Thursday's Thoughts
Thursday, December 2, 2021

Good evening Highland High School families, this is Mr. Zack and here are your Thursday's Thoughts for December 2, 2021. There are 4 items of interest to follow. 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. The U.S. Department of State offers merit-based scholarships for American high school students to study abroad from three weeks to an academic year. Students live with host families, engage with local schools, and gain skills to be competitive in the global workforce. For more information visit: https://exchanges.state.gov/highschool/

2. Puffs - HTC's rescheduled fall production. Fri & Sat, Dec 3rd and 4th at 7pm. Tickets available at the door.
   Band Holiday Concert, Dec 7th
   Choir Holiday Concert, Dec 10th
   Orchestra Holiday Concert, Dec 14th
   All concerts are in Monbeck Auditorium starting at 6:30 and are free and open to the public.

3. Turnabout Dance information - Please note that this is a masked event! Written information on the date/time can be found in the graphic attached to the email version of TT.
4. Lastly, please know how thankful we are for you sharing your children with us at HHS. It is an honor and a privilege to work and serve the families of Highland each and every day, and we hope that you have a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday with family, friends, and loved ones.

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



About this Presentation:

Grief is a normal response to loss and yet it can feel abnormal in so many ways. This talk will discuss the various types of loss and grief often connected to addiction and offer strategies for supporting oneself and others. Special attention will be paid to the notions of grieving someone who is still alive but absent from day to day life, the impact on the brain when there is ongoing uncertainty, disenfranchised grief, navigating questions about the well-being of family members, and more.

Objectives:

Educate on various types of grief and loss including disenfranchised grief, nonfinite loss, and uncomplicated grief.
Provide explanation of the stress response that results in 'symptoms' of grief such as fear, irritability or anger, lack of concentration, poor sleep, etc.
Offer perspective to help attendees consider their experiences differently and strategies to help support self and others during times of grief and mourning.

"NORTHERN LIGHTS"
Turnabout - January 14, 2022
NOTE: <u>This will be a "masked" event … see note below!</u>

Important Information

Where: Villa Cesare
900 Eagle Ridge Drive

Schererville, IN
219-322-3011

Time: Doors open at 6:30 PM
Dance is from 7:00 to 10:00 PM
Doors close at 8:00
All HHS students must have a Student ID
NO Non-HHS guests will be allowed to attend

Tickets: Tickets will **ONLY** be sold Mon.-Wed., Jan. 10-12 during all lunches (NO late purchases will be allowed.)
Cost is $35.00 per person and are **NON-REFUNDABLE**.
Make checks payable to: Highland High School.

Picture Information: Information on the picture packets and a payment envelope is attached. At the time you check into the dance you will be given a time that your picture will be taken, provided you have your order envelope and check for the pictures. ****You will not be given a time for your picture if you do not have your envelope and money at the time of check in. <u>Make all checks payable to: Royce Photography</u>.**

King/Queen Voting: Only Highland High School students will be allowed to vote for the King and Queen. Voting will take place via google form between between Mon., Jan. 10 thru Thurs., Jan. 13. Check your google classroom for the ballots.

Security: Please be sure to secure all valuables (cameras, cell phones, money) in a safe place. Highland High School is NOT responsible for lost or misplaced items.
<u>NOTE</u>: All coats MUST be checked in (free) at the coat check.
(They may not be taken into the ballroom for the dance.)

Masks: All participants will be REQUIRED to wear a mask at all times.
*Please keep this in mind BEFORE purchasing a ticket - NO REFUNDS.
Everyone will receive a wristband upon entering the dance. If a student is not wearing their mask, a chaperone will remove their wristband. If they are found without a mask and a wristband, they will be removed from the dance (See Note 1).
NOTE 1: Under these circumstances, if a student needs to wait for a ride, he/she will be placed in a supervised room outside of the main room, away from other students, until their ride arrives.
NOTE 2: Masks may ONLY be removed while drinking a refreshment while sitting at a table.

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See Ms. Terrell in Room 326 with questions!

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Beginning September 7, 2021 STOH will be requiring masks for all students and staff preschool through twelfth grade. This change was made in response to the most recent executive order signed by Governor Holcomb stating any district requiring masks will no longer need to quarantine asymptomatic close contacts out of school. This change is reflected in the close contact flowchart linked below.

As always, we will continue to monitor county and state trends. But most importantly we will be tracking and reporting our internal positivity rates in order to guide our decisions on any changes to mask requirements going forward.

Our goal is to return to masking being a personal choice, but the CDC, Lake County Health Department, and Indiana Health Department guidance along with our internal trends will determine when that will be a safe reality. Your patience, understanding, and support are appreciated.

Below are attachments to procedures all STOH schools will be using with regard to illnesses related and unrelated to Covid for the 2021-22 school year. Each Friday afternoon, we will continue to update a weekly Covid Dashboard found linked on the district's homepage. As we did last year, we will also send letters out to the affected school communities when we have cases.

Close Contact flowchart

Called off/sent home for illness flowchart

We are also asking all staff and parents who are willing to share a copy of their proof of vaccination to utilize the following email address: sinfo@highland.k12.in.us.

Sharing proof of vaccination is completely voluntary. If you choose to share proof of vaccination, please use the subject line of the email to identify yourself as staff or student, the name or initials of your school, and then first and last name. In the body of the email you can upload a picture of your vaccination card or scan a copy of the doctor's paperwork listing the dates when your shots were given.

example subject line: student SR - Jane Doe or staff WN - John Doe