Baltimore Highlands Mission Statement:

The BHES community meets the individual needs of the whole child while providing a safe and nurturing learning environment. We establish high expectations to create a foundation that inspires students to become lifelong learners.

We believe:
- Collaboration among staff, parents, students and community members is necessary to achieve academic excellence.
- All community members serve as role models and should be valued.
- Students should be challenged academically and socially to achieve their personal best.
- Differentiated instruction is essential for our diverse learners.
- All community members should show respect for self and others.
- That teaching our students to think, dream, believe and achieve is vital to their future.
- Our students will be responsible citizens and productive community members.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL:

It is hard to believe that the Holiday Season is here, and winter weather is upon us. As we enter our last three weeks of school before the Holiday break, I would like to remind our families about some upcoming events. We will have our annual Santa’s Workshop sponsored by our PTA on Friday, December 6th from 5:00pm-8:00pm and on Saturday, December 7th from 10:00am-2:00pm. Families will be able to shop together for the holidays. We know that this is going to be a great community event. Also, we are very excited for our Winter Concert on Tuesday, December 10th starting at 6:30pm. Mrs. Straka has been working hard to prepare students in Grades 1 and 2 for the Winter Concert. Ms. Dohler, our Instrumental Music Teacher, has been working with the 5th grade band and they will be showcasing their musical instrument talents that they have learned so far in the school year. Finally, our Honors Chorus will be performing as well. It is going to be a great way to celebrate the Holiday Season!

I would like to thank everyone for their ongoing support of our school. We have a lot to be proud of at BHES and we appreciate and recognize that we could not do our work without the commitment and support of our parents. On behalf of the faculty and staff at BHES, I would like to wish everyone a restful and relaxing Holiday Season. The Holiday break begins at the end of the school day on Friday, December 20th and schools will reopen on Thursday, January 2nd, 2020. HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!
MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

Friday, December 6th:  Santa’s Workshop 5:00pm-8:00pm  
Saturday, December 7th:  Santa’s Workshop 10:00am-2:00pm  
Tuesday, December 10th:  Winter Concert for Grades 1 and 2, Grade 5 Band and Honors Chorus Concert begins at 6:30 pm.  STUDENTS MUST ARRIVE BY 6:00PM.  
Friday, December 20th:  Wednesday, January 1st– Winter Break  
Thursday, January 2nd 2020:  School reopens  

INCLEMENT WEATHER AND SCHOOL CLOSING INFORMATION:

Please watch the local TV stations or listen to your radio for any information regarding late openings, early dismissal, or snow closing. Please make sure your students know how to get home if schools close early due to inclement weather. If your child is in Learn N Play and schools close early due to inclement weather, Learn N Play will also be closed.

STUDENT CONTACT INFORMATION FORMS:

Please remember that if your contact information changes throughout the school year to update your student’s information with the office and with the school nurse. It is very important that we have current phone numbers on file in case of an emergency. Thank you for your help with this matter.

GIANT A+ SCHOOL REWARDS:

This is a reminder that Baltimore Highlands Elementary School is participating in the Giant A+ Rewards Program. Please help our school by completing the information below so we will have the opportunity to earn cash for our school through the Giant A+ School Rewards program.

The steps are as follows:
Log on to www.giantfood.com/aplus to register online or call 1-877-275-2758 to register your card over the phone (phone numbers cannot be accepted in place of GIANT CARD numbers.
Our ID # 01549 should be used.

BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION

We can earn cash for our school when we collect, clip and return the Box Tops from participating products. Happy Collecting!

DATE: December 2019
ATTENDANCE:

Parents, please remember that we track students’ attendance daily. Students may enter the building starting at 8:25 and are considered late after the 8:40 bell. Maryland has an attendance law that recognizes satisfactory attendance as missing no more than 12 days in a school year. That breaks down to 3 days a quarter. We meet monthly to review student attendance and tardiness and if your child is at the unsatisfactory rate for attendance and tardies, we will contact you by letter, telephone or through our Pupil Personnel Worker. It is important for students to attend school each day and to be on time. **Please remember that your child is considered late after the 8:40 bell.** If your child is sick, please make sure to send in a doctor’s note. Without a note from the doctor, the attendance will be marked as unexcused. Our goal is to achieve 96% or better attendance each day.

A NOTE FROM THE CAFETERIA:

When a reminder is sent home with your student stating a balance is due on their lunch account, please submit the payment as soon as possible. If the balance due exceeds $5.80, your child will receive cereal and milk until the balance is paid. Thank you for your attention to this matter. You now can also go online at [www.mylunchmoney.com](http://www.mylunchmoney.com) and place money on your child’s account.

HEALTH AND SAFETY TIPS FOR THE HOLIDAYS:

Give the gift of health and safety to your family this holiday season by following these tips. Wash your and your children’s hands often to keep from spreading germs and getting sick. Wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Bundle up to stay dry and warm.

- Wear appropriate outdoor clothing, such as layers of light, warm clothing, mittens or gloves, hats, scarves, and waterproof boots. The school nurse has hats, gloves, and some coats for children who may need them.
- Manage stress, get enough sleep and be smoke free. Avoid smoking and second-hand smoke. There is no safe amount of tobacco or second-hand smoke. Breathing even a little second-hand smoke can be dangerous.
- Fasten seat belts while driving or riding in a car or truck. Always buckle your child in the car using a child safety seat, booster seat, or seat belt according to his/her height, weight, and age. Use a seat belt for every trip, no matter how short the trip.
- Get any needed shots, including your flu shot. Shots help prevent diseases and save lives.
- Keep any dangerous toys, food, drinks, and household items out of the reach of your children.
- Practice fire safety. Most house fires occur during the winter months, so be careful to never leave fireplaces, space heaters, stoves, or candles unattended. Prepare food safely. Remember these simple steps: wash hands and surfaces often, avoid cross-contamination, cook foods to the proper temperatures, and refrigerate leftovers promptly. Eat healthy and get moving. Eat fruits and vegetables. Limit your portion sizes and food high in fat and sugar. Be active at least 2 1/2 hours a week and help kids and teens be active at least 1 hour a day.

ENJOY THE WINTER BREAK
AND HAVE A SAFE
AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!