



HIGHLAND CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

PARENT NOTE – May 4, 2026

“Scripture Follower”

II Timothy 3:16-17

FROM THE DESK OF DR. WEENER:

As we wrap up another school year at HCS, we are grateful for the many ways we have seen God at work in our students, staff, and families. This year has been a meaningful one—full of growth, new opportunities, and continued partnership—and it all ties back to our vision: to *academically equip, Biblically ground, and spiritually nurture our students to impact the world for Christ.*

Over the past year, we have seen tremendous academic growth across the school. Students have been challenged, supported, and encouraged to keep pushing forward—whether they are building foundational skills in the early grades or tackling more complex concepts in our upper levels. It’s been exciting to watch that progress unfold. As *Colossians 1:10* reminds us, we desire for our students to “bear fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God,” and we are seeing that happen in real ways.

At the same time, we’ve continued to expand opportunities that prepare students for the future. New this past year was our robotics club. This was in addition to a high school computer science class which gave 8th graders the opportunity to earn high school credit while in grade school. These are just a few examples of how we are working to academically equip students with skills and experiences that will serve them well beyond HCS.

Just as important is how we continue to Biblically ground and spiritually nurture our students. One of the highlights of this year has been our monthly Saturday Serves. It has been encouraging to see students and families step out to serve others together, living out Galatians 5:13. These experiences are helping shape a mindset in our students that their faith is meant to be lived out—not just learned.

We also want to take a moment to recognize and thank our incredible teachers and staff. Day in and day out, they give of their time, energy, and resources in ways that often go unseen. Their investment in students goes far beyond academics—they care deeply about each child’s growth, both in the classroom and in their walk with Christ. The impact they make is lasting and significant. We are so thankful for the faithful, selfless work of our staff and the vital role they play in bringing our mission and vision to life.

And to our parents—thank you. Your partnership matters more than you know. The support, communication, and trust you bring plays a huge role in the success of our students and the strength of our school community. Deuteronomy 6:6-7 reminds us of the shared calling we have to impress God’s Truth on our children, and we are grateful to walk alongside you in that responsibility.

As we head into summer, we hope it is a time of rest and renewal. We’re already looking forward to what God has in store for next year.

As we approach the summer, parents can expect communication in late May, around the 4th of July, and early August. These communications will provide helpful information and tools as we prepare for the 2026-2027 school year.

Again, thank you for being such an important part of Highland Christian School.

Dr. Kyle Weener, Head of School

SCHOOL NEWS:

- **Jr High Musical:** The directors would like to thank everyone for their help making Mary Poppins a success. In so many ways your help was valuable to us and we appreciate it. We thank all the students that took the risk to show the talents bestowed on them and the ways they entertained us. Spit-Spot, job well done.

- **Retirement Party:** We will be celebrating **Joyce, Kathy, Gail, Diana, Laurie, and Cheryl, this Thursday, May 7, 2026** with an Open House. Cake and light refreshments will be served in the gym from 5:30 to 7:00 pm. Stop by and wish them well!



- **Late Start:** This Wednesday 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.
- **Donut Day:** Donut Day is this Wednesday. Donuts will be \$2.50 each and we will have chocolate, strawberry, vanilla and glazed donuts. All proceeds will go to the 8th grade class trip.
- **Lost and not-Found:** The lost and found is overflowing!! Please stop by and take a look before the end of the week. Anything left by the end of the day on Friday, May 8 will be placed in the ETC trailer.

- **Teacher Appreciation Week is May 4-8:** Teacher Appreciation Week is this week! If you'd like to show some appreciation for our amazing teachers, consider blessing them with an item from their [School Bell Wish List](#) or the [HCS Employee Favorite Things List](#). Your generosity means so much and is always deeply appreciated! Thank you for supporting our teachers and helping make them feel loved.



We'd like to invite all students and parents to help celebrate our teachers by showing a little extra gratitude during this special week! If you'd like to participate, we've put together fun daily themes to guide you. Feel free to join in on one day, a few days, or all, participation is optional. Thank you for helping us make our teachers feel appreciated!

MONDAY
"Our Teachers sure are Sweet!"
Bless our teachers with their favorite treat!

TUESDAY
"We Appreciate you a Little!"
Bless our teachers with their favorite drink!

WEDNESDAY
"Thanks for Supplying us with Knowledge!"
Bless our teachers with a new school supply for their classroom!

THURSDAY
"We Have Superb Specials!"
HCS is blessed to have Music, Gym, Art, Student Support Services, Library, Speech, Technology, Counselors, BAC and Classroom Aides! Let's bless them too!

FRIDAY
"Our Teachers are Wateworthy!"
Bless our teachers with a handwritten note!

Thank You
Scan the QR code for a document with your teacher's favorite things!
-HCS PTO

- **Impact Week:** We want to sense the Holy Spirit's call to build God's Kingdom by serving each other in love. This week we will go out into the community and beyond to serve others in the name of Jesus. We will be raking leaves, visiting seniors, prepping for VBS, making fleece blankets, picking up garbage, packing food boxes, and more. If you would like to help, please sign-up here: [Impact Week Signup](#)

What do we need for Impact Week?

1. We need your prayers for:
 - a. good weather for the outside projects
 - b. safety for travel to and from the sites & while working at the sites
 - c. a spirit of cooperation and service
 - d. God's Kingdom growth because of the work of our hands.
 2. We need volunteers to supervise Junior High students as they serve on **Friday, May 8 from 8:30 - noon.**
 3. We need supplies for some of the projects:
 - a. rakes - Please label with your name.
 - b. plastic gloves for lawn work
 - c. fleece fabric for blankets - The fabric pieces should be a 2 yard piece of material.
- **May Saturday Serve:** During the first week of May, we participate in IMPACT Week at HCS. Our goal is to help students sense ways that the Holy Spirit is leading them to make a difference in our school, community, culture, and world. Some ways students will make an IMPACT is by sorting clothes, making placemats, raking leaves, prepping for VBS, packing boxes, and visiting seniors.

We would love for you to join us as we close out IMPACT Week on **Saturday, May 9, 2026**. We will gather to create “Cups of Cheer” for people going through a difficult season.

INFORMATION:

Date: Saturday, May 9

Place: HCS Commons (NOTE: change of venue)

Time: 9 - 10:15 - We will decorate and fill cups.

10:15 - 11:00 - You can deliver your “Cup(s) of Cheer”

Activity:

-decorate coffee cups or mugs with cheerful messages




-fill the cups or mugs with a plant

-gift wrap the “Cup of Cheer”

-create a card and write a message of cheer

-deliver our “Cup of Cheer”

NEEDED: Names and addresses of people who could use a message of cheer.

- **Library News:** Parents, I have enjoyed my time reading to the students and helping them develop reading habits, but our time is drawing to a close this year. I have to inform you that all library books need to be taken care of and the end of year policies of the school library. So, please be aware that all books are due back by May 22, and any books that are not returned by May 29 will be charged to their tuition account.
- **Lake County Public Library Read-a-Thon:** The time is coming when your child will receive their well earned trophy or ribbon. As a school we hand the trophies out during the last recognition chapel at the end of the year. The Lake County Public library will send the trophies to us a few days before this (yes, we do not have the trophies yet!). if your child earned a gift card the public library will inform you.
- **Interested in PTO?** Want to learn more about Highland Christian PTO? View our short presentation and recorded overview below.  [PTO Presentation](#),  [Recorded Overview](#),  [PTO Interest Form](#) - Submitting the form does not commit you, it simply lets us connect with you and share more information. We'd love to hear from you!
- **Employment Opportunities:** Do you know someone who loves kids, loves Jesus, and would be an asset to our school community? We have several new openings for next year and we need your help to spread the word!! To view all of our current openings, please visit our [website](#).
- **Art Department:** Mrs. Evers is collecting **paper grocery bags with handles** for the students to take home their art projects from the year. She is also in need of **cereal boxes** for an upcoming project. Please send any donations to the office. Thank you!
- **Hot Lunch Menu-** [May Lunch Menu](#)

ATHLETIC NEWS:

Track Meet: Tuesday, May 5, at 12:30 pm - League Championship @ Chicago Christian

Flag Football Games: Saturday, May 9, at 9:00 am @ Illiana Christian.

FAITH CORNER:

We need to reflect on how we can grow in faith, serve others, and deepen our walk with Jesus. Just like any new habit we try to build into our lives, developing Faith Practices take time and repetition to become godly habits.

It is Impact Week so let's look at the Faith Practice of **Justice & Mercy**. These are the tangible expressions of loving our neighbors as God has loved us. **Justice & Mercy** are the ways we live like Jesus here and now. They also train us to recognize the image of God in others. [Read more...](#)

T.R.I.P NEWS:

- **Mother's Day Bonuses Continue until 5/7:** Earn up to 25% on gifts for mom with 75+ gift card brands on bonus! Visit Raiserright.com for details.
- **Summer Break:** Our office will not be accepting orders during Summer Break (May 21-August 19) BUT that doesn't mean the savings stop! Online ordering is a fantastic way to continue to earn money all summer long. Book Travel, Egift Cards, Reloads (with a card previously purchased through RaiseRight), Online Shopping and Ship-to Home options are all available on Raiserright.com 24/7. Summer earnings will be credited to your August Statement. For any questions, please email Sherry Hiatt at trip@highlandchristian.org.
- **T.R.I.P. Schedule:** Our next order for physical gift cards is due on Wednesday, May 6 at 3:30pm. This order will be available for pick up on Tuesday, May 12 after 2:45pm. Online ordering is available 24/7 at Raiserright.com. Cash & Carry is available by email request at trip@highlandchristian.org. Available Vendors: Amazon (\$25), Aurelios (\$20), Beggars (\$20), Chick-fil-a (\$10), Culver's (\$10), Dunkin Donuts (\$10), Miner Dunn (\$10), Hohman Hallmark (\$10), Starbucks (\$10 & \$25), Strack & Van Til (\$50 & \$100), Teibel's (\$25) and Zandstra's Greenhouse (\$17).
- **Upcoming Order Dates:** May 13 and May 20 (final bulk order for physical cards before Summer Break), August 20
- **T.R.I.P. Volunteer Schedule:** May 5-Team B, May 12-Team C, May 19-Team D, May 26

COMMUNITY NEWS:

- **Illiana Viking Academy:** Illiana Christian HS Viking Academy Registration is officially OPEN for sign-ups! Whether your kiddo loves sports, arts, or adventure, we've got a spot just for them. Don't wait - spots will fill up fast! Sign up today and give your child a summer they'll never forget <https://www.illianachristian.org/life-ichs/viking-academy/>
- **PM Hoops Academy:** The PM Hoops Academy is a 4-week basketball development program built for athletes ages 8–12, combining skill training, confidence building, and character development through a faith-based approach. Each session is structured to improve ball handling, footwork, finishing, and overall game understanding in a positive and focused environment. Spots are limited to maintain quality coaching. 15 players max. Early Bird registration is now open (2 spots already taken, 5 left). Contact Coach DB if interested or click [HERE](#).
- **Soccer Shots:** Soccer Shots is hosting a summer camp at HCS on June 1-4 for ages 3-5 and 5-8. More info and sign-ups can be found [HERE](#).
- First Church PCA welcomes you to VBS this summer!! More information and details can be found [HERE!](#)

