



HIGHLAND
CHRISTIAN SCHOOL



July 6, 2026

Highland Christian School Community,

As we approach the upcoming school year, we are excited to partner with your family to academically equip, Biblically ground, and spiritually nurture to impact the world for Christ. Here is some important information to be aware of as we approach the new school year:

1. Prepare for Back to School

- As the start of the school year is just a little over a month away, here are some key resources parents should thoroughly review:
 - [26/27 Parent Student Handbook](#)
 - Important Changes to Note:
 - Snow Days (p. 9-10)
 - In the event of a snow day, HCS will not be conducting an eLearning Day - they will be true snow days. In the event of an unusual circumstance, HCS may utilize eLearning. After hearing explicit feedback from parents and teachers and consulting with INPEA and the Department of Education, we believe this change will best support our students, families, and teachers.
 - Student Transportation (p. 56)
 - In no circumstance will a child be permitted to arrive or leave school via Lyft, Uber, or another service car provider. In the event a family uses a third party provider for childcare and transportation is included, transportation must first be approved by an administrator prior to use.
 - AI Policy (p. 77-78)
 - After consultation with other schools and research, HCS has adopted an AI policy.
 - [26/27 School Year Calendar](#)
 - Please note important changes from last year's calendar:
 - **Grandparents' Day Performance (for parents):** There will not be an extra Grandparents' Day performance the week after Grandparents' Day for parents. Parents will be provided an opportunity to attend the dress rehearsal the week of Grandparents' Day if they want to see the performance live. The student performance at Grandparents' Day will also be live streamed.

- **Fall Break:** This year, Fall Break will be Wednesday, October 14 - Friday, October 16 (one day longer than in the past). It is expected that students attend school on Monday, October 12 and Tuesday, October 13.
- **School Supply Lists**
 - [Preschool Supply List](#)
 - [K-8 Supply List](#)
 - **Please Note:** The style of headphones are different between grades K-2 and 3-5 as a result of new iPads in grades 3-5. All students are required to have the correct style of headphones for classroom use and state testing.
- **Key Dates**
 - SEC (Preschool) Parent Night - Monday, August 10 at 6:30pm
 - SEC (Preschool) Open House - Tuesday, August 11 from 10:00am - 11:30am
 - Kindergarten Round-Up - Tuesday, August 11 from 4:00pm - 5:00pm
 - K-8 New Family Orientation in the Gym - Tuesday, August 11 at 4:45pm
 - K-8 Ice Cream Social - Tuesday, August 11 from 5:30pm - 7:00pm
 - K-8 First Day of School - Thursday, August 13
 - Doors open at 8:05am & Dismissal is at 1:45pm
 - SEC First Day of Preschool - Friday, August 14 & Tuesday, August 18 (Doors open at 8:05am)
 - Required K-5th Parent Night - Thursday, August 20 at 5:00pm and 5:30pm
 - Required 6th-8th Parent Night - Thursday, August 20 at 6:00pm
- As a family, you can expect to receive an email on **Monday, August 3** that includes bus routes, class lists, and last minute reminders about the start of the school year.

2. Announcement of 2026-2027 Theme

God Worshiper who exalts God's name through worship and service as led by the Holy Spirit.

Theme Verse: *I will extol the LORD at all times; his praise will always be on my lips. I will glory in the LORD; let the afflicted hear and rejoice. Glorify the LORD with me; let us exalt his name together.* Psalm 34:1-3



3. Tuition and Foundation Gift

- The first tuition payment for the 2026-2027 school year is due on **Saturday, July 25, 2026.** Your statement can be viewed via [FACTS](#). Automatic payments typically start to process 3 business days before the due date. Cash, check, or money order payments can be made in the Highland Christian office during normal business hours. Payments received by the 20th of the month will be applied to the current month's invoice.

- Please note that July's tuition bill is 1/10th of the billed tuition. Your incidental billing includes the \$350 Building User Fee (billed once per family) and any optional fees such as Milk or Bus service.
- If you need help logging into your FACTS account, help accessing your FACTS Financial account or are having issues with your Multi-Factor Authentication, please call the FACTS parent helpline at 1(866)441-4637. Our district code is HCS-IN.
- If you were anticipating an Indiana Choice award and don't see this reflected in FACTS, please contact Katie Hernandez at Khernandez@highlandchristian.org as soon as possible. Choice applications are not complete until the application is signed.
- If you wish to obtain the [26/27 Foundation Gift](#) and did not complete this during the reenrollment process, please complete the online form by Friday, September 11, 2026. The application only needs to be completed once per family. The Foundation Gift is given to families seeking financial support for their K-8 tuition obligations.
- Should you have questions about your tuition invoice or incidental billing, making a payment, or seeking K-8 Tuition Assistance, please contact April VanderMeyden (avandermeyden@highlandchristian.org).

4. Fall Sports Tryouts & Medical Information

- 6th-8th grade students are invited and encouraged to try out for fall sports. During the fall season, the following sports teams are offered:
 - **6th-8th Grade Co-Ed Soccer** (Coached by: Mr. Josh Blocker and Mr. Tonny Sserwadda)
 - Tryouts: Monday, August 17th - 3:10-4:45 & Tuesday, August 18th - 3:10-4:45
 - **7th & 8th Grade Girl's Volleyball** (Coached by: Mrs. Maddie Schaaf - 8th; Coach being finalized - 7th)
 - Tryouts: Monday, August 17th - 3:10-4:45 & Tuesday, August 18th - 3:10-4:45
 - **6th-8th Grade Co-Ed Cross Country** (Coach being finalized)
 - Tryouts: Monday, August 17th - 3:10-4:00 & Tuesday, August 18th - 3:10-4:00
 - **Sports Physicals**
 - All athletes must have an updated physical on file for the 2026-2027 school year. Athletes will not be able to practice or play in games until a physical is turned in to the HCS office. You can use a form from your doctor's office or use [HCS' physical form](#).
 - **6th Grade Immunizations**
 - We would like to remind all incoming 6th-grade families that JRH requires (1) MCV4 (Meningococcal) and (1) Tdap (Tetanus, Diphtheria, & Pertussis) vaccine. Please return your student's updated immunization record to the office as soon as possible.

5. HCS Apparel

- HCS is excited to sell new spirit wear at the Ice Cream Social in August! We have two t-shirt designs, a crewneck, and hoodie. Sizes range from youth to adult. We will also have water bottle stickers! Items can be purchased at the Ice Cream Social or through the first week of September. Apparel prices span between \$18-\$34 and stickers are \$2.



6. PTO

7. Complete Summer Work

- Every summer, Highland Christian seeks to partner with families to ensure academic progress and a love for reading is further developed. This summer, **each grade level (K-5)** has a summer reading requirement. [Please see the attached summer log to meet the necessary requirements](#). These logs can be brought to the Ice Cream Social or the first week of school. **6th-8th graders, teachers, and parents** also have the option to participate!
- Students entering 6th-8th grade have a mandatory Bible project to complete over the summer. Please print this packet and complete it with paper and pencil. This is due Friday, September 4, 2026, but is recommended to be completed before the school year begins.
 - Incoming **6th graders** must read and complete the [Genesis journal](#)
 - Incoming **7th graders** must read and complete the [Judges journal](#)
 - Incoming **8th graders** must read and complete the [Daniel journal](#)
- In addition to summer reading, **each grade** has some optional math IXL resources. Students that regularly participate in this work will receive a small prize at the onset of the coming school year.

8. Open Positions

- We are excited to share that we have completed all instructional hiring for the 26/27 school year. Currently, we have a few non-instructional positions open - including a much needed Before & After Care worker (from 3pm - 6pm). [Information about open roles can be found on HCS' website](#).
- One role we would like to highlight is Mrs. Karen Huizenga, who has accepted the job as Interim Director of Preschool. Mrs. Huizenga will continue to teach her morning classes and serve as the program's director in the afternoon.

9. Summer Office Hours

- Summer hours (8am to Noon) will conclude on Thursday, August 6. Due to professional development, the office will be closed on **Monday, August 10**. Starting Tuesday, August 11, office hours will return to Monday to Friday from 7:30am - 3:30pm.

We're looking forward to partnering with your family in the upcoming school year!

Dr. Kyle Weener

Head of School - Highland Christian