



# Highwood Hills

Elementary 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" despite the pandemic!

## Calendar of Events

### December

- 17 Common Ground Conversations
- 23 - 31 Winter Break  
NO SCHOOL

### January

- 1 New Year's Day -NO SCHOOL
- 8 Virtual-Please visit our Website!
- 13 Karen New Year
- 18 Martin Luther King's Day  
NO SCHOOL
- 21 Common Ground Conversations
- 29 Professional Day for Teachers - NO SCHOOL

Thanks to all those who attended our recently concluded fall conferences and also our first Common Ground Conversations. We have listened to you and will move the time to 1:30 PM on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays of the month! Please also advise us on any topic that you want covered while maintaining the integrity of everyone and privacy laws. 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, especially as you share your homes and convert them to classrooms. We appreciate you! I also want to acknowledge all those families who made it a point to attend every online meeting, including their child's IEP meetings and class meetings. Thanks also for getting your child up early to participate in the Morning meetings that are set by various teachers and support staff. Also, thanks for taking attendance and making sure that your students participate. If they are not present, they will not learn. Among our greatest challenges is consistent attendance, so I will be sharing some data with you that will help to alert you to the importance of working with us to get your child to participate, especially during Distance Learning, where a lot is condensed to avoid too much time in front of the screen.

As we prepare to return to hybrid learning, where your child will attend classes in person two days out of the 5 week days, we are hoping that you will check out information coming from the district regarding any updates or pertinent information that the district would like to share with families. We are here to help and please connect with us should you not understand any information that is officially shared. Our Bilingual staff members will be very glad to help break it down for you. Please stay connected with your child's teacher, as that is your first point of contact with the school! We really crave your indulgence in this matter, and look forward to a continued partnership.

A reminder that Highwood Hills starting from the 2020/21 school year, has discontinued mandatory use of school uniforms. Families who wish to continue to send their students to school in school uniform colors may still do so. NO UNIFORMS officially beginning this school year!

As I said, attendance is very critical even during distance learning. Thus, the compulsory attendance law still holds, so please work with us to ensure that your child is at school! Below are some important demographic and attendance data for your information and reflection.

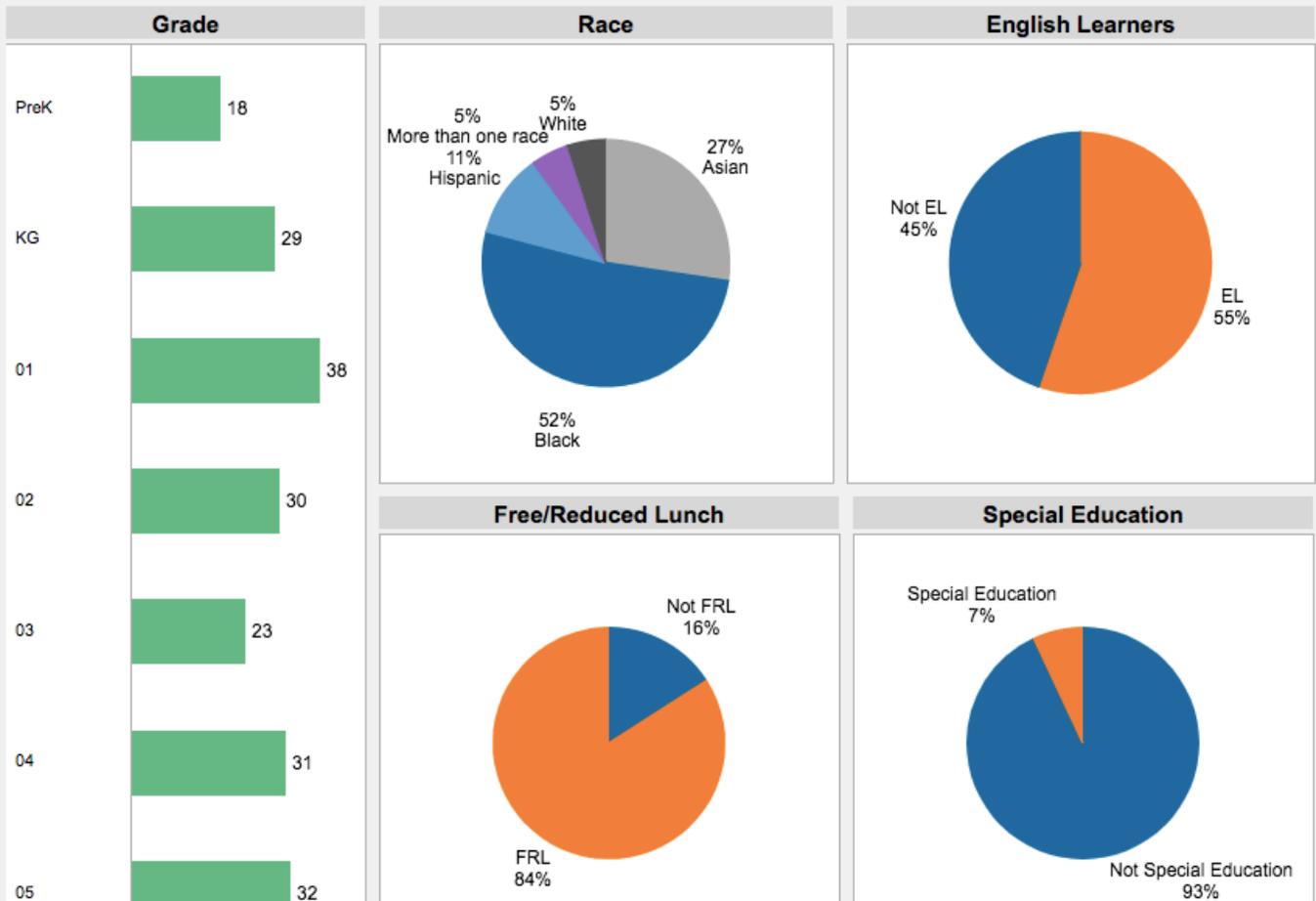


## Enrollment: Current 2020-21 Student Demographics

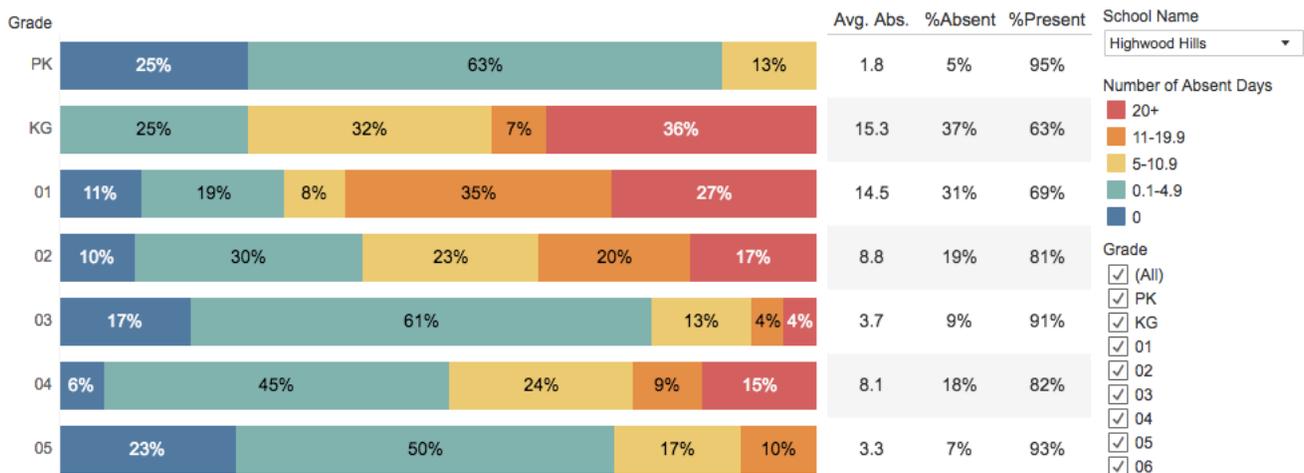
Note: ECSE students in PreK are counted here in PreK.

Reminder: Click any graph or data point to filter on that selection.

**Total Number of Students: 201**



### Distance Learning Attendance for Students at Highwood Hills in Q1 SY 20-21 by Grade



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](http://www.highwoodhills.spps.org).

Respectfully,

*Fatima Lawson*