

Welcome to 8th Grade Parent Orientation

Class of 2025!



*"Where Inspiring Excellence is our Standard
and
Student Achievement is the Result"*



Highland Administration

Home of the Tartans



Ms. Lisa Owen	Principal
Mr. Mike Jones	VP - Class of 2025
Mr. Ron Strauss	VP - Class of 2024
Mr. Dan Beaver	VP - Class of 2023
Mrs. Christine Hubbert	VP - Class of 2022
Mr. Mike Berger	VP of Athletics & Activities
Ms. Carey Speziali	Director of School Counseling
Mrs. Tanya Harper	Supervisor of Special Education

"Engaging Students, Fostering Achievement, Inspiring Excellence"

Proactive Approach:

Let's work together!

School counselors assist with
*students' academic,
career and
social/emotional development.*

The School Counselors are available to
collaborate with and consult with students,
parents, teachers, CST members, staff,
administrators, and community members.



Highland Counseling Office

856-227-4100 x4036 or (fax) 856-227-8422



Ms. Carey Speziali Ms. Sarah Miller Mrs. Donna Buono	Counseling Director Counseling Secretary Counseling Secretary	cspeziali@bhprsd.org smiller@bhprsd.org dbuono@bhprsd.org	X 4006 X 4036 X 4037
Alicia Guida	(A – Cl)	aguida@bhprsd.org	X 4042
DJ Gore	(Co – Go) & BD	dgore@bhprsd.org	X 4041
Tiffany Strauss	(Gr – Las) & MD	tstrauss@bhprsd.org	X 4040
Chris Bennett	(Law – Pate)	cbennett@bhprsd.org	X 4038
Ashley Yandach	(Patt – Te)	ayandach@bhprsd.org	X 4039
Lauren McElroy	(Th – Z) & Career Exploration Counselor	lmcelroy@bhprsd.org	X 4043
Abigail Altman	Mental Health Assistance Counselor	aaltman@bhprsd.org	X4030
Jan Vizoco	Student Assistance Coordinator	jvizoco@bhprsd.org	X 4011



Child Study Team (CST)

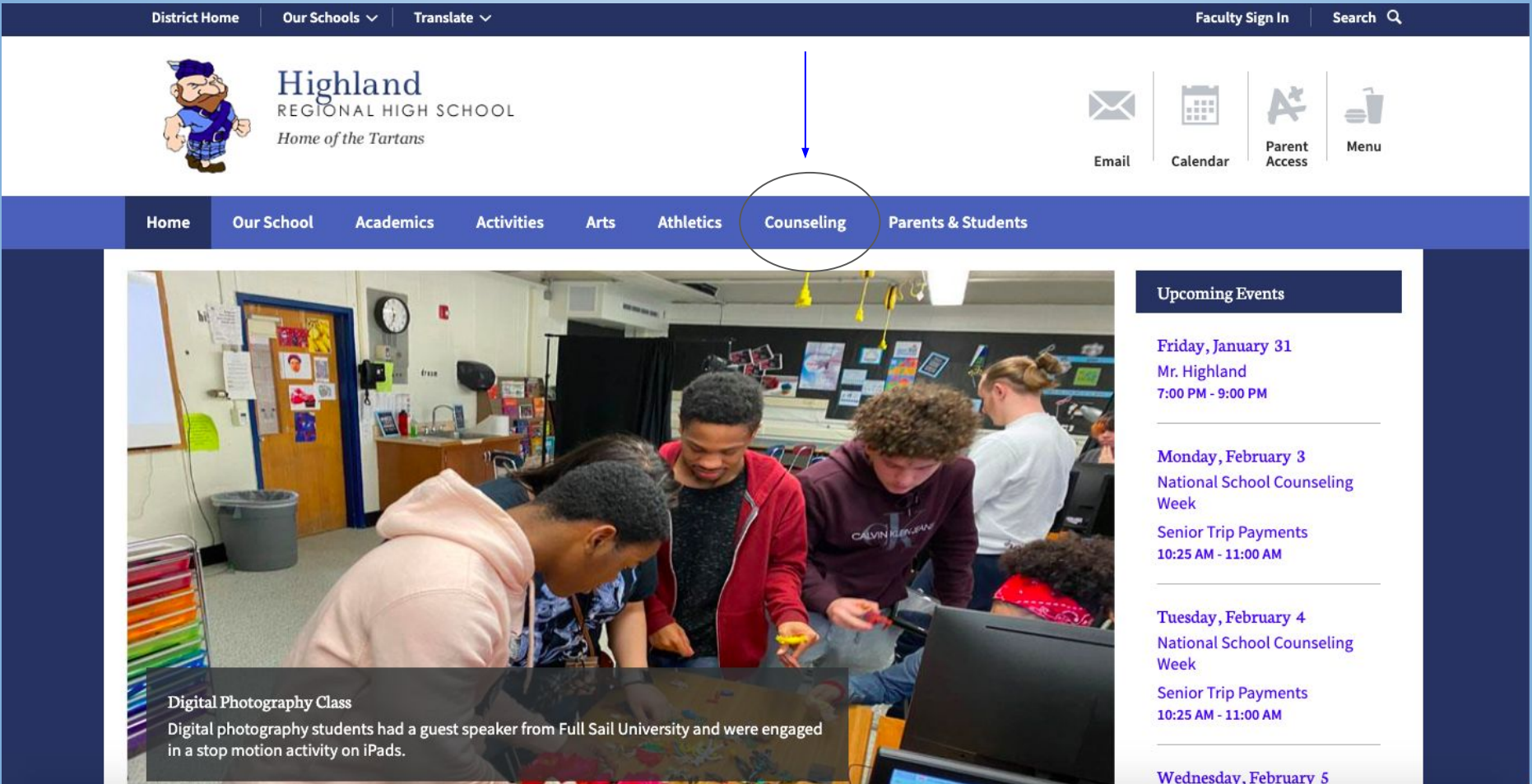
(856)227-4100 x 4047



Mrs. Tanya Harper	Supervisor of Special Education	tharper@bhprsd.org	extension 4047
Christine Richards	CST Secretary	crichards@bhprsd.org	X 4047
Sekini Moore	(A – HAW)	smoore@bhprsd.org	X4048
Christopher Corcoran	(HE – P) & BD	ccorcoran@bhprsd.org	X 4063
Lindsay Varga	(Out of District)	lvarga@bhprsd.org	X 4404
Carley Piniero	(Q – Z) & MD	cpiniero@bhprsd.org	X 4049

Student schedules will be determined by the case manager, in consultation with the school counselor, in accordance with the Individual Educational Plan (IEP)

Counseling Resources:



The image shows a screenshot of the Highland Regional High School website. At the top, there is a dark blue navigation bar with links for "District Home", "Our Schools", and "Translate". On the right side of this bar are "Faculty Sign In" and a "Search" icon. Below this is a white header area featuring the school's logo on the left, which includes a cartoon mascot and the text "Highland REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL Home of the Tartans". To the right of the logo are four utility icons: "Email", "Calendar", "Parent Access", and "Menu". A blue arrow points from the "Counseling" link in the main navigation menu to the "Counseling" link in the top navigation bar. The main navigation bar is dark blue with white text for "Home", "Our School", "Academics", "Activities", "Arts", "Athletics", "Counseling", and "Parents & Students". The "Counseling" link is circled in blue. Below the navigation bar is a large image of students in a classroom. A text box in the bottom left of the image reads: "Digital Photography Class Digital photography students had a guest speaker from Full Sail University and were engaged in a stop motion activity on iPads." On the right side of the page, there is a dark blue header for "Upcoming Events" followed by a list of events: "Friday, January 31 Mr. Highland 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM", "Monday, February 3 National School Counseling Week Senior Trip Payments 10:25 AM - 11:00 AM", "Tuesday, February 4 National School Counseling Week Senior Trip Payments 10:25 AM - 11:00 AM", and "Wednesday, February 5".



Highland
REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL
Home of the Tartans



Email



Calendar



Parent
Access



Menu

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Our School

Academics

Activities

Arts

Athletics

Counseling

Parents & Students



Digital Photography Class

Digital photography students had a guest speaker from Full Sail University and were engaged in a stop motion activity on iPads.

Upcoming Events

Friday, January 31
Mr. Highland
7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Monday, February 3
National School Counseling
Week
Senior Trip Payments
10:25 AM - 11:00 AM

Tuesday, February 4
National School Counseling
Week
Senior Trip Payments
10:25 AM - 11:00 AM

Wednesday, February 5

Counseling Webpage

District Home

Our Schools ▾

Translate ▾

Passkeys

User Options ▾

Search 🔍



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Staff Resources

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Counseling Directory

2 8 A B C D F G H I M N O P R S T

2

- 2020-2021: Meet the Counseling Department

8

- 8th Grade Parent Night

F

- Financial Aid & Scholarship information

G

- Governor's School

- GPA - (How to calculate your GPA)

- NJ STARS (& NJSTARS II) Info

- NJ Transfer (www.njtransfer.org)

- NJSLA (formerly PARCC) Information

O

- Online Course Request

Course Selection Form:

Return to us tonight or by February 15th

Schedules available at 8th Grade Orientation in August

- ▶ If your child will NOT attend Highland Regional HS, we still need you to return the form indicating where the student WILL attend.
- ▶ Elective choices can change up to JUNE 15, 2020.
- ▶ The *Program of Studies* is available on our district and school websites at www.bhprsd.org/highland under Parents & Students tab.



Important Scheduling Information

- * **Course recommendations may change due to:**
 - Grade 8 State test scores (NJSLA)**
 - Final 8th grade report card grades**
- **Students who are NOT Proficient on the Math or Language Arts section(s) of the 2021 state testing program (NJSLA) will have Math Enhancement and/or English Enhancement added to their schedule. These courses will replace their previously selected elective(s).**



Bell Schedule

“A Typical Day at Highland”



Session	Time	A Day	B Day	C Day	D Day
1 st {60 min}	7:25 – 8:25	1	4	3	2
2 nd {55 min}	8:29 – 9:24	2	1	4	3
3 rd {55 min}	9:28 – 10:23	3	2	1	4
Lunch & Learn	10:23 – 11:08	45 Minutes			
5 th {55 min}	11:08 – 12:03	5	8	7	6
6 th {55 min}	12:07 – 1:02	6	5	8	7
7 th {55 min}	1:06 – 2:01	7	6	5	8

- Highland runs on a 4 day rotation (A-D days)
- Each day, 6 of the student’s 8 classes will meet
- All students have an OPEN lunch & learn (Tartan Time) for 45 minutes, separating the 3 courses in the AM and PM sessions
- During lunch {lunch & learn}, students will have the opportunity to meet with teachers to complete makeup work and/or receive extra help.

Graduation Requirements:

- * **Meet all NJ requirements for NJSLA and other state assessments**
- * **Students MUST earn 125+ credits of both required and elective courses**
- * **Successfully complete the following:**
 - ~ **4 years of English**
 - ~ **4 years of Health & Physical Education**
 - ~ **3 years of Mathematics** – including Algebra I and Geometry or the content equivalent and a third year of math that builds on the concepts and skills of Algebra and Geometry
 - ~ **3 years of Science** – including at least five credits in laboratory biology/life science or the content equivalent and one additional laboratory/inquiry-based science course which shall include chemistry, environmental science, or physics
 - ~ **2 years of US History and 1 year of World History** – integration of civics, economics, geography and global content in all course offerings.
 - ~ **1 Year of 21st Century Life and Careers, or Career Technical Education**
 - ~ **1 Year of Visual/Performing Arts**
 - ~ **1 Year of World Language**
 - ~ **1/2 year of Financial Literacy**
 - ~ **1/2 year of Career Education**
- * **Meet all provisions of District Attendance Policy #5200**
 - *All years listed above are the minimum number of years required for graduation*

Career Education & Investment Programs

**Offered to students during Senior year*

1. **College Now** - Through a partnership with Camden County College, the College Now Program allows students to **earn college credit toward a degree or certification at a discounted tuition rate**. Students can be released in the afternoon wheel to attend college courses.
2. **Work Study and Internship** - Students can find a job or internship that interests them, that may lead them to a career in the industry, and be released from school after the morning wheel to work. Internship participants will be required to document their hours through the placement location and submit journal entries on their experience. Participating students must have a **job or internship in place by August 15th prior to their senior year**.
3. **Finishing Trades Institute** - The Finishing Trades Institute (FTI) is a partnership established to provide students an opportunity to **begin a union apprenticeship** upon graduation. These students, once a week for 18 weeks, will go to the Finishing Trades Institute in Philadelphia where they will learn job safety, drywall, paperhanging, painting and glazing.
4. **Career Investment Programs** - Also, through a partnership with Camden County College, the Career Investment Program allows students to earn a certification in one of the following areas: **Automotive Technology, Culinary Arts, or Cosmetology**. Because the programs are scheduled during the evening, these students would attend classes at HRHS in the afternoon wheel (11:08 a.m.-2:01 p.m.) and then report to their respective program afterward.

Air Force Junior Reserve Officer Training (AFJROTC)

Major Robert Simpson

- Served in the Air Force 20 years
- Started the JROTC program at Vineland HS, Instructor for 8 years
- B.A. in History from Rutgers University
- M.S. in History from University of Central Missouri

Master Sergeant Christopher Miller

- Served in the Air Force 20 years
- JROTC instructor at Vineland HS for 4 years
- B.S in Business Administration for American Intercontinental University
- M.S. in Administrative Justice (Homeland Security) form Wilmington University

Air Force Junior Reserve Officer Training (AFJROTC)

*Air Force Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (AFJROTC) is a five-credit Practical Arts course offered to all high school students in our District.

*This program is designed to teach students in grades 9–12 the value of **citizenship, leadership, service to the community, personal responsibility, and a sense of accomplishment, while instilling in them self-esteem, teamwork, and self-discipline.**

*The program of instruction is based on a systematic progression of learning designed for the student's development starting at the freshman year and progressing through the senior year.

*Major units of study include: U.S. Citizenship, Leadership, Aviation History, Wellness, Fitness, and AFJROTC History.

Testing

NJSLA: New Jersey Student Learning Assessment - ELA, Math and Science

*Students take this online assessments in grades 9-11 and students need to meet competency levels to qualify for graduation. As the State DOE makes changes, please refer to our [District Curriculum Testing Tab](#) on the website.

PSAT: Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test – (Free to grades 10 & 11)

*It is important for students to take this test seriously as it may be used for placement purposes.

SAT: Scholastic Aptitude Test – (Free Spring Test For Juniors)

AP: Advanced Placement Tests – (potentially Free For Courses Offered)

*Currently - - CollegeBoard charges \$94 per test. District picks up \$44 and the student is charged \$50. If the student achieves a grade of 3, 4 or 5 (scale 1-5), the district will refund the \$50 in September of the next year.



Credit Requirements



**Students in grades 9, 10, & 11 must carry
35 - 40 credits (7-8 courses) per year**

Movement to Grade 10 \geq 30 Credits

Movement to Grade 11 \geq 60 Credits

Movement to Grade 12 \geq 90 Credits

Graduation \geq 125 credits



Grading System



<u>Numerical Average</u>	<u>Letter Grade</u>	<u>CP & A level "unweighted"</u>	<u>Honors/AP Courses "weighted (+1.0)"</u>
93-100	A	4.00	5.00
90-92	A-	3.67	4.67
87-89	B+	3.33	4.33
83-86	B	3.00	4.00
80-82	B-	2.67	3.67
77-79	C+	2.33	3.33
73-76	C	2.00	3.00
70-72	C-	1.67	2.67
67-69	D+	1.33	2.33
65-66	D	1.00	2.00
Below 65	F	0.00	0.00



Class Rank/GPA - (Val & Sal)



- * Grade 9 Honors selections are determined by District Supervisors as per district guidelines**
- * The maximum number of Honors classes a student can be recommended for in grades 9 and 10 is four (4) (English, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies).**
- * In most cases, future valedictorians and salutatorians have had the maximum number of AP/Honors courses in all grades.**
- * A fifth AP/Honors course should be considered both junior and senior years if becoming a valedictorian and/or salutatorian is a goal.**
- * Ranking (in accordance with Board Policy #R2624)**

Student Assistance Coordinator (SAC)

- The focus of Student Assistance Program is a school and community education, prevention, intervention, support, and referral services for students at risk for substance abuse, addictive behaviors, and other mental health concerns.
- The SAC is available for all students and their families.
- The goal of this program is designed, not to punish students involved with drugs, alcohol, or other high risk behaviors, but rather to help them take a closer look at their lifestyle, identify negative consequences, and develop strategies that result in better decision-making.

Meetings with the SAC

Any student can request a one on one meeting in the SAC office. The SAC also runs the following groups in a confidential setting.

- Family Group
 - Adjusting to blended families
 - Coping with single parent families
- LGBTQ
 - Coming out
 - Feeling safe
- Children of Substance Abusers
 - Detach with love
 - Forgiveness
 - Coping with single parent families due to addiction and/or incarceration
- Grief and Loss
 - As needed

Mental Health Assistance Counselor (MHAC)

- Providing mental health support and referral to services is an integral part of our district's mission in promoting the well-being of each student.
- The MHAC meets with students who their mental health is keeping them from succeeding both in school and outside of school.
 - The topics discussed with students include but are not limited to anxiety, stress, depression, self-esteem, anger management and grief/loss.
 - Classroom lessons:
 - Mental Health Education
 - Healthy Communication
 - Good Character

Groups Currently Being Offered by MHAC

- **Anxiety Group**

- Lower overall anxiety
- Increase confidence in coping with anxiety/utilizing healthy coping skills

- **Anger Management Group**

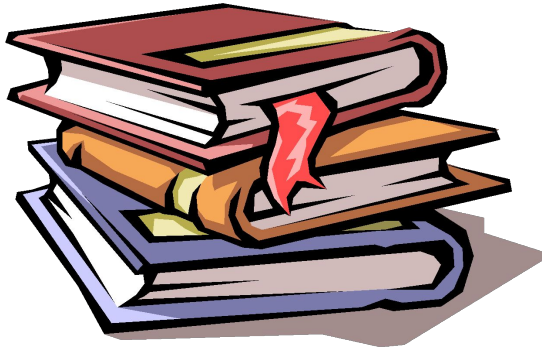
- Increase ability to cope with anger in a healthy way
- Learn how to use anger in positive ways

- **G.I.R.L.S. Group**

- Girls In Real Life Situations**

- Increase self-esteem and resilience
- Reduce stress by developing coping strategies
- Promote the importance of positive relationship and healthy communication

ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY



If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Mr. Mike Berger, VP of Athletics at (856) 232-9703 x6007

- ▶ All incoming freshmen are academically eligible for the 1st semester, which includes both the fall & winter sports seasons.
- ▶ All students must be passing at least 15 credits to be eligible for the spring sports season.
- ▶ All students must pass at least 30 credits by September to be eligible for the next fall & winter seasons.
- ▶ All students must turn in a parent permission card as well as have a physical examination by either the school doctor or their family doctor.

High School Is a Time of Change

Schoolwork will be more challenging!

- * Tests will be more rigorous and demanding
- * Students will be assigned more homework
- * Students will have to complete more long-term projects

Grades are very important!

- * Students need to pay attention to their studies
- * Students need to be in school and class daily

Getting organized makes a big difference!

- * Students need to know when work is due
- * Students need to hand in work on time
- * Students need to set short-term, reachable goals
- * Students need to keep an assignment notebook



NAVIANCE

Colleges, Careers, About Me

- * *Naviance* is a comprehensive, easy-to use-website that students and parents can use to help in making decisions about courses, colleges, and careers. *Naviance* is accessible from any computer, inside and outside of school, with an internet connection**
- * Just go to the Highland's Home Page, click on the Counseling Tab, and then *Naviance*. All students are provided with a password in 9th grade (typically their student ID). Both parents and students may access many of the features without a password by visiting as a guest.**



Class of 2025

You may join any or all class groups:

- * **Remind** will allow you to receive Counseling reminders throughout the year. Messages will come from Ms. Speziali, Director of School Counseling

What is Remind and why is it safe?

- * **Remind** is a one-way text messaging and email system so all personal information remains completely confidential. We will never see your phone number and you will not see ours. Visit www.remind.com to learn more.
-

To receive messages via text:

- * Text “@hrhscoun” to **81010** to subscribe. You may opt-out anytime by replying “unsubscribe”.

Twitter



@HRHSCounseling

Thank you for your involvement in your child's education! We look forward to working with you and your child.

Our Counselors are available via phone or email if you have further questions or concerns.

Our contact information is also always available on our [Counseling Website](#).



Highland Counseling Office

856-227-4100 x4036 or (fax) 856-227-8422



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