



RAIDER WEEKLY

McCulloch Intermediate School and Highland Park Middle School

**Thank you Meredith Bjorck Real Estate Team for sponsoring
Raider communications!**

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A BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY AFFILIATE

www.alliebeth.com/bio/meredithbjorck

February 2, 2025

Message from the Principal

Dear Raider Nation Families,

It is with deep sadness that we share our heartfelt condolences with the Duong family during this incredibly difficult time. As a Raider Nation family, we will lean

on one another for strength and support, keeping Hunter's family in our thoughts as we navigate this loss together.

To ensure our students and staff have the support they need, we will have several counselors on campus tomorrow from UT Southwestern, Region 10 ESC, along with our MIS/HPMS counselors and several of our district counselors. Students will have access to these professionals as needed, whether they wish to talk, process their emotions, or simply have a quiet space to grieve.

We are committed to wrapping our arms around our students and staff, providing care and compassion as we walk through this grieving process together. Please do not hesitate to reach out if your child needs additional support.

With care and sympathy,

Amanda Reyes

Amanda Reyes
Principal
214-780-3600
[@prinrey2019](#)



Parent Input Form: Please use this form to submit constructive questions, concerns, or suggestions that may benefit our two schools.

- **February 4:** PTO General Membership Meeting
- **February 12:** 7th to 8th Transition meeting for parents
- **February 17:** Presidents' Day (Student Holiday)
- **February 19:** 8th to 9th Transition meeting for parents at HPHS
- **February 24-26:** Book Fair



- **February 26:** 6th to 7th Transition meeting for parents
- **February 27:** Author Ruta Sepetys visit

Important Attendance Reminder



Parents, as a friendly reminder there is a state requirement that your student cannot miss more than 18 school days for the year. Please check your student's attendance tab in Skyward to see how many absences your student has at this time. We would like to encourage you to send in any old doctors notes or excuses for your student's attendance. For MIS, grades 5-6, please email misattendance@hpsd.org. For HPMS, grades 7-8, please

email hpsattendance@hpsd.org. Also keep in mind that if your student will be absent or leaving early please either call the school or email one of the attendance emails mentioned above and not just your student's teacher. This allows us to promptly code their attendance correctly. We appreciate your assistance in keeping your student's attendance up to date.

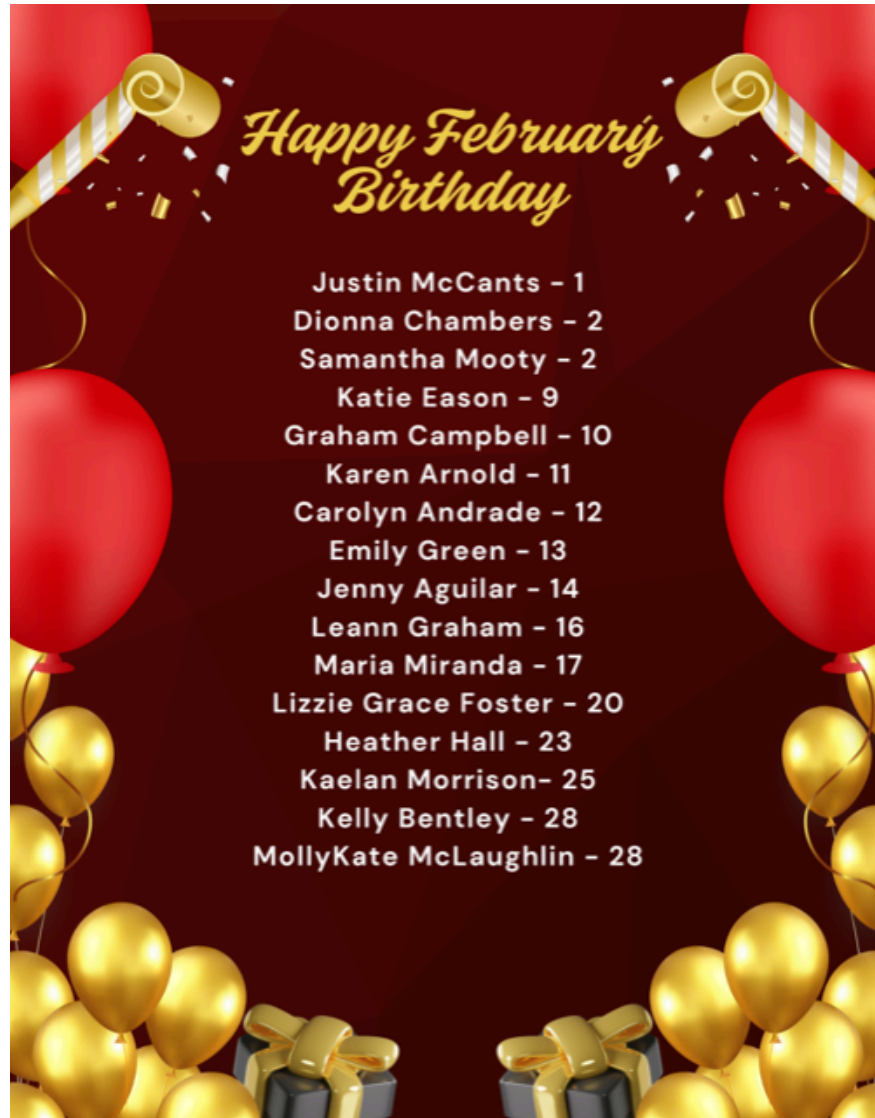
Incoming 7th Grade Students - Immunizations



The State of Texas requires all 7th grade students to have a Tdap booster and meningococcal vaccine. These vaccines are typically given around a child's 11th birthday. Click [HERE](#) to read the Parent Letter for more information. To meet this requirement, please provide proof of your child's immunization or a notarized Immunization Exemption Affidavit to the nurses by the last day of school, May 23, 2025. For more information about state requirements for immunizations, click [HERE](#) to visit Texas Department of Health Services. Click [HERE](#) to upload your child's immunization record.

- Review the Traffic Guidelines [HERE](#).
- Review the Student Handbook & Dress code (page 9) [HERE](#).
- Sign up for a volunteer shift [HERE](#).

- Add money to your student's lunch account [HERE](#).



Please Join Us for Our February PTO Meeting

**Tuesday, February 4
12 - 1pm (lunch service begins at 11:45am)
7/8 Assembly Room**

Guest Speaker:

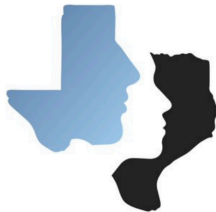
**Mark Rowden
Chief of Police**

"Rumors, Social media and Cell phones"
as well as a Q and A



**Thank you to our community sponsor, Johnson Oral Facial Surgery,
for generously providing lunch at our February PTO meeting.**

got wisdom teeth?



JOHNSON
ORAL FACIAL SURGERY

2025-2026 PTO: Proposed Slate Available to Review

The Nominating Committee met on Wednesday, January 15, 2025, and will present the proposed 2025-26 slate of MIS/HPMS PTO Officers and Chairs to the PTO Board of Directors. The Board will vote on the slate at its meeting on Tuesday, February 4. Click [HERE](#) to view the proposed Board of Directors. This is also posted on the PTO website for convenience.

Please thank members of the nominating committee:

Margaret Kelley

Alexa Snelleman
Kitsy Smith
Amy Barker
Brandi Jane Graham
Claire Swope
Meredith Baird
Ann Higginbottom
Catherine Baldwin
Nicole Vanderstorm
Kristin Evans
Rachel Stephens
Allison Small
Jill Morrison
Jessica Hoffmann
Karen Glassman
Laura Terry
Elizabeth Rafael
Karina Lonsdale-Hands
Mary Margaret Neff
Rochelle Mayfield
GeeGee Hammel

Any questions? Please contact nominating chairs, Margaret Kelley and Alexa Snelleman at nominating@mishpmspto.org

TAG Waiver Application (Current 8th Graders)

A promotional banner for the HPHS 2025 TAG Waiver Application. The top section features a large background image of a brick school building. Overlaid on this are three circular inset photos: one showing students working at computers in a classroom, another showing a group of students in formal attire standing in front of the school, and a third showing two students cheering with their arms raised. Below the photos, the text "HPHS 2025" is displayed in a large, bold, blue font. Underneath that, "TAG WAIVER APPLICATION" is written in a large, bold, white font. Further down, in a smaller white font, it says "TO SEE IF YOU QUALIFY, CHECK OUT" followed by the website "www.hpisd.org/tagwaiver". A yellow button with the text "DUE FEBRUARY 14" is positioned below the website. The entire banner has a blue background with white dotted lines and paper airplane icons.

APPLY NOW



The application will open on January 27 and close on February 14.

SEPAC Valentine's Day Fundraiser



**VALENTINE'S GIFT SALE FOR
HPISD TEACHERS & STAFF**

Show Your Love to Staff Members During the Valentine's Day Notecard Sale!

Recognize special teachers and staff members by purchasing a Valentine's Day gift! The sale features packs of blank notecards with the theme "Kindness" for \$7 each or 4 packs for \$25. Our teachers and staff are always in need of blank notecards for use throughout the year for thank you notes and sending words of encouragement to students and each other. Ordering is easy. Just click [HERE](#).

Each notecard pack purchased will have the staff member(s) you choose and your family name as recognition of the gift. The Special Education Parent Advisory Committee (SEPAC) will take care of delivery, so this is a super easy way to show your support and treat our amazing teachers and staff!

Deadline to order is **February 5** or when our stock runs out, so please hurry! We have **limited quantities available**.

Money raised funds school materials, technology, events, and education that benefit special education teachers and students within HPISD.

Thank you for your support!
2024-25 SEPAC Board

Book Fair

THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE THE BOOK FAIR!



Where and When?

Library:

Monday, February 24th-Tuesday, February 25th

7:30-4:00

Wednesday, February 26: 7:30-3:30

Parent Volunteers Needed

Please call

Amy Moore @214-893-1476

Heidi McKinley @214-789-9332

Newspaper Class for Upcoming 8th Graders

Things for students to know:

- Newspaper application is open for all 7th graders to apply to join the staff in 8th grade.
- Newspaper is a high school credit course.
- Newspaper is an exciting class where students get to write but also take pictures, interview, and design pages.

- The application deadline is Monday, February 3, 2025.
- Mrs. Wall has to approve you to be in the class.
- If you have questions, Mrs. Wall is in room C253.
- Application for Newspaper class in 8th grade:
<https://forms.gle/QZVwg17LMpkuVkJ46>



Visiting Author

#1 New York Times bestselling author of historical fiction



RUTA SEPETYS

is visiting
MIS/HPMS!

◆ ◆ ◆ ◆

February 27

**Student Grade Levels 6-8 Presentations
Throughout the School Day**

**Book Signing in the Library
from 2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.**

**Books will be available for preorder
Forms on Library web site or in the Library**

Funding for author visit generously provided by HP LitFest










Click [HERE](#) to visit the Library Site.

Raider Cafeteria

**In the Rockin' Raider Cafe
Please don't let the kids dismay!
When you show up late
Kids won't have any food on their plate!**

Just a very friendly reminder to please be on time at **10:20am**. People have been showing up very late and we can't open the doors without volunteers in place. Thank you everyone for all the amazing help this year!

Please email [Katherine Issel](#) & [Tracy Port Melech](#)
Raider Café Volunteer Chairs

Raider Shop Volunteers Needed

Volunteers still needed for reoccurring shifts and substitutes welcome! Click [HERE](#) to volunteer!

**Volunteer in the
Raider Shop!**



Questions? Raider Shop Volunteer Chairs [Laura Price](#) or [Brooke Garner](#).

Sports

RAIDER BASKETBALL

Girls

Please congratulate our teams on a clean sweep! They played excellent team basketball!

**7th Grade
Red Team Wins:**
16-10

MVPs: Olivia Smith and
Ellie Gates

**7th Grade
Gold Team Wins:**
44-20

MVP: Peyton Smith and
Annabelle Strohbehn

**7th Grade
White Team Wins:**
30-7

MVPs: Jane Perez and
Allie O'Connor



Congratulate your 8th grade girls basketball team on their second clean sweep in a row! The girls played great against Prosper Jones and had so much fun playing at the high school. Thank you to all the teachers who came to support our girls in their last home game!

**8th Grade
Red Team Wins:**
26-12

MVPs: Elaine DeVault

**8th Grade Team
White Team Wins:**
25-12

MVP: Lauren Reed

**8th Grade Team
Gold Wins:**
47-26

MVPs: Saylor Stock and
Londy Hutchinson

Boys

Your 7th grade boys basketball teams continued their season on the road against Prosper Jones. The White team got things rolling with a total team effort in a win. Leading the way for the White team was **William Foster** with 12 points, **Jeb Olmstead** with 8, and **Matthew Choi** with 6 points. The Red Team played hard and finished the night out with a win. Leading your Raiders were **Jackson Mitzel** with 16 points, **Benjamin Phillips** with 6 points, and **Connor Van Dorn** with 5 points. The Gold Team had a great performance. Leading the way for the Raiders were **William Beckett** with 18 points, **Taylor Wood** with 8 points, and **Hudson McClain** with 8 points. Your Raiders will be in action this weekend in our B and C team district tournaments and will

have our last regular season game at home against Willow Springs next Monday! Please come out and support!

**7th Grade
Red Team Wins:**
38-11



**7th Grade
Gold Team Loses:**
60-27

**7th Grade
White Team Wins:**
59-8



Please congratulate the 8th grade boys basketball team on their clean sweep of Prosper Jones on Teacher Appreciate Night! We truly appreciate all of our teachers coming out to support both current and former student-athletes.

**8th Grade
Red Team Wins:**
57-28
Hayes Durham- 13
points
Carter Johnston- 11
points

**8th Grade
Gold Team Wins:**
82-22
Scott Young- 18 points
Chris Martinez- 16 points
Alex Stockwood- 15
points
Steel Roy- 11 points
Luke Johnson- 10 points

**8th Grade
White Team Wins:**
50-25
Layton Thomas- 8 points
Luke Meyer- 8 points



Toughness Belt Co-Award Winners are **Hadden Crouch & Jacob Mousa**. Crouch has been the ultimate team player for Gold team, looking to create and help his teammates get open shots while also playing sound defensively with a number of steals that have turned into easy transition buckets. Mousa prides himself on defense, game in and game out, fighting for loose balls and being a true stopper on the perimeter for the Raiders. He epitomizes what it means to play all out every possession.

Archery Tournament at HPMS

HP Archery hosted its 2nd annual HP Scholarship Tournament last weekend. Close to 600 archers attended the meet from 37 different elementary, middle and high schools. HPMS students volunteered to support Coach Blair at this successful event.

The HPMS Team #1 took **2nd place** in the middle school division. **1st place** male archer went to **Conner Hardaway** with a score of 281. **2nd place** female archer went to **Vivian Haworth** with a score of 281. Newcomer **Haines Keiser** was **3rd place** for 7th grade boys with a score of 268. **Laila Alfia** and **Conner Hardaway** also scored a difficult **Perfect 50** round during the event.



Cheers to Raider Volunteers

Thank you to **Liza Raynor, Carolyn Longino** and **Jenilee Ladd**, our **5th Grade Coffee Talk Chairs**, for putting together a wonderful coffee talk with guest speaker Dr. Ben Kirby, Ph.D. Dr. Kirby shared pros and cons of adolescent technology use and empowered parents with tools to navigate the influences of technology in their children's lives.

Thank you to **Claire Swope, Carroll Gurganus** and **Emily Abubakar**, our **7th Grade Coffee Talk Chairs**, for inviting guest speaker Dr. Tana Roberts to speak with parents. Dr. Roberts, an HPMS mom and local pediatrician, shared wonderful information on nutrition, smartphone recommendations, sleep schedules and mental health tips for growing teens.

Thank you to **Nancy West** and **Jacque Green**, **Raider Shop Officers**, for your update and thoughtful discussion about the Raider Shop this year. We appreciate your leadership and look forward to a great second semester.

A special thank-you to **Dr. Christy Turer**, a Raider parent who was volunteering in our cafeteria last week and jumped in to help during a medical incident. We are so fortunate that she happened to be on-hand and was able to provide assistance. What a great example of our amazing and caring Raider community! Thank you so much for your help, Christy!

GO RAIDERS!

Kitsy Smith
MIS PTO President

Amy Barker
HPMS PTO President

News to Share

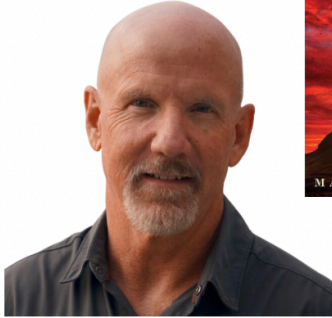
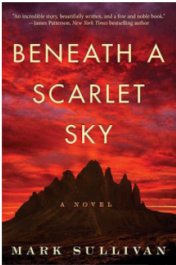
Highland Park Literary Festival - February 20

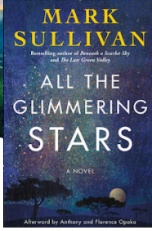


HP LitFest

write here, write now

Keynote Speaker



New York Times Best Selling Author

Mark Sullivan

Community Event on February 20, 2025
7 pm @ Highland Park High School Auditorium

Celebrating our 30th anniversary, Highland Park LitFest is excited to announce that Mark Sullivan, New York Times bestselling author of *Beneath a Scarlet Sky* and a former investigative reporter, will be the featured speaker at this year's community keynote event on February 20, 2025, in the Highland Park High School Auditorium. Doors will open at 6:30 pm. and the program will begin at 7 pm. Admission is free. Please join us! For more information, click [HERE](#).

HP LitFest is made possible by the generous donations from La Fiesta de las Seis Banderas, HP Arts, PC Tag and HPHS PTA along with families of the school district and beyond.

A.L.L. Spring Catalog



THE ACADEMY FOR LIFELONG LEARNING

Highland Park Independent School District

CLASS SCHEDULE

SPRING 2025

**EDUCATIONAL AND
ENRICHMENT
CLASSES FOR EVERYONE!
CALL 214-780-3380 TO REGISTER**

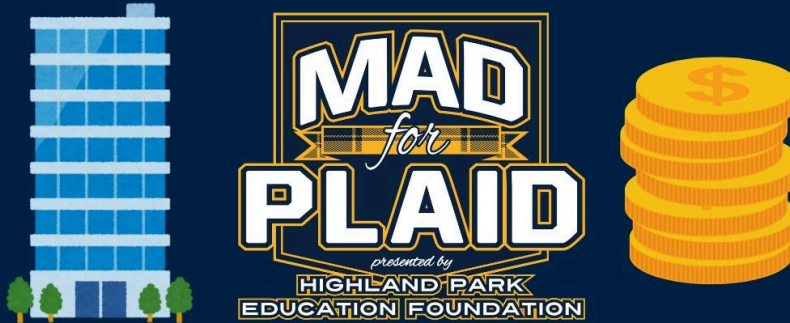
Please view the catalog [HERE](#).

Mad for Plaid



Click [HERE](#) to donate.

**Did you make a gift to the Highland Park
Education Foundation during 2024?
Did you know many companies will match
their employee's donations to non-profits?**



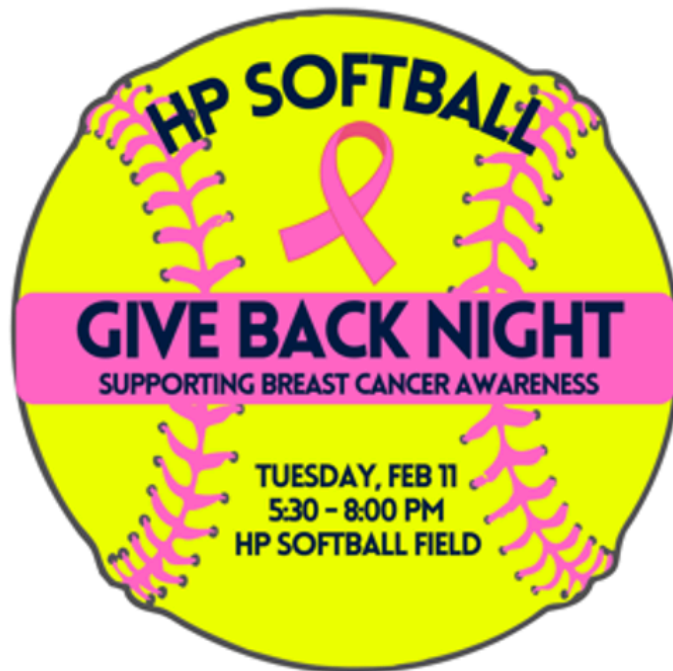
**Learn more and see if your donation
to the Highland Park Education
Foundation can be matched at:
hpef.org/matchinggifts**

Click [HERE](https://hpef.org/matchinggifts) for matching gifts.

HP Softball Giveback Night

Join us for the HP Lady Scots Softball Giveback Night!

Lady Scots Vs. West Mesquite
JV 5:30pm Varsity 7pm



The HP Lady Scots will be raffling off great prizes including gift cards to Mi Cocina, Doughbird, Chips, Hiatus Spa, and tickets to a Dallas Stars game! **All proceeds of the Lady Scots raffle will benefit the Cancer Center at UTSW.** Tickets can be purchased at the field.



Raiders Reaching Out

Raiders Reaching Out is ready to serve our Raider students, families, and staff in need of support and to honor those who go above and beyond to serve our school and children. Please let us know if you know someone in our Raider

community who needs some sunshine
sent their way! Email
confidentially raidersreachingout@mishpmspto.org.

Thank you so much!
RRO Chairs, 2024-25



Not receiving **Raider Weekly** and **News To Know** email newsletters?

[Click here](#)

Quick Links

MIS and HPMS Website
Principal on Twitter
HPMS on Instagram
MIS/HPMS Attendance Offices
MIS Activity Calendar
HPMS Activity Calendar

Lunch Menu
MIS/HPMS PTO Website
Volunteer Sign-Up
Raider Shop
Skyward/HPISD Parent Portal

McCulloch Intermediate & Highland Park Middle School

3555 Granada Drive
Dallas, TX 75205
MIS Phone: (214) 780-3500
HPMS Phone: (214) 780-3600

Didn't see a school-related shout-out this week?
We want to hear about it! Please send details
and any available pictures!

[Email Raider Weekly](#)



MIS & HPMS | 3555 Granada Dr. | Dallas, TX 75205 US

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