



Highlands Elementary Weekly Newsletter

September 27, 2017, Issue #6

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MESSAGE FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

San Mateo County's Safe Routes to School (SMCSRS Poll)

Dear Parents/Guardians,

San Mateo County Safe Routes to School (SRTS) supports initiatives to increase the number of students walking, biking and carpooling for health, environment and traffic mitigation purposes. To aid in program evaluation and planning, the SRTS program regularly gathers travel evaluation data. This year, Student Travel Tally data is being collected on two days in September and two days in April or May. Parent/guardian input about how your children get to and from school and related concerns about their journeys will be obtained through your completing an online survey.

Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey. Your feedback allows us to adjust SRTS education and encouragement program features to best meet the needs of each individual school. Your feedback will also be shared with decision makers who can address infrastructure issues regarding safe walking and biking.

This survey will take approximately 5 minutes to complete. Please complete a separate survey for each of your children if they attend different schools and/or do not travel to and from school by the same means as each other.

The online survey is available at:

ENGLISH <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/5Z9TVC7>

SPANISH <https://es.surveymonkey.com/r/5ZPDQ8V>

Should you have any questions about data collection or the uses of the data, please contact Wini McMichael, wcmichael@smfcsd.net, 650-312-7243

Sincerely,

Lana Fenech Principal, Highlands Elementary School
Wini McMichael SMFCSD Wellness Coordinator

To download the official letter, click [here](#).

LIBRARY NEWS



Greetings Highlands families!

Library doors opened on September 5. Each class visits the library once a week. Students have spent the last couple of weeks getting to know the library, reviewing library procedures, and learning how to take good care of their library books ([click here for the flyer](#)). Library policies for each grade level are as follows:

Grade	# of Books	Loan Period	Renewals Allowed
TK/K-1 st	1	7 days	1
2 nd	2	7 days	1
3 rd	2	14 days	1
4 th	2	14 days	1
5 th	2	14 days	1

The 3rd-5th graders are given a longer loan period so they can have more time with longer chapter books or grade level research projects – they can have up to 2 weeks **if they need it**, or they can return and check out new books each week.

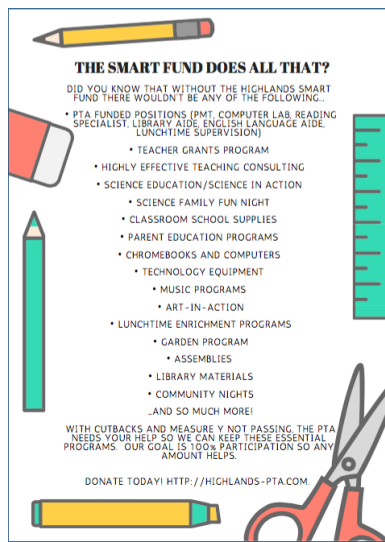
Each student has been given one library book bag – these bags were purchased by the school to help protect library books as they are transported to and from home. Book bags help protect library books from potential water bottle and lunch box leaks, as well as other outside elements. Please help encourage your child be Responsible, Safe, and Respectful with their library books and book bags each week.

It is my hope that our library is a special place where students feel welcome to explore books with wonder, imagination, and excitement. I look forward to welcoming them as they grow as readers, thinkers, and dreamers.

Nichelle Garcia
Librarian

Please visit our new library webpage at:
<http://highlands-pta.com/library>

The SMART Fund Does All That?



Did you know that without the Highlands SMART Fund there wouldn't be any of the following...

PTA Funded Positions (PMT, Computer Lab, Reading Specialist, Library Aide, English Language Aide, Lunchtime Supervision)

- Teacher Grants Program
- Highly Effective Teaching Consulting
- Science Education/Science In Action
- Science Family Fun Night
- Classroom School Supplies
- Parent Education Programs
- Chromebooks And Computers
- Technology Equipment
- Music Programs
- Art-in-Action
- * Lunchtime Enrichment Programs
- Garden Program
- Assemblies
- Library Materials
- Community Nights ...and so much more!

Please click [here to see flyer](#) for more information. To donate, please visit: <http://highlands-pta.com>

PTA MEMBERSHIP - CLASSROOM CONTEST!



Be a Part of the Bunch!

Join the Highlands PTA Today!

Have you joined the PTA for the 2017-18 school year? PTA is a great way to stay engaged with our school and community. PLUS, we are having a classroom MEMBERSHIP CONTEST!

The first classroom with **100% membership** (at least one paid membership per student) or highest membership percentage by Friday, October 6th will **win a \$5 Certificate to our Spirit Wear online Store for each student!**

Here's how to join the PTA:

STEP 1: Register with our Membership Online Website <http://highlands-pta.com>

STEP 2:

- Log in to your new account & complete your information
- **Click "Be a Part of the Bunch"** or "Join Now" at the top of the page
- Chose "Family" or "Individual" membership
- Add to cart & checkout:
 - Pay by credit car (Pay by Stripe)
 - Turn in cash or check payment (Pay Offline Later)
 - Envelopes for cash or check payment are located in the office
- **Click PLACE ORDER**
Membership is just \$12 per person or \$20 per family of 2 adults.
Anyone can join - parents, grandparents, community members!

Thank you to all families and staff who have joined so far! Let's see how close we can get to 100% participation this school year!

**For additional information, contact Michelle Young at
highlandspta.membership@yahoo.com**

Upcoming Events



10/2 Picture Day Retakes

LifeTouch will be returning to Highlands on 10/2 for Picture Day Retakes. Forms will be included in this week's Thursday envelope.



10/4 International Walk to School Day

Wednesday, October 4th is International Walk to School Day! Plan on busing, walking, biking, scootering or carpooling to school.

Live too far to walk? No problem, just leave a little early and park down at the Rec and walk from there. Students can also be counted as walking if they get to school a bit early and walk the track a few times.

The class with the most participation wins!

Volunteers NEEDED!
Please sign-up [here](#):



10/4 Dining Fundraiser @ Panda Express

Our next Dining Fundraiser will be at Panda Express in Foster City on Wednesday, October 4th!

Present your server with this [special flyer](#) and Highlands will get 20% of your total check!

Flyers will be sent in your child's Thursday envelope on 9/28.

Project Wee Care @ Highlands 2017/2018

Project Wee Care is kicking off its first collection of the school year September 18th – October 3rd!

Project Wee Care is a program that is brought to local schools through the Samaritan House with the help of students, parents, and staff. This program teaches children about the meaning of giving and helping others in need by allowing them an opportunity to give donations. We will have 4 collections over the course of the school year. We hope that you will consider allowing your student this wonderful growing opportunity while helping those less fortunate.



For the month of October, Project Wee Care will be providing breakfast items for our families in need. We are requesting donations of: **Cereal; hot or cold, pancake mix, waffle mix, granola, and hot cocoa mix.**

If you are able, please bring your donations to the Wee Care bins located in the hallways around school. Thank you for your generosity!

Historically our school has had tremendous success collecting donations for Project Wee Care. A few more volunteers would be greatly appreciated to keep this program running successfully at Highlands.

If you can help in anyway, please contact Krissy Mourton, krissymourton@yahoo.com OR Naomi Bautista, naomi.bautista@gmail.com

VOLUNTEERING

Volunteer Hours

Don't forget to log in all your volunteer hours for the month of August! Recording your volunteer hours is now super easy with our updated PTA website: http://highlands-pta.com/user_volunteer_hours. Click on the "Volunteer" in the main menu, then select "Record Volunteer Hours".

Walk a Jog Event: Coordinator Needed

The PTA Fundraising Team is still looking for a Lead Coordinator for our Walk a Jog Fundraiser which will be held on May 5th.

There are already several volunteers signed up to assist in managing this event. This is a fun and impactful fundraiser that contributes significant proceeds to Highlands. You will be well supported and greatly appreciated!

If interested email highlands-fundraising@googlegroups.com.

5th Grade Classroom support: Spanish-Speaking Volunteer

A 5th grade teacher is searching for a bilingual (Spanish-English) volunteer to help a student in the classroom. If you are interested, please sign-up on our PTA volunteering page: <http://highlands-pta.com/volunteer/13004>

COMMUNITY NEWS

HIGHLANDS REC CENTER

Private Lessons Just Got Easier!!!

Private swim lessons are now offered during fixed times on weekday afternoon and weekend mornings. Pick the time and we will provide the instructor, it's that easy!!

Check out the schedule online at

<http://highlandsrec.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/Fall2017SwimLessons.pdf>.

Refer to the private lesson column(on the left) for dates and times!

Email Brandan@highlandsrec.ca.gov with any questions.

Join the Girl Scouts - Open House: October 1st, 3pm-4pm



The Mid-Peninsula Girls Scouts Service unit will be hosting an Open House event for families interested in joining the Girl Scouts. Learn more about how to join or how to form a troop. The Open House will be held at the Mallard Room in the Foster City Recreation Center, 650 Shell Blvd, Foster City.

Please click on the image to see a larger version of the flyer.

Editor: Nancy Stevens

Submit articles to: highlandspta.editor@gmail.com

Guidelines: http://highlands-pta.com/news_submission

*Highlands Elementary School PTA
2320 Newport Street
San Mateo, CA 94402*