

Thursday's Thoughts Thursday, February 4, 2021

Good evening Highland High School families, this is Mr. Zack and here are your Thursday's Thoughts for February 4, 2021. There are 12 items of interest to follow. I am targeting 2 minutes of time with these from here on out, so if you miss any part of the message, please visit the Highland High School webpage on our Live Feed where there is a link to view this in its entirety as well as a link having been emailed to your primary email account.

1. Attention Parents of Current 9th and 10th Graders: The scheduling process for the 2021-2022 school year will take place from February 8th to February 19th. A helpful video has been released in the Main Office Google Classroom for the Class of 2023 and the Class of 2024 and a comprehensive webpage has been created for your convenience and can be found here: [Scheduling Information](#) A more detailed email has been sent to the Parent 1 email on file in RDS. We thank you for your assistance with helping your student complete this process.
2. Seniors - very important - especially those of you who have passed the ASVAB test. You need to be sure to turn in your graduation pathway form. These have been sent to you earlier in the year and have been sent to your school email address again from Mr. Belli. This form is required to use the ASVAB as an alternate test to the ISTEP+. If you do not return that completed form, you will have to come in and take the ISTEP+ test again. Mom's and Dad's please check with your kiddos to be sure that they have accomplished this vital step.
3. Important upcoming dates regarding testing and eLearning:
 - a. Wednesday, February 10th - eLearning date - ISTEP+ ELA testing for all 11th grade students and those 12th grade students who did not pass the ISTEP+ test. Start time will be at 7:45 with a targeted end time of 1:00 (busses pulling out). Those with extra time accommodations will need to have alternate transportation just in case.
 - b. Update your iPad to OS version 14.4.
4. **College Board Big Future Days**
 - College Board is hosting virtual events for high school students to connect directly with college admissions representatives and take action on the most important steps for college. Students will be able to:
 - Explore colleges in a way that's not overwhelming, and show them you're interested.
 - Take action on key college planning steps like searching for colleges and exploring careers and majors.
 - Listen, learn, and participate in live Q&A and online chat with admissions representatives and current students who have been through it all.
 - Download college planning resources, and drop in with questions for a college adviser.
 - Students can register for any event, *including more than one!*

- Attend all or part of each event!
- **BigFuture Days West + Southwest: Saturday, February 6 (3:00 to 7:00)**
- **BigFuture Days Southeast: Tuesday, February 23 (4:00 to 8:00)**
- **BigFuture Days Northeast: Sunday, March 7 (3:00 to 7:00)**
- **BigFuture Days Midwest: Thursday, March 11 (4:00 to 8:00)**
- Don't forget to register! [FIND MORE INFORMATION HERE!](#)

5. Hammond Area Career Center VIRTUAL Open House

- WEDNESDAY, February 10 (5:00 to 8:00): Students AND Parents Are Welcome!
Learn more about programs of interest across a variety of career choices!
- Log On To: <https://sites.google.com/hammond.k12.in.us/accopenhouse/home>
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6. Is your student interested in the field of Interior Design? Ball State University is hosting a summer workshop where high school students of all grade levels (including graduating seniors) learn about interior design in a hands-on way. The workshop explores fundamentals of 2D and 3D concepts, basic drawing skills, use of color and light, and how interior environments affect human behavior. There will be two options for workshops:

- A ten day on-campus workshop during the summer
- OR (2) four-week online workshops during the summer
- Registration is now open!
- For more information and registration please go to: www.bsu.edu/designforum

7. Incoming Freshmen parents and students for the class of 2025:

Greetings!

This message is for all students that are planning to attend Highland High School. On Tuesday, February 16th, Highland High School is going to share information for new students for the 2021-2022 school year. If you have questions about graduation requirements, graduation pathways, available courses, and scheduling information the Highland High School Guidance Department will provide all of this to you at this time on the Highland High School webpage <https://www.highland.k12.in.us/o/hhs>

The Highland High School Athletic Department will share information related to how to participate in athletics and the Highland High School Main Office will have information about joining clubs and organizations.

All of this information will be accessible through the above link. Please take time to review this information prior to a live Q & A session that will take place virtually on the evening of Thursday, February 18th from 6pm-8pm. The Q & A will feature members of the Highland High School Administration as well as members

of the Highland High School Guidance Department. They will be available this evening to answer any questions about the above information as well as any other general questions you may have about attending Highland High School.

[8th Grade parents night virtual Q&A link](#)

If you have any further questions, please contact

Assistant Principal Anthony Belli
email abelli@highland.12.in.us
phone 219-922-5610

9th Grade Counselor Rose Vis
email rvis@highland.k12.in.us
phone 219-922-5613

8. Parents of e-learning English language learners, please check your emails or your student's school email for important information about scheduling days to come to the school for WIDA ACCESS testing. This test is required by state and federal agencies to assess your student's growth in English language skills. Please contact Ms. Larson at the high school if you have any questions.
9. The [College Board Opportunity Scholarships](#)
This program is open for the class of 2022 students. The program lays out six simple steps that all students can take to get to college. For each step that a student completes, they'll earn a chance at a \$500 scholarship. When a student completes all six, they'll earn a chance at \$40,000 for their college education.

We encourage you to share this information with your counselors and juniors and urge your students to [sign up](#) for the program. Their first step is to make a starter list of six colleges they're interested in. Just by making that list, they earn a chance for a \$500 scholarship.

10. Ivy Tech Community College has launched **LevelUp**, a learning and readiness platform that can be used by all high school students, parents, teachers, and administrators to identify and fill any knowledge gaps. Provided by the college at no cost for all Indiana students in the 8th-12th grade, LevelUp evaluates the reading, writing, and math skills of each individual student and then provides the appropriate instructional plan to help students get ahead in their high school courses. The tool can also be used as a tool to support academic eligibility for student-athletes.

Programs such as LevelUp help empower students to reach their education and career goals. If you are interested in leveraging the LevelUp platform, please visit ivytech.edu/LevelUp and complete the LevelUp request for information. You can create an account and view the courses you want your student(s) to focus on at: <https://levelupivytech.edready.org>

If you need help, please contact us at: LevelUp@ivytech.edu, and be sure to share your success on Instagram with #LevelUpIvyTech.

11. DON'T FORGET THE FUNDRAISER EVENT

Help Us Raise Money For: Highland Education Foundation

Wednesday, February 10, 2021

10:30 AM to 10:00 PM

Panda Express **located at:** INDIANAPOLIS & MAIN 10329 Indianapolis Blvd.
Highland, IN 46322 **2199248928**

In-Store: Show paper or digital version off Online: Enter 320758 in the promo code online checkout at order.pandae.com Orders must be placed on the eve

20% of event sales will be donated to: Highland Education Foundation

12. Please remember to mask up, have the mask cover your mouth and nose at all times when wearing it, watch your distance, and wash your hands frequently. Together we can defeat and decrease the cases of COVID and get our topsy-turvy world back to “normal”.

That concludes our Thursday's Thoughts, thanks for listening, be safe, be well, and we will see you soon.