

How do you get your students...



Fired

Up

...about learning and serving their communities?



Highlands Emergency Services Alliance Mission Statement

The mission of the Highlands Emergency Services Alliance is to provide a unified voice for volunteer Fire/EMS organizations and support the efforts of our communities through education, prevention, enforcement and mitigation in order to minimize the loss of life and property due to medical emergencies, fire and disasters which adversely impact our quality of life.

Vision Statement

As members of the Highlands Emergency Services Alliance, we share a vision of creating leading edge organizations of highly trained, competent volunteer professionals dedicated to exceeding the communities' expectations through such honored values as commitment, community involvement, excellence, integrity, pride, compassion and duty.

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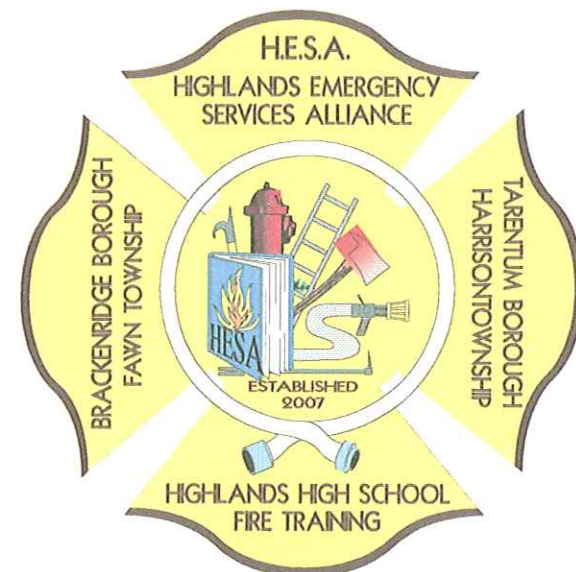


Please visit our websites
www.goldenrams.com
www.highlandsemergencyservices.com

H.E.S.A.

Fire Service Training at

Highlands High School Natrona Heights, Pennsylvania



Our Charter Members

2008-09



By Working Together - Everyone Benefits!

The Community Benefits...

Volunteer Companies are supported by new and well trained firefighters ready to respond to any emergency that may occur. This literally saves municipalities millions of dollars!

Fire Departments Benefit...

New recruits are training while attending their regular high school to answer tomorrow's alarm and call for help. Volunteer companies get new and young members, which is a concern for all organizations across our state.

The School District Benefits...

Students who serve their community will have a greater connection to that community, and therefore a greater connection to the school, which is also part of that community.

In a class like this, discipline is absolutely paramount. The students are held to a higher standard through a merit and demerit system. This increased personal discipline and attention to academic excellence as a primary focus helps them to be successful in other classes as well.

What is H.E.S.A.?

In the Highlands School District, there are four independent municipalities. They include Brackenridge Borough, Fawn Township, Harrison Township, and Tarentum Borough. These municipalities are protected by nine independent volunteer fire companies.

The leaders of these fire companies and municipalities want to be proactive instead of reactive. They want to keep our volunteer companies in business, and this requires recruiting new and young members.

These leaders formed an alliance, and proposed the idea to the school district as a possible elective class for Highlands High School. Approved in 2007, the new elective class was implemented at the high school for the 2008-09 school year.

Our program is now leading the way and other school districts and communities are following our example. In the summer of 2010, the Fireman's Association of the State of Pennsylvania recognized the efforts of the members of our alliance with the Recruitment and Retention Award which was sponsored by Provident Insurance.

The fire companies have seen an increase in new and junior memberships.



Fire Companies currently in the alliance:

- Pioneer Hose Co., Brackenridge, PA
- Fawn Township V.F.C. #2, Fawn Township, PA
- Citizens Hose Fire Rescue, Natrona Heights, PA
- Hilltop Hose Co. #3, Natrona Heights, PA
- Harrison Hills V.F.C. #4, Natrona Heights, PA
- Highland Hose Co., Tarentum, PA
- Eureka Fire Rescue, Tarentum, PA
- Summit Hose Co., Tarentum, PA

What is Working

SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS

In the fall of 2008, the members and companies of HESA held a community safety fair. While the community members viewed our equipment and also learned a lesson in safety, the parameters of a challenge grant was being met. Five Hundred people needed to show and be impacted by our event to meet the challenge of the grant.

Allegheny-Kiski

Health

Foundation

The alliance has formed an important partnership with the ALLEGHENY KISKI HEALTH FOUNDATION and by way of this Challenge Grant has established a \$25,000 Scholarship Fund for students of the HESA program.

The alliance has also secured grants from the State of Pennsylvania to obtain textbooks and other basic equipment for this program. The program has been implemented with a minimal expense to the school district.

Future Plans

The alliance is proud of its accomplishments, but wants to see the program continue to grow. One proposal is to create a second class, and perhaps a second level to the class to allow the students to complete more of the introductory training of the fire service.

A local company is replacing its fire engine, and wants to donate the truck that is being replaced to the alliance and this program.

Leaders of the alliance are working hard to pursue grant funding for a training complex to be built on the school campus. This would allow for a greater amount of practical training to occur during the school day, and would benefit the local companies by increasing their ability to train existing and senior members to remain on the cutting edge of this profession.