

Contact Information

1230 Highlands Blvd.
Palm Harbor, FL 34684
Phone (727) 724-1429
School Website
www.highland-es-pinellas.k12.fl.us/
PTA Website www.hlepta.com
PTA Email hlepta@gmail.com

PTA Officers

Ms. Kathleen Young, Principal
Ms. Lisa Freeman, Assistant Principal

Darlene Sadorf, President
Mary Wallace, VP Ways and Means
Tracey Tacea, VP Programs
Mary Anderson, VP Membership
Jennifer Boswell, VP Communication
Maria Wilder, VP Safety and Advocacy
Wendy Bright, Treasurer
Michelle Sikorski, Corresponding Secretary
Wendy Karamihalis, Recording Secretary
Kathy Kelly, Teacher Representative
Jennifer Patterson, Teacher Representative

Panther Pause

The Panther Pause is a publication of Highland Lakes Elementary PTA. It is designed to keep you informed on all the happenings at Highland Lakes.

The Panther Pause is published monthly throughout the school year and the deadline for submission is the 15th of each month prior to the publication date. Submissions should be emailed to the editor, Jennifer Boswell, at the following address: marker13@tampabay.rr.com. If you would like to submit a photo of your child please email a .jpeg to the editor. A Media Release form will be required for any pictures to be published.

PTA Mission

To promote the welfare of children and youth in home, school, community, and place of worship.

To raise the standards of home life.

To secure adequate laws for the care and protection of children and youth.

To bring in closer relation the home and the school, that parents and teachers may cooperate intelligently in the education of children and youth.

To develop between educators and the general public such united efforts as will secure for all children and youth the highest advantage in physical, mental, social and spiritual education.

Useful Links

Pinellas County PTA www.pccpta.org
Florida PTA www.floridapta.org
National PTA www.pta.org
All Pro Dad www.allprodad.com
Pinellas Schools www.pinellas.k12.fl.us

Panther Pause



The Highland Lakes Elementary PTA Newsletter

Volume I, Issue I

September 2009

Letter from our PTA President—Darlene Sadorf

Welcome students, staff and families! I hope everyone had a very enjoyable summer vacation and ready to start the new school year!

This is going to be a very exciting year for all of us at HLE and I look forward to meeting each of you at our wonderful events we have planned for you this year!

This is my first year as your PTA President but my 6th year at HLE! I have 3 terrific sons, a kindergartner, a 2nd grader, and a 6th grader! I am very proud of my sons' accomplishments and owe a great deal to the education they have and are receiving at HLE. The staff is truly wonderful and I am honored to be a part of this school.

Did you know that the PTA is the largest non-profit child advocacy association in the world? Children achieve more, stay in school longer and enjoy school more when their parents are involved! I hope you become PTA members and stay involved with your child's education!

During the coming months we have many activities planned for the children—I hope you can set aside a few hours to join us at our events, or better yet, help us at the events by volunteering! There is nothing more rewarding than seeing children smile because of your own efforts!

On a last note, please feel free to contact me at hlepta@gmail.com! I wel-



Darlene Sadorf and her son Zack are enjoying each other at one of the PTA sponsored events last year!

come your comments on how we can continue to be a successful PTA.—Sincerely, Darlene Sadorf, President

A Successful Beginning to the New School Year

Welcome back Highland Lakes faculty! We are glad you are with us and thankful for everything you do for our children!

Thank you for attending the welcome back breakfast and for all of you who signed up to become PTA members! A special welcome goes out to

all of our new staff, to include Ms. Kathleen Young, our new principal, Ms. Lisa Freeman, our new assistant principal, and Jean Ramos, our new secretary! We hope you enjoy your tenure at HLE and look forward to working with you to make 2009-2010 a very successful school year!



Welcome Back Staff!



Dr. Seuss Week was a hoot! Teachers received Dr. Seuss books as a gift from the PTA.

“Personality can open doors, but only character can keep them open” - Elmer G. Letterman



Claire Ferrari walking to raise money for technology!



Jocelyn Boswell is reading in the media center.

Mark Your Calendar

Open House Dates

9/1 Gr. K,1,2 and Ms. Watt 6 PM
9/3 Gr. 3,4,5 and Mrs. Gore 6 PM

Fundraiser Dates

9/4 Fall Fundraiser Kick Off
9/8 Fall Fundraiser Reach Out Booklets Due
9/18 Fall Fundraiser Ends

School Events

9/10 Volunteer Orientation 9 AM
9/15 Individual Picture Day

PTA Events

9/10 PTA Meeting/Event 6:30 PM Café—Mr. Brian and the Boppets
9/11 All Pro Dad's Event 7:00 AM HLE Café
9/17 Family Dinner Night
9/30 Astro Skate Night 6-8 PM

9/7
School Closed
for Labor Day

Year Round Events

SCHOOL SPIRIT DAY

Every Friday is School Spirit Day. Students are encouraged to dress in school colors. HLE Panther gear can be purchased at the school store every Friday between 8:15 AM and 8:30 AM.

BOX TOPS

Box Tops are due the last day of the month. If you need collection sheets, go to the box tops page on our website. There are various prizes for participants throughout the year to include a class pizza party

All Pro Dads

Fathers – have breakfast with your child, have fun, get involved, and demonstrate that you care!

All Pro Dad's Day is a one-hour monthly breakfast held before school where fathers and their children meet with other father's and children in the school cafeteria. At this gathering, we discuss a wide range of family topics,

spend time together, and have fun.

Our first event of the year will be held on September 11th! We will meet in the HLE Café at 7:00 AM – before school starts! Cafeteria breakfast costs no more than \$3.00. We hope to see you in September.



Dads, and moms, enjoying pizza at an All Pro Dad event!

Volunteers

Be A Volunteer!

Help HLE be the best it can be and help the students do even better. Become a volunteer today! Please fill out a volunteer application which can be downloaded from our website! Send it in with a copy of your drivers license. Alex Cernkovic, Highland Lakes Family & Community Liaison, will contact you to find out

where you would like to help. Please call if you have any questions at (727)724-1429. Here is a list of just a few of the volunteer opportunities available!

- Fall Fundraiser
- All Pro Dads
- Health & Safety Fair
- Box Tops 4 Education

- Yearbook
- Walk-A-Thon
- Family Fun Nights
- Spring Fling
- Valentines Dance

A huge **THANK YOU** goes out to all the volunteers of Highland Lakes Elementary. We couldn't do it without you!

Reflections

The National PTA Reflections Program is an arts recognition and achievement program for students. The Reflections Program provides opportunities for students to express themselves creatively and to receive positive recognition for original works of art inspired by a pre-selected theme, while increasing community awareness on the importance of the arts in education. Participation

and appreciation for the arts is the Reflections Program's goal. Although the Reflections Program follows a "contest" format, winning should not be the emphasis. Participation in the Reflections Program is a great way for students to explore and learn about various art forms. Creating art is a valuable learning process that challenges students to use their critical thinking skills as well as their creative talents

to create art that supports a specific theme.

This year the Reflections theme is "Beauty Is..." Stay tuned for more information regarding this program and how your children can get involved.

For more information please visit <http://www.capta.org/sections/programs/reflections.cfm>.



Shannon Tamme stopping for a water break during the Walk-A-Thon last year!



Parents LOVE to volunteer at HLE! Are you a volunteer?

Recycling—HLE Gets Money for These Items

Ink Jet Cartridges & Cell Phones

If you have ink jet cartridges or old cell phones please bring them to the school! It's good for our environment and great for our school! There is a box in the front office for these items. Please do not include phone accessories (chargers, cases, or hands-free devices). We can earn

UP TO \$300 per phone and \$5.00 per ink jet cartridge!

Juice Pouches

Most kids drink juice pouches, but did you know that once discarded, these pose a threat to our environment? HLE has formed a Drink Pouch Brigade and is collecting all used drink pouches (no straws or wrappers), to earn cash for

the school. Please send in your used pouches. There is a separate bin in the cafeteria for the children's convenience. Every little bit will help our school!

Paper and Aluminum

We also receive money for paper and aluminum so please be sure to bring to those items! We have bins for all of these recyclables?

There are open PTA Board positions! If you are interested in dedicating a few hours during the year, contact hlepta@gmail.com today!

From the Principal

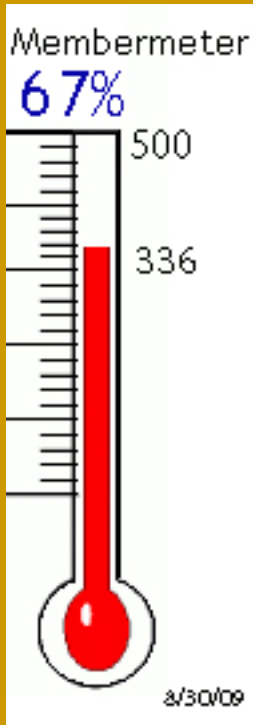
We are thrilled to be the new administrative team at Highland Lakes Elementary. We are looking forward to an outstanding year getting to know the students and families of this wonderful community. As you know the vision of Highland Lakes is one that is dedicated to the belief that everyone can achieve to their optimum potential. There are many

initiatives at Highland Lakes that focus on this belief. Our desire is to build upon the initiatives that were already established for the upcoming school year which include Walk 'n Read, M3, team teaching, clustering and so much more. We know the teachers are very anxious to share their way of work with you. - Ms. Kathleen Young, Principal



Don't miss this year's spring fling and silent auction! The kids had a terrific time and the parents won some great prizes!

School Store Hours
Fridays 8:15 till 8:30



Monthly Trivia

How many trees (in tons) does it take to produce one ton of paper?

To learn the answer, visit us on

facebook

PTA[®]
everychild.one voice.[®]

1230 Highlands Blvd.
Palm Harbor, FL 34684

Officer Reports

VP Programs — Tracey Tacea

If you are looking for fun, don't miss our 1st PTA meeting and family fun event September 10th! We're going to get the year started rocking and rolling with Mr. Brian and the Bop-pets! This year's calendar is filled with fun nights you won't want to miss...Among them will be everyone's favorite; Mad Science and a visit from our animal friends from the Florida Aquarium.

VP Membership — Mary Anderson

For the first time ever we will be giving away a **FREE** Highland Lakes T-shirt with each PTA membership!! So please complete your PTA membership forms and send them in by Sept 25! Don't forget - any member of your family can join the PTA and for each person who joins - you will get a free shirt. Sign up Mom, Dad, Grandpa and even Uncle Chuck !! Dues are \$5 per member!

Free Offer

VP Communications — Jenifer Boswell

In an effort to Save the Planet—the PTA is **GOING GREEN!** All of our information, flyers, and forms, will be available online. Please visit us at www.hlepta.com today! If you would prefer to receive communications electronically, please email hlepta@gmail.com with your request. We are also on Facebook under the group heading [Highland Lakes Elementary School PTA](#). Join us online today and together we can help save the planet!

VP Safety and Advocacy — Maria Wilder

STAY ALERT! Back to school means more traffic. Drivers, bicycle riders and walkers - be aware of your surroundings. Be sure your child knows how to stay safe. Make sure students check for traffic – particularly at driveways. Also, stay tuned for more information regarding our upcoming "Health and Safety Fair" in the months to come. Make everyday a great day, and remember "Be Aware to Be Safe".

Commitment to Character—September

Responsibility

Responsibility is doing your best and taking ownership for your words and actions.

How can you be responsible?

Say and do the right thing at the right time. Be accountable!

Be reliable and dependable; when you agree to do something, do it.

Take care of your own business. Don't make others do what you are supposed to do.

Take responsibility for your

actions; don't make excuses or blame others.

Use your head; think before you act; imagine the consequences.

Stay tuned for next months Commitment to Character theme.



Be sure your children are doing all of their assignments!

PTA Chair Persons

Barrie Taft, Fundraising

Karen Ferrari, Yearbook

Sue Tamme, Newsletter

Vacant, Safety

Vacant, Awards

Vacant, Hospitality

Kathy Kelly, Reflections

Mike Tamme, All Pro Dads

Richard Doscher, All Pro Dads

If you are interested in joining the PTA board we have open positions and welcome you to join. Please contact Darlene Sadorf, PTA President at hlepta@gmail.com.