

[Michael Kascah](#), Principal

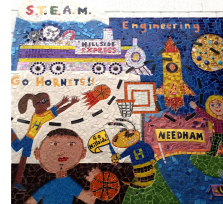
[Erin Vacaro](#), Assistant Principal

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Main Number: 781-455-0461

Hillside News

June 7, 2019



IMPORTANT DATES

- 6/07 -- Grade 3 Bike Rodeo -- 3E/3Sh, 9:00-10:00; 3F/3Sa, 10:30-11:30
- 6/08 -- Spring Fling Carnival, 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM
- 6/11 -- PreK-8 Early Release Day at 12:15 PM
- 6/12 -- Virtual Tour of Sunita Williams Elementary School, 6:30 PM, Hillside Gym
- 6/18 -- Grade 5 Field Day
- 6/19 -- Last Day of School; Early Release 12:15 PM



News from Mr. K...

Like many educators and parents, I have real concerns about the use of social media and, in particular, young children accessing certain platforms such as Facebook and Instagram. We spend time teaching students about internet safety in school and expect parents and guardians to regulate and monitor any online activity that involves our students. For safety reasons, no elementary age children should be on those platforms which, by the way, require users to be at least 13 years old. I also want to stress that cell phones are never allowed to be used by children in Hillside school. I have had recent conversations with our fifth graders and will likely do so with younger students about this topic and hope I can count on you all to reiterate what I have written here. If you have any questions about these conversations, please feel free to contact me.

With that said, there are times when social media can be used, even with children, for positive purposes. I shared a Facebook post (verbally, over the school loud speaker) with the whole school this morning that one of our staff came across yesterday.

“Special shout out today to the adorable 5th graders at Hillside along with the amazing staff that welcomed the incoming kindergarten class for orientation complete with virtual tours of Sunita Williams! If you are a parent of one of those fifth graders, you should be very proud!! My son is now beyond excited to start school in the fall!”

I am also very proud of our fifth grade tour guides and the staff. Yesterday was great success. And speaking of virtual tours, I hope you can join us here next Wednesday, June 12th, for a virtual tour of the new Sunita Williams school we will share at the meeting about the new school here in our gym at 6:30 pm.

In the meantime, I hope to see you at our school Carnival tomorrow afternoon. The weather looks to be perfect for our last one here on the Hillside campus!

PTC Hillside Hornet Buzz

PTC Highlights:

- **Spring Carnival Tomorrow!! Volunteers still needed - sign up [here](#) to help!**
- **2019-2020 School Supply Kits now available for purchasing [online](#)**
- **The PTC *REALLY* needs you! Check out the open Committee Chair Positions for 2019/20**
- **Join our Hillside/SWES float in Needham's 4th of July Parade!**
- **Fifth Grade Parents: Volunteers Still Needed for 5th Grade Field Day! Sign up [here](#) and don't forget to sign Waiver [here](#)**
- **Plan to purge some books over the summer? Please consider saving them for the Sunita Williams Used Book Sale - details below**
- **Claim items from Lost & Found before the last day of school. All unclaimed items will be donated.**

The Latest Buzz:

The Calendar Raffle ended today – Congrats to all of our raffle winners and a big thank you to **Jennifer Schaffstein** and **April Crawford** for running the Calendar Raffle!!! A huge **THANK YOU** to all of the Hillside families who purchased raffle tickets and donated prizes! Thanks to your generosity we raised over \$8,400 to fund field trips, special grade-level programs and special technology resources. Way to go Hillside!

School Tool Box - School supply online ordering for teacher-approved school supply kits is now **OPEN!** Order online and schedule your delivery date to your home for anytime this summer! Not only is this a quick and easy way to get all of your school supplies but a portion of the proceeds benefit Hillside/Sunita Williams Elementary! This program is being offered to rising 1st through 5th graders. (Rising kindergarteners will receive a separate letter this summer from their teacher). No need to know which teacher you have next year— each grade level has a pre-built school supply box already loaded on the school toolbox site—so with one-click you can order all your teacher approved supplies! Go to www.schooltoolbox.com and search for Sunita Williams School! If you have any questions contact Jessica Young at jessicamercer@yahoo.com

Needham's July 4th Parade! Let's bid farewell to Hillside and welcome the Sunita Williams School to Needham in this summer's 4th of July Parade! We will be decorating a float in the parade again this year. We are looking for volunteers to help with assembly; we are also asking for donations of materials and decorations to make our float awesome! More details of decorating date to come. Please note this is not a drop off event - all students must have a parent/guardian in attendance.

Sign-Up Genius is coming soon with more information on float decoration and donations. **We are also looking for a trailer that can hold 10-15 people** - please let us know if you have one we could borrow! Depending on interest levels, we will hold a lottery for spots on the float or walking in front of it during the parade. Interested in more information or have a fun idea? Please email April Crawford and Shelly Bansal-Snow at Hillsides4thofJuly@gmail.com.

Planning to sort through your bookshelves over the summer? Please consider donating them to the first ever **Sunita Williams Used Book Sale!** If you cannot hold onto the books until our first collection in the Fall, please contact our Used Book Sale Chairs, Joanie Daly and Ilana Kaufman (jdavadaly@gmail.com and kaufman.ilana@gmail.com). Thank you!

A Message from Hillside Cares: Please ask your child to check the Lost & Found before the last day of school. Sweatshirts, jackets, water bottles, lunch boxes, hats, and other assorted items have been collected and are waiting for their rightful owners to claim them! Any items left after June 19th will be discarded or donated to Circle of Hope. Please contact Sarah Burns @ sarahmag18@yahoo.com with any questions.

Upcoming Events



We hope you and your family will join us as we say goodbye to Hillside in grand style with our last **Spring Carnival this Saturday!** We'll have inflatables, dunk tank, baby zoo animals, cake walk, face painting and more! The event will be held from **4pm-7pm** so plan on grabbing dinner at the Captain Marden's food truck and be ready to celebrate our last ever event at Hillside!

We still need MANY volunteers to run the various events. To ensure all activities are open for your children please sign up for a timeslot [here](#). Thank you!

The **5th Grade Party** is on Friday, June 14th from 4-6 pm at the Boston Sports Club in Wellesley (140 Great Plain Ave, Wellesley). All children need to have a BSC waiver signed by their parents in order to participate. Please do this in advance of the party by following this [link](#).

PTC Fundraisers

Amazon Smile: When you shop Amazon, be sure to shop via the Amazon Smile link and designate the Hillside Parent Teacher Council Trust as your charity of choice. Amazon will donate a portion of their proceeds back to the PTC every time you purchase eligible items. It takes very little effort, but the pay-off for the PTC is great!

Seeking Volunteers - OPEN POSITIONS 2019 - 2020

Thank you to those who have already signed on to help fill **Open Committee Chair Roles** for the next school! We are still looking to fill some openings. Remember, we cannot run the many events and programs for our community, that help build and strengthen our community, if we don't have people in these positions willing to take on these roles. There are positions to suit all levels of time commitments for both working parents and stay-at-home parents. **All of these roles can be shared between 2 (or more!) people so consider grabbing a friend or two and helping run one of the events/programs looking for new Committee Chairs:**

2019/20 Chair positions:

- Candy Bar Bingo Chair
- Calendar Raffle Chair
- Creative Arts Co-Chair

- K/1st Grade Cafeteria Chair
- Sunita Williams Green Team Chair
- Staff Appreciation Chair

2019/20 Shadow/Apprentice Roles which will transition into 2020/21 Chair Role:

- Communications Email Blasts
- Enrichment Grants
- Walk/Bike to School Chair

If you want more information about what is involved in each of the positions, please contact Vanessa Jones vanessajones694@icloud.com. **We would love to have you join the team!**

Child Assault Prevention Program (CAP) Seeking Volunteers for 2019-2020 School Year

Do you have two free mornings a month during the school year? Are you looking for a meaningful and fun way to make a difference in children's lives? If so, then join our dynamic team of trained CAP volunteers who are committed to using guided discussions and role plays to teach children in the Needham Elementary Schools that they have the right to be Safe, Strong and Free with their friends and peers, when they meet adult strangers, and with those who are trusted to take care of them. We are now accepting applications for the 2019-2020 school year. The next training begins on October 20th. For more information or an application, please visit our website at www.needhamcommunitycouncil.org or contact Caren Nemtow, Director, at 781-444-2415, ext. 2120 or cnemtow@needhamcommunitycouncil.org

Helpful Advice From Mrs. Greiff



Spring Has Sprung... Here are a few helpful reminders:

Many of our students are starting to feel some effects of seasonal allergies. There are a broad range of symptoms which may include:

- Sneezing
- Runny nose (Clear)
- Nasal congestion
- Itchy, watery, red eyes
- An itchy throat
- Dry cough
- Disturbed sleeping patterns
- Loss of taste and sense of smell

If your child has experienced any of these symptoms in past years, this may be a good time to check in with your pediatrician to discuss a treatment plan for seasonal allergies.



Tick Removal

Examine your children frequently for ticks, especially after they have been out in wooded or grassy areas. If you find a tick attached, there's no need to panic. There are several tick removal devices on the market, but a plain set of fine-tipped tweezers will remove a tick quite effectively.

How to remove a tick

1. Use fine-tipped tweezers to grasp the tick as close to the skin's surface as possible.
2. Pull upward with steady, even pressure. Don't twist or jerk the tick; this can cause the mouth-parts to break off and remain in the skin. If this happens, remove the mouth-parts with tweezers. If you are unable to remove the mouth easily with clean tweezers, leave it alone and let the skin heal.
3. After removing the tick, thoroughly clean the bite area and your hands with rubbing alcohol, an iodine scrub, or soap and water.

Signs and Symptoms of Lyme Disease

If you had a tick bite, live in an area known for Lyme disease or have recently traveled to an area [where it occurs](#), and observe any of these symptoms, you should seek medical attention!

- Red, expanding rash called erythema migrans (EM)
- Fatigue, chills, fever, headache, muscle and joint aches, and swollen lymph nodes

Some people may get these general symptoms in addition to an EM rash, but in others, these general symptoms may be the only evidence of infection. Some people get a small bump or redness at the site of a tick bite that goes away in 1-2 days, like a mosquito bite. This is not a sign that you have Lyme disease.



Erythema migrans (EM) or "bull's-eye" rash

- Rash occurs in approximately 70-80% of infected persons and begins at the site of a tick bite after a delay of 3-30 days (average is about 7 days).
- Rash gradually expands over a period of several days, and can reach up to 12 inches (30 cm) across. Parts of the rash may clear as it enlarges, resulting in a "bull's-eye" appearance.
- Rash usually feels warm to the touch but is rarely itchy or painful.
- EM lesions may appear on any area of the body.



Bike Safety Tips

We can make bicycling safer for all by observing the following safety tips:

- Always wear a helmet
- Obey all traffic controls
- Ride your bicycle near the right-hand edge of the road
- **Never carry another person on your bicycle**
- Always use hand signals when turning or stopping
- Look out for cars at cross street, driveways, and parking places
- Be careful when checking traffic and don't swerve when looking over your shoulder
- Give pedestrians the right-of-way
- Keep your bicycle in good condition
- Always ride carefully



Honor Educators with NEF Gift for Education Cards

Recognize a special teacher or VIP in your child's life by making a donation in his or her name to the Needham Education Foundation (NEF). NEF Gift for Education Cards make it simple to show your gratitude, while supporting innovation and excellence in Needham Public Schools. If you order online, NEF can send the cards back to you so you can personalize and hand deliver, or we can mail the cards for you. Cards are \$10 each.

To purchase online (by June 12th), visit nefneedham.org. You may also buy cards in person at Proud Mary, Roche Bros., Sudbury Farms, or Volante Farms through June 21st. Questions? Contact Maureen Callahan at mcallahan@nefneedham.org.

Upcoming COMMUNITY EVENTS

Looking for something fun to do with the kids this week *that does not include electronics?!!*

Needham Bowlaway is donating 100% of their proceeds from “Purple Lanes” this week (Tuesday, June 4 – Sunday, June 9th) to Needham Goes Purple, a local fundraising organization that raises money and awareness for the Alzheimer’s Association. One hour in the “purple lane” is a flat fee of \$40 including shoe rentals, purple lights and a purple glow bracelet for up to 6 people. Come by, have some good family fun, and donate to a great cause!



Annual Pan Mass Kids Ride

Please join us for the 3rd Annual Pan Mass Kids Ride in Needham Sunday June 9th! This is a wonderful family event where kids ride their bikes and raise money to fight cancer. The ride will once again will take place at Pollard Middle School, 8:15am-12pm, and includes a post ride party. Register @ www.kids.pmc.org/needham. For more info, please contact: Liz Mingle Elizabeth.mingle@gmail.com

Needham Community Council Family Fun Night

Friday, June 28 from 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Rosemary Pool Complex

Free admission to the first 100 people -- Free Richie’s slush!

Needham Youth & Family Services

The Youth & Family Services Department is offering new and fan favorite **Summer Programs!** Check out the new Summer brochure online www.needhamma.gov/youth. It’s also that time of year to submit your applications for the 2019/2020 school year to participate in the Peer Tutor and VIP programs. Be sure to get in your registration forms and applications before they fill up. If you have questions regarding programs, please contact Kristin Scoble at kscoble@needhamma.gov.

Parenting -- Being a parent is something you wouldn’t change for the world — but doing it alone can sometimes drive you to exhaustion. Are you a single parent interested in participating in a group addressing issues such as time management, raising healthy children, taking care of yourself, while at the same time getting to know other single parents? Join this FREE 6-week program; childcare is provided onsite, and a light dinner will be served for parents and children. Registration deadline is July 1. For information and to register, contact: **Katy Colthart, LICSW** at 781-455-7500 x264 or by email at kcolthart@needhamma.gov, www.needhamma.gov/youth

Summer Track Club Sign Up

All boys and girls age 3.5 - 14 are invited to sign up for the Needham Youth Track Club's Summer Program. Spend summer evenings running, throwing and jumping! The program provides instruction, practice, meets, ribbons, trophies and lots of fun. For more information: www.needhamtrack.org (select Summer Program) or e-mail needhamtrackclub@gmail.com or call 781-856-4088. Online registration: www.needhamsummerprogram.org

The Child Assault Prevention Program (CAP) is now accepting applications for volunteers for the 2019-2020 school year. Please join our dynamic and dedicated team of volunteer Prevention Specialists who go into the Needham Elementary Schools in teams of three and teach the children that they have the right to be Safe, Strong and Free with their friends and peers, when they meet adult strangers, and with those who are trusted to take care of them. No prior experience required as training is provided. The next training

begins on October 20th.

For more information please contact Caren Nemtzow, Director, at 781-444-2415 or cnemtzow@needhamcommunitycouncil.org or visit our website at www.Needhamcommunitycouncil.org.



Looking for a Part-Time Job?

The **Needham Police Department** is seeking qualified individuals for the position of **Crossing Guards**.

DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES: Duties will include supervision of school children as they cross the street on their way to/from school at an assigned post. A valid driver's license and dependable motor vehicle is required. It is imperative that Crossing Guards are dependable, since we do not have the ability to cover unnecessary absences. Crossing Guards must possess stamina to stand for long periods of time and the ability to work and drive in all weather conditions with exposure to traffic.

HOURS OF WORK: 7am – 8:30am (approximately) and 2pm – 3pm (approximately). This is a part-time position with no benefits; however, there are additional jobs that may be suitable for crossing guards during their off hours and during the summer.

CURRENT RATE: \$20.65/hour

INTERESTED? Please visit: <http://www.needhamma.gov/jobs.aspx> for an application. If you should have any questions, please contact Officer Karl Harmon at kharmon@needhamma.gov

The Needham Community Farm announces new Family Gardening Classes for Spring, Summer and Fall. The hands-on classes are designed for families with young children, require no previous experience, and materials and tools are provided. For more information and to register, visit the website at www.NeedhamFarm.org, or call Susan Shaver at 781-343-1106.

Citizens for Needham Schools — Apply to be a Board Member

CNS is seeking board members who are politically and civically engaged with an interest in issues related to education and the Needham school system. The Board engages in robust conversation and welcomes diverse viewpoints. CNS Board members serve a three-year term and responsibilities include attending 5-6 CNS Board meetings, watching and writing summaries of 2-3 School Committee meetings, and engaging with and providing school-related information to the community on an ongoing basis via social media, school meetings, and your personal network.

[Learn more about CNS](#)

[Apply now](#)



STEAM Center Hours

Mon-Wed 3:30-8:30

Thursday - 3:30-5:30

Friday - 3:30-5:00

Saturday - 9:00-4:30

Sunday - 1:00-6:30

Drop in to program a robot, build a marble run or snap some circuits together. Explore robotics, computer coding, electricity and engineering using our toys, games and equipment.

Register for Summer Reading!

A Universe of Stories

May 1-July 29th

Sign up for Summer Reading at the Children's Desk of Needham Free Public Library or call 781-455-7559 x 204. Registration begins May 1. Sign up through June 29th. Read and log the time spent reading in a paper or online reading log starting June 24th -August 9th. Earn prizes. This year's theme is outer space. Paper rockets on the Children's Room bulletin board representing each school, will be racing towards a distant planet. Which rocket will arrive first and win the Race in Outer Space? The more you read, the faster and further your school's rocket will go! Get a brag tag and neck chain when you sign up. Receive 4 pony beads to put on your neck chain for every 2 hours of reading you do. The more you read, the more specialized beads you can collect. Watch out for strange UFO sightings around Needham! Enjoy performers, workshops, STEAM activities, movies and more June 24th-August 12th!

Summer Learning at Needham Free Public Library

Grades K-5

Summer is about reading - and math and science and having fun! We have long known about the "summer slide" in reading. When children don't read over the summer, they lose skills and vocabulary and have a harder time in the fall. However, the same is true for forgetting math skills, or what they learned in science class.

Explore the web links for Summer Learning on the Needham Free Public Library's web page

www.needhamma.gov/library where children can hone their skills and retain what they have learned in school over the summer months through fun and engaging online activities.

THE PTC PRESENTS THE

Hillside Spring Fling

CARNIVAL

SATURDAY, JUNE 8 ♦ 4 P.M. - 7 P.M.

HILLSIDE PLAYGROUND

DUNK TANK ♦ BABY ZOO ANIMALS ♦ INFLATABLES

Dinner from
Captain Marden's
Food Truck
&
Lots of Carnival
treats for sale!

CRAFTS
GAMES
PRIZES
& MORE

PLEASE JOIN US AT OUR LAST HILLSIDE EVENT AND HAVE
AN AFTERNOON OF FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!!



LET'S BUILD: ENGINEERING FUN FOR KIDS

Hillside Families and Friends (with CORI forms) are invited to volunteer with Let's Build, a fun, in-classroom engineering opportunity!

Grade					
5	5R 5/28 8:45-10:15	5F 5/28 10:25-11:55	5Ma 5/30 11-12:30	5Mi 5/30 1:15-2:40	
1	1T 6/3 9:00-10:15	1B 6/3 12:30-1:45	1A 6/4 10:15-11:30	1F 6/5 12:30-1:45	
4	4H 6/12 9:00-10:30	4K 6/12 12:30-2	4B 6/13 9:00-10:30		

Grade 5 – Stomp Rockets (Forces)

Grade 1 – Waterwheels (Properties of Water)

Grade 4 – Circuit Challenge! (Electricity/Circuits)

Calling Hillside Volunteers!



To volunteer
email

Liz Lee at

info@letsbuildengineering.org

LET'S BUILD:
ENGINEERING FUN FOR
KIDS



Needham, MA

www.letsbuildengineering.org
info@letsbuildengineering.org