



## Home & School Association FAQs

### **What is Highlands Home & School Association?**

Highlands Home & School (H&S) is the volunteer group made up of Highlands School parents and guardians who work in cooperation with Highlands' teachers and administration to make our school an extraordinary place for our children. Our H&S runs several school programs and fundraisers throughout the school year. The money raised supports the H&S annual budget and funds every program that we provide to Highlands each year. The H&S School Executive Board is made up of 2 Co-Presidents, Treasurer, Secretary and the Highlands Principal. This is the governing body of the Highlands H&S Association.

### **What is SFCP (School, Family, Community Partnership)?**

SFCP is a large sub-committee of H&S composed of parent volunteers, teachers, staff, and community members working together at every school in Naperville District 203. They collaborate and partner together to conduct programs with the purpose of enriching student experiences and learnings. Program themes may include literacy (One Book One School), cultural (Cultural Kaleidoscope), science (Egg Drop), family programs (Grandfriends Night, Parent University) and community service projects. The SFCP Board is made up of 2 Co-Presidents. They do not fundraise.

### **Who is a member of H&S?**

As a parent or guardian of a child at Highlands, you are automatically a member of our H&S Association. We welcome and encourage you to come to our monthly meetings and to volunteer for any of our committees.

### **When are the H&S Meetings?**

In general, we hold monthly meetings in the teacher's lounge rotating between mornings and evenings. Upcoming meeting dates are posted in the Whale Watch newsletters and on the H&S Facebook page.

### **What are the H&S Fundraisers?**

All of our H&S programs and activities are only possible through our fundraising events. These may include:

- Golf Outing
- Dinner Dance (adult social/fundraiser)
- Book Fair

- Restaurant nights
- Shopping events

### **How can I volunteer for a committee?**

In late August, H&S sends out a Whale Watch with the web link to sign up for many volunteer opportunities for the school year. This is our annual volunteer drive to get our committees up and running right away. However, you can talk to any of the committee chairs at any time during the year and volunteer. Many volunteer opportunities have very flexible time commitments. There will be additional opportunities throughout the year as well.

### **How will I receive information about H&S and Highlands School events and volunteer opportunities?**

- A weekly **Whale Watch** email detailing all the school events and opportunities for the week.
- H&S has a **Facebook group: Highlands Home & School Association (H&S)** that all parents can join with news and volunteer needs.

### **If I have questions about committees, volunteering or general Home & School questions, who should I contact?**

Please feel free to contact the Highlands H&S Co-Presidents:

Julie Clay- [highlandshands@gmail.com](mailto:highlandshands@gmail.com)

Hillary Mohindra - [highlandshands2@gmail.com](mailto:highlandshands2@gmail.com)

***We look forward to meeting you and working with you this year! Thank you for your support!***

#### **Highlands Home & School Board**

Julie Clay, Co-President ([highlandshands@gmail.com](mailto:highlandshands@gmail.com))

Hillary Mohindra, Co-President ([highlandshands2@gmail.com](mailto:highlandshands2@gmail.com))

Eddie Worbis, Secretary ([highlandshandssec@gmail.com](mailto:highlandshandssec@gmail.com))

Traci Weilemann, Treasurer ([highlandshandstreas@gmail.com](mailto:highlandshandstreas@gmail.com))

#### **Highlands School and Family Community Partnership (SFCP) Board**

Amy Long, Co-President ([highlandssfcp1@gmail.com](mailto:highlandssfcp1@gmail.com))

Ashley Nuger, Co-President ([highlandssfcp2@gmail.com](mailto:highlandssfcp2@gmail.com))

## **Sample Home & School Committees and Volunteer Opportunities**

- **Room Parents** – Help coordinate classroom parties and organize teacher appreciation week
- **Adult Social Fundraiser**- Adult only event that includes fundraising opportunities such as a silent and live auction and raffle.
- **End of Year Picnic** - End of the year all-school celebration for Highlands families
- **SFCP (School, Family, Community, Partnership)** – Events planned and executed here include: Grandfriend's Day, One Book One School, Community Service and Cultural Kaleidoscope.
- **Indoor Recess Games** – Each classroom has a bin of games. Help teach a game and keep the bin tidy.
- **Art Awareness** – Give a presentation on a pre-determined artist in your child's classroom.
- **School Supply Packs** – Assist with the coordination, assembly and distribution of the supply packs in the Fall.
- **Spirit Wear** – Coordinate sales of Highlands attire.
- **Book Fair**– Held during parent teacher conferences in our LC. Various opportunities to help.
- **Family Connections** – Be part of a database that lends a hand to other Highlands families who may be going through difficult times. Coordinated through the school social worker.
- **Hospitality** – Help with the Ice Cream Social, Back To School Staff Breakfast, etc.
- **Book Cart** – Volunteers rotate weekly to staff this cart at school all year.
- **Restaurant Fundraisers** - Select and organize Family Night Out restaurant fundraisers throughout the year.
- **Faculty/Staff appreciation** – Honor teachers and staff throughout the year on birthdays, and with breakfasts and lunches.
- **Yearbook** - Opportunities for home volunteering as well as in and around the building, including taking pictures and the cover contest.
- **Teacher Appreciation Gift Card Program** – Important gift card service for Teacher Appreciation week.
- **Winter Whale Wishes** – Each December, the Highlands community supports our sister school, Pioneer Elementary, through holiday donations. Help coordinate the collection and event.