



# UNDER THE BIG "TOPS"

Highlands/Odyssey School Newsletter

Please Visit: [www.aasd.k12.wi.us/Highlands](http://www.aasd.k12.wi.us/Highlands)  
 or the brochure racks by the office FOR THE  
**REST OF THE NEWSLETTER!!**

OCTOBER 2011

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
3	4	5	6 Badger Sports Park Fundraiser	7
10	11	12	13	14
<h2 style="color: red; font-size: 2em; margin: 0;">Musical Auditions!</h2> <p style="text-align: center; margin: 0;">More information in mailgrams. Audition sheets available from classroom teachers.</p>				
17 PTA Meeting 6:00-7:00 PM (free child care)	18 Parent/Teacher Conferences 4:00-6:15 PM  Kindergarten Bake Sale	19	20 Parent/Teacher Conferences 5:00-7:15 PM  <i>Cookie Dough Fund-Raiser Starts</i>	21 Early Dismissal @ 11:27 AM
24 Parent/Teacher Conferences 4:00-6:00 PM	25	26 Early Dismissal @ 11:27 AM	27 No School	28 No School
31				



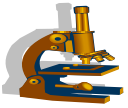
**Be Respectful - Be Responsible - Be Safe**





**From the Principal.....**The first month has flown by and I am so proud to be the principal at Highlands/Odyssey. I am still in the process of meeting students and families, but have seen first hand the dedicated staff working to meet the educational needs of all the students here. Please remember that if you have questions or concerns to please call to set up an appointment or email me.

Sincerely,  
Mrs. Comerford



**Wanted:** Highlands 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders to come and join Science Club. We Want You!

Permission slips are outside of Mrs. Witzeling's new room, rm 216. We meet EVERY WEEK on Mondays this year from 3:20 until 4:00.



**Please** come to our annual **Kindergarten Bake Sale** during our fall conferences. Tuesday, October 18<sup>th</sup>, 2011. Stop by

the hallway by our Kindergarten rooms from 3:30 until the end of conferences.

**IMPORTANT FREE & REDUCED LUNCH REMINDER!**  
If your child qualifies for free or reduced lunches at school, this message is for you. If you received a letter in the mail this summer or fall saying you qualify, nothing more needs to be done. Otherwise, IF YOU DID NOT COMPLETE AN APPLICATION THIS AUGUST OR SEPTEMBER, YOU MUST DO SO IMMEDIATELY, AS YOUR FREE LUNCHES WILL STOP sometime in October.  
Forms are available in the school office & district website.

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**LUNCH HOUR HELP NEEDED**

*If you can spare an occasional hour to help at school for lunch/recess (sometimes on short notice), please call the school office at 832-6250. Pay is \$8.25 per hour.*



**BOX TOPS**

Thanks to all of the families who helped our school by clipping and saving Box Tops! Each **Box Top** is worth 10 cents. The money we collect is used to reduce the cost of school field trips, as well as pay for improvements within the school.

To help us reach our goal, a new collection sheet will be coming home next week. Please turn these in no later than **October 15**. Each sheet turned in will be one entry in our prize drawing. Thank you for making a difference at Highlands/Odyssey Elementary.



**PTA NEWS**

The 2011-2012 school year is off to a great start! We had our first dance, and it was our best ever! Thank you to those of you who volunteered and attended. Congratulations to the lucky winner of \$132.50 in the 50/50 raffle--what a prize! Our Stevi B's night was also a big success. It was wonderful to see so many Highlands/Odyssey families there. Thank you also to those who attended our first PTA meeting. Please plan to attend at least one meeting this year--check the school calendar for all the dates. We always have prizes and candy! If you haven't done so yet, please remember to send back the volunteer survey. We need lots of volunteers to make all of our events a great success. All of our fundraising efforts will go to technology again this year. Our next fundraiser event is at Badger Sports Park on October 6th. Hope to see you there! We appreciate all of your support--thank you!!

Lisa Hoffman  
PTA President

**THE LEAP**

Copies of the Leap newsletter are available in the literature racks outside of the office.

*"For All, By All"* **School Counselor**  
**addresses students needs in the areas of**  
**personal/social, academic and career**  
**development.**



Welcome to another school year! If you are new to Highlands or have not met me yet I am MaiKou Heu, the School Counselor. My role is to provide counseling support and collaboration with other staff members and parents, and to assist children in maximizing their achievement while interacting

appropriately in school, home, and community. I help all students in the areas of academic achievements, personal/social development and career development to ensure students to become productive and well adjusted individuals. I look forward to serving as your child this school year and welcome your concerns or imputes. I can be reached at (920) 997-1399 x3543 or email me at [heumaikou@ascd.k12.wi.us](mailto:heumaikou@ascd.k12.wi.us) . You can also visit me on the web at <http://sharepoint.ascd.k12.wi.us/SiteDirectory/schools/hig/counselor/default.aspx> where you can find helpful resource, classroom delivery content and schedule, news and updates and much more. I will be offering small groups addressing specific topic this school year. If you would like to refer your child to one of these groups, please fill out the Specialized Group referral form from the above website under "Documents" or email/call me and I can get you the form. Thank you for allowing me to be a part of your child's educational experience.



Dear Parent/Guardian,

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome you to the 2011-2012 school year! We hope you had a wonderful summer and are geared up for the new school year. The Appleton Area School District in partnership with ARAMARK Education is proud to announce a new benefit to the National School Lunch Program offered to your child. Starting this school year, ARAMARK Education food service will be providing a bagged lunch option on half school days for your child. The half-day lunch program is designed to help close the gap meeting the nutritional needs of children in our community.

The half-day lunch program will be a "grab-n-go" concept. If you/your child choose to participate, a bag will be prepared for your child to take prior to leaving the school building for the day. Those that travel by school bus will be required to place their bagged lunch in their school bag until they reach their destination to comply with Lamer's Bus Company policy.

The menu for half days will be displayed on the printed monthly menus that are sent home. The price for these bagged lunches will be the same as full day lunch, \$2.30 for Elementary students. Payment for meals will operate the same as full day lunch, one meal deducted from your child's food service account.

Thank you for your support and cooperation. We look forward to another successful school year. If you have questions regarding the half-day lunch program, feel free to contact myself at 832-6221.

Monica M Pomasl, RD, CD  
Food Service Director  
ARAMARK Education/Appleton Area School  
District



## What do **Common Core State Standards (CCSS)** Mean to Parents?

### **CCSS:**

- ✓ is an educational initiative
- ✓ supported by the National PTA
- ✓ developed in 2009
- ✓ were created by teachers, parents, education experts, and others from across the country
- ✓ give consistent expectations for what students should be learning at each grade in order to be prepared for college and career.

The National Parent Teacher Association will be releasing guides on the CCSS for parents. There are 11 guides in all. These guides will include four key components:

- ✓ Key items that children should be learning in English and math in each grade;
- ✓ Activities that parents can do at home to support their child's learning;
- ✓ Ways parents can build stronger relationships with their child's teacher; and
- ✓ Tips for planning for college and career (high school guides only).

For more information on these "Guides," please go online to [PTA.org/parentsguide](http://PTA.org/parentsguide)