



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

January 2023

Welcome to 2023 ~ Happy New Year! We hope the New Year brings you peace, joy, and new opportunities!

Congratulations to our school secretary/bookkeeper/office manager, Ms. Crystal Shelley, selected as State of Alabama, Region 2, Secretary of the Year! Ms. Shelley was honored in Huntsville at the state convention.

Congratulations to Mrs. Vickie Hogan, selected as Highlands Teacher of the Year. Mrs. Hogan was honored during our faculty meeting.

Our gratitude to our parents for their generosity of time and gifts for our teachers and staff. From the breakfast to the luncheon to the snacks to the classroom treats and gifts provided ~ we are most appreciative. How wonderful to have such a caring community who is supportive and demonstrates how our educators are valued. A shout-out to our PTO leadership, Ann-Marie Sullivan, Ali Pfister, Ashley Davis, and Britni Tucker and to the many room parents and all parents who participate in our activities and events ~ thank you for your endless energy and time devoted to Highlands PTO, the best PTO ever in DCS!

A special thank you to The Grinch who joined us at carline and visited classrooms. A shout-out of thanks to Mr. Gantt Pierce for assisting with the memorable and fun day for all!

The field trips to Elf Academy and The Nutcracker provided an opportunity for students to experience the fine arts with local dancers and actors, including our very own students! Kindergarten students visited "Winter Wonderland" hosted at Central Office for a north pole experience.

The school theme for January is respect. Students will participate in a *reflective* writing project in January that culminates with the selection of outstanding essays about Martin Luther King, Jr. Teachers will be presenting the writing prompt to students the first week of January.

Our school's Science Fair exhibits will be viewed Thursday, January 6, and the district science fair is scheduled for Friday, January 28. Our next PTO and School Improvement Committee Meeting will be held February 17, 3 PM, Media Center.

Important Dates:

January 6: PTO meeting, 9 AM

January 11 - 2022 Alumni Night: 5:30 – 7 PM for last year's sixth grade students to visit Highlands for pizza and music.

January 16: No School ~ Holiday

January 18: Report Cards sent home

January 19: Marcos Pizza Night

January 25: Good Citizen Luncheon

January 27: District Science Fair

Important Information:

Attendance and On-time Arrival to school 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. The district has implemented Early Warning Court where Judge Ingram will be notified of parents of students with seven or more *unexcused* absences. A letter will be sent to the parent, and a mandatory court meeting with Judge Ingram will be scheduled.

We continue to implement our new snack program "Healthy Food for a Happy World" 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.

Please remember that students do not attend school on Monday, January 16, in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday.