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## Hillside News May 4, 2018



### IMPORTANT DATES



- 09 National Bike-to-School Day
- 21 Bike Rodeo (Mrs. Riley, 9-9:45; Mrs. Santaniello, 10-10:45; Mrs. Shea, 11-11:45)
- 24 Early Release Day - No AM or PM Kindergarten (conferences)
- 28 No School -- Memorial Day
- 31 No AM or PM Kindergarten - AM & PM KASE in session

**REMINDER: 2018/2019 TRANSPORTATION REGISTRATION FORMS FOR GRADES 1-12 MUST BE RECEIVED BY MAY 15, 2018.**

**NOTE: NO AM & PM Kindergarten on 5/31 due to tours and screening for new Kindergarteners. AM & PM KASE will be held.**

**FYI: The last day of school is June 18 (early release).**

### PTC Hillside Hornet Buzz

**Spring has finally arrived, Hillsideers!!! Get outside and enjoy the weather, but before you do, check out the latest news....**

**LAST CHANCE TO DONATE TO THE CALENDAR RAFFLE!!** We **STILL** need donations for our upcoming calendar raffle. Tickets, experiences, gadgets, etc are all big hits with our students who love winning the prizes in this annual fundraiser. If you have something to donate, or can join forces with friends and neighbors for a group prize donation, please be in touch with Jen Schaffstein at [leonardschaffstein@yahoo.com](mailto:leonardschaffstein@yahoo.com). This year's raffle will run from June 4th - June 8th with prizes awarded each school day. Please donate if you can!

The **Festival of Cultures Committee** is looking for a **few more families to share their country and culture**. Please email [hillsidefestivalofcultures@gmail.com](mailto:hillsidefestivalofcultures@gmail.com) if you would like to join in and share your country and culture with the Hillside community. The basic display materials are provided to you and can be done easily by the children at home. We had 18 countries represented last year and it would be awesome to see a few more this year! The **3rd Festival of**

**Cultures** will be held on **Friday, May 18th at 6:30pm** in the Hillside school gym. Come along to this fun family event to see the displays and entertainment from the participating countries.

**Buddy Families Needed!** Are you interested in welcoming new families to Hillside? Do you love our community and want to share your knowledge about it with those just starting out? Volunteer to be a buddy family! Our Welcome Committee is seeking existing families who would be willing to be paired with a new family over the summer. Reach out via email, perhaps meet up at a playground to introduce yourselves, and generally be available to answer any questions a new family may have. If you are interested please email our Welcome Committee Co-Chairs Sarah Docktor at [sarahdocktor@gmail.com](mailto:sarahdocktor@gmail.com) and Julie Hand at [jhand1223@gmail.com](mailto:jhand1223@gmail.com).

### Upcoming Events

**Mark your Calendars!** The next **PTC Meeting** is **May 22nd** at 7:15pm in the Hillside Gymnasium. In addition to updates on the latest PTC happenings, Mr. K will be sharing a slideshow on the latest developments with the design and construction of the new Sunita L. Williams school. We are

in a very exciting phase with the new building so you won't want to miss it! Please be sure to join us!

**Hillside Night at Fenway is Tuesday, May 29<sup>th</sup> at 7:10 p.m.** For those of you who have purchased tickets, we look forward to seeing you there for a fun night!!! Let's go Red Sox!!!

**NEW THIS YEAR!** Please join us on **Friday, June 1st** for a **Movie Night** outside on the Green Machine (no rain date). We'll be screening the animated film Ferdinand. This sweet movie about a bull with a big heart will appeal to kids and grown ups alike so be sure to join us. The Movie Night will replace the Spring Carnival for this year.

**Please SAVE THE DATE of June 5, 2018** to help us throw an amazing **Thank You Luncheon** for our teachers and staff!!! This year's theme is "Red Carpet" and we plan on treating the teachers like stars! To make this luncheon a huge success, we need many, many volunteers!! Please be on the lookout for the SignUp Genius to volunteer to help that day or with specific food items. Please see attached flyer for additional details. Any questions, please contact Caitrin Dunphy at [caitrin.dunphy@gmail.com](mailto:caitrin.dunphy@gmail.com).

## Community

### 2018 District Survey

This week, Hillside students and staff are completing the Needham Public Schools 2018 District Survey. Parents can complete the survey now, too. This biennial survey, administered since 2001, allows each school to celebrate strengths, respond to areas needing improvement, and measure progress toward the District Goals. The cumulative results will be shared with us!

Since the last District survey was administered in 2016, Needham Public Schools took a number of action steps. Here are a few examples: In response to requests for improved transportation service, the School Committee approved funding for the addition of school buses and a late bus; school space issues were addressed; more STEAM programs were added; the process was launched for community involvement in developing a Portrait of A Needham Graduate, and so much more. Our own School Council worked with staff to consider how to respond to the survey findings as we updated Hillside's School Improvement Plan.

**Please take ten minutes to complete this confidential District Survey** which can be found at the following link: <https://surveys.panoramaed.com/needham/hillsidefamily>

### Other PTC Fundraisers

**Box Tops:** **Your box top contributions make a difference!!** Please keep them coming!!!! Collection sheets and a collection box for sheets/box tops are located at the PTC bulletin board near Lori's desk.

**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

The PTC depends very heavily on parent volunteerism. We are fortunate to have many very dedicated parents who step up each year to run committees, but we are always looking for more help! Below are some great volunteer opportunities we hope you will consider:

**Yearbook Coordinator Co-Chair (2018-2019):** Samantha Shapiro would love to have a co-chair next year to help her work with students to put together the Hillside Yearbook for 2018-19. This is creative and very rewarding work!! Email Samantha ([samshap333@hotmail.com](mailto:samshap333@hotmail.com)), Erin ([eringapstein@gmail.com](mailto:eringapstein@gmail.com)) or Meg ([megrosenbaum11@gmail.com](mailto:megrosenbaum11@gmail.com)) if you are interested.

**Seeking 1st Grade Cafeteria Volunteers:** As we head into the last 2 months of school, we are short on lunchtime help and are asking if you can sign up, please do so! You can sign-up for as many or as few days as you can offer. To sign up, please use this link: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050d4badaa22a31-first1>

To ensure you get all our future updates, please **LIKE us on Facebook (Hillside Elementary School PTC, follow us on Twitter at @hillsideptc and register your information through our website [www.HillsidePTC.org](http://www.HillsidePTC.org)** so that you will receive our email blast.

PTC Co-Presidents

Erin Apstein, [eringapstein@gmail.com](mailto:eringapstein@gmail.com)

Meg Rosenbaum, [megrosenbaum11@gmail.com](mailto:megrosenbaum11@gmail.com)  
[www.HillsidePTC.org](http://www.HillsidePTC.org)

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## More Hillside Hornet Buzz...



The Hillside Bike Rodeo -  
Volunteers Needed!

The Hillside school continues its partnership with the Needham Police Department once again this year with our annual Bike Rodeo. The Bike Rodeo is an educational experience for our 3rd grade riders and non-riders alike. Riders and non-riders will visit various bicycle education stations to learn about riding safety. Riders have an opportunity to earn their very own Bicycle license by riding through our riding course. Students who earn their bicycle license are granted riding privileges to school **with** parental consent of course.

The Bike Rodeo will take place on Monday, May 21st (rain date, June 4th) -- Mrs. Riley's class from 9:00-9:45, Mrs. Santaniello's class from 10:00-10:45, and Mrs. Shea's class from 11:00-11:45. Notices are going home with our 3rd graders today.

In order to make our Bike Rodeos work, we need a hearty crew of volunteers! If you would like to help out for your

child's Bike Rodeo or even better, stay for all three, please contact Mr. Tatro at [rob\\_tatro@needham.k12.ma.us](mailto:rob_tatro@needham.k12.ma.us) or check out <http://hillsidepe.weebly.com/special-events.html> for more information.

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Hillside is celebrating its 3rd **Festival of Cultures** on Friday, May 18th at 6:30 pm in the Hillside gym.

Come along to this fun event to see the creative displays from the participating countries. Please return the flier if you would like to join in and share your country and culture with the Hillside community. We had 18 countries represented last year and would love to have a few more this year! If there are any questions, please contact [hillsidefestivalofcultures@gmail.com](mailto:hillsidefestivalofcultures@gmail.com)



### Summer Explorations Program

Summer Explorations offers students entering grades 1–9 more than 90 weeklong, morning, afternoon and full-day enrichment classes in July. There are classes in science, sports, fine and performing arts, culture, cooking, crafts, technology, engineering and more to appeal to the inquisitive, active, and creative child. All classes are taught by Needham Public Schools teachers and other trained education professionals. Students participating in both morning and afternoon sessions bring their own lunch and stay for a supervised lunch period with their friends. The program runs for 4 weeks in July, and students may register for classes in any or all of the weeks. The Hillside School will have classes for grades 1–5 and the High Rock School will have classes for grades 3–9. The relaxed and fun setting of Summer Explorations provides an excellent opportunity for children to develop new skills and to explore new interests. Register online today!



### Needham Open Studios

Saturday, May 5, 10:00-4:00

Sunday, May 6, 12:00-4:00

Celebrate our 20th year with artists in 15 locations around town opening their doors to demonstrate their work. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet artists, see how they work, and learn about their inspirations and methods. This year there will be special demonstrations, hands-on activities, and even performances at select locations throughout the weekend, and you can visit our web site to see the list of participating artists, the map of locations, and the schedule of special activities at [needhamopenstudios.com](http://needhamopenstudios.com).

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Please join Beth Israel-Deaconess Hospital–Needham for a **Topping Off Ceremony** for the new Outpatient Clinical Center on Tuesday, May 8 at 3:00 pm. This is a family-

friendly event with light refreshments and a chance for families to sign the last ceremonial steel beam and celebrate its placement on top of the structure. The event will take place at BID–Needham at 148 Chestnut Street. Please RSVP to [events@bidneedham.org](mailto:events@bidneedham.org).

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### First Lego League (FLL) Information Night

Is your rising 5th through 8th grader interested in technology/programming/designing/robotics? Do you want to know more about how to lead a team (no experience necessary)? The FLL (<http://www.firstinspires.org/robotics/fll>) program is a parent lead program that runs from September through December, and allows teams of (ideally) 4 to 6 students to design, build, test, and compete robots they build from legos, as well as solve and present real-world problems. Find out about First Lego League Competition at an information night on May 15, from 6:30 to 8pm at Needham High School. Register using the following link: <https://tinyurl.com/NeedhamFLLNight2018>

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Donate, Consign, Volunteer and Shop for gently used children's clothing, toys & equipment at Parent Talk's Spring Sale! Saturday, May 19th 8:30a.m.-12:45pm at the Christ Episcopal Church [1132 Highland Ave Needham](http://1132HighlandAveNeedham.com). Donations accepted until May 16th. For more info email [clothingsale@parenttalk.info](mailto:clothingsale@parenttalk.info) or go to <http://www.parenttalk.info/community/used-clothing-toy-sale.php>

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# Hillside Elementary School Festival of Cultures Friday, May 18 @ 6:30pm

Please join us to celebrate the rich diversity of cultures that make the Hillside Elementary School community. It's a fun and free family event. Families will be invited to visit tables which will include country information, activities and materials in an engaging way. Children attending the event will be given passports which will be stamped at each country they visit.

Please be in touch if you would like to participate and share your country and culture.

- Examples of table displays from previous festivals:



My family would like to host a table display of our native country.  
Country:

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Primary Contact name:

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Primary Contact's e-mail address:

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Please give this form to your child's teacher or email the contact details to [hillsidefestivalofcultures@gmail.com](mailto:hillsidefestivalofcultures@gmail.com) by April 20.



# SAVE THE DATE:

## June 5, 2018



### **Please Join Us As We Roll Out the Red Carpet for Our Faculty and Staff!**

Save the date of Tuesday, June 5th (which is an early release day) to volunteer for the annual Staff Appreciation Luncheon. We will be looking for plenty of assistance with food and beverage donations, event set-up, staffing and clean-up, as well as childcare coverage.

The sign-up genius will be going out next week. Questions? Email me at [caitrin.dunphy@gmail.com](mailto:caitrin.dunphy@gmail.com).

**What:** Hillside Staff Appreciation Luncheon

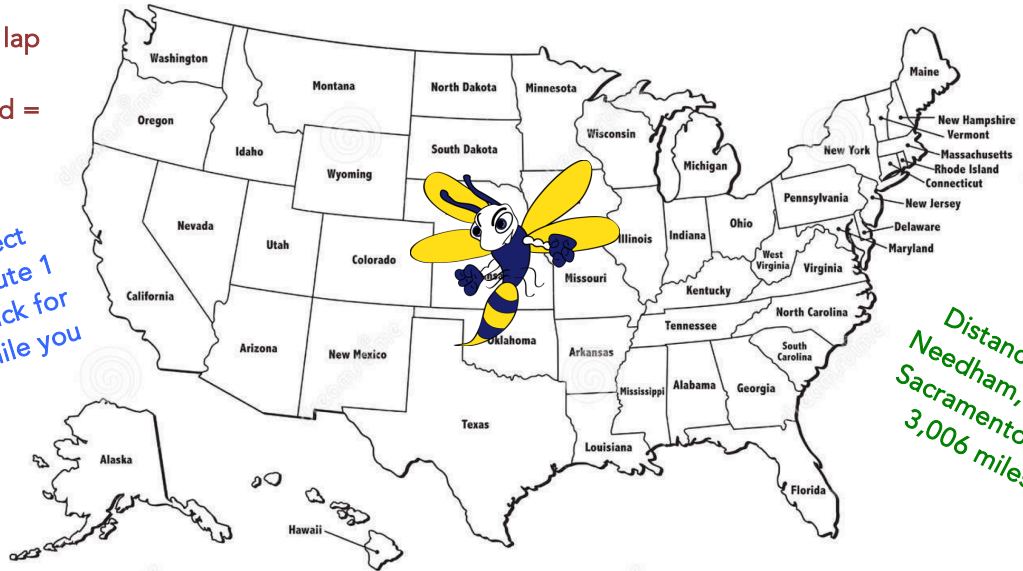
**When:** Tuesday, June 5, 2018

**Where:** The Hillside Gymnasium

# Hornets Buzz Across America

1 complete lap  
around the  
Hillside Field =  
¼ mile

You can collect  
and contribute 1  
popsicle stick for  
every ¼ mile you  
run/walk.



Distance from  
Needham, MA to  
Sacramento, CA:  
3,006 miles!

This year, the Hillside Hornets are going to work together to buzz our way across America!!! We will watch the Hillside Hornet travel across the map that's in the Hillside lobby.

Contribute miles by earning popsicle sticks!!!

## How to Participate:

- **Morning Mingle:** Run a lap around the Hillside field on Monday and Friday mornings at Morning Mingle. For every proper ¼ mile lap you complete, you can collect 1 popsicle stick and put it into the collection bucket.
- **Walk/Bike to School:** Earn 2 popsicle sticks for walking/biking to school. Add your popsicle sticks to the collection bucket in the front lobby.
- **BONUS STICKS:** If you participate in the Hillside Trick or Trot on October 29<sup>th</sup>, you can earn bonus sticks! You will get **10 popsicle sticks** for participation in the Monster Fun Run and **50 popsicle sticks** for participating in the 5K.