

# LaGrange Highlands District 106

## Superintendent's Newsletter -- Dr. Patricia Viniard

Another school year nearly completed—and a wonderful one it was! In addition to the other items in this newsletter, THANK YOU FOR PAYING *ESPECIALLY CLOSE ATTENTION* TO THE HEALTH REQUIREMENT SECTION DIRECTLY BELOW. Each year, we struggle to obtain the required health forms for all students. The items are mandated by Illinois law, meaning we have no leeway. Repeatedly emailing and phoning parents, and telling them I will be forced to exclude their child from attending school until he/she is in compliance (as required by State law), is stressful (both to communicate and to hear!) and time-consuming. Let's have 100% on-time compliance in the new school year—WE CAN DO IT!



### Important Health and School Nurse Updates!

First, important news: Due to the district's increasing enrollment *and* increasing student health needs, we are pleased to announce that a second school nurse has been hired. Stay tuned for more information as we welcome Mrs. Liz Campbell to the Highlands' family! Next, please carefully read the info below. If you have any questions, contact Mrs. Karen Lippold by emailing [klippold@district106.net](mailto:klippold@district106.net) or phoning 708-485-3432 prior to June 6.

### IMPORTANT: State-Required Health Requirements!

#### For each Early Childhood Education (ECE) student:

- Prior to first day of school, we must have a recent **PHYSICAL** (i.e., dated within 1 year prior to first day of school) with up-to-date **IMMUNIZATIONS**. Be sure to complete the parent section at top of the second page!

#### For each student who will be in Kindergarten:

- Prior to first day of school, we must have a recent **PHYSICAL** (i.e., dated within 1 year prior to first day of school) with up-to-date **IMMUNIZATIONS**. Be sure to complete the parent section at top of the second page!

- A **VISION EXAM** must be submitted. Although the final date to submit is October 15, an earlier submission (prior to first day of school) is highly recommended!

- A **DENTAL EXAM** must be submitted. Although final date to submit is May 15, 2019, an earlier submission is highly recommended!

#### For each student who will be in 6<sup>th</sup> grade:

- We must have prior to first day of school a new **PHYSICAL** with up-to-date **IMMUNIZATIONS**. Be sure to complete the parent section at top of the second page!

#### For each student transferring in from another state:

- We must have prior to first day of school a State of Illinois **PHYSICAL** with up-to-date **IMMUNIZATIONS**. Be sure to complete the parent section at top of the second page.

#### For each student with a severe allergy(ies) or asthma:

- We must have an appropriate **ACTION PLAN** prior to the first day of school.
- The parent must drop off the child's **MEDICATION**, with the appropriate **MEDICATION FORM** from the physician, on or before the first day of school.
- All forms can be found on the district web site under "NEWS AND EVENTS".

#### For each 5<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grade student who will be trying out for a sport:

- We must have *prior to trying out* a regular or sports **PHYSICAL** completed within past 13 months.

**NOTE:** Physicals and other health documents may be dropped off throughout the summer at the school or district office between 8-4:00 (At least one office will be open on Fridays.)

## June/July "Quick Takes"

### June 1

- Elementary Awards Assemblies in p.m.
- Foundation's Spring Parent Social at Salerno's Pizzeria (7:00 p.m.)

### June 4 -- 6:00 P.M.

Eighth Grade Graduation

### June 5

Students Last Day of School

### June 11

Summer School Begins!

### June 19 – 7:00 P.M.

Board of Education Meeting

### June 20 – 6:00 P.M.

Family Library Fun Night in LRC

### July 4

Independence Day!

### July 5

Summer Enrichment Classes (ONLY) Last Day

### July 17 – 7:00 P.M.

Board of Education Meeting

### July 18 – 6:00 P.M.

Family Library Fun Night in LRC

### July 19

Last day of summer school for Summer Achievers



## STEM Program, "Project Lead the Way," Thriving at Highlands!



Four years ago, a nationally acclaimed STEM program, *Project Lead the Way* (PLTW), was introduced as a Middle School elective. PLTW engages students in building knowledge and skills in areas including computer science and engineering. PLTW empowers students to be problem solvers and critical thinkers, as well as to develop greater proficiency in communication, collaboration, and perseverance. In the 6th grade course, *Design and Modeling*, students discover the design process and develop an understanding of the influence of creativity and innovation in their lives. A highlight of the 7th grade PLTW course, *Automation and Robotics*, is learning basic coding principles using ROBOTC to make VEX robotics parts come to life. In the 8th grade course, *Engineering Comes Alive*, students use various computer automated design programs to build 3-D models—then create independent projects using VEX robotics kits to bring their engineering principles to life. (An 8th grade student used the program called Sculptris to create the sculpture at right on a 3-D printer!)



### Positive Social Media Use for Youth:

#### 6 Recommendations to Guide Parents and Educators

Worried about social media's influence on youth? A lot of people are, because there are real challenges in social media! To read six practical recommendations for parents and educators seeking to support children's healthy use of these tools, check out this article:

<https://www.etr.org/blog/positive-social-media-use-for-youth-6-recommendations-to-guide-parents-educators-other-professionals/>



### Tips for a SAFE and HEALTHY Summer

- Always supervise children who are in/around water.
- Teach children to swim. Swimming lessons can protect young children from drowning.
- Learn CPR or cardiopulmonary resuscitation. Your CPR skills could save someone's life.
- Insist on proper-fitting life jackets when on or in water.
- Never leave infants, children, or pets in a parked car, even if windows are partially open.
- Be vigilant about sunscreen.
- Apply an effective insect repellent to guard against ticks, which can carry Lyme Disease (learn how to remove them) and mosquitoes, which can carry West Nile/other viruses.
- Check kids (and yourself) for ticks after being outside.
- Check to ensure surfaces under playground equipment are safe, soft, and well-maintained.
- Supervise young children at all times around fall hazards, such as stairs and playground equipment.
- Make sure children always wear the right protective equipment for their sport or recreation activity (e.g., bike helmets!!).



Thank you for the significant role you played in making this school year *wonderful and successful*. I extend a special thank you to the **Educational Foundation** and the **PTC**. These dedicated parent volunteers work very hard on behalf of your child(ren), their teachers, and our district! Please watch for the first issue of the Superintendent's Newsletter for the 2018-2019 school year which will be sent by late July. The Elementary, Middle School, and Admin Center offices will be open all summer; however, please call in advance if you need to speak to or meet with us, as leadership team members and office support staff will plan to use vacation days at various times throughout the summer. Wishing you and your family a safe and enjoyable summer!

With Highlands' Pride  
Dr. Patricia Viniard