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Main Office -- 781-455-0461

Hillside News May 11, 2018



IMPORTANT DATES



- 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).

A Message From The Superintendent

Dear Hillside Families:

I write to inform you that I have appointed Ms. Chanit List, Hillside's Special Education Coordinator and Assistant Principal, to the position of Assistant Principal at Broadmeadow Elementary School effective July 1st.

As you know, Ms. List has served Hillside families and children with care, dedication, and expertise since she began as a Special Education Team Chairperson in 2010. Beginning in 2012, Ms. List assumed administrative responsibilities as the Special Education Coordinator at Hillside, and she eventually was appointed to a dual role as Hillside's Special Education Coordinator and Assistant Principal where she has capably worked as a leader of the Hillside Community.

Ms. List adores Hillside's children and their families, and she will miss the many connections and relationships she has established there. However, in her new role as Broadmeadow's Assistant Principal she will be able to extend her skills, experience, and leadership to benefit and strengthen one of Needham's other wonderful elementary schools, Broadmeadow.

Mr. Kascak will soon begin a process to identify an interim Special Education Coordinator/Assistant Principal for the

2018-19 school year, and he will update the school community as that process moves forward.

For now, please join me in wishing Ms. List the best as she begins a new leadership journey within the Needham Public Schools at Broadmeadow.

Sincerely,

Dan Gutekanst
Superintendent of Schools

PTC Hillside Hornet Buzz

Hillside is celebrating its **3rd Annual Festival of Cultures on Friday, May 18th at 6:30 p.m. in the Hillside Gymnasium!**

Come to this family event to discover fun facts and learn about over 18 countries that our families represent in the Hillside community. It's not too late if your family would like to participate by providing a simple display (display boards are provided). If you have any questions about getting involved, please contact Clare Currie at hillsidefestivalofcultures@gmail.com.

The next and last **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!

The **TEACHER APPRECIATION LUNCH IS COMING AND WE NEED YOUR HELP!** On **June 5, 2018** 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!! To volunteer to help that day or with specific food items, please go to: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0c4cacad22a5fa7-wearerolling>. Please see attached flyer for additional details. Any questions, please contact Caitrin Dunphy at caitrin.dunphy@gmail.com.

Buddy Families Needed! Do you remember what it was like to be a new family at Hillside? Are you interested in welcoming new families to our school? 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 and Julie Hand at jhand1223@gmail.com.

Upcoming Events

The Calendar Raffle is coming!!! Raffle letter announcing all of the great prizes coming soon! Tickets will go on sale on May 21st – June 1st and the first drawing will be held on **Monday June 4th**. Drawings will take place, winners will be announced, and prizes will be awarded **every day from June 4-8th, 2018**. This annual fundraiser helps the PTC raise much-needed funds to support enrichment programs at Hillside. It also offers participants the chance to win some great prizes!! This year **your family could win \$100 gift card to Learning Express, 2 passes to Tree Top Adventures, a family outing to the New England Aquarium and IMAX** - to name a few of the wonderful raffle prizes we are offering this year.

Hillside Night at Fenway is Tuesday, May 29th at 7:10 p.m. For those of you who have purchased tickets, we will be distributing e-tickets and you will receive them to your inbox closer to the game. 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) at 8 p.m. (concessions open at 7 p.m.) 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 see flyer at the end of this newsletter for additional details.

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), Erin (eringapstein@gmail.com) or Meg (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** so that you will receive our email blast.

PTC Co-Presidents

Erin Apstein, eringapstein@gmail.com

Meg Rosenbaum, megrosenbaum11@gmail.com
www.HillsidePTC.org

A Message From Mrs. Greiff:



Spring Allergies

I have seen many students for spring allergy symptoms this week. Sometimes we are doing everything right and still the pollen prevails. Or, sometimes, children refuse to do what's best for them and ignore our advice! Please check with your pediatrician before giving any medications.

Seasonal allergy symptoms are hard to reverse once they start, so the best action is prevention. The over-the-counter, non-sedating medications work well when taken daily. The same is true for antihistamine eye drops. Please consider giving them in the morning before school.

Other Preventive Measures:

Wear hats and sunglasses for recess

Wash hands and face when coming indoors

Keep car and house windows closed

Shower before bed

Wash bed sheets more frequently

Use saline nasal sprays as needed to rinse nasal passages

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 or check out <http://hillsidepe.weebly.com/special-events.html> for more information.

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



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!



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>

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](#). Donations accepted until May 16th. For more info email clothingsale@parenttalk.info or go to <http://www.parenttalk.info/community/used-clothing-toy-sale.php>

The Needham Exchange Club will be hosting a Car Show on Sunday, May 20th from 10am – 2pm at Needham High School. The show will highlight antique cars, muscle cars, sports cars, and much more!
Needhamcarshow.com or www.needhamexchangeclub.org

Interested in learning more about Cub Scouts? Join Needham Pack 4 for one of our year-end Pack Meetings and see what it's all about: Sunday, May 20 at 3:45 pm at Christ Episcopal Church or on Sunday, June 3 at 4:00 pm at Claxton Field (Central Avenue across from Needham RTS) for an end-of-year BBQ with food and games. To learn more, please contact webmaster.pack4@gmail.com and visit our website at pack4needham.org.



BOOK SALE BEGINS FRIDAY, JUNE 1

The book sale of Friends of the Needham Public Library begins with added hours on Friday, June 1 from 12:30 to 4:30 p.m. in the Friends' Book Shop and the Community Room. Saturday hours are 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and Sunday from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. Call 781-455-7559 oror friendsneedhamlibrary.org.

The Needham Women's Club announces that tickets are now on sale for this year's [Needham Garden Tour](#) scheduled for Sunday, June 10th from 1pm-4pm. Tour-goers will see the spectacular gardens of six Needham homeowners including a container garden tour raffle and a home with colorful table settings for outdoor entertaining. Tour tickets are available \$30 in advance (\$35 day of the event) and early access tickets are available for the first 85 people, which includes the Garden Party before the tour. For more information or to purchase tickets online, please go to NeedhamWomensClub.org.



Needham Parents Care Brings You Another:
[Parent Tip-of-the-Month: Navigating Food with Your Child](#)



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:

Primary Contact name:

Primary Contact's e-mail address:

Please give this form to your child's teacher or email the contact details to hillsidefestivalofcultures@gmail.com by April 20.

The Hillside PTC Presents
A Post-Sundown Outdoor Movie Night

FERDINAND

Friday, June 1st
8 p.m.
Hillside Field

Suggested
donation
\$5/family
to help us
cover costs



POPCORN, CANDY & WATER WILL
BE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE

**Concessions will open at 7 p.m.*

Bring blankets, sleeping bags and/or chairs to sit on!

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.

What: Hillside Staff Appreciation Luncheon

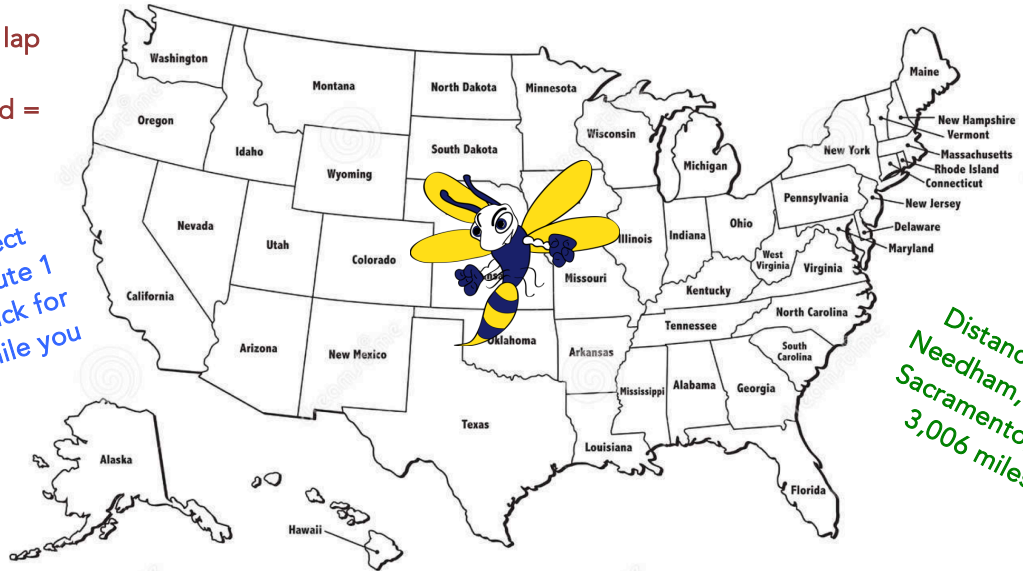
When: Tuesday, June 5, 2018

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 29th, 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.