



Highwood Hills

Elementary School

Website: highwoodhills.spps.org

Calendar of Events

December

- 7 Parent Academy Highwood Hills – 6:00 PM
- 14 Karen New Year
- 21 - 31 Winter Break
NO SCHOOL

January

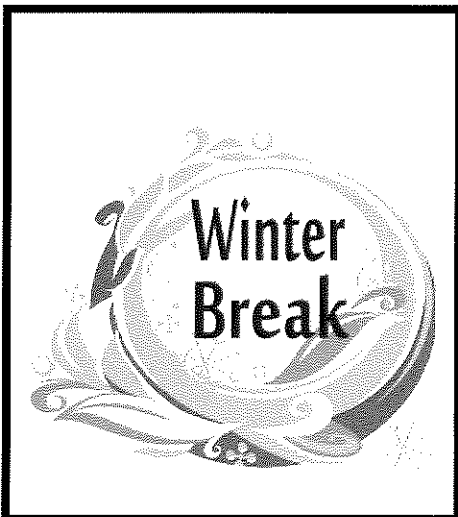
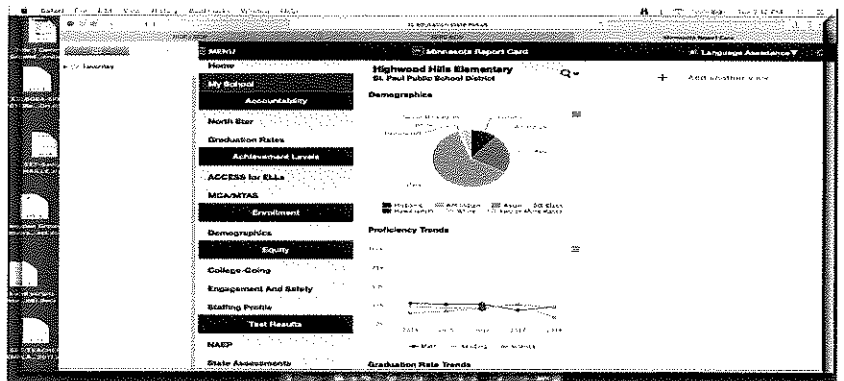
- 1 New Year's Day -NO SCHOOL
- 12 School Choice Fair- RiverCenter 9:30AM – 2PM
- 21 Martin Luther King's Day
NO SCHOOL
- 25 Professional Day for Teachers – NO SCHOOL

Dear Families:

As we close the calendar year and open another one, there is no better time to extend our appreciation than now. This month's message from me will largely center on appreciation and "counting our blessings."

I don't believe that I've acknowledged the work that our parents are doing behind the scenes to get our students prepared for school every day. I also want to acknowledge all those families who come to school every day to help their young children during breakfast time. Special thanks to Sh'Hassan Khadeeja and Ali's mom for her generosity and kindness in treating us to some very delicious Somali tea during our Common Ground Conversation meeting last month. This meeting provides yet another resource and avenue for increased communication with our parents and school community, as we seek input to improve our services to our students and families. Also, thanks to all those who attended our recently concluded fall conferences! It was good to confer with you. We had over 90% attendance!!!

I would also like to share our MCA Report cards from MDE with our families, and to reassure you that we are aware of our shortcomings and are working very hard to overcome them. Despite these results, our students are showing growth in major areas, and we will continue to push for rigor and excellence in teaching and learning.



I would like to thank parents for their cooperation and understanding with our drop off and pick up procedure. Thanks for preparing your child to come to school ready to learn, and for picking him/her up relatively on time. As the cold weather is approaching, **I would however, encourage parents to not drop students off too early in the morning.** We do not have supervision **before 8:00AM**, and students should not be in the building before supervision is available. It is very important to remember that the safety/ well-being of your child is very critical. We really crave your indulgence in this matter.

I hope that you and your families will have happy holidays. Best wishes for the New Year!
Please remember to access this newsletter in our website as well at www.highwoodhills.spps.org.

Respectfully,

Fatima Lawson

Fatima Lawson, Ph.D.
Principal

Highwood Hill's and St. Paul District's ATTENDANCE POLICY

When students are not in school, they cannot learn. Please make sure that your children attend school every school day, except in cases of illness, doctor and dentist appointments that cannot be made after school hours, religious holidays, and family emergencies. If absences of more than 2 days occur due to illness, a doctor's note may be requested.

Your child WILL NOT be excused for babysitting, oversleeping, missing the bus, travel, weather conditions, or visiting relatives. If it becomes imperative for families to travel, please complete a Travel Request Form for approval by the principal. Please also note that students must make up any work missed as a result of the travel.

We are required to contact the Ramsey County Truancy Intervention Program after five (5) non-excused days. This is a District /State Policy and is enforced.

Source: www.spps.org

