339 or daltonalys-sa@aasd.k12.wi.us to arrange the details by Friday, March 7th. We truly appreciate any contribution, and your support will help make this celebration even more special for everyone.

If you are still interested in participating and volunteering your talents through performance, engaging games, or telling your story please consider filling out this <u>form</u>.

Please RSVP <u>here</u> if you plan to attend this event, so we can be sure to have the right amount of food and other materials. Thanks!



BLACK HISTORY & CULTURE CELEBRATION

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16 FROM 12:30 – 3:30 PM

AT THE APPLETON YMCA 218 E LAWRENCE STREET

OPEN TO ALL AASD ELEMENTARY STUDENTS & FAMILIES

JOIN US



PERFORMANCES BY SISTAR SOCIETY





















VENDORS SELLING PRODUCTS THAT CELEBRATE AND HIGHLIGHT AFRICAN AMERICAN CULTURE



THE COZZY CORNER WILL BE OFFERING \$5 LUNCHES DURING THE EVENT







REGISTER



To register, scan the QR code, or send us an email.

Registration is required for raffle prizes entry.

CONTACTS

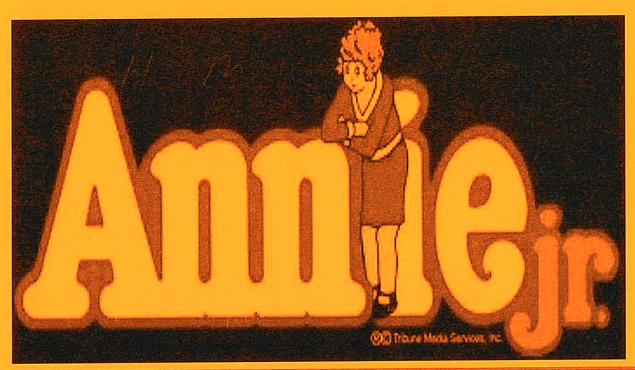
Alyssa Buchmiller, Johnston YMCA Site Coordinator, abuchmiller@ymcafoxcities.org

Kike Tomori, AASD Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Coordinator, tomorikikelomo@aasd.k12.wi.us



Our 22nd Season!!

Acting classes for ages 5-13 with showcase performance.



	AASD WEEKLY CLAS	SSES: JOIN ANY	CLASS! 5-13	YR OLDS.			
MONDAYS:	HOUDINI ELEM.	FEB. 23-MAY 19	3:20-4:30PM	RM. LGI			
MONDAYS:	HIGHLANDS ELEM.	FEB. 23-MAY 19	3:20-4:30PM	RM. MUSIC RM.			
TUESDAYS:	FERBER ELEM.	FEB. 24-MAY 27	3:20-4:30PM	RM. LGI			
WEDNESDAYS:	CLASSICAL ELEM.	FEB. 25-MAY 28	3-4PM	RM: MUSIC RM			
THURSDAYS:	JANET BERRY ELEM.	FEB. 26-MAY 29	3:20-4:30PM	RM. LGI			
ANNIE Showcase: May 31/June 1—TIMES TBD AFTER WEEK 2.							



REGISTER NOW!

WWW.KIDSTAGE.NET

QUESTIONS: KIDSTAGE@YAHOO.COM /

920-915-0044



Staff Conference Dinner

Conferences are coming up and the PTO will be providing a dinner for staff on Tuesday, February 25th. The PTO will be looking for donations of food or money to help put on this event. Please watch for a signup to be sent out soon. Thank you!





When: Monday, February 10th

Where: LMC

Time: 6:00-7:00 pm

All are welcome!

Upcoming Fundraisers

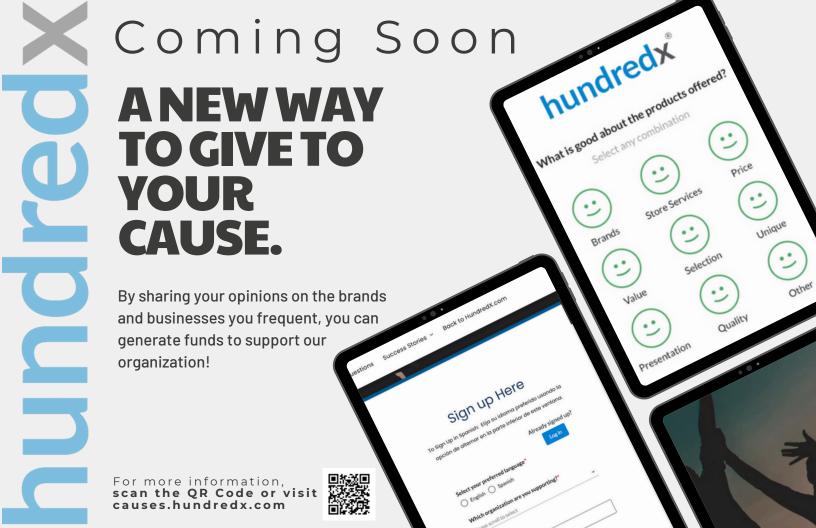
Chipotle 111 N. Mall Dr.

Saturday, March 1st 4:00 - 8:00 pm

English Spanish



You can now order a Highlands & Odyssey yearbook through Harmann Studios. You can order by clicking here and entering the school specific code HIODYB. All yearbook orders are due by March 10th. After this date, prices will increase and upgrades will no longer be available to purchase. Click here for additional information.



Congratulations TOPSQuarter 2 Winners!





KINDERGARTEN

1ST GRADE





2ND GRADE

3RD GRADE



4TH GRADE





5TH GRADE





ODYSSEY 2 & 3



ODYSSEY 4 & 5





intervention group designed for 3-4 year-old children in the year prior to 4K. Recognizing that parents are their child's first and most important teachers, this program empowers families to engage in teacher-led activities that promote learning, build friendships, and develop essential school readiness skills.

Parents will gain valuable resources and work alongside their child to support developmental milestones in areas such as speaking, listening, thinking, social skills, and movement. Parents must stay with their children and are encouraged to participate in the activities. If you sign up, please plan to attend all 8 sessions, as spots are limited.

> Session 1: January 7 - February 27 Session 2: March 4 - May 1 Days: Tuesdays and Thursdays Times: 8:45-10:00 AM or 10:30-11:45 AM 912 N. Oneida St. Appleton

PROGRAM FEATURES:

- Parent/Child Class for 3 year olds/8 week sessions
- learn about typical 3 year old milestones
- Help your child meet milestones through play

Scan QR Code

or call 920-832-6109







The mission of Appleton Community 4K is to maximize the learning of 4 year olds!

Appleton Community 4K builds a lifelong love of learning through creativity, curiosity, problem-solving,



AASD prides itself on providing our youngest learners with the opportunity to participate in a quality early learning program in a play-based model. Appleton's 4K develops the whole child by balancing critical early reading, writing, and math skills, with the social and emotional skills necessary to be successful in school and throughout their lives.

Who can enroll?

Appleton Community 4K is open to any student who will turn 4 years old on or before September 1st.

How do we enroll?

Online enrollment begins Monday, February 10th, 2025. Watch the AASD and 4K website for more details as they become available:

4k.aasd.k12.wi.us/our-school/enrollment

How can I learn more about Appleton Community 4K?

- Check out our 4K Partner Sites: 4k.aasd.k12.wi.us/appleton-community-4k-partner-sites
- Review our Frequently Asked Questions: <u>4k.aasd.k12.wi.us/our-school/faqs</u> Watch our 4K Informational Videos: <u>4k.aasd.k12.wi.us/our-school/enrollment</u>
- During the month of January, we welcome you to contact the 4K sites you are interested in learning more about. They'd love to talk to you and offer you a visit!

 Call the Appleton Community 4K office at (920)852-5600!



Find more information here! ¡Encuentra más información aquí! Yog koj xav paub ntxiv txog kev kav ntawv hauv 4K mus ntawm no!





3-5 Year Old Developmental Screenings

AASD offers free developmental screenings for all children between the ages of birth-5 prior to kindergarten. Children must live in the Appleton Area School District. We encourage all families to come to a screening, preferably before attending 4K. Visit this link for additional details and to schedule your child's screening.



News from the School Nurse:

February Newsletter

Feb. Newsletter - Spanish

Feb. Newsletter - Hmong

News from the AASD

Birth-Five Outreach Program:

February Newsletter





Our lost & found is overflowing!

Please take your student through
the lost & found if they are missing anything. All items not claimed
by Friday, February 28th at 3:30
pm will be donated. Thanks!



Community Opportunities for Students

Each month the AASD shares local, community opportunities for students. These community opportunities for students include upcoming events and activities such as art and music camps, youth athletics, cultural events, enriching programs, and more. We encourage our families to review these opportunities for students of all ages. Check out the AASD COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS PAGE for a current list of opportunities.

Summer School

Summer school registration will be done online via the Parent Portal and will open on April 14th. Additional information is available on the <u>AASD Summer School webpage</u>. See the links below for information and course offerings for Highlands and Wilson.

Highlands

Wilson



January 31, 2025

Dear Teachers, Parents and Guardians,

We are happy to announce that your elementary school was selected to participate in the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP) during the 2024-2025 school year. This program provides a fresh fruit or vegetable to students, free of charge.

The goals of this grant program are to:

- Create healthier school environments by offering healthy choices.
- Expand the variety of fruits and vegetables children experience.
- Increase children's fruit and vegetable consumption.
- Make a difference in children's diets to impact their current and future health.

A fresh fruit or vegetable will continue to be offered to your students for the 2024-2025 school year for as long as grant funds are available. FFVP will generally be served mid-morning or early afternoon. The FFVP must be served during the school day and cannot be taken home.

Our goal as the food service team is to provide your school with nutritional education to increase students' knowledge of the health benefits of eating fruit and vegetables. Starting in February a Fresh Fruits and Vegetable Newsletter spotlighting one fruit and one vegetable from the FFVP menu for the month will be provided to your school for students. The newsletter will provide some fun facts, games, challenges and occasional recipes for students to try as they learn more about fruits and vegetables. Additional education materials including fact sheets, videos, and songs can also be found on the WI DPI website (https://dpi.wi.gov/school-nutrition/programs/fresh-fruit-vegetable/promotion).

You can help support your child(ren)/student(s) efforts to increase their fruit and vegetable consumption in many ways like keeping fruits and vegetables where they can be seen (such as on the counter) or even by letting them see you regularly eating fruits and vegetables too.

Thank you for your involvement in this program. If you have questions or suggestions, please contact the Food Service Department at 920-852-5314 or foodservice@aasd.k12.wi.us.

Nondiscrimination Statement for USDA Child Nutrition Programs

In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity.

Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language), should contact the responsible state or local agency that administers the program or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

To file a program discrimination complaint, a Complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form which can be obtained online at: https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/USDA-OASCR%20P-Complaint-Form-0508-0002-508-11-28-17Fax2Mail.pdf, from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by:

1. mail:

U.S. Department of Agriculture Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights 1400 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; or

2. fax:

(833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or

3. email:

program.intake@usda.gov

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.



Monthly Newsletter

February 2025



Fruit and Vegetable Spotlight

What's on the menu this month?



JICAMA

Jicama is a root vegetable with thick, brown skin. The inside of the vegetable is white and tastes like an apple but is not as sweet. They grow on vines that are about 20 ft long. They are members of the potato familu.

CANTALOUPE



Cantaloupe is a fruit often referred to as a "musk melon." They are large, round, and heavy fruits that contains seeds in the center. The inside of a cantaloupe is orange. They grow on the ground attached to a vine. When picking a cantaloupe, use your nose to find the sweetest one.

Did you know?



A number of schools in our district participate in the USDA's Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP). Your school is one of them. The FFVP provides students with a healthy snack when they are away from home, as a way to promote healthful eating habits. The FFVP is free to all elementary school students! The snacks are provided everyday, but not during lunch or breakfast. The program features a variety of unique, and sometimes new, fruits and vegetables to students that they may otherwise not have had the opportunity to sample. To find out more about the program, please check out WI's FFVP webpage:

dpi.wi.gov/school-nutrition/programs/fresh-fruitvegetable. 🤌 💖 🔎 💜 🛑

FUN FACTS

- Oranges are one of the most commonly grown fruits in
- Cauliflower means "cabbage flower" because it is a flower that has not fully developed.
- Sweet potatoes can be white, yellow, red, purple or orange.

Why eat fruits and vegetables?

Cantaloupe is rich in vitamin C which helps with immunity, skin health and gum health.

Jicama is a good source of carbohydrates. It also contains fiber, vitamin C and potassium.

Fruit and Vegetable Challenge: Keep track of how many fruits and veggies you eat for a week.

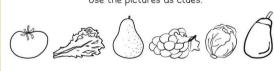


Fun with fruits and veggies

Have some fun with fruits and veggies and check out the game below.

Circle 3 fruits and 3 vegetables in the puzzle.

Use the pictures as clues.



b a C a n 0 mat snwlw

www.cleverlearner.com

TOMATO, CABBAGE, PEAR, GRAPES, LETTUCE, EGGPLANT

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Info found at https://dpi.wi.gov

February

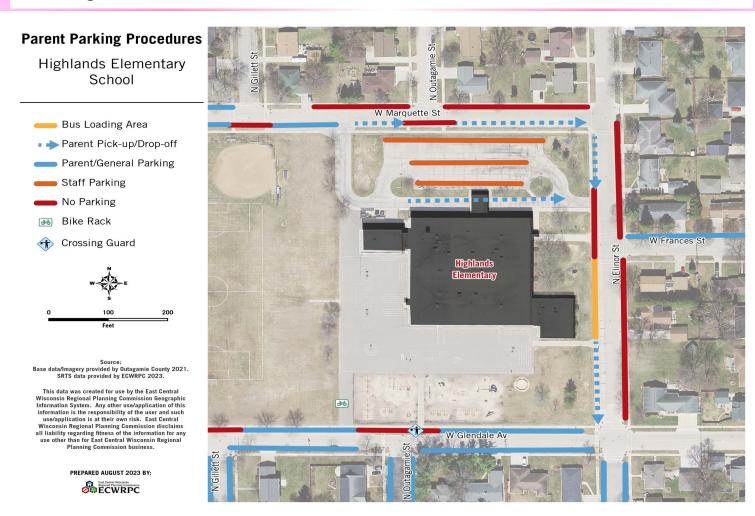
2025

~	Saturday	1	7	14 15	21 22	28	
UNITY PROVIDEI	Friday		Plum	Red Grapes	Jicama	Cantaloupe	
THIS IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER	Thursday		6 Colored Cauliflower	Tumip Sticks	20 Rainbow Carrots	Sweet Potatoes	
THIS IS A	Wednesday		Grapefruit Wedges	Cantaloupe	Orange Wedges	26 Pineapple/Blueberries	
	Tuesday		4 Clementines	Orange Wedges	18 Snack Apple	Clementines	
	Monday		3 Snack Apple	Snack Apple	17 NO SCHOOL	24, Snack Apple	
FFVP	Sunday		2	6	16	23	

^{*}Menu subject to change without notice

Please follow these guidelines for dropping off and picking up your student(s):

- You may park in any of the areas on the map shown in **blue**. Remind your student to
 use the crosswalks and crossing guards when crossing the street and to cross with
 caution.
- Please do not park in areas marked in red or yellow as they are designated no parking zones or bus zones.
- Areas marked with blue dashed lines are designated hug n' go zones. Cars should pull over, students should exit on the passenger side, and the car should exit the area.
 Cars should not be in this area for longer than one minute and cars should never be parked or left unattended.
- Please note that the canopy doors (Main Entrance) are for students/families
 with disabilities only and cabs; a parking pass is needed for this area. We have
 barricades up starting at 8:10 in the morning until the bell rings, and after
 school until 3:30. Only vehicles with parking passes will be allowed to enter
 during these times.



Safe Routes to School Information & Map

- Click <u>here</u> for a letter from the Appleton Police Department & Department of Public Works with helpful information on how to get your elementary kids safely to and from school.
- Click <u>here</u> for a Safe Routes to School walking map for Highlands Elementary.