Soaring to New Heights

This year at Highlands Elementary, we are soaring to new heights.

“You’ll be on your way up! You’ll be seeing great heights! You’ll join the high fliers who soar to high heights.” - Dr. Seuss.

At Highlands Elementary, we are soaring to new heights. Eagles are known to soar and rise above the rest. Eagles are known to rise above everything and fly with their head up high. It is in our nature to rise above our pain, our past, and problems.

Did you know?

The work has already begun. The 2022 school grade for Highlands Elementary was a C. The grade was earned from the hard work and dedication from all stakeholders. We take a moment to reflect on the vision set forth from our principal, the teachers who carried out the work, the students who made it happen, and the parents who supported every step of the way. The work that was done is a testament to the fact that Highlands is truly a team where together everyone achieves more. Now is not the time to rest on our perch. As eagles, we are never satisfied and always looking to take the next flight. This flight will have us reaching for even higher goals and ambitions. The time has come to spread our wings even further!

At Highlands, our school goals are to LEAD:

L: Lead in Literacy
E: Excel in Academics
A: Advance Social and Emotional Growth by Building and Sustaining Trust Based Relationships
D: Develop Independent Learners

Put Your Talons on This:

Use the QR code for information on how to register for a bus for the 2022-2023 school year.

Assistant Principal
Mr. Jeremy Greene
School dismissal starts at 2:50 and we fully understand that parents have to work. Wouldn’t it be nice to have a place where the kids can stay after school and learn academically, socially, and emotionally while still being able to be a kid and have fun? The Boys & Girls Club is here for you at Highlands Elementary. This program after school is FREE! Sign up for the program immediately as the spots do tend to go quickly. See Mr. Thomas, our director for more details! Don’t miss out on this exciting opportunity!

The Boys & Girls Club program will begin **August 22, 2022**.

To complete an application go to [Online Application Form](comet4children.com) or use the QR code below.

Order your Uniform Today
Highlands Elementary is a uniform school. Students are strongly encouraged to wear uniforms daily.

Purchase your uniforms by using the QR code below.

**Important Reminders….**
- The first day of school is August 15, 2022
- There are no student drop-offs before 8:00 am. Please don’t allow students on campus before then. This is a safety issue!
- Breakfast is from 8:00-8:30 in the morning.
- Dismissal starts at 2:50 pm. Please plan accordingly.
- Only clear bookbags are allowed on campus to be used by the students. Thank you for your help in this matter.

**Upcoming Events….**
New B.E.S.T. Standards

Florida has fully adopted and will implement new standards for the 2022-2023 school year. These standards are known as the B.E.S.T. (Benchmarks for Excellent Student Thinking). These B.E.S.T. were created by the teachers of Florida for the students of Florida. Academic instruction will be based upon these standards and the students will be assessed on their mastery through the new state assessment known as FAST (Florida’s Assessment of Student Thinking). Highlands is ready for the work to start!

The B.E.S.T. Standards...
- Are content-rich
- Go back to building a foundation at the early grades
- Understandable for all
- Improves rigor across all grades

Math: B.E.S.T Standards for Mathematics (fldoe.org)
Reading: AccessPointsELA.pdf (fldoe.org)

Vote: You Have A Voice!

The Duval County School Board will ask voters to approve a 1 mill ad valorem tax. This money will be geared towards attracting and retaining our own highly-qualified teachers through more compensation and money geared towards the arts. This will also provide more funding to the charter school in our area as well.

**August 8-21** — Early voting for primary election

**August 13** — Deadline to request a ballot to be mailed

**August 23** — Voters decide whether to approve during the primary election

Extended Day???

At Highlands we understand that some parents have to work early and need a safe space for their child. Please complete the following form if you would be interested in having extended day in the morning at the school. [https://forms.office.com/r/QkkgccpWNbT](https://forms.office.com/r/QkkgccpWNbT)

We are soaring to new heights at Highlands Elementary, come join us on this journey!