



## HIGH PEAKS EDUCATIONAL GROUP

**Meeting Name:** Fall 2024 Meeting  
**Meeting Date:** September 5, 2024  
**Meeting time:** 3:10 pm  
**Meeting location:** High Peaks Elementary School Art Room

### Roll Call/Introductions

First, Last Name	Role	Email
Erica Stone	Parent Co-Chair	<a href="mailto:ericastone3@gmail.com">ericastone3@gmail.com</a>
Candice Boyle	Parent	<a href="mailto:boylecc08@gmail.com">boylecc08@gmail.com</a>
Valerie Hibel	Teacher Co-Chair	<a href="mailto:valerie.hibel@bvsd.org">valerie.hibel@bvsd.org</a>
Paola Ledesma	4 <sup>th</sup> Grade Parent Rep	<a href="mailto:paolamlcdesma@gmail.com">paolamlcdesma@gmail.com</a>
Adriana Tower	5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Parent Rep	<a href="mailto:adriana.l.tower@gmail.com">adriana.l.tower@gmail.com</a>
Amber Grantham	IT & Comms	<a href="mailto:amber.maggio@gmail.com">amber.maggio@gmail.com</a>
Sam Grigsby	4 <sup>th</sup> Grade Parent Rep	<a href="mailto:samanthamonk@yahoo.com">samanthamonk@yahoo.com</a>
Kristine Garton	2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade Parent Rep	<a href="mailto:kristine.garton@gmail.com">kristine.garton@gmail.com</a>
Giordana Dahlinghaus	K Parent Rep	<a href="mailto:gmbstyrinx@gmail.com">gmbstyrinx@gmail.com</a>
Janani Vasudevan	Treasurer	<a href="mailto:jananivasu@gmail.com">jananivasu@gmail.com</a>
Angeench Iyengar	4 <sup>th</sup> Grade Parent Rep	<a href="mailto:angeench@gmail.com">angeench@gmail.com</a>
Sieana Johnson	Parent Rep	<a href="mailto:sieanajohnson@gmail.com">sieanajohnson@gmail.com</a>
Julie Stern	Parent Rep	<a href="mailto:jdstern8@gmail.com">jdstern8@gmail.com</a>
Joanna Comeau	2 <sup>nd</sup> /3 <sup>rd</sup> Teacher Rep	<a href="mailto:joanna.comeau@bvsd.org">joanna.comeau@bvsd.org</a>
Lauren Harmon	K/1 <sup>st</sup> Teacher Rep	<a href="mailto:Lauren.harmon@bvsd.org">Lauren.harmon@bvsd.org</a>
Chris Basten	Principal	<a href="mailto:christopher.basten@bvsd.org">christopher.basten@bvsd.org</a>
Joni Wada	Parent	<a href="mailto:joniw1616@gmail.com">joniw1616@gmail.com</a>

### Approval of Last Meetings Minutes (Amber)

- ✓ The voting members voted to approve the May meeting minutes

### New Business

- **2024-2025 Board of Directors** (Erica)
  - Vote in: K-1 Parent Reps: Erin Nakayama (voting, 1) and Giordana Belenchia (K, Proxy)

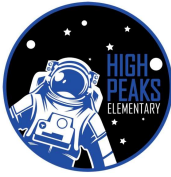
- ✓ The voting members voted to approve the K-1 Parent Reps

### Principal's Report (Chris)

- High Peaks scored 5<sup>th</sup> in the state on CMAS math! Big celebration!
- The school is now a co-teaching school in area of writing. Mrs. Murdock will co-plan and co-teach in writing. HP was the district model for this last year since it worked so well.
- Worked with BCSIS to create a 25 minute lunch schedule. This is going well so far.
- First assembly is tomorrow to celebrate STARS skills around safety for all students.

### District Committee Reports

- School Accountability Committee (SAC) -- (Marisa)
- District Accountability Committee (DAC) -- (Matma)
- Parent Accountability Committee (PAC) -- (Amber)
  - PAC's purpose is to inform the district what is going on at the school level, and let the school know what is on the district's mind. Consider this group as the voice for HP to the Superintendent and back.
  - BVSD Celebrations:
    - BVSD has the highest number of students grades 3-8 who meet or exceed expectations in math and SLA since CMAS has been administered
    - Today at noon, BVSD is being awarded with the highest accolade a school district can get



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- BVSD Challenges:
  - Bus driver shortage continues. 30,000 people emailed -- 89 applied -- 11 were offered jobs.
  - Bill 1448 passed which gives State less \$ for Higher Ed, but Dr. Anderson hopeful this can be avoided
  - Class sizes are bubbling – Foothill Elementary severely impacted
  - Substitute teacher pay dropped due to BVSD giving employees larger than budgeted Cost of Living increase. Budgeted for a 2.5% increase, but BVSD chose to increase to 4%.
- BVSD is instituting a district-wide cell phone ban policy in January 2025.
  - No cell phones bell-to-bell. Expect exceptions for open campuses, etc. Will draft policy in Oct. Possibly focus groups in Nov. to get feedback before finalizing and implementing policy.
  - **Those interested in providing feedback for the district, provide input to Amber or Gaya before 10/15.**
- Changes to volunteer process
  - RAPTOR track is yearly. There is a charge to enroll but scholarship funds are available.
  - New option for regular volunteers who are out of line-of-sight of BVSD staff. Includes CBI background & fingerprints. Will be good for 5 years. Best for regular volunteers not in line-of-sight of teacher.
- Long-Range Planning Committee (Open)
  - **Giordana is going to follow up on getting a HP Rep for this committee**

### Committee Updates

- **Finance/Fundraising** (Janani/Gaya)
  - Financial Statement Review – refer to documents
    - Insurance renewal and other activities such as filing taxes are happening in Oct.
  - Giving Tree Update
    - Over \$9,000 collected so far in the first week. Will only be collecting for 4 weeks this year due to feedback received last year.
    - Offering weekly raffle prizes this year. This week's prize is tickets to Denver Nuggets. Drawing is random and Ed Team members do not have visibility to donors.
    - **Valerie to remind teachers to promote [Giving Tree](#) in their weekly newsletters.**
  - Re-Confirm Bake Sale Dates (Faith)
    - Request to relocate the bake sale away from the Kinder doors
    - **Angeeneh to communicate this info at bake sale set up**
    - **Erica to talk to Faith and confirm bake sale dates**
- **IT/Comms** (Amber)
  - [High Peaks Ed Team website](#) has been refreshed and is now ready to be used
  - Secured a new secure Google workspace, and as a non-profit was able to get a Canva subscription to create event flyers and marketing materials. Also, connected with Percent to help other non-profit benefits.
  - High Peaks [Calendar of Events](#) is ready to go on the website, and a virtual link to Ed Team meetings is now in the calendar for those who want to join remotely.
- **Spirit/Teacher Appreciation** (Adriana/Sam)
  - Kindergarten Welcome Party (Giordana)
    - [Kindergarten Welcome](#) is planned for September 13<sup>th</sup> from 3-5 pm at Junkyard Social
    - A poll was done with K parents and this was the best day/time. Kids, siblings, parents and K teachers are welcome.
    - **Amber will add the flyer to the Ed team website**
  - Revamped Breakfast for Teachers Format (Sam)
    - Feedback on breakfasts are, ahem, boring, so each grade will take a month and do a fun breakfast for teachers. For example, a waffle bar, oatmeal bar, and mix of items.



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- Ed team bought a Nespresso for the teachers, and will ask parents to bring in pods for breakfasts
- Fall Festival Update (Adriana)
  - [Fall Festival](#) is coming October 10<sup>th</sup> from 4:30 – 6:30 pm.
  - Big hit last year so will keep similar vibes
  - All families are invited. Earlier than last year so expect better weather.
  - Food trucks, face painting, balloon art, possibly pumpkins, etc.
  - **Valerie to ask teachers to put in class newsletters that we need volunteers for Fall Festival.**
  - **Sam to talk to Mrs. Christmas about the choir singing at Fall Festival**
- Bike, Walk, Roll to School (Erica)
  - [Bike, Walk and Roll](#) to school is coming October 9<sup>th</sup>
  - No updates yet – still planning
- Anderson Farms is hosting professional days Sept 30 and Oct 14.
  - Paola is organizing this event.
  - Gaya confirmed with a Rabbi that it is ok to get pumpkins on Oct 14<sup>th</sup> (Yom Kippur).
  - OK to invite K-2 to participate.
  - **Paola to work with Parent Reps on explaining this event to K-2 parents.**
- **Challenge**
  - STEM (Erica for AA/QC)
    - Alaina & Quetzal organizing CU Discovery days. Will occur before Thanksgiving.
    - Dec 4<sup>th</sup> is STEM fair
  - Odyssey of the Mind (Gaya)
    - BVSD GT Lead offer Destination Imagination which is what we will do instead of OM so that it can be a competition against other schools
    - There is a competition every other year, and it's happening this academic year.
    - Gaya will be organizing a meeting for all of HP to learn more. This will be for 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> graders.
  - Cross-Country/Running (Gaya)
    - Interest in offering a Cross-Country or Running Club after school. Boulder Mountain Warriors can get an application on BVSD campus to start 1 hour after school starts. It would cost \$100/day to rent the school space, and would offer it to HP and BCSIS.
    - Did apply for a permit. Need to figure out the budget to compensate the running leader.
    - **Gaya will do a survey to families to gauge the interest and decide if this is fall and/or spring.**
- **Garden to Table** (Leah)
  - Everything looks good. Pumpkins and sunflowers are out now.
- **Yearbook** (Giordana)
  - Vendor Review is underway. Lots of feedback that the previous vendor isn't ideal.
  - Will be looking for Class Rep/Volunteers. Trying to get assigned early so we get pictures earlier in the school year. K volunteers have already signed up!
- **Open Enrollment** (Erica)
  - Flyer/Brochure Revamp will be done. This was approved by Chris
  - BVSD Showcase Plan/Volunteer
    - HP will have one open house & two tours to allow parents to visit the school, learn about the school. It was very helpful to have HP parents there to answer questions and provide a parent-perspective.
    - HP will also participate in the District Showcase. Helpful to have Ed Team there. Oct 9 is the district showcase. Amber is uploading new pictures to the digital frame. Erica is modifying the school brochure. Gaya will look at Marketing Efforts such as niche.com. Must be done with a BVSD acct. Gaya will work with dory.

### Old Business/Outstanding To-Do's

- Digital Signage Discussion
- Winter Parking Lot/Snowplowing