



**HIGHLAND PARK  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
HIGH SCHOOL**

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September 16, 2022

Dear Parents, Guardians, & Students:

We have truly enjoyed having our students back in the building as we begin the 2022-23 school year! Our teachers, club advisors, and coaches are in full swing, and it is great to see the excitement in our students as I greet them each morning. We have hosted our first Class Meetings this morning to plan for upcoming activities for our OWLS including **Spirit Week which will be October 3 – 7, 2022, our Hall of Honor’s Induction ceremony for this year’s inductees, our first Pep Rally and Homecoming game on October 7<sup>th</sup> at 7PM followed by our Homecoming Dance on October 8, 2022 at 7PM.** We are looking forward to seeing our students and celebrating our distinguished alumni during these spirited events!

We are also very excited to welcome our parents and guardians to our **Back to School Night on September 21, 2022, at 6PM** beginning in our auditorium. **Please be sure to know your child’s Homeroom teacher’s name so you can pick up a copy of their class schedule or be sure to print out or save a copy from Genesis.** Attached is a [copy of the schedule](#) for the evening. **Babysitting** will be provided in our Media Center for those who need it. Please complete this [registration form](#) if you need babysitting for younger children; however, we can not provide supervision for children younger than 3 years old.

**I also want to take this opportunity to outline upcoming assessments that are scheduled for our students.** The Department of Education of New Jersey has established that students will be assessed early in the school year of 22-23 to measure student progress towards grade level standards for English Language Arts, Mathematics, and Science courses completed in 2021-22. These Assessments are designed to help our students “Start Strong” and to provide our teachers with data on our students’ proficiency levels in these subject areas. I believe that it is in our students’ best interests that they do their best on these assessments so that the data we receive is helpful in this endeavor.

**Start Strong Assessments** will be administered on September 21 – 23, 2023 starting at 7:48am according to the following schedule:

- **Wednesday, September 21, 2022** – English Language Arts Assessment for current Grades 9 and 10 students
- **Thursday, September 22, 2022** – Math Assessment for Math 8, Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II (This testing will include students currently in Grades 9 – 12 who took these courses last year)
- **Friday, September 23, 2022** – Science Assessment for current Grades 9 and 12 students

More information about these assessments is linked above. For testing purposes, students will report to Homeroom classrooms for these assessments or in small groups according to IEP or 504 accommodations if needed. English Language Learners will have their tests administered in a small group setting as well. Students requiring accommodations will be told in advance where their testing location will be.

**Students who are not testing should report to school by 8:41am and will enter through the Main Entrance and will either meet in the auditorium or cafeteria with teachers from their grade levels. “A Period” classes will not meet during testing.** Classes scheduled for the day will follow the regular rotation for the letter day. Wednesday is a D Day, Thursday, is an E Day, and Friday is a F Day. **Testing should take a little more than an hour each day except for students who have**

**extended time.** As soon as testing concludes each day, all students will report to their regular classes. **Students who are not scheduled to participate in the day's assessment can use the time provided until testing concludes to review and complete assignments for their classes or to complete the following options listed below by our counseling department:**

**9th graders:**

**Naviance:** Self Discovery Home-Career Cluster Finder  
Build Academic resume

**10th graders:**

Go to [collegeboard.org](https://collegeboard.org) to begin the PSAT practice exam and sample questions.  
**Naviance:** Self Discovery Home-Career Cluster Finder

**11th graders:**

Go to [collegeboard.org](https://collegeboard.org) to begin the PSAT/NMSQT practice exam and sample questions.  
**Naviance:** Self Discovery Home-Career Cluster Finder

**12th graders:**

Use **Naviance** to build college list "Colleges I'm Thinking About"  
Build Academic resume and continue to add activities, clubs, sports, and organizations.  
Brag sheet college applications

**Link for Naviance Login:**

<https://student.naviance.com/hpschools>, **Note:** Your username is your email. If you have misplaced your password, please utilize the forgot password option.

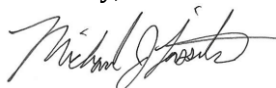
**Additionally, students in grades 10 and 11 will have the chance to take the PSAT on Wednesday, October 12, 2022 at 7:48AM, and students in Grades 9 and 12 will report to school on a Delayed Opening at 9:55AM.** Busing will be provided for both arrival times for those already requiring busing. Students preparing for the PSAT may want to practice for this assessment. More information about the PSAT is included in a separate letter from Ms. Melissa Hayes, that will be sent to Grades 10 and 11 students and parents.

**Link to PSAT/NMSQT practice:** <https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/psat-nmsqt-psat-10/practice/full-length-practice-tests>

**Link to PSAT Sample questions:** <https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/sample-questions>

I encourage all our students to do their best on each assessment they have to complete and to use the time available when not testing to focus on their academics and their plans for post-graduation accomplishments.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at your convenience.  
Sincerely,



CC. Dr. Kristina Nicosia, Acting Superintendent  
Mr. Jason Richardson, Assistant Principal  
Mrs. Brooke Baldizzone, Supervisor of District Initiatives and Funded Programs