

HIGHER LEARNING ACADEMY

ISSUE NO 2 | SEPTEMBER-2019 | GO EAGLES!



Capturing Kids Hearts at HLA

Here at HLA, we believe families, our school, and our community all need to work together to create an environment that supports the healthy development of our scholars. In 2011, our charter management organization, Gateway Community Charters, adopted the Capturing Kids Hearts (also referred to as CKH) program and it has been the guiding light of our culture ever since.

CKH was founded by psychotherapist Flip Flippen in 1990. CKH has helped Fortune 500 companies, sports teams, non-profit corporations and high-performing school districts. The central belief of the program is that if you have a child's heart, you have a child's mind. In other words, we cannot teach our scholars unless we have strong relationships with them.

You have probably seen aspects of this program around our campus. All scholars shake hands with their teacher at least once a day. The classroom culture is driven by the social contract, which students create, rather than a set of rules dictated by the teacher. Students help self-manage the class by checking each other. Most importantly, we hope that you feel the warmth and kindness of CKH every time you step on campus. With our continued focus on living this program, we hope to be recognized as a CKH National Showcase School.

DATES TO REMEMBER

SEPTEMBER

Friday, September 6th-
Student of the Month
Assembly

Wednesday, September 11th- School Site Council and
District English Learner
Advisory Committee Meeting
4:30pm-6:00pm

Friday, September 13th-
Eagle's Nest Open

Monday, September 16th-
STEAM Museum Assembly
for HLA Scholars (2nd-8th
grade)

Mon., Sept. 16th –Fri., Sept. 20th- HLA #hashtag
Competition

Friday, September 20th- PFO
Snack Shack 1:00pm-1:45pm

Mon., Sept. 23rd –Fri., Sept. 27th- HLA Spirit Week



To the left is a picture of Good Things being led by our HLA President, Alberto Lomat, at our Student of the Month Assmebly. Good Things is a CKH tool that helps us build strong relationships.



Mandatory Saturday School

At HLA, we have created an additional way we can help support student academic success this school year. This Saturday, September 14th, we will have our second **Mandatory Saturday School** for scholars who need the extra time to finish class work, homework, and any classroom assessments. **Mandatory Saturday School** was not designed as a consequence for behavior. This is in place to ensure students are completing their daily classwork, daily homework assignments and important weekly assessments. Students attending will be receiving partial credit for work completed during **Mandatory Saturday School** which will be held once a month from

ALL HLA students must be accompanied by a parent or adult (18+) during the full time.

Scholars required to attend Mandatory Saturday School will be decided by their classroom teachers or the administration staff. The requirements for **Mandatory Saturday School** are as follows:

- Any unexcused absence for the week
- Two or more tardy or late arrivals in the week (arrivals after 8:30am)
- Two or more early dismissals in the week
- Any removal from class on a referral
- Two or more missing homework assignments for the week
- Missing a significant amount of classwork based on student refusal

IB at HLA

Candidate
School



At HLA we have a monthly award assembly for our scholars who exemplify one of our ten IB Learner Profiles (see orange box to the left). Last Friday, September 6th we recognized many of our scholars and staff for their work demonstrating one of the ten IB Learner Profile traits. Congratulations to our award winners! The IB Learner Profile traits is one way we support our scholars' educational and social development at HLA. Please ask your scholar what trait they are working on currently.

IB Learner Profiles

- Inquirers
- Knowledgeable
- Thinkers
- Communicators
- Principled
- Open-minded
- Caring
- Risk takers
- Balanced
- Reflective

*See p.5 of the Parent-Student Handbook for more details

