


HIGHLAND TERRACE ELEMENTARY



Orca Spout Out Newsletter

Dear HT Orca Families,

On behalf of our staff, we want to thank families for your continued support of early release time on Wednesdays. We greatly value and appreciate this time to deepen our learning around our school goals, to review students' work, and intentionally plan lessons aligned to the district scope and sequence and student learning needs.

Last week, we engaged in learning about strategies for giving feedback in a remote setting and for our upcoming conferences. We wanted to share a few highlights from that learning.

Feedback: Providing students with meaningful feedback has always been an essential component of teaching and learning and can greatly enhance learning and improve student achievement. When teaching in person, teachers are able to give feedback to students frequently throughout the day via whole class, small group, and individual conversations along with feedback on assignments and assessments. This year, our teachers are thinking together about how to give feedback to students that really moves learning forward through all the different remote learning tools. Here are some key components we wanted to share with families.

- Feedback should be given on work that is toward a product or mastery of a key skill.
- Feedback isn't given on all tasks that are for practice or review or when a skill is just being introduced.
- Meaningful feedback isn't numerous comments or given a long time after an assignment.
- To be meaningful students need to understand and use the feedback to know where to go next in their learning. We encourage families to read and look at feedback together.
- In remote learning, feedback will be provided in multiple ways like in the classrooms not only on Seesaw activities (e.g., through whole class observations, in small group work, from student responses in chats or class discussions, in other online programs like Google docs).

Conferences: We are looking forward to conferences and the opportunity to connect with families. The district model for fall conferences this year includes sharing current information (observations and data) about student learning, setting goals, and developing family partnerships. A significant benefit to holding fall family conferences is the opportunity to connect with families, learn more about the student. As much as you want to hear from teachers at the conference, they want to learn from you about your child(s) experiences this year.

Report Cards & Grading: State guidance for remote learning includes grading and report cards. District leadership is working with the state guidance to develop plans for Shoreline. There will be a revised report card that will align with the district priority standards identified for this school year. Teachers will also be given a grading resource guide to help prepare for completing the report card and tracking grades.

Family Conversations About Race: The Equity and Family Engagement Department is sharing this [Resource Packet](#) from the Black Voices: Family Room Conversations About Race event.

What is Black Voices? Black Voices is the brain child of Kellogg Assistant Principal Melyssa Stone and supported by the Shoreline Schools Collectively Organizing for Racial Equity (CORE) Team. This program seeks to center Black voices, as well as celebrate and affirm our Black students and their families.

Our community partnerships emphasize that our commitment to families must extend beyond the walls of our schools. We recognize that when the lights go off in our buildings, or the laptop lids close, we still live, work and socialize together throughout our community. We learn best when we learn alongside one another, and recognize the wealth of knowledge those within our communities offer. As a community, we must affirm our commitment to learn from and look out for our neighbors, including those whose voices have been underrepresented in our current systems. We are committed to fostering those opportunities.

This year, Black Voices will host monthly opportunities to engage in learning and community-building events. On November 17 they will host a youth panel with Dr. Jewell Parker Rhodes about her book “Black Brother, Black Brother.” Please plan to join!

Sincerely,

Lara Drew

Principal | Highland Terrace

lara.drew@shorelineschools.org

COMMUNITY FOOD DRIVE – THIS SATURDAY!

The Shorecrest and Shorewood ASB drive thru Food Drive for Hopelink is this Saturday, October 31 from 11:00am - 2:00pm at the Shoreline Center, 18560 1st Avenue NE, Shoreline

(front parking lot). Ollie the Orca, Highland Terrace Elementary's mascot, will be there to cheer you on as you drop off your food donation!

Hopelink has requested that only these items be donated:

- Peanut Butter
- Tuna
- Mac & Cheese
- Chili/Canned Meals
- Canned Fruit
- Oatmeal/Cereal

Thank you for your support!

ORCA FAMILY CONNECTIONS

Join Us for Orca Family Connections on Thursday, October 29th, 6:30-7:30

Hosted by HT Counselor, Teresa Osborn, and HT Family Advocate, Jill Steinberg

- Time for families to connect and meet one another
- Share successes and challenges in our remote learning environment
- Families will have the opportunity to talk together in small groups of their choice
- Hear tips for social-emotional well-being for you and your student(s)
- Meet our new Family Advocate and learn about family resources

We invite all families to participate. Interpreters are available for other languages. If you would like an interpreter, please let us now as soon as possible.

RSVP to teresa.osborn@shorelineschools.org

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

On October 5, all schools in Washington began marking absences from remote learning as excused or unexcused in accordance with rules set by the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI). An absence can be excused for any previously allowable reason and any COVID-19 related circumstance with the student or family member.

A student's parent/guardian can excuse an absence by calling or emailing our school attendance secretary within five (5) days of the absence. Our school's attendance secretary can be reached at ht.attendance@shorelineschools.org or 206.393.4342.

Below are two common questions and answers about how students can demonstrate attendance in the remote learning environment. You can also find more information [HERE](#). If you have any additional questions, please feel free to contact our attendance secretary.

Can a student demonstrate attendance before or after regular school hours?

Yes. OSPI recommends that school districts provide multiple methods for students to access learning, outside of and beyond participation in live synchronous lessons. Our school district will count a student present if they engage in asynchronous activities, in place of a live scheduled session. This can include a student attempts an assignment, logs on for a part of the class, or asynchronously demonstrates participation. Students are encouraged to watch live teaching when possible.

Can a student demonstrate attendance over the weekend for the previous week?

Yes. Our schools will provide flexibility for families unable to log into live sessions due to internet access, bandwidth, access to childcare, other family obligations and work schedules.

If your child is not able engage on a daily basis, you should contact our office to share that information in order to develop a plan to track their attendance.

FOOD SERVICES UPDATES

- The USDA is allowing school districts to provide FREE meal service for all students through the end of the 2020-2021 school year.
- Weekly meal boxes contain 5 breakfasts, 5 lunches and milk. Orders can be placed [online](#) between Monday and Wednesday, and scheduled for pick up the following Wednesday.
- Free and Reduced meal applications are available [online](#). Even though meals are currently free, please apply if you think you may qualify as other resources and benefits may be available to you.
- Weather and Meal Box Distribution: If any weather condition forces a delay or cancelation, we will communicate using the robo-email and phone call system. Be sure to check your messages.
- Veterans Day: Due to the holiday, meal boxes will NOT be distributed on Wednesday, November 11th. Meal boxes will be distributed on THURSDAY, November 12th.

THE WORKS

The WORKS clothing room provides high quality, clean, gently used children's and teen clothing to Shoreline School District families. Shoreline families experiencing economic hardship can bring their children to "shop" for gently used, stylish clothing.

The WORKS is also part of the [Back to School Consortium](#) and supports the annual Back to School (BTS) event to ensure students receive new socks, underwear, and hygiene products for a great start to the new school year.

See attached fliers for details [WORKS Flyer - COVID - Oct 2020.pdf](#) [WORKS Spanish Flyer - COVID - Oct 2020-1.pdf](#)

FROM OUR PTA

SOCKTOBER 2020

WOW, we have donated 1,981 pairs of socks to The WORKS so far! The WORKS has far exceeded their goal of 5,000 pair and are **now in need of underwear**. If you were planning on donating socks this last week of October, the wish list has been updated to reflect underwear.

<https://tinyurl.com/HTSOCKS>

There will be another drive in February for underwear but what a great way to get a head start.

Again, thank you everyone for your amazing generosity, Kristie Timss, HT PTA Family Services Chair

ENRICHMENT PROGRAMS

<https://highlandterracepta.org/enrichment-programs/>

Creative Coding

Learn coding! Starts Tue 11/3, 3:30pm-4:45pm, \$25/session

Chess Club

Starts Mon 11/2, 3:30pm-4:45pm, \$84.

Register by 10/30

ROOM PARENTS NEEDED – While the ‘rooms’ may be virtual, there are still a variety of ways we can support our students and teachers in class and throughout the year. Read more about the role:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Bn8xpVkWgRe1U8_rus2QS6mn1YmFFIKZ/view?usp=sharing

Visit [this form](#) to get signed up!

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1_9jV5RlpNtS8oRm5ZtMcol7qRurQfVWHB2SoZOnzeVQ/edit?ts=5f7b70f5

REFLECTIONS – The National PTA Art Exhibition is accepting submissions through 11/6. Find out more about the program and how your child can participate [here](#):

<https://www.pta.org/home/programs/reflections>

Email questions to: htptareflections@gmail.com

See attached flier for details! [Reflections Promotion October 2020.pdf](#)

SAVE THE DATE: Zoom HTPTA Board Meeting, November 17th, 2020 @ 630pm

[MEET THE PTA BOARD](#)

GIVE WHILE YOU GET – PASSIVE FUNDRAISERS

Visit <http://www.highlandterracepta.org/passive-fundraisers-for-htpta/> to find out about other ways you can contribute to HTPTA while you shop – Box Tops, Fred Meyer Rewards, and more!

OPPORTUNITIES TO HELP

We're still actively building enrichment and community building opportunities, and need to power behind these roles to get the job done - please email htptavolunteers@gmail.com to find out more!

HIGHLAND TERRACE ELEMENTARY FAMILIES CONNECT ON FACEBOOK

An informal group page on Facebook created as a space to share ideas and build community in these remote learning times...

Check out <https://www.facebook.com/groups/htptaparentsconnect>

SHARE YOUR FALL COLORS!

Kids can post pictures, share art, etc. It's a small thing to bring us all together in a creative and colorful way. Show us your October spirit on our **HT 2020 Fall Wall** Padlet!

<https://padlet.com/highlandterracepta/2020FallWall>