



# HIGHLAND FALLS-FORT MONTGOMERY CSD

## THE HIGHLANDER –SUMMER EDITION

JULY 2026

### UPCOMING EVENTS

- July 24 - Summer Food Program Distribution to Families at HFIS
- July 31- Summer Food Program Distribution to Families at HFIS



### Enrollment

FMES - Total 149

Pre-Kindergarten 23

Kindergarten 43

1st Grade 42

2nd Grade 41

HFIS -Total 332

3rd Grade 55

4th Grade 48

5th Grade 66

6th Grade 46

7th Grade 57

8th Grade 60

JIO-Total 386

9th Grade 114

10th Grade 92

11th Grade 75

12th Grade 105

\*Enrollment totals as of July 16, 2026

### Congratulations to the Class of 2026!



#### *Happening Around Our Schools This Summer*

##### FMES:

Although summer has begun, Fort Montgomery Elementary School teachers continue working collaboratively to prepare for the upcoming school year. Educators are strengthening literacy instruction by developing curriculum maps for the newly adopted UFLI Phonics program, aligning reading and writing instruction, and deepening their understanding of the new Frog Street Pre-K curriculum.

##### HFIS:

Highland Falls Intermediate School staff continue preparing for the upcoming school year. Work has included exploring the instructional features available through Mystery Science and developing new Positivity Project lessons focused on social-emotional learning and executive functioning skills.

Highland Falls Intermediate School is hosting another food backpack program throughout the summer to support local families. We are grateful to the staff members throughout the District who continue to volunteer their time and to the team members who coordinate this important community initiative.

##### JIO:

The new JIO administrative team has been busy preparing for the upcoming school year. The principal has begun conducting entry-plan interviews with key stakeholders, participated in a tour of West Point with the School Liaison Officer, and will host a virtual meet-and-greet with families. The assistant principal has been completing the June Regents testing cycle and beginning preparations for the August Regents administration.

##### District Office:

As we move through the summer months district leaders continue to work diligently in preparation for a successful 2026–2027 school year. The first Cabinet Meeting of the year focused on reviewing the district's draft AI Governance Framework, reflecting on progress toward current goals, and beginning the process of developing priorities for the upcoming school year.

The district is also completing its annual review of the District Safety Plan and working with Orange-Ulster BOCES to strengthen safety procedures for athletic competitions and evening events. In addition, newly appointed administrators participated in an introductory leadership meeting focused on district expectations, key priorities, and building strong, collaborative relationships. This important summer work helps ensure that our schools are well prepared to welcome students, staff, and families in the fall.

### Summer Spotlight: Behind the Scenes

While summer provides a well-deserved break for students, the work at Central Office never stops. Throughout the summer months, our Superintendent of Schools, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction & Technology, Executive Secretary to the Superintendent, Human Resources team, and Central Registrar are hard at work preparing for a successful school year. From hiring exceptional staff and enrolling new students to planning professional learning, supporting district operations, and ensuring every detail is in place, this dedicated team works behind the scenes to keep our district moving forward.



Central Office Left to Right: Crystal Waterman, Dawn Storms, Lori Sheldon, Yvette Maag, Michael McElduff