



Hawk Talk Newsletter – October 2017

6100 S. Fulton Street, Englewood, CO 80111 ☎720/554-3600 ☎ 720/554-3688 FAX

Derek Mullner, Principal highplains.cherrycreekschools.org Attendance: 720-554-3637

Important Dates to Remember

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Thursday, October 12 | Celebration of Culture (6-7:30 pm) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Friday, October 13 | Deadline for donating items for PTCO Auction |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Friday, October 13 | Deadline for turning in students' photo releases and signs for the auction slide show |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tuesday, October 17 | Hungry Hawks – Chipotle-Arapahoe Rd. (4-8 pm) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wednesday, October 18 | 1 st Grade Field Trip-Anderson Pumpkin Patch (9:15-1:30) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Friday, October 20 | Holiday Help Forms Due |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Friday, October 20 | Fall box top deadline |
| <input type="checkbox"/> October 23-27 | Fall Break – No School |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tuesday, October 31 | Halloween Costume Parade (8:15-8:45) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> November 6-10 | Conference Week |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Thursday, November 2 | Dress as Your Favorite Celebrity |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Friday, November 3 | Report Cards Go Home |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Friday, November 3 | PTCO Auction |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Friday, November 10 | No School – Teacher Conferences |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wednesday, November 15 | Accountability Meeting (6 pm) – New Date |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wednesday, November 22 | No School |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Thursday, November 23 | No School – Thanksgiving |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Friday, November 24 | No School |



Families of High Plains Elementary,

Thank you for your continued support and communication as we move forward together. What a wonderful year it has been so far! I would like to thank the Cub Scouts for helping to provide the foundation of our wildlife garden in the front of our school! They did an amazing job and we are excited to get the irrigation system in place and the dirt filled in! Thank you Mr. Lane and Mr. Chen-Becker for all of your help and partnership and thank you to all of the Cub Scouts who worked so hard!

We are working diligently to create a positive culture and supportive atmosphere for your child. High Plains Elementary is a PBIS (Positive Behavior and Intervention Support) school. We have a PBIS committee that consists of teachers from each grade and a parent representative. I feel this committee provides the heartbeat of our school as we structure specific ways your child can receive positive reinforcement. In addition, when a student exhibits unexpected behavior, we have a plan for that. We are a school where students get second chances, and simply put, we focus on learning. In order to problem solve and work together, unexpected behavior is documented in the form of a referral. To be clear, the referral is simply designed to document unanticipated behaviors. The referral itself does not attach consequences. The consequences and the learning comes from the adults who are in the student's life working together to provide opportunities for behavior to change. The partnership between you and either me or the teacher is critical to sending consistent messages about what is okay and what is not okay. I appreciate the support I have received in the past and look forward to continuing to build relationships that focus on the individual needs of each child.

Please see attached for the referral that we use for unexpected behavior, as well as a list of ways we reinforce positive student behavior schoolwide. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you,

Derek



Attendance Procedures

Our new High Plains app is the perfect way to let us know your child will be late or absent. Simply click on the blue menu box, click on attendance form, and complete the information. You can also call our **attendance line at 720-554-3637**. If you have not filled out the attendance form on the app, or called the attendance line before 8:30 am, a call home is made to ensure the safety of the children.



High Plains Costume Parade

On Tuesday, October 31st, from 8:15-8:45 am, High Plains will once again be hosting a costume parade for all students to enjoy and have fun! Parents are more than welcome to attend the parade and cheer on the students!

In deciding a costume, please keep in mind—no face paint and no weapons. Once the parade is over, kids will do a quick change out of their costumes and begin another great day of leaning in their classrooms!

Participation is voluntary. If you do not want your child to participate, please let your child's teacher know so we can make appropriate accommodations.

Accountability Meeting Date Change

The date for the October Accountability meeting has been changed **from October 18 to November 15th at 6:00 pm in the Library.**

Holiday Help

Holidays are a great time for family and fun, but the financial strain of the holiday season can also be stressful. The High Plains Community Service Committee would like to help you relieve some of that stress.

If you would like some help this year with purchasing a Thanksgiving meal or receiving holiday gifts for your children, please fill out the form attached and return it to Sue Fenner at the front desk, or Lisa Wolff, school psychologist, by Friday, October 20th.

For Thanksgiving, each family will receive a grocery certificate to help purchase items needed for a family meal. Certificates will be available for pick-up at the front desk on November 20th and 21st. In December, families will receive holiday gifts for each child, which will be distributed Friday, December 22nd, from 4:30-6:30.



Bullying Prevention at High Plains

Each year High Plains Elementary in conjunction with the Cherry Creek School District provides all of its students with training in the Bully-Proofing Program, a research based approach to bullying prevention. The goal of this program is to make our school environment safe for children both physically and psychologically. Research shows that when children feel safe and are not distracted by issues related to bullying, they are better able to focus on learning. This in turn, increases our teacher's ability to focus on teaching.

As part of the Bully-Proofing curriculum, students are taught about three different kinds of bullying. The first is physical bullying, which includes any action that hurts another's body. Examples are hitting, kicking, pinching, pulling hair, pulling on clothing, throwing rocks, tripping, etc. Second is verbal bullying, which includes name calling, rude or negative comments, threats, gossip, rumors, put downs, teasing, etc. The last category is referred to as social bullying (sometimes called relational aggression). This involves those situations where students are excluded in a purposeful way either from a group of children, a "club," a game or activity, or the student being targeted feel excluded or alienated due to rumors, gossip, racial/ethnic comments, etc. With students in older grades, we discuss the difference between having a group of friends and forming a "group" in such a way that it excludes others and conveys a sense of being more important or better than others. We also talk about cyberbullying: bullying behaviors that occur via email, texting, or through other forms of technology.

An important aspect of Bully-Proofing is teaching students that the student being target decides whether a particular behavior is bullying or not. Often times, a student may be confronted about having made a teasing comment that was humiliating or demeaning. When confronted, this student's response may be, "I was just kidding," or, "Can't they take a joke?" We talk about how the target of the comment is the one who determines whether it made them feel hurt or unsafe or not included; if so, then it is not acceptable. This goes for physical contact also. A student may define a shove or a push as "I just accidentally bumped into them," but it felt unsafe or intimidating to the student who was bumped, it is not acceptable.

Thank you for your support. Please call Dr. Lisa Wolff or Mr. Still if you have any Bully-Proofing questions.

Student Council Spirit Days

The following are the Student Council spirit days:

November 2:	Dress as your favorite celebrity
December 7:	Crazy Hair Day
January 11:	PJ Day
February 1:	Dress up like a Grandparent
March 8:	Dress up like who you want to be when you grow up
April 5:	Dress up like your favorite decade
May 4:	May the 4 th be with you



Changing Colorado Weather

Please make sure you send your child with a sweatshirt/coat to school. We are at that time of year that the weather can change quickly. Don't forget to label each item with your child's name!



A note from Nurse Renee - Influenza Vaccine

We are approaching influenza season once again. The best step that we can take to protect ourselves and our families is to get our annual influenza vaccine.

The CDC recommends that everyone ages 6 months and older receive an influenza vaccine during the 2017-18 flu season. The month of October is typically when influenza vaccine will start to become available at your physician offices and pharmacies. Many offices do not require appointments to receive your vaccine and they are available on a walk-in basis. If you have concerns about yourself or your child receiving the flu vaccine, please reach out to your health care provider.

This is a good time for reminders to use good handwashing and to cover our coughs. These are simple steps that we can all take to keep the High Plains Community a healthy one this winter.

Cherry Creek Youth Lacrosse Fall Break Clinic

Get to know your future lacrosse head coach at Cherry Creek High School! The Bruins tradition of excellence continues with the hiring of Matt Bocklet. Coach Bocklet and Cherry Creek Youth Lacrosse are excited to offer a clinic directed by Coach Bocklet along with coaches and players from his Varsity team. This is a great opportunity to meet the CCHS coaches and players while improving your son's skills and fundamentals this off season. Players will be divided up by age and experience to effectively teach all skill levels. They will learn new skills, drills, and compete in friendly competitions.

When: October 23rd & 24th from 9am-12pm

Where: Stutler Bowl Stadium - [9300 E Union Ave, Greenwood Village, CO 80111](#)

Who: Boys in grades 2-8

Cost: \$70

Register: [CLICK HERE](#)

Matt Bocklet's Bio:

- Denver Outlaws Team Captain and 2x MLL Champion (2014 & 2016)
- Outlaws all-time leader in ground balls and games played
- National Champion and All American at Johns Hopkins University (2007 & 2008)
- CHSAA Lacrosse Coach of the year while at Highlands Ranch HS (2014)
- Founder and Director of X10 and DoCo Lacrosse



Lost and Found

All items left in the Lost and Found will be donated on Monday, October 30th.



Crosswalk Safety – Very Important

Please make sure your children cross the street at the crosswalks, **and NEVER cross between cars or in the middle of the street.** Children model our behavior. Please make sure you follow the safety rules of the road.

Please also remember to **NEVER** make a u-turn in a school zone. This is very dangerous to both cars and pedestrians. Thank you for your help.



Breakfast

If your child is having breakfast here at High Plains, please do not have them here before 7:25 am. Thank you.



We love our Pets

We understand our pets are part of our family, but please be mindful of others and keep your pets at home when you drop off and pick up your children.

