



HIGHLANDS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
1400 S. Brannon Stand, Dothan, AL 36305  
334-794-1459

Principal: Beth Bouchard  
Assistant Principal: Lauren Buchanan

Our school empowers all students to embrace learning, achieve their personal best, and build their emotional, social, and physical well-being to equip them with the skills and mindset to thrive and then take on the world.

## *The Highlands Highway*

*August 2022*

Welcome to the New School Year! We are wild about the opportunity to join with you to help your child grow into a healthy, happy and successful individual. Highlands Elementary School is committed to the belief that all children can and will learn. We are mindful that children learn at different rates, have different needs, and different learning styles. Our goal is to develop independent, self-reliant, life-long learners.

Please link with us as we welcome additions and changes to our Highlands staff. **Kindergarten** – Dalice Adkison, Emilyanne Mathis, and Paige Richburg; **Second Grade** – Kelli Blocker and Brittany Spitler; **Third Grade** – Emily Breedlove, Hanna Golson, and Heather Merritt; **Fifth Grade** English Language Arts – Laura Cobb and Math – Jody Eldridge; **Sixth Grade** English Language Arts – Rebekah Sewell; **Special Education Collaborative** – Elizabeth Gunter; **Special Education Resource** – Emily Harrison; **Speech and Language Specialist** – Catherine Cureton; **EL** – Kathy Bull; **Instructional Coach/Reading Specialist** – Amanda Smith; and **Intervention Tutors** – Freida Swicord and Barbara Barnes. We are extremely happy to have these new teachers and our returning teachers who bring instructional talents and skills and have a passion for teaching and love of children.

Our theme for the year is based on the book *Where the Wild Things Are* because at Highlands Elementary, students are *Wild about Learning*. Our Faculty and Staff are *Wild about Teaching*! Watch for Wild Events throughout our school year! School-wide educational events are planned for August. On Thursday, August 11 and August 25, please join us for an informal *Meet and Greet the Principal and Assistant Principal* in the cafeteria from 8:30 AM – 9 AM.

August 12 is Jersey Day at Highlands, our first school-wide assembly! Our student-athletes will be recognized. Students are encouraged to wear their team jersey or t-shirt **or** their favorite sports team jersey or t-shirt!

### **Important Information:**

The safety and health of our students, staff, and families are most important. Visitors are limited to the front entrance and are required to follow the building guidelines when entering the building.

All teachers will be using the same communication platform this year – **Talking Points**. Please add the app so that you can stay current on classroom and school information and events. Attendance and On-time Arrival are very important to the success of your child's education. Be sure to notify your child's teacher and the office if your child is absent.

Highlands Elementary 2022-2023 *Wild About Learning* and Highlands t-shirts are available for \$20.00 and sweatshirts are \$30. Again, thank you to Highlands Elementary Parent Organization for making this happen!

Highlands Elementary School parents and guardians represent a wealth of resources that enrich the school. Parents contribute in a variety of ways. The School Improvement Committee and Parent Organization are excellent ways for parents to become involved with the school. **Our School Improvement Committee and Community Leadership Team are scheduled to meet on Wednesday, September 14, 9 AM in the Media Center.** These committees guide our comprehensive reform strategy designed to upgrade the educational process in our school to ensure that all students demonstrate proficient and advanced level of achievement.

Our “*Healthy Food for a Happy World*” healthy snack program continues to address childhood nutrition through a Healthy Food Initiative and the DCS Wellness Policy for Snacks and Special Events. We appreciate your support with providing healthy snacks for your child.

*Your child's school year will be full of adventure and wonder as they experience exciting and interesting active learning opportunities. We look forward to sharing this year together. Please regularly check Highlands social media (Facebook and Instagram) and weekly Wednesday folders for school information and updates!*