

## Calendar

Monday, Oct. 10	Piano Lessons- Community Ed.	4:00-7:00	Room 5
Tuesday, Oct. 11	Running Club	8:30-9:10	Field
	Highlands Choir	8:30-9:15	Room 10/11
	Green Team	3:55-5:00	Room 16
	Real World Spanish - Community Ed	3:55-4:55	Room 28
	Science Comes Alive – Community Ed	3:55-4:55	Room 3
	PTO Meeting	7:00-9:00 PM	Media Center
Wednesday, Oct. 12	Double Dutch - Community Ed.	6:30-7:15 PM	Gym
	Gifted Ed Curriculum Night	6:30-7:45 PM	Media Center
Thursday, Oct. 13	Running Club	8:30-9:10	Field
	Chess Club	8:30-9:10	Room 4
	Site Council	4:00-6:00	Media Center
Friday, Oct. 14	Young Rembrandts	3:55-4:55	Room 28

## Field Trips

Thur. Oct. 13      Mahoney/Sponheim      Edina City Hall & Nine Mile  
Creek      9:30-12:30

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## LINKS

[School Age Parenting Classes](#)

[2011 Tour Edina](#)

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## *Notes from the Principal*

**10/07/11**

Earlier in the week we were informed that Highlands Elementary has been named a Blue Ribbon School. Last December we were informed that we had been nominated for the award by the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE).

This is a great recognition for the staff, students and parents at Highlands and it reflects a lot of hard work by all. The nomination for the Blue Ribbon award is initiated by the MDE and is based on Minnesota

Comprehensive Assessment (MCA) results. Schools cannot apply for this distinction. Eight schools in Minnesota were nominated last December.

A school can only be designated as a Blue Ribbon School once in a 5 year period. We were nominated and won the Blue Ribbon Award in 2005. It is rare for a school to win the Blue Ribbon so it is quite an accomplishment to win it a second time.

The Blue Ribbon Schools Program honors public and private k-12 schools that are either academically superior in their state or demonstrate dramatic gain in student achievement. Highlands was nominated in the academically superior category. The Blue Ribbon award is based on the Minnesota Comprehensive Assessment (MCA) reading and math tests.

Once nominated schools must provide complete an application and submit it. The US Department of Education waits until they have the testing results from the following year to be sure that nominated schools are still performing at a high level.

At Highlands our goal is to offer a well-rounded education so, in addition to academic, we maintain a focus on skills students will need during their lives. These skills include learning how to work with others, developing responsibility and life skills. We teach thematically and conceptually so learning is more meaningful to students and we work to create an environment that helps students learn.

Congratulations!

*Peter Hodne*

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## Highlands Portrait Gallery

The annual Highlands Portrait Gallery is ready for viewing! Students in grades 1-5 have made a self-portrait in Teri Joyce's art classes. Our inspiration this year is Grant Wood's *American Gothic*.

The Portrait Gallery is on the south side of the building near the 5<sup>th</sup> grade classrooms. Stop in to see it!

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**Don't miss out!**

**Get Ready to Rock the Club!**

**Highlands GG Three**

***Deadline*** for ordering tickets is ***October 15th***....so order  
**your tickets *today!***

**\*\*ticket order forms, donation forms and t-shirts available  
in the school office\*\***

**!!Live Bands!!**

*(featuring Mr. Hodne and Highlands Dads)*

**Friday, November 4th - 7pm**

**@ Interlachen Country Club**

download your ticket order form or get more details here:

<https://sites.google.com/site/highlandsgreatgathering/home>

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### **First general PTO meeting Oct 11th**

This Tuesday, October 11<sup>th</sup>, at 7:15 PM, we will host the first general PTO meeting in the media center. Superintendent of Edina Public Schools, Ric Dressen, will speak as well as Principal Peter Hodne. Tom Ruppert, Vote Yes For Kids co-chair, will educate parents on our important referendums coming up on our November 8 ballots. Please join us for these important updates.

### ***Special note:***

Thank you to all families who contributed direct donations to Highlands via our “opt-out” of fundraisers opportunity on the dues form. Your generosity will serve our students and teachers well this school year.

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### **5<sup>TH</sup> GRADERS – CALLING FOR ENTRIES – HIGHLANDS YEARBOOK COVER ART CONTEST**

Your artwork could be the cover for this year’s yearbook!

- Your teacher will be giving you more information about how to submit artwork for the contest.
- The due date for artwork submissions is **Wednesday, October 19**.
- This year’s yearbook theme is: **Highlands...The Inside Story**. The submitted artwork needs to illustrate an idea around the yearbook theme.
- Have fun!! Questions can be directed to Kelly Rhodes or Kristina Fey at [highlandyearbook@gmail.com](mailto:highlandyearbook@gmail.com).

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### **Edina Parent Communication Network NEWS!**

**PCN NATIONAL SPEAKER FORUM moves to NOVEMBER 14<sup>th</sup>**

**Parenting with Love & Leadership: Equipped, but NOT Entitled**

**John Rosemond**

***New Date: Monday, November 14<sup>th</sup> at 7p.m.***

***New Location: Colonial Church, Edina***

***Tickets: \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door***

**[www.edinapcn.com](http://www.edinapcn.com)**

In today's child-centered culture, are parents **equipping children** for the real world? Or are good intentions creating **entitled kids**?

John Rosemond makes the case that today's well-meaning parents do too much for their kids and try too hard to be popular with them. In a thought-provoking presentation, Rosemond will share his strategies for delivering the essential ingredients of **Love** and **Leadership** in ways that help children grow into responsible, compassionate adults.

John Rosemond is a family psychologist, best-selling author and nationally syndicated parenting columnist in more than 200 newspapers. To learn more and purchase tickets, visit the Edina Parent Communication's website at [www.edinapcn.com](http://www.edinapcn.com).

dership, building responsibility NOT entitlement."

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### Edina Technology Open House

Saturday, October 29<sup>th</sup>

9am – 11am

Edina Community Center – 3<sup>rd</sup> floor

Join us for a community-wide Technology Open House where you will get to explore the new digital toolkit that Edina students are using for learning in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. Cool. Fun. Awesome!

<https://edina.thatscommunityed.com/course/fall-2011/technology-open-house>

**Let us know you are coming!**

It's FREE, but register at [www.edinacommunityed.org](http://www.edinacommunityed.org) and your name will be entered to win fun, techie prizes!

The Edina Technology Open House is co-sponsored by Edina Community Education Services and Edina Public Schools District Media Technology Services

[Technology Open House Flyer](#)

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Beginning Chinese After School at Highlands Starts Oct. 13!

This immersion style program is designed to introduce students in Grades K-5 to the culture, history and the language of China. Offered by Edina Community Education Youth Programs...register online at

[www.edina.thatscommunityed.com](http://www.edina.thatscommunityed.com) or call 952-848-3952. Course # 1010-2, Oct 13-Dec 15, \$136

### [Chinese Class at Highlands](#)

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Thinking about a trip to France over Edina's Spring Break?

Edina Community Education has just the spring trip for parents and children:

**Paris and the French Riviera.**

March 31 – April 8<sup>th</sup>.

The 9 day adventure will start with the best of Paris and wind its way to southern France.

\$1,699 Land Package.

<https://edina.thatscommunityed.com/course/fall-2011/paris-and-the-french-riviera>

A free **European Trip Preview Meeting** is scheduled on Tuesday evening, November 1.

For more information [www.edinacommunityed.org](http://www.edinacommunityed.org) or call 952 848 3952.

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## Trivia Corner

**In Hazelton, Pennsylvania, there is a law on the books that prohibits a person from sipping a carbonated drink while lecturing students in a school auditorium.**

**Most varieties of snake can go an entire year without eating a single morsel of food.**

**Up to the age of six or seven months, a child can breathe and swallow at the same time. An adult cannot do this.**

## On this Day in

**1916** - The most staggering intercollegiate football defeat in history took place at Atlanta, Georgia, as Georgia Tech beat Cumberland University, 222-0.

"Plenty of people miss their share of happiness. Not because they never found it, but because they didn't stop to enjoy it."

- *William Feather*