

Hillside News
September 15, 2017

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781-455-0461



September

19
21
26
29

Portrait Day - Pack your smiles
Rosh Hashanah - Schools closed
Early Release Day K - 5 12:15
PTC Dues Drive ends



October

3
4
6
9

PTC Meeting 7:15 PM
Walk/Bike-to-School Day
Room Parent Meeting 8:35 AM
Columbus Day - Schools closed

WELCOME BACK

News From Mr. K

Hard to believe that even though we started the school year before Labor Day this year, we just wrapped up our first full week! It has been a busy dozen days.

Classroom routines have been established, we had our first very successful fire drill, most kinks have been ironed out with transportation, and our Curriculum Evenings and Welcome Back picnic are behind us.

We had our first all-school assembly this morning at which we shared the slide show you all saw at the curriculum evenings and then went over our two school rules. Your children and their teachers have added and elaborated on their own grade-appropriate lists of rules, class constitutions, or classroom protocols but all of the above fit under our two simple rules: Work Hard and Be Nice.

We also talked about safety being everyone's number one job at Hillside. Please take the time to ask your child about this morning's assembly and talk about safety, and please do your part to help by reviewing and following the parking lot rules found on pages 7 and 8 of our school handbook. As mentioned at the Curriculum Evenings, there is an important change to note that was started at the end of last year. The police have closed the crosswalk at the entrance to the parking lot. This means you need to plan accordingly when entering and exiting the lot. There is no parking for anyone but staff, so all drivers must remain in cars and all cars must stop at the STOP signs. The fifth graders on the Sidewalk Safety Detail (SSD) are there every morning to help with drop off. Feel free to call or email me with any questions and please share this information with anyone (grandparents, babysitters, older siblings, etc.) who might be picking up or dropping off your children.

Thank you and have a wonderful weekend!

PTC Hillside Hornet Buzz

Despite the rain, our **Back to School Picnic** this Thursday was a success! It was great to see our community come together to celebrate the start of this new school year! A very big thank you to **Jen Schaffstein** and all of the parent volunteers who helped make it a great night for our kids.

Thank you to **Libby Moore**, our Walk to School Coordinator, for organizing this year's first **Walk/Bike to School Day** – *The Back to School Stride* this past Tuesday! The Golden Sneaker Award will be up for grabs at the next **Walk/Bike to School Day**, which will

take place on **Wednesday, October 4th**. We hope to see the sidewalks filled with walkers and bikers! Please also see the flyer at the end of the newsletter with all of the Walk/Bike to School Day dates so you can be sure to add them to your calendar.

Annual Dues Drive: Our **Annual Dues & Challenge Drive** is underway and we want to say a BIG THANK YOU to all of those families who have already contributed! As a reminder, our **Annual Dues & Challenge Drive** runs until September 29th. We are reaching out to our parent community for participation and welcome contributions of any amount. Our goal is to exceed \$16,000 this year and with **100%** participation and we are at \$9,810.60 with 34% participation. We are getting there – but still need your help! Remember that 100% of the funds raised will go to support some amazing programs and enrichment opportunities for our kids. To make a donation by credit card, please use the PayPal button on our website. We are also accepting cash, checks, and money orders if you prefer to send your payments into the school in the envelope we provided. Each family that participates will receive a hard copy of the school directory which is always helpful to have on hand!

Fall Box Tops Contest: The **Fall Box Tops Contest** is almost here. Are your box tops clipped and ready? The **Fall Box Tops Contest** will begin on **Monday, October 2nd** and end on **Friday, October 13th**. During this time classes will compete to collect the highest amount of unexpired of Box Tops. The winning class will receive a POPSICLE PARTY! So start clipping and saving those Box Tops now!!! More information to follow. Any questions, please contact our Box Tops Coordinator, Joyce McCafferty @ sjsong77@yahoo.com.

Our first **PTC meeting** is **Tuesday, October 3, at 7:15 pm**, in the Hillside Gym. At these meetings, we review and approve enrichment grants as well as share and discuss important information about the school and PTC activities. At this meeting, Caren Nemtzow, the Director of the Child Assault Prevention (CAP) Program will be presenting information on the CAP Program and recruiting volunteers to help continue to run the program. Seema Meloni and Joanna Herrera will also be speaking about the Needham Education Foundation (NEF). Please join us – it's a great way to stay informed and get involved.

The **Room Parent Meeting** is **Friday, October 6, 2017 at 8:35 a.m.** in the Hillside Cafeteria. Thank you

to all our Room Parents! We request that at least 1 (if not all) room parent for each classroom attends this informational meeting. It will also help for us to have you all there so that we can ensure all CORI forms are completed. If you have any questions, please contact April Crawford @ aacrawford44@gmail.com or Shelly Bansal-Snow @ sbansal99@gmail.com.

Upcoming Events

Halloween Trick or Trot 5K Run/Walk & Monster Fun Run! Join us for a fun Halloween-themed 5K run/walk & fun run on Sunday, October 29, 2017! We are raising funds to support enrichment grants, field trips, and creative arts programming throughout the school year. The fun run (kids ages 12 years and under only) will take place around the Hillside field at 8:30 a.m. – all registered participants receive a prize! The 5K will begin at Hillside at 9 a.m. Costumes are optional, but totally encouraged! Runners/walkers of all levels are encouraged to join - also, this is not just limited to Hillside families... invite others to join in on the fun! The first 160 participants to register for the 5K will receive a free shirt!

Can't run/walk, but want to help out? We still need lots of volunteers (before event or day of)! We also welcome donations to support the event. To register, go to: <https://racewire.com/register.php?id=8314>. Any questions, email Seema at seema.meloni@gmail.com.

Other 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

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:

Seeking Media Center Volunteers: The Hillside Media Center still needs volunteers for a few time slots:

Day	Time	Class	Weeks
Monday	8.45-9.25	5R	D
	1.10-1.50	4K	A, B, D

Tuesday	9.30-1.10	2H	A, C
Wednesday	10.15-10.55	1D	A, C
Thursday	8.45-9.25	KM (AM)	C
	9.30-10.10	KD (AM)	B, D
	10.15-10.55	4 M/S	A, B, D
	12.30-1.10	KM (PM)	B,C,D
Friday	11.00-11.40	1C	B,

Please see Media flyer at the end of the Newsletter for more information including the schedule and contact Vanessa Jones @ vanessajones694@hotmail.co.uk or Clare Currie @ currie.clare@yahoo.co.uk with any questions. To sign up for a Media slot:

1. Find your child's class slot on the Media Schedule
2. Review the chart 'A-B-C-D Weeks' that include the calendar dates, and decide which weeks are best for you. We encourage volunteers to sign up for 2x per month, but you may choose more or fewer weeks.
3. Email hillsidemediavolunteer@gmail.com with the following information:

- a. Your full name and preferred email*
- b. Class in which you would like to volunteer (grade level, teacher's name, e.g., "2T")
- c. Which weeks you would like to volunteer—A, B, C, D

Seeking 1st Grade Cafeteria Volunteers: Parent volunteers help the students get through the lunch line more quickly so that they have ample time to eat and help the 1st graders learn to clean up before the next lunch shift comes in. You can sign-up for as many or as few days as you can offer. To sign up, either contact **Erin Ellis** at erinellis03@gmail.com or go to the Sign up Genius link: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050d4badaa22a31-first1>

Community

Needham's Special Education Services and Programs. Please join the **Needham Special Education Parent Advisory Council (SEPAC)** on **Wednesday, October 4th** in the **Broadmeadow School Media Center** for an overview of what Needham has to offer students with all types of needs at all of our schools, from preschool through age 22. This is an opportunity to meet all of the Special Education Directors, and to learn about what will be new this year. Refreshments will be served at 7:00pm and the Program will begin at 7:30 and end at 9:00pm. For more information, please see flyer at the end of this newsletter.

Screening of "Race to Nowhere". The Needham Education Foundation and the Needham School PTCs invite you to come and see a screening of "Race to Nowhere" on **Thursday, October 19th, 6 pm @ Pollard**. "Race to Nowhere" calls us to challenge current thinking about how we prepare our children for success. Featuring the heartbreaking stories of students across the country who have been pushed to the brink by over-scheduling, over-testing and the relentless pressure to achieve. Through the testimony of educators, parents and education experts, it reveals an education system in which cheating has become commonplace; students have become disengaged; stress-related illness, depression and burnout are rampant; and young people arrive at college and the workplace unprepared and uninspired. The movie will be followed by a panel discussion. This event is free and is open to the Needham community. To register for free tickets, please click on <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/race-to-nowhere-free-screening-panel-discussion-tickets-37665146467>.

Needham Child Assault Prevention (CAP) Program Seeking Volunteers: Are you someone that believes that all children have the right to be "Safe, Strong and Free?" If so, then join our dynamic team of trained CAP volunteers who are committed to teaching children in the Needham Elementary Schools the skills that they would need to stand up for themselves if faced with a situation involving verbal, physical or sexual assault. We are now accepting applications for the 2017-2018 school year. The next training begins on **October 29th**. For more information or an application, please visit our website at www.needhamcommunitycouncil.org or contact Caren Nemptow, Director, at 781-444-2415, ext. 2120 or cnemptow@needhamcommunitycouncil.org.

To ensure you get all our future updates, please **LIKE us on Facebook (Hillside Elementary School PTC 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



School Committee Open House

The Needham School Committee will hold an Open House on Saturday, September 23, 2017 from 9:00 to 10:30 a.m. in the cafeteria at Needham High School. The School Committee looks forward to welcoming the community to tour the school and to answer questions regarding a possible Needham High School classroom expansion and building renovation project.

The Needham Fine and Performing Arts

Department is proud to announce the auditions for the 2017-2018 Needham Public Schools' Elementary Honors Band. **All students in Advanced Band** will receive fliers with details about the ensemble and auditions, which will take place on October 5. For additional questions about Honors Band, please contact the director, Allison Penn, at allison_penn@needham.k12.ma.us. We strongly encourage Needham's finest Advanced Band members to audition for this group! <http://mrspennmusic.weebly.com/needham-elementary-honors-band.html>

SEPAC Educational Presentation: Needham's Special Education Services and Programs

Please join us for an overview of what Needham has to offer students with all types of needs at all of our schools, from preschool through age 22. This is an opportunity to meet all of the Special Education Directors, and to learn about what will be new this year.

Wednesday, October 4

Refreshments: 7:00pm
Program 7:30 – 9:00pm
Broadmeadow School Media Center

MEDIA CENTER

The Hillside Media Center needs volunteers during your child(ren)'s class this year. We are particularly in need of volunteers for Kindergarten and 1st grade.

We are asking parents to volunteer for a "shift" at least 2x per month. If you can only commit to 1x per month, please let us know and we will place you where there is availability. We are striving for 2 volunteers for each shift, so invite friends, grandparents, too.

To sign up for a Media slot:

1. Find your child's class slot on the attached Media Schedule
2. Review the chart 'A-B-C-D Weeks' that include the calendar dates, and decide which weeks are best for you. We encourage volunteers to sign up for 2x per month, but you may choose more or fewer weeks.
3. Email hillsidemediavolunteer@gmail.com with the following information:

- a. Your full name and preferred email*
- b. Class in which you would like to volunteer (grade level, teacher's name, e.g., "2T")
- c. Which weeks you would like to volunteer—A, B, C, D

*At times when you are unable to make your shift, you will email all media volunteers to look for a substitute. We will share your email with media volunteers only.



I will soon be starting the annual school health screenings for hearing, vision, postural, and height, weight and BMI measurements that are required by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health.

Screenings are as follows:

Vision- all grades

Hearing-Kindergarten through Grade 3

BMI- Grades 1 & 4

Postural-Grade 5

Please be assured that each student will be weighed and measured privately, and the information obtained will be shared only with the individual student. We will be emphasizing the privacy of this information, respect for individual differences and the importance of incorporating healthy eating and regular exercise to enhance normal growth and development.

Fifth grade classes will be notified several days prior to postural screening as girls may want to bring in or wear a tank top or sports bra on their postural screening day.

Parents/guardians will be notified, if their child requires further evaluation based on the results of these screenings. If you have any questions regarding the screenings, or any new health information to share about your child, please notify me. If you wish to opt out of any of these screenings, please inform me of this in writing.

Debbie Greiff R.N. MEd
Health Office
Hillside Elementary School
781-455-0461 X-228



Happy Fall to Hillside Families! We are very excited to announce that Hillside has a Guidance Counseling Intern, Kim Kidders, who will be with us this school year. Kim is completing her masters degree at Lesley University with a specialty in drama therapy. Kim will be working with students in small groups, the classroom and individually.

The counseling office has been busy these first few weeks helping students adjust to their new classrooms. In the coming weeks, we will begin friendship groups. Across the grades, we provide many small groups to give students the opportunity to socialize, practice communication skills, learn how to play cooperatively together and make new friends. Margaret, Meg or Kim will be contacting parents by either phone or email to let you know if your child will participate in a group. If you would like more information about our groups, please do not hesitate to contact one of us.

Margaret Petrovich and Meg Flatley
Hillside School Counselors

What's Happening

Needham Traveling Meals program needs volunteers 1 hour per week to deliver or pack meals for our elderly or disabled Needham residents from September to June. Please contact Maryanne Dinell at the Needham Health Department (781) 455- 7500 x 257, or at: mdinell@needhamma.gov for more information.

Join **BID Hospital Needham** for our 19th Annual Gala, "Havana Nights," on Saturday, October 28, 2017 at the Westin Copley Place, Boston from 6 p.m. to midnight. Festivities will include live entertainment by EYE2EYE, open bar, dinner, dancing, raffle prizes, silent auction, live auction and Maria Stephanos, WCVB Channel 5 Evening Anchor, as the evenings emcee. Proceeds from the event will support the new Clinical Center at BID–Needham. The direct link and partnership BID Needham has to Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center gives you the advantage of receiving world-class medical care in the comfort of our own community. Visit www.bidneedham.org/Gala for full details.



The Needham Free Public Library Children's Department is launching a Girls Who Code Club. The Club will meet each week on Thursday evenings from 6:00 - 8:00 pm and is for girls in Grades 5 and up. Girls must provide their own computer; we will provide everything else. Work together to learn to code, create a web page, do group coding projects and have fun! Participants must register and attend each session. Sessions not held on holidays. To register visit the Children's Desk or call 781-455-7559.

Create an E-Sewing Project with the RI Computer Museum on Monday, September 25th at 3:30 pm. E-Sewing stands for electronic sewing. Use fabrics and threads that conduct electricity along with LEDs to

design clothing that lights up with your own fun designs! Once you learn how to e-sew, stop by the STEAM Station in the Children's Craft room anytime to create more e-sewing projects. This program is sponsored by a LSTA Grant administered on the federal level by the Institute of Museum and Library Services and in MA by the MBLC.

The STEAM Powered Creation Station (STEAM Station) is a Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math maker-space for children ages 6 and up located in the Children's Craft Room. Children can drop-in to learn computer coding with Dot and Dash robots or a LEGO Mindstorm EV3 robot, Makey Makey kits or a Raspberry Pi computer. They can create structures with a number of engineering kits, electrify their play dough with Squishy Circuits, use Lil Bits electronics and more. The STEAM Station is open after school on week days from 3:30-8:30 on Mondays-Thursdays; 3:30 -5:00 on Fridays; 9:00-4:30 on Saturdays and 1:00-6:30 on Sundays.

A Turbo Toilet 2000, a 3D Hypno Ring, two young pranksters, Professor Poopypants, and a school principal who fights crime in his underwear and a cape. It's Captain Underpants - The First Epic Movie showing at the Needham Free Public Library on Friday, September 15th at 3:30 pm in the Community Room. 89 min. Rated PG.

Family Activity Morning on Saturday, September 16th from 10:00-11:30 is for families with children of all ages. Come play games, make craft projects and explore STEAM activities together.

On Monday, September 18th at 4:00 pm Children ages 6 years and up will learn how to construct large scale models of an arch bridge and a suspension bridge with Civil Engineer and Bridge Inspector Reed Brockman. Registration is required and is limited. To register, visit the Children's Desk or call 781-455-7559.

Mad Science will present an Electricity Workshop for children ages 6 years and up on Tuesday, September 19th at 4:00 pm in the library's STEAM center. Children will learn about circuits, conductors, insulators and how electricity is converted for everyday use. Participants will get to create different circuits, interact with a plasma ball, discover static electricity and make their own static electricity chambers to take home. This program is sponsored by a LSTA Grant administered on the federal level by the

Institute of Museum and Library Services and in MA by the MBLC.

A professional Yoga instructor will lead children ages 5-9 years old in a 1 hour yoga session on Saturday, September 23rd at 10:30 am in the Community Room.

The Bookventurers Book Club is for children in Grades 3-5 and meets monthly. Get a copy of this month's book - *James and the Giant Peach* by Roald Dahl. This book was chosen for Banned Book Week. Come discuss the book and find out why some people thought you shouldn't be able to read it. The meeting includes related activities and some snacks. Saturday, September 23rd at 3:15 pm.

Make a bubble rocket at a Maker-Space Workshop on Tuesday, September 26th at 4:00 pm. Children ages 6 years and up are welcome to drop-in, but space is limited to the first 30 participants. The library will be offering Maker-Space programs twice a month on Tuesday afternoons in the STEAM Station through December.

Children ages 6 and up are invited to come create a variety of fall crafts to take home on Wednesday, September 27th at 3:30 pm.

The **Child Assault Prevention Program (CAP)** is seeking volunteers for the 2017-2018 school year to teach children to protect themselves from verbal, physical and sexual assault. Applications are now being accepted for the training that begins on October 29th. For more information and an application, please contact Caren Nemptzow, Director, at cnemptzow@needhamcommunitycouncil.org or visit our website at www.needhamcommunitycouncil.org

You are cordially invited to the **Dance Party Time Machine**- a fundraiser for the *Needham Education Foundation* and the *Gardner Pilot Academy* Saturday, September 23rd from 7:00 pm to 11:00 pm at the Village Club, Needham.

Get your tickets today at Eventbrite.com:
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/dance-party-time-machine-2017-tickets-36468171282?aff=eac2>



Needham Special Education
Parent Advisory Council

EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATION

Needham's Special Education Services and Programs

Please join us for an overview of what Needham has to offer students with all types of needs at all of our schools, from preschool through age 22.

This is an opportunity to meet all of the Special Education Directors, and to learn about what will be new this year.

Wednesday, October 4

7:00 pm - Refreshments

7:30 pm - Program begins

Broadmeadow School Media Center

120 Broadmeadow Road, Needham

EDUCATION • INPUT • NETWORKING • NeedhamSEPAC.org

MON	TUES	WED	THU	FRI
8.45-9.25 5R	8.45-9.25 2W	8.45-9.25 5M	8.45-9.25 KM	
9.30-10.10 5G	9.30-10.10 2H	9.30-10.10 1T	9.30-10.10 KD	9.30-10.10 4K
	10.15-10.55 2G	10.15-10.55 1D	10.15-10.55 4M/S	
	11.00 -11.40 2D	10.55 -11.35 1A	11-11.40 4F	11-11.40 1C
		12.30-1.10 3Sh	12.30-1.10 KM	
		1.10-1.50 3Sa	1.10-1.50 KD	1.10 -1.50 3D
1.55-2.35 4H				1.55 - 2.35 5F

Key				
Kindergarten	KM - Micelli		3rd Grade	3Sh - Shea
	KD - De Maria			3Sa - Santinello
1st Grade	1T - Taratino			3D - Daoust
	1D - Dangelo		4th Grade	4H - Hsu
	1A - Audibert			4M/S - Mangan/ Strakosch
	1C - Cohen			4F - Fuller
2nd Grade	2W - Watts			4K - Katz
	2H - Hackett		5th Grade	5R - Roberts
	2G - Goneconto			5G - Geary
	2D - Dummett			5M - Miller
				5F - Franks