

UNITED IN
EXCELLENCE
AND HONOR

HIGLEY HIGH SCHOOL

“A+ School of Excellence”

December 1, 2011

Dear Higley High Parent/Guardian,

Enclosed you will find two very important items regarding financial programs offered to Arizona families. With the end of the 2011 tax year fast approaching, now is the time to review these programs and take advantage of these opportunities.

Federal Free and Reduced Meals Program

All children need healthy meals to learn and high school students are no different. Enclosed is the Higley Unified School District Free and Reduced School Meals information and application. Your child can receive free/reduced price meals if your household's gross income falls within the free/reduced limits of the Federal Income Eligibility Guidelines (eligibility chart is located on the application). I encourage you to review this information closely and take advantage of this federally funded program if your family is eligible.

Arizona Extracurricular Tax Credit Program

Arizona State Law (ARS 43-1089.01) allows you to receive a tax credit when you contribute up to \$400 (for joint tax returns) or \$200 (for individual returns) to a public school for extracurricular activities that may require an enrolled student to pay a fee.

Here is how it works. Your family donates \$400 dollars to Higley High School; in return you get a \$400 Arizona state tax credit. If your family were to owe \$400 in state tax, you would not have to pay anything in April. Or, if your family didn't owe any state taxes, you would receive a \$400 refund from the Arizona Treasury after you file your tax return. **This is literally a dollar for dollar reduction in your state tax return.**

How will Higley High use these funds?

Since 2005, the year that this law went into effect, our school has used these funds for enrichment activities for Higley High students. These activities include tutoring services, guest speakers, field trips and enhanced athletic and extra curricular programs that our students may not be able to participate in otherwise.

Who can participate in this tax credit program?

Anyone who pays Arizona income tax! It is not limited to parents of students at the school. Friends, relatives and neighbors without children in school who live anywhere in the state of Arizona can contribute to Higley High School.

How can you participate in the program?

It's easy! You can donate to Higley High School online by visiting www.husd.org and clicking on the Tax Credit Donation tab on the HUSD homepage. Or, you may complete the tax credit donation form (enclosed) and attach your check for any amount.

All donations MUST be received by December 31st to claim on your 2011 tax return.

Why not keep some of our state tax money right here at Higley High?

Sincerely,

Larry Rother, Principal
Higley High School Site Council

LARRY ROTHER - PRINCIPAL
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Higley High School

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