



# Welcome Back Families!

This packet is designed to give you all of your "need to know" information to start the new school year off right! Please note these details are subject to change due to 2020 COVID Safety Protocols.

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## AFTER-SCHOOL CARE

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After 20 years with The Highlands School Debbie Carrera is retiring. She always made a difference and brought a smile to our students and families. We are going to miss her! Please join us in wishing her love and blessings on her next adventure.

Dr. Pennell is working on hiring a replacement so that the after-school care program will continue to provide a safe, organized, and enriching environment for our students in the new year. Please follow this [link](#) for more information and to enroll in after-school care.

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## ANNUAL FUND DRIVE, September

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The Annual Fund Drive is the largest single appeal to our entire community in support of The Highlands School. Our 2020-2021 Annual Fund Drive will kick off on September 17th on North Texas Giving Day. We ask all families to prayerfully consider how they can best support the school.

To learn more, click [HERE](#).

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## ATHLETIC FORMS

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### Sports Registration

Coach Bowden is working with the leagues for 2020 Fall Sports. He will communicate with parents once all dates and schedules are determined. In the meantime, you can be making sure your physicals are up to date. Each student participating in athletics must have a current physical uploaded to the new system. Physicals are valid for a one year period. To aid you in this process we have included two documents in the attached file...the Medical History Form and the Physical Form. The Medical History Form is prepared by the parent and the Physical Evaluation Form is prepared, signed and dated by their physician. Please make sure the physician checks the relevant option in the

Clearance box near the bottom of the form.

[Physical-Medical History Form](#). Questions on athletics? [Athletics Department](#)

## CALENDAR

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There are several calendars for you to seek information from. All may be accessed through the [CALENDAR](#) button at the top of this page.

The [School Year Calendar 2020-2021](#) at the top is a PDF of our general days in session and days off. You can sync the calendar to your Google, Outlook, or Apple iCal.

Our [Blazer Athletic Calendar](#) is also available online and updated.

You will see lots of details added to these calendars in the coming weeks.

Be sure to check back and see what is scheduled for the school year.

## CAR LINE - DROP OFF/PICK UP

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The car line drop off and pick procedures can be found in the [attached map](#).

Please take time to review the route for a speedy morning drop off and afternoon pick up. During the first few weeks please allow extra time to adapt to the temperature scan for each student prior to walking into school.

For afternoon pick up - please ensure your student(s) are picked up in a timely manner. **No after school play or social time on the playground or on campus is allowed due to safety protocols.**

## EMERGENCY INFORMATION

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Every family needs to be sure to login to their [Family Portal](#) account and verify their information. Please be sure your contact information, email, medical and emergency pick up information is correct. Log-in to ParentsWeb, choose School Information, Web Forms then Family Demographic Form. It is important that this information is up to date and accurate for your child's safety and in case of emergency.

## FACTS

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All tuition, sports, after school care, and all other incidental billing will be charged through your FACTS account. You can log-in to see your FACTS account via your [Family Portal](#) at any time. Any questions about billing should be directed to the Business Office.

## FIRST WEEK OF SCHOOL

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### **Wednesday, August 12**

First Day of Instruction

LS: Early Release at 11:40am

MS/HS Early Release at 12:00pm

### **Thursday, August 13**

LS: Early Release at 11:40am

MS/HS Early Release at 12:00pm

**Friday, August 14**

LS: Early Release at 11:40am

MS/HS Early Release at 12:00pm

## **First Full Day of School**

Monday, August 17

## **IMMUNIZATIONS**

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Any students who need immunizations for the fall will receive a notification from Nurse Beth. All updated immunizations must be completed before the first day of school. Any questions? Please email [Nurse Beth](#).

## **Face Coverings Policy**

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As you know our team of administrators, board members, COVID Task Force and healthcare professionals continually work together to safely and sensibly re-open our school.

Please review the Face Coverings Policy and Practices with your family. It is good to note that as new and better ideas for classroom safety emerge, The Highlands School remains flexible. The most up to date policy is always available on the THS website.

[Read 2020 Face Coverings Policy Here](#)

## **LUNCH INFORMATION**

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We are currently working on a box lunch schedule with [Twelve Oaks Catering](#). Please plan on sending lunches the first week of school. Information will be communicated as soon as possible.

## **MEDICATIONS**

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Students who need to take medications during the school day need to be sure that all medications are in their original container and all forms are properly submitted to support the medications. Any questions? Please email [Nurse Beth](#).

## **ORIENTATION**

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**All orientations will be virtual via Zoom this year. Links will be emailed to parents.**

**New to Middle School Parent Orientation:** Middle school parent orientation for all incoming 6th grade and new middle school parents will be held Thursday, August 6, 6:30 - 7:30pm.

**New High School Student Orientation:** High school student orientation for all incoming 9th graders and new high school students will be held Friday, August 7, 1:00 - 4:00pm.

**9th Grade Parent Meeting:  
August 11, 6:30 - 8:00pm**

**Please visit the school calendar for all meetings and events.** The calendar is always available on our webpage or by link at the top of all Blazer Blasts.

## **PARENTS CLUB**

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All parents are welcome and encouraged to be involved in the school! The Parents Club strives to advance the mission of our school. As parents, we join with the teachers and staff to promote academics, character growth, and the spiritual formation of our children. We also want to create a fun, social atmosphere to bring our THS community closer together. We appreciate your willingness to volunteer! Parents Club will host ongoing activities throughout the year. These are wonderful opportunities to volunteer and meet others in our community. You will see detailed descriptions in the Blazer Blast weekly email newsletter and can find more information about the events on our THS website. Please feel free to contact the Parents Club with any suggestions or questions. [parentsclub@thehighlandsschool.org](mailto:parentsclub@thehighlandsschool.org).

## **Family Portal**

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**Family Portal** is your virtual portal to the school. It contains a list of resource documents, including the parent-student handbook, the current academic calendar, permission slips, and much more. You may also view your child's class schedule, grades, homework, progress notes, teacher contact information, and more. Please note that Family Portal also houses the school directory, which includes contact information for The Highlands families and school staff.

## **SAFE ENVIRONMENT**

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We have an obligation to keep all students safe. Therefore, all volunteers are required to complete the Safe Environment training and screening process. This program exists to help keep all of our children safe and secure on campus and at school events. See the **Safe Environment** page for more details. Summer is the best time to get all of the steps taken care of so that you are able to volunteer and be on campus once school starts!

## **SCHOOL SUPPLY LISTS**

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**PK3 - PK4:** No Backpacks this year, nap pillow, nap blanket (we provide mat) and leakproof water bottle.

**K - 5th Grade:** All supplies are provided for students.

**Middle School:** Supplies are provided by parents.

**Click here for a list of needed materials.**

**High School:** Supplies are provided by parents.

**Click here for a list of needed materials.**

Teachers will inform students of other materials necessary the first week of school.

## SUMMER READING

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We expect students to keep their reading skills sharp and engaged during the summer months. Students entering grades 1 - 12 are expected to complete required summer reading. Lists are provided below. We also encourage students to participate in summer reading programs at local public libraries for great incentives.

[Grades 1-5 Reading List](#)

[Middle School Reading List and Assignment](#)

[High School Reading List and Assignment](#)

[AP Classes: Biology, English Literature, English Language, Psychology, US History](#)

## SUMMER MATH

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Rising 2nd to Geometry students will need to complete a summer math exercise workbook for the grade level just completed and submit the completed workbook to their teacher for a grade, **due on the first day of school**. The workbook is called SUMMER SOLUTIONS, and the exercises can be done in 15 minutes three times per week. **All work needs to be completed/shown in the workbook and not on scratch paper**. Here is a [link](#) to order the workbook.

## TEXTBOOKS

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MBS Direct is The Highlands School bookstore. Book information for 6th-12th grades will be live on their website July 1. Students in 6th-12th grades can view their courses for the 2020-2021 school year by logging into Renweb. To order books online through the [MBS Direct website](#), you will select your child's grade level to find a list of required books.

## UNIFORMS - NEW

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### Uniform Supplier:

Academic Outfitters

700 Alma Drive, Suite 112, Plano, TX 75075

972-509-0010

[Click Here to Shop](#)

The Highlands dress code outlines appropriate dress by grade level and gender. You may purchase shoes from any store, provided that they comply with the dress code. Please remember, all uniform pieces except for girls skirts are grandfathered until August 2021.

[Girls Uniform](#)

[Boys Uniform](#)

[PreK - Kindergarten](#)

[Grades 1- 3](#)

[Grades 4 - 5](#)

[Middle School](#)

[High School](#)

## UNIFORM - USED UNIFORM SALE

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**THE HIGHLANDS  
SCHOOL**

**Parent's Club  
Used Uniform Sale**

**Saturday, August 1, 2020 9am-2pm**



- ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
- CASH OR CHECK ONLY
- SAFETY PROTOCOLS:
  - ONLY ONE OR TWO FAMILIES
  - SHOP AT ONE TIME
  - MUST WEAR MASKS

Several times a year our Parents Club hosts a Used Uniform Sale. On this day, families may purchase gently used uniforms from the Parents Club or other parents.

The sale before the new school year will be **Saturday, August 1, 9:00am - 2:00pm.**

Please allow for extra time as they will be following safety protocols during this sale. All proceeds benefit the Parents' Club.

## School Photos

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### Student School Photos PreK-11th

Wednesday, August 26 (No Group Photos)  
Mass uniform required for all students.

### Senior "Tux and Drape"

Thursday, August 27  
Details will be sent to Senior Families.

## VOLUNTEER HOURS

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We enthusiastically welcome parent involvement, and ask each family to contribute 40 service hours per year to the school. Summer is a great time to work on some of your hours. We will have opportunities coming soon, so watch your email for more details!

### How can you find out about opportunities during the year?

As a Highlands parent, you are automatically a member of Parents Club, which has 14 committees charged with organizing various school activities and programs throughout the year. There are many opportunities to lead or contribute within these committees. The Blazer Blast, our school newsletter sent out each Friday, includes a wealth of information and news related to the school, as well as opportunities to contribute your time and talents. You may also access information about upcoming events and opportunities by visiting family life and volunteer opportunities on the Campus Life page of our website.

### How do you log your hours for credit?

Service hours are logged through your ParentsWeb account, under 'Family Information' and then choosing your name and 'Service Hours'.

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[VISIT OUR WEBSITE](#)

FOLLOW US



**THE HIGHLANDS SCHOOL**

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