



40 S. Highland Avenue
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(West Community)

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“Pride of the West Side” – Tradition and Pride since 1895

DRESS CODE: Highland students follow the Columbus City School’s Dress Code Policies.

CURRICULUM: Highland staff and students have embraced the higher level thinking demands encouraged by the Ohio Learning Standards, which provide a consistent, clear pathway of what students are expected to learn. The standards are designed to be robust and relevant to the real world, reflecting the knowledge and skills that our young people need for success in college and careers. With students fully prepared for the future, our communities will be best positioned to compete in the global economy. H

READING PROGRAM: Highland uses a 21st Century approach to reading literacy while incorporating the HMH reading series instruction. Classroom instructors use a blended approach adapted to student’s academic needs. Primary students enjoy a rich, skill based approach to literacy focusing on the elements of reading through Interactive Read Alouds, phonemic awareness skills building, phonics instruction, and vocabulary enhancement through constant reiteration of high frequency sight words and text-embedded tiered vocabulary practice while constructing textual meaning through the use of various text modalities. Intermediate students utilize a theme-based approach to literacy using novels and informational texts to embrace Ohio’s Learning Standards and experience complex texts, such as those of Shakespeare, through the use of dramatic inquiry. All of our students focus on developing the ability to demonstrate comprehension of increasingly difficult texts through written response, while synthesizing and analyzing information from various modalities (fiction, nonfiction, video). Reading is taught in an uninterrupted 90-minute block of time.

LATCHKEY: Highland does not have an afterschool latchkey program; however, we provide after school tutoring while also partnering with several after-school partners to provide opportunities that include a tutoring program at The DOWD Center, Community for New Direction, The Boys and Girls Club and Hilltop Lutheran Church.

PARENT INVOLVEMENT: Family engagement is critical to developing a healthy community of learners and leaders. Monthly events are scheduled from lunches with our learners to workshops, based on the surveyed needs of our families. Parents are always welcome, and encouraged to positively interact with the school to support student achievement. To assure school safety, all guests are required to show ID and register their presence at the administrative office’s customer service window.

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS: Highland Elementary has a rich heritage, having been built circa 1895, our 120 year presence in the Hilltop has garnered the interest of many community based agencies partnering with our school. Our partnerships include, but are not limited to: Safelite AutoGlass, The Ohio State University, Hilltop Lutheran Church, The Highland Community Garden, The Boys and Girls Club, Second Community Church, The DOWD Center, Community for New Direction, Eastway, and Nationwide Children’s Hospital. All of these trusted partners work in tandem with Highland to serve the needs of our community of learners. Volunteerism includes tutoring/mentoring, providing school supplies for families, and other activities that support our growing community.

WHAT MAKES OUR SCHOOL OUTSTANDING: Apart from having a 120-year presence in the community, and being a nationally registered historic site, Highland Elementary school is a unique place in that it is filled with life and love for learning that is focused on our students

ACTIVITIES: Highland is a school where student leadership is celebrated and encouraged. Students broadcast our daily morning announcements. Student-Managers provide ongoing leadership modeling building-wide. Student clubs, study trips, after-school tutoring, Ballet Met, Math and Literacy Nights, Good Citizen Awards, Opera Columbus Performances, Children’s Hospital Mobile Unit, and much more create a bustling thriving student-focused environment.

ABOUT OUR STAFF: More than one-half of Highland’s teaching staff has earned their Master’s (or higher) degree. We continue to develop ourselves to improve our instructional practices. Highland’s teachers are Highly Qualified, according to No Child Left Behind (NCLB).