



HIGHLAND CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

PARENT NOTE – October 13, 2025

“Scripture Follower”

II Timothy 3:16-17

SCHOOL NEWS:

- **Parent Performance Schedule:** TONIGHT is the Parent Performance of the Grandparents Day program. This is a required event for all students in K-5. The schedule for the evening is as follows:
6:10 ~ K-2 Students Arrive and Gym Doors Open
6:30 ~ K-2 Performance
6:55 ~ *3-5 Students Arrive
7:15 ~ 3-5 Performance
**Teachers will not be in their classrooms before 6:55, so please keep your children with you until then. Please disregard any previous schedules you may have received.*
- **Late Start: This Wednesday, October 15, is a late start day.** Drop-off begins at 9:40 a.m. and classes begin at 10:00 a.m. Before care is available. Buses will run about 1.5 hours later than a regular school day.
- **End of First Quarter:** This Friday marks the end of the First Quarter. Report cards will be available for parents to view on Friday, October 31.
- **Work Day at Hammond Riverside Christian School:** We are excited to share that the next work day at Hammond Riverside Christian School is Saturday, October 18 from 8:30am - Noon. State and local leaders plan to visit us as we continue demolition, debris removal, and outdoor improvements. All participants should sign up [HERE](#). We would welcome you, your family, and family friends to help us reach our goal of 200 volunteers. A free lunch will be provided to all participants. Your participation is greatly appreciated!
- **October Saturday Serve:** Since we need leaves to be on the ground before we can rake, we have changed the date for October's Saturday Serve to **Saturday, November 1.**
Come join us as we bless our Highland Christian neighbors by raking leaves! Groups will be sent to different areas near HCS to rake leaves from the front lawn to the parkway. We will walk from house to house asking if we can bless them by raking their leaves. For this Saturday Serve, we will work outside raking. Please bring rakes, leaf blowers, brooms, gloves, etc. Please dress for the weather. We welcome any age to help with the clean-up.

Date: Saturday, November 1
Time: 9 am - 11 am
Place: HCS parking lot
Sign-up here: [October Saturday Serve](#)
- **HCS Listening Groups:** Our 2nd and 3rd grade listening sessions will be held on Monday, October 20 from 8:30 AM to 9:30 AM & Thursday, October 30 from 2:00 PM to 3:00 PM and are open to families of 2nd and 3rd grade students. Space is limited to 12 parents in each session. If both sessions fill up, we will provide additional opportunities. As the year progresses, families from other grades will also have the opportunity to participate later

in the school year. We are looking forward to hearing your valued and important feedback! To sign up, please complete the following [Sign-Up Genius Form](#).

- **Veteran's Day Chapel:** On Tuesday, November 11, at 8:45 am, we will honor our veterans in our Veterans Day Assembly. Our speaker will be Mr. Brandon Hiatt, a U.S. Navy veteran and HCS parent. An email will be going out this week with more information about how veterans in our HCS community can participate. We look forward to this event to honor our veterans! To sign up, please click [HERE](#). If you need additional information, please email Rick VanderWoude at veterans@highlandchristian.org.
- **Picture Retakes:** Picture Retake Day is on **Wednesday, Oct. 29**. Students who ordered a package on original picture day but are choosing to get their picture retaken **MUST** bring their original picture package with them on retake day to give to the photographer. They **DO NOT** need to place a new order. If they forget their package on retake day, we will take their photo & write their name down but we won't order a new package until the old one is returned.
If your student was absent on the original picture day, you will need to place your order at <https://inter-state.com/FlyerEntry/0131HY> using order code **0131HY**.
- **Employment Opportunities: We're Hiring!** HCS has an immediate need for a substitute Night Custodian, Before/After Care worker, and Wrestling Coach. For more information or to see a list of all of our current openings, please visit our [website](#).
- **Vanilla:** Homemade vanilla is for sale in the office - \$3.00 for an 8oz bottle. If you have any empty 8, 10, or 12oz glass bottles, please send them to the office so more vanilla can be made.
- **Hot Lunch Menu- [October Hot Lunch Menu](#)**
You can find the monthly lunch menu on FACTS by navigating the following tabs:
 1. **School** → *Resource Documents*
 2. **Student** → *Lunch*

ATHLETIC NEWS:

- 🎉 **Congratulations to our Girls Cross Country Team for winning the League Championship!** 🎉
Naomi Schutt took 1st place overall, Camille Jellema took 2nd place, Vivian Vander Woude took 3rd place, and Alyse Hopper took 5th place. Congratulations to our coaches Coach Kruithof and Coach Van Roekel on a great season.
- **Monday, October 13:**
Cross Country Meet @ Illiana Christian- 4:30 pm
- **Boys Basketball Tryouts: 6th, 7th, and 8th Grade Boys Basketball Tryouts** are this Tuesday, October 14th and Wednesday, October 15th. All students participating in sports must have an active physical on file.

The 7th and 8th grade will have overlapping practices, so the times below may look unusual but they are correct. Unfortunately, cuts for all three teams will need to be made as each team is only allowed to keep a maximum of 12 players. Coaches for all three teams have been found and we are looking forward to a great season.

Time slots are as follows:

6th grade - 3:15-4:30

8th grade - 4:30-5:45

7th grade - 5:45-7:00

FAITH CORNER:

Faith grows when we foster a deeper relationship with God through prayer. Prayer is a vital tool for spiritual growth, helping us to align our life with God's will. It also strengthens our faith by addressing doubts and uncertainties through communication. Since this is true in our faith life, it is also true in our children's lives. By praying over our children, we can help foster a deeper relationship between them and God.

How can we pray for our kids?

We can pray God's Word over our kids. When we pray Scripture over our kids, we are aligning ourselves to His will and we are enabling ourselves to pray with power and wisdom. These prayers will change the lives of our kids. We also will get a fuller perspective into what God's will is for our lives.

Praying over your child from head to toe may help you pray God's will more specifically:

The Mind: What My Child Thinks About

"Jesus replied: 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart ... and with all your mind'" (Matthew 22:37, NIV).

Heavenly Father, I pray my child will love You completely — with heart, soul and mind. I pray intellectual knowledge of You will lead to an emotional affection for You.

The Eyes: What My Child Looks At

"Turn my eyes from worthless things, and give me life through your word" (Psalm 119:37, NLT).

I pray my child will turn their eyes away from worthless things. I pray they will divert their eyes from anything or anyone that would cause them to stumble, trip or fall into sinful thoughts or actions.

The Ears: Who and What My Child Listens To

"Then [Jesus] added, 'Pay close attention to what you hear. The closer you listen, the more understanding you will be given—and you will receive even more'" (Mark 4:24, NLT).

I pray my child will pay close attention to the truth they hear about godly living and godly principles, knowing that the closer they listen, the more understanding they will receive.

The Back: Physical and Spiritual Protection

"... The LORD your God moves around in your camp to protect you and to defeat your enemies" (Deuteronomy 23:14a, NLT).

Almighty God, I ask that You move about in my child's camp — home, school and everywhere in between. Protect and deliver them from anyone who would seek to do harm physically, mentally, emotionally or spiritually. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

TRANSPORTATION NEWS:

Thanks to the addition of two new bus drivers, we're excited to begin planning a 6th bus route! If you are not currently on the bus schedule and would like to request transportation, now is the time to do so. Please complete and submit the [Bus Service Request Form](#) by **Monday, October 20, 2025**. If your student is already on the bus schedule, no action is needed unless you are requesting a change in your stop (within our boundary lines).

The cost is \$300/student per route (am or pm), \$600/student for both am & pm.

Due to the large area we serve and time limitations, we must define strict boundaries for our routes.

Boundaries for Service:

- **North:** 165th St (between the state line & Cline Ave in Hammond), 15th Ave (between Cline Ave & Broadway in Gary)
- **East:** Broadway (between 15th Ave & 93rd Ave)
- **South:** 93rd Ave (*Exception: 109th Ave between Sheffield Ave & US 41 for current riders*)
- **West:** State line (between 165th St & 93rd Ave, accessible via Hohman, Calumet, and Sheffield Avenues)

Additionally, stops are assigned on a need-by-need basis including, but not limited to, the time restraints of the bus route, how busy the street is, and the age of the student(s). We will do door-to-door, corner stops, or off-road stops (usually a parking lot) based on the above criteria.

T.R.I.P NEWS:

- **Bonus Fest Continues:** Take advantage of new online bonuses each weekend in the month of October! Vendors will be announced each Friday on the Raiseright Facebook page and through email. For every gift card purchased (from featured vendors) you will be automatically entered into a drawing for a \$100 gift card. Orders must be placed online during promotion. If you are not receiving emails from Raiseright.com and would like to, email Sherry Hiatt at trip@highlandchristian.org.
- **TRIP Schedule:** Next order for physical cards is due on Wednesday, Oct. 15 at 3:30pm and available for pick up on Tuesday, Oct. 21 after 2:45pm. Cash & Carry orders are available on Thursday 8-10am. Email trip@highlandchristian.org to see what is available! Online ordering is available 24/7 on raiserright.com. Future Order Dates: October 29, Nov. 5 and Nov. 12.
- **TRIP Volunteer Schedule:** Oct. 14-Team D, Oct. 21-Team A and Nov. 4-Team B.

COMMUNITY NEWS:

- **NEW LIFE CRC (3010 Ridge Road, Highland, IN 46322) will be hosting Trunk or Treat on Friday, October 31, from 5:00 to 6:30 p.m. in the church parking lot.** We will have decorated cars with trunks of candy and treats along with a refreshment table! Don't forget to wear your costume! Please contact (219) 838-0506 for more information. We hope to see you there!
- **Lake County Parks Department Survey:** The Lake County Parks & Recreation Department is starting work on their next 5-year master plan. As part of their community outreach campaign, "Let's Talk Parks," they are seeking feedback from residents to help them understand their priorities for Lake County parks and recreational facilities. They believe that by partnering with you, they can gather the comprehensive feedback needed to create a master plan that truly reflects the needs and desires of our community. Attached you will find a [PDF](#) with the linked survey; all survey participants are entered in a prize drawing.