

May 8, 2015



HPAC News

Spring is here and, tomorrow, so is the Spring Fair. The forecast is sunny - we look forward to seeing you there!

Plant Order Pick-Up: Did you place a plant order? Plant pick-up is either after school today (May 8) at the front of the school or tomorrow at the Spring Fair.

If you would like to include any information in the weekly HPAC News, please forward your submission to kirstiepirie@yahoo.com by Wednesday afternoon.

This issue:

- Plant Pick up
- May 12 HPAC Meeting
- Talent Show
- Spring Fair
- Walk and Wheels
- Grade 7 Grad Gift/Buddy Bench
- Natural Playground Meeting
- Family Photo Program
- Bike Week
- In the Community

Last Highlands PAC Meeting for School Year AGM/Executive Elections

Tuesday, May 12 7:00 pm
Highlands Library

For you advance information, please see the below draft agenda. It is also available [here](#) on the HPAC web site.

AGM Agenda

Tuesday, May 12, 2015

1. Welcome and Executive Introductions

- Co-Chairs: Dana Cave / Brandy Hughes
- Secretary – Tracey Lebedovich
- Treasurer – Eric Stodt
- Fundraising – Marnie Premont / Jen van Eijnsbergen
- Communications – Kirstie Pirie

- SPC - Anna Archer
 - Safety Coordinator – Erin McNair
 - DPAC – Jason Krupa
 - Member at Large – Marnie Giblin
2. Approval of April 7, 2015, HPAC Meeting Minutes
 3. Administration Greeting and Updates - Todd Henderson and Blair Martin
 4. DPAC Update – Jason Krupa
 5. SRA Update – Erin MacNair
 6. Natural Playground Update – Tracey Lebedovich
 7. Event Summaries and Fundraising Update
 - Talent Show
 - Spring Fair
 - Plant Sale
 8. Upcoming Events
 - Bike Week, May 19 – 22
 - Teacher Appreciation Lunch, June 3
 9. Highlands Kids Club Summer Program
 10. Elections for 2015/2016 HPAC Executive
 11. Open Discussion

Please plan to attend!

Talent Show - What a Night!

Highlands School has talent! On Tuesday night, 59 students in 29 acts lit up the stage at Capilano University's theatre. The performers sang, danced, played and acted their way through an impressive variety of acts. Congratulations to the performers and a big thank you to all the families for supporting their efforts.

A huge THANK YOU to parents Molly Schneeberg, Amanda Clark and Nikki Winterhelt-Brown for stepping up to ensure not only that the show went on but that it was held in a real theatre to boot! These talented parents planned and coordinated the many details to ensure the show was a huge success.

And, a special Thank You to Mr. Henderson for attending the show and helping navigate all of the details associated with holding the show (and rehearsal) off-site for the first time.

Highlands 3rd Annual Spring Fair

Saturday, May 9th

12:00 - 4:00 pm

Don't forget about Highlands Annual Spring Fair tomorrow afternoon! Carnival Games, Bouncy Castles, Velcro and Climbing Walls, Basket Raffles, Ponies, Dunk Tank, Photo Booth, BBQ + Concession... plus much more! Open to the entire community. Come out for a great afternoon of fun!

Tickets are \$1 each. Price List:

Carnival Stations:

- 1 Ticket for most games
- 1 Bubbles/Tattoos/Jelly Bean Count
- 1 Basket Raffle Tickets
- 2 Balloons/Face-Painting
- 2 Candy Wheel
- 2 Facepainting
- 2 Skee-ball
- 3 Dunk Tank
- 4 Selfie Booth/Velcro Wall
- 5 Edge Climbing Wall
- 5 Pony Rides

BBQ & Concession:

- 1 Popcorn/Cotton Candy/Slushies
- 1 Water/Juice/Pop
- 1 Chips
- 4 Burgers (Regular and Veggie)

Walk and Wheels - Now Over for the Year

The sixth and final Walk and Wheels took place yesterday. During the six Thursdays, approximately 62 % of students walked and wheeled their way to school.

Yesterday, the Golden Sneaker was again awarded to: **Division 5 (Dimmock)** for intermediates and **Divisions 11 (Reeves/Svenhard)** and **12 (Patterson)** once again tied for the primary grades. Way to go!

- The highest overall average participant intermediate class with 73% is: Division 5 (Dimmock)
- The highest overall average participant primary class with 88% is: Division 11 (Reeves/Svenhard)

Congratulations!

Thank you to all of the parent volunteers ensured the program flowed so smoothly by arriving early every Thursday, handing out beans and tallying the results. Sooooo many beans!

Watch for details about the WOW (Walk or Wheel) program coming to Highlands School next year!

Grade 7 Grad Gift: Buddy Bench



Every year the Grade 7s give a graduation gift to the school and we are excited about a new bench that will be the Grade 7s gift to the school this year. It's being built by students at Argyle Secondary School and it will be ready by the end of the school year. It has a special purpose...it's a "buddy bench" (not its final name...grade 7's are deciding that now).

Before our new bench arrives, we are starting to practice how our buddy bench will work with the bench near the blue slide. It was decorated on Tuesday May 5 at to show it's a safe and happy place where you can go if you need a friend or something to do. We want everyone in our school to feel like they belong here and that they are a part of our school community...that's the "hope" for the bench.

These benches exist elsewhere, and this CTV news story gives an idea of how they work and how impactful they can be: <http://www.ctvnews.ca/canada/winnipeg-school-debuts-buddy-bench-it-s-more-than-a-bench-1.2008950>

The way it works is that anyone from Grade K-7 who feels left out or lonely, or wants someone different to hang out with at recess or lunch can sit on the bench. When a student sits on the bench, someone from Grade 6 and 7 will join them on the bench to see if they can help find someone to play with, or they will spend time with those students themselves.

Please talk to your child about the bench. We've asked students to please remember that the bench is a place of kindness and respect. If someone approaches you on the bench and asks you to play, say "yes". They are offering you a welcoming hand and you may be making a new friend.

We also decided that it is vital...that if a person on the bench has a bigger problem about anything other than finding something to do at recess or lunch, then our offer will be to find them adult help to talk with them. We are not counselors, we are important Buddies. We are there to help everyone feel they are a member of the Highland School community.

Thank you, we hope your children will use and respect our gift.

- From the Grade 7 students of Divisions 1,2,and 3

p.s. If your child is in Grade 6 or 7 and wants to volunteer to be a friend for the bench, there's a weekly signup sheet outside Ms. Wright's classroom.

p.p.s. If parents have any questions/thoughts or would like to become involved, please

email carmenfarrell@shaw.ca.

Highlands Natural Playground Committee Meeting

Tuesday, May 19 6:00 pm
Highlands School Library

Anyone interested in helping with the next phase of the natural playground project is encouraged to attend our last committee meeting of the school year. We will be reviewing planting choices, looking at grant options and brainstorming future fundraising and sponsorship ideas.

For more information please email tracey@gloriousday.com

Family Photo Program (*formerly MJM Photos*)

Important Notice for those families that participated in the Family photo program:

Please read the [attached letter](#) from Lifetouch about a price adjustment and special offer. Lifetouch Canada Inc. and Mark Martineau (of MJM Studios) thanks you for your continued patience during the merger of their two businesses.

Highlands Bike Week

Tuesday, May 19 - Friday, May 22

Highlands Bike Week is less than two weeks away. Students who ride will be entered to **win daily prizes** plus each time they ride they will get an entry for the grand prize (a new bike!).

Waivers must be completed. Unfortunately, students can not participate in the skills session of bike week without them.

The grand prize draw will take place during the Friday wrap up assembly.

The classroom schedule for Bike Week is below:

- **Tuesday, May 19:** Mrs. Mitchell's grade 4 class & grades 5/6
- **Wednesday, May 20:** Grades 2, 3 and Mrs. Sherlock's Grade 4 class.
- **Thursday, May 21:** Grade 7 Offsite Ride
Kindergarten and Grade 1 Bike Rodeo
- **Friday, May 22:** Assembly (in the morning TBD)

In the Community...

Successful Co-Parenting

FREE

Wednesdays May 6 - June 10 6:30 - 8:30 pm

John Braithwaite Community Centre

[Poster](#)

Westcoast Family Centres still has some spots remaining in their upcoming Successful Co-Parenting group. This group is unique in that it is child centred and looks at the best interest of the children throughout the transition of divorce or separation.