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Hillside News March 9, 2018



IMPORTANT DATES



- 09 The March "March" -- Walk/Bike to School (To Be Rescheduled)
- 16 Hillside vs. Eliot Basketball Game @ NHS Gym A -- 6:00 PM
(doors open at 5:30 PM)
- 29 Early Release -- 12:15 PM Dismissal/No P.M. Kindergarten
- 30 No School -- Good Friday

News from Mr. K

Technology specialist, Maria DeCicco's enthusiasm for the appropriate use of technology in education was certainly the highlight of this week's PTC meeting! School safety officer, Ryan O'Leary shared tips about internet safety and I, being a bit of a neo-luddite, did my best to promote a healthy balance of healthy skepticism with the latest in educational technology. And, being the ever resourceful tech specialist we've come to depend upon, Maria found an interesting article about neo-luddism for those of you unfamiliar with the term which can be found at: <https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2018/mar/04/will-2018-be-the-year-of-the-neo-luddite>

The link below will take you to some of the slides we used at this week's PTC meeting.

https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/18yrzHNLGFHWsZO9rtZOOXeWam2sON_Oiu4SnWYv41IU/edit#slide=id.g3492b50bf2_0_40

I also encourage you to click on: <https://sites.google.com/a/needham.k12.ma.us/hillside-tech-projects/> to see examples of the wonderful and well-balanced projects our students are doing in all subject areas.

The evening led to some lively and thoughtful conversations about our use of technology and the importance of live (as opposed to online or virtual) social interaction. Please feel free to contact me, Ms. DeCicco or Officer O'Leary with any questions, comments or concerns about our school's technology programs and protocol.

PTC Hillside Hornet Buzz

We hope you all enjoyed the snow day this week!

Thanks to all who attended the **PTC Meeting** this past Tuesday night. As Mr. K described, it was an illuminating discussion on the innovations and challenges of engaging with today's technology. Thank you Mr. K, Ms. DeCicco and Officer O'Leary for donating your time so our parent community can stay informed and engaged on this important topic!

A big thank you to all who donated and purchased books at this week's **Used Book Sale!** Students were thrilled to shop for new treasures and over 1500 books found new homes. We raised almost \$750 to purchase new materials for the **Hillside Media Center**. Thank you to our parent volunteers, all of the teachers who made time to bring their classes to shop and help with book selection, and Mr. Godoy and all of the Main office staff whose help and support were greatly appreciated! A special thank you to Sharon Ayres and Joanie Daly for running such a successful sale!

What happened to our leftover unsold books? We donated them to the Media Center and classrooms, Cradles to Crayons (Hillside Cares' latest initiative) and Needham Public Library and saved the remainder for next year's sale. We'll be collecting books throughout the school year to grow our stock for next year's sale, so please continue to keep us in mind when you're cleaning out your shelves!

The Hillside v. Eliot "Hoops in the Heights" Basketball Game is Friday, March 16th at Needham High School – Gym A. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. and **tip-off is at 6:00 p.m.** Pizza and other concessions sales will start at 5:30 p.m. so

come early for pizza, save great seats and hang out with our NEW Hornet Mascot!!! Tickets are **NOW** on sale. To **PURCHASE TICKETS**, go to hillside-ptc.ticketleap.com/hoopsintheheights8/. Children under 5 are free. Tickets are \$4.25/person if purchased prior to the night of the game and \$5/person if purchased on the night of the game. The game is in need of **VOLUNTEERS**. To volunteer, please sign-up at <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0c4cacad22a5fa7-8thannual>.

We are also looking for a parent or older sibling (costume is an adult size) to pump up the crowd by wearing our brand-new Hornet mascot costume! If interested contact Betsy Alperstein (balperstein@gmail.com) or Erin Apstein (eringapstein@gmail.com) for more information!!!

Hillside Cares is NOW collecting gently used children's clothing, books, toys and baby equipment for Needham Gives Back benefiting Cradles to Crayons. We will collect items in a bin in the Hillside lobby March 6 - April 6. Please give generously! Then sign up to volunteer at the event, sorting, organizing and packing the donated items. See the attached flyer for all the details.

Purchase Your Yearbook Now! Yearbook ordering is underway!. There are two easy ways to order a copy of this year's special book: Order online (by April 17th) at www.online-pay.memorybook.com/parent, enter pay code 87787 and click next; or complete the form sent home with your child and return to Hillside by April 13th. Please contact Samantha Shap at samshap333@hotmail.com with any questions.

Upcoming Events

2018 Hillside Talent Show Auditions For those students whose talent show auditions were canceled due to the snow, please look for an email from the Hillside Talent Show Committee with details as to when and how auditions will be rescheduled. After getting a sneak peak at some of the acts this year's show is guaranteed to be lots of fun! The big event will be held on Friday, April 6th at 6:45pm at the Newman Elementary School. If you have any questions please contact the committee via our email box: hillsideptctalentshow@gmail.com. We also **NEED VOLUNTEERS** to make the show happen!! Please visit our sign-up genius at: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f044aacab2fabf85-hillside> to sign-up!

Grab Your Gear! Be on the lookout for some great new items in the **Spring Spirit Wear Sale** which will be held from **April 2nd through April 13th**. More details including a list of items for purchase and ordering instructions will be coming soon!

Committee Messages:

Recruiting for the Hillside School Council: The Hillside School Council is seeking two parents to join the committee that sets educational goals for Hillside in accordance with statewide policies and standards. Led by Michael Kascak, the Hillside School Council is comprised of the principal, teachers, three parents and one community member. The Council meets monthly at Hillside after school hours. Parent

council members serve for three years. Every school in Massachusetts is required by law to have a School Council. If you are interested in joining the Council, please contact Erin Apstein @ eringapstein@gmail.com. **Deadline to submit a biography for this position is March 15th.** If more than two parents are interested, we will hold an open election.

CALLING ALL PHOTOGRAPHERS: The Yearbook Committee is in desperate need of MORE pictures for the yearbook. The Yearbook Committee needs them for all future and past events including First Day of School, Hillside Back-to-School Picnic, and Family Fun Night. Please follow the instructions below under and start submitting your photographs TODAY!!! The last day to submit photos is 4/2. Any questions, please contact Sam Shapiro @ samshap333@hotmail.com.

Message from the Yearbook: Submit photos online as follows:

- Go to: <https://images.memorybooks.com/login>
- If it does not automatically log you into the site, enter username: 409683606
- Browse to select the photo(s) you wish to upload.
- Enter information about the photo and provide contact information in case the staff needs additional information.
- Click "Save Details".

It's that easy! **The last day to submit photos will be on 04/02/2018 so submit your photos today!** Any questions, please contact Sam Shapiro @ samshap333@hotmail.com.

Community

Bring your ideas! NEF Spring '18 Grant Applications due March 20th

Did your 5th grader get to meet one of the Lost Boys of Sudan? Has your middle schooler explored with virtual reality equipment? Has your high school student tried out the digital drawing tablets? For over 25 years, the Needham Education Foundation (NEF) has funded these and many other entertaining and educational programs that "make learning come alive" for Needham public school students. If you have an innovative idea to enhance your child's learning experience or school community, we want to hear from you!

The NEF is now accepting applications. Small grant applications for up to \$5,000 (\$3,000 per school for multi-school grants) are due March 20th.

The NEF continues to offer two additional options to ease the small grant application process: (1) Express Grants allow applicants to apply for a program already funded by NEF at another school; (2) Multi-School Grants allow schools to apply together without the constraints of the small grant funding limit.

Any Needham Public School educator, administrator or community member — including students and parents — is eligible to apply. To see what the NEF has funded in the

past and to apply online, please visit <http://www.nefneedham.org/>

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!

Modell's: In need of new sporting goods? Use the coupon attached to this newsletter for 15% off your entire purchase at **Modell's!** Hillside will also receive 5% back from your purchases starting this Friday, **February 16th - March 15th.** Be sure to show the coupon at checkout.

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 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>

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



The Needham School Committee will hold an Open House on Saturday, March 10, 2018 from 9:00 to 10:30 a.m. in the Young Adult Room at the Needham Public Library. The Open House is an opportunity for parents and the community to engage in conversation and dialogue with the School Committee and Superintendent with concerns and questions. This year, the Open House is scheduled at the Library as the annual Art in Bloom is taking place. Enjoy the show and visit with your School Committee.

Kick off your St. Patrick's Day with a jaunt through our local neighborhoods...

The **Eliot** Leprechaun 5K and Pot of Gold 1-Mile

March 17th, 2018

Cricket Field

8 am: 5K, prize for male /female winner

9:30 am: 1 mile, medals for male/female winner from each grade (K-5)

Register here: <https://racewire.com/register.php?id=9017>.
T-shirts provided for the first 75 registrants.



Attention Registered Nurses - Explore the Dynamic Specialty of School Nursing!!

If you are interested in gaining valuable experience in school nursing while maintaining a flexible schedule, please consider applying to be a Needham Public Schools Substitute School Nurse! For more information, please contact:

Barbara Singer MSN, RN, NCSN

Director of School Health Services at (781) 455-0416 x 382
or email: barbara_singer@needham.k12.ma.us.



Cheer on the Teams at the NEF Spelling Bee!

Join friends, neighbors, Needham Public School students, members of our local business community and civic leaders at the annual NEF Spelling Bee on Sunday, March 18th at 3pm in the Needham High School "A" gym. Admission and refreshments are free, thanks to the generous support of many sponsors, including Needham Bank, Roche Brothers and Veryst Engineering. Support the NEF at the Bee by purchasing tickets for the many raffle items donated by local businesses and special, bee-adorned cupcakes from Treat Cupcake Bar.

The star-studded roster of celebrity word pronouncers features Gary Gillis, Partner at Last Minute Productions and WHDH-TV Alumnus, and Kathy Curran, award-winning journalist and member of WCVB's 5 Investigates. Dan Gutekanst, Needham Public Schools Superintendent, will be the pronouncer for the elementary school round. For more event information, go to www.nefneedham.org.

NEF Bee Cupcake creates a BUZZ!

To help the Needham Education Foundation raise money for Needham Public Schools, Treat Cupcake Bar at [1450 Highland Avenue](http://1450HighlandAvenue) is offering a custom Bee Cupcake in honor of the annual NEF Spelling Bee. Purchase a special, bee-adorned cupcake during the month of March, and Treat will donate a percentage of the proceeds to the NEF. Bee Cupcakes will also be available for purchase at the NEF Spelling Bee on Sunday, March 18th.

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Needham Unplugged is here...

Needham Unplugged is a month-long awareness campaign in March to remind Needham families and residents to "unplug their electronics" and "plug into" each other. It is a reminder that there is more to life than what is on the other side of a plug.

The highlight of this year's program will be a no-homework, no-sports, and no-activities night for Needham Public School Students on March 15, 2018; and in the same night, there will be No Meetings for all town, civic, and religious organizations.

View the 2018 No Homework and No Meeting Night Flyer at: <http://www.needhamma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/16183>
View the 2018 Unplugged calendar at (it is also attached): <http://www.needhamma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/16182>

BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL

Registration for Needham Baseball and Softball's Little League baseball and girls softball programs - Kindergarten, 1st Grade, Single A and Double AA baseball and K-8th grade softball are now open through March 15, 2018. The spring season is from April thru June. For more information and to sign up, please go to the registration page at www.needhambaseball.com or www.needhamsoftball.com

GIRLS ON THE RUN AT THE CHARLES RIVER YMCA!

March 18th – June 9th
Grades: 3 – 8 Times: 3pm-4:30pm, 4:30pm-6pm
For more information, contact Dan Chambers, dchambers@ymcaboston.org

SEPAC Educational Presentation

Stressed-Out Students: Understanding the Impact of Anxiety on Motivation and Learning

Today's children and teens are experiencing more stress and anxiety than ever before, which can have a detrimental impact on academic, social, and daily life. In this workshop, we will discuss:

- The difference between stress and anxiety
- How anxiety functions and what it might look like
- The connection between anxiety and attention/executive function
- Understanding and supporting skills to increase student motivation

Tuesday, March 20
Refreshments: 7:00pm
Program: 7:30 – 9:00pm

Broadmeadow School Media Center
[120 Broad Meadow Road, Needham](#)

Presenter Dr. Angela Currie is a pediatric neuropsychologist at NESCA, where she conducts psychological and neuropsychological evaluations with children, adolescents, and young adults. She works with children and teens to tease apart the various factors that may be contributing to their stress, such as underlying learning, attentional, or emotional challenges.

YMCA Indoor Soccer – Ages 5 and 6 March 17th- April 14th
March Madness Basketball! Ages 5 and 6 and Grades 1-4
March 24th- April 14th
Contact Marcus Nelson for more details! mnelson@ymcaboston.org

Join Parent Talk and St. Joseph's School for a lecture on Technology and Your Children on Wednesday, March 28th from 7-9 pm at St. Joseph's School [90 Pickering Street](#) in Needham. Our lecturer, Kerry Hurwitch, Needham's own TechMom, will be discussing internet safety, parental controls, apps that help and ground rules. The event is sponsored by Beth Israel-Deaconess Needham, and is free for Parent Talk members and \$10 for non-members. For more information please visit the event on our website <http://www.parenttalk.info/> or RSVP here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/technology-and-your-children-tickets-43012471460>

Needham Flag Football is pleased to announce an Open House on Saturday, March 31st from 1-4 at Memorial Park in Needham. Please join us to learn about the league and have the opportunity for your child to participate in brief clinics. The Open House is for boys and girls in grades K-8, whether or not they have already signed up for the league. For more information on the league, please go to www.needhamflagfootball.com. This event is FREE and light refreshments will be served.

Calling all Needham Girl Scouts and an adult partner! Come join your fellow Girl Scouts for a fun night of square dancing on April 6th, 7-9pm at the Presbyterian Church in Needham. Pre-register by April 2nd by emailing troop75438@yahoo.com, cost is \$20/pair at the door.

Needham Junior Football & Cheer Play for a Day

Play For A Day and find out what it's like to be part of the Needham Junior Football team!
Open to all kids currently in grades 1-7 and their WHOLE family! Prizes, Games, FREE food, meet a Patriots player and more!

Saturday, April 7, 1:30 PM - 3 PM

Needham High School

[609 Webster Street, Needham, MA 02494](http://www.needhamfootball.net/)

<http://www.needhamfootball.net/>

Fun for the whole family at the Needham History Center & Museum's annual Pansy Day Festival! Pony rides, animal presentation, face painting for the kids while adults enjoy the traditional pansy plant sale and shopping in our gift and heirloom shop. Saturday, April 7 from 10am - 3pm.

For more information please contact Gloria Greis at 781-455-8860, greis@needhamhistory.org, or visit www.needhamhistory.org.

Sunday, April 29, the 13th annual Needham Pitch Hit and Run skills competition will be held at DeFazio Park, beginning at 12 pm following the Needham Baseball and Softball annual parade and festivities. The competition is free to all kids, 7-14 years old. Pre-register online at www.Smileboston.com/PHR or 11 am prior to the event. The PHR is the Official Skills Competition of Major League Baseball offering the opportunity advance to the Sectional Level of Competition, as well as have the chance to compete at Fenway Park in June, and the MLB™ All-Star Game® in July.



Family Activity Morning

Children of all ages

Saturday, March 17th 10:00-11:30 am

Families will explore arts and crafts activities, play games that enhance logic, literacy or math skills and complete a collaborative project together. Fun for the whole family.

Walk Along Gliders with Phil Rossoni

STEAM

For Children in Grades 3-5

Tuesday, March 27th at 4:00 pm

A walk along glider is a slow flying model aircraft that children will make and keep in the air by walking along with it on a string and paddle to create an updraft. Phil Rossoni is a glider plane pilot who will provide demonstrations, construction assistance, and hands-on flying time for children with their own walkalong glider. Registration is required and space is limited. To register stop by the Children's Desk at the Needham Free Public Library or call [781-455-7559](tel:781-455-7559) x 204.

PJ Storytime

For Children in Kindergarden

Tuesday, March 27th at 7:00 pm

Children and families are invited to come in their PJ's with a blanket and favorite stuffed friend to enjoy a storytime led by women of the Kappa Kappa Gamma Society of Babson College. Registration requested. To sign up, stop by the Children's Desk at the Needham Free Public Library or call [781-455-7559](tel:781-455-7559) x 204.

Free Movie - Aliens Ate My Homework

Rated PG; 90 Minutes

Aliens Ate My Homework is based on the book in the Rod Allbright and the Galactic Patrol series written by internationally renowned author Bruce Coville. When a tiny intergalactic starship crashes into the bedroom of 12-year-old Rod Allbright (Jayden Greig), it's the start of the adventure of a lifetime for him and his cousin Elspeth (Lauren McNamara). Enlisted by the extraterrestrial Galactic Patrol, Rod and Elspeth must race to save the world from Total Planetary Disaster. The film features the voice of William Shatner ("Star Trek") as the intrepid intergalactic explorer known as Phil the Plant.

Yoga for Children

Ages 5-9 years

Saturday, March 31 at 10:30

Join a professional children's yoga instructor for this hour-long free yoga class. Children stretch and relax.

NEF Spelling Bee

A friendly competition to benefit the NEF

Sunday, March 18, 3:00pm

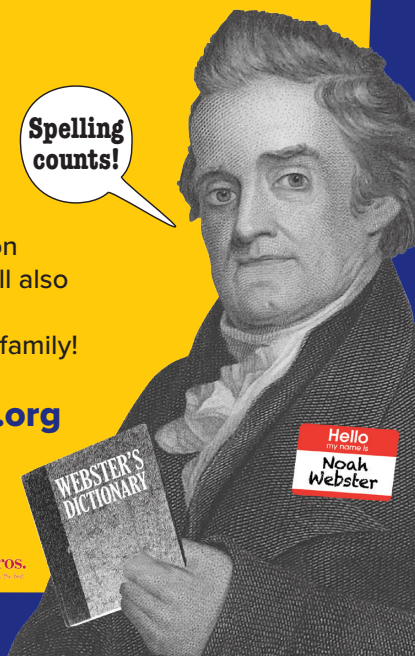
Needham High School, Gym A • FREE ADMISSION

Four Ways You Can Support the Bee:

- 1. Compete in the Bee** — gather a team of three adults (neighbors, friends, co-workers). It's all in good fun, and for a good cause!
- 2. Sponsor a team** of teachers or students that have been selected by each school
- 3. Advertise** your business in the Bee program
- 4. Come to the Bee** and cheer on your school's teams. There will also be snacks and raffle prizes — a fun afternoon for the whole family!

Visit www.nefneedham.org to learn more and register by **February 28**

 Needham Bank  Veryst Engineering  Roche Bros.



Since 1990, the NEF has funded more than **675 grants**, totaling over **\$2.8 million.**

What NEF Funds:

- Grants written by teachers, educators, students, parents, and community members
- Programs that are beyond normal and expected public funding
- Leading-edge projects in math and science, emerging technologies, languages and the arts, social development, and more.

Recent NEF Grants:

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

- Sphero Sprk Technology Integration Grant
- Kindergarten Math Backpacks
- Enriching Math with Number Sense Challenges
- Training for School Leaders: Literacy Teaching and Coaching

MIDDLE SCHOOLS

- High Rock Creation Lab
- Investigating Alternate Energy Sources
- Augmented Reality Topographic Maps

HIGH SCHOOL

- Blues in the Schools
- Engineering Design 101
- Mindfulness Equipment
- Sullivan Author Workshop

ALL SCHOOLS

- Starlab® Portable Planetarium

COMMUNITY

- PTC Educational Film Series

Hillside Elementary PTC

MODELL'S
SPORTING GOODS

COUPON

15% OFF

Print & Bring in this Coupon to Receive:
YOUR TOTAL PURCHASE
OF REGULAR & SALE
PRICED MERCHANDISE

EARN A CASH DONATION FOR YOUR TEAM, SCHOOL OR ORGANIZATION!



YOUR TEAM RECEIVES 5%

Of Purchases Made with this Coupon



EARN MVP AWARDS While Supporting Your Team!

Offer Valid on In-Store Purchase at any Modell's Sporting Goods® only.

COUPON VALID ONLY AT FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:

new england

new england

new england

Coupon valid for multiple purchases during your Team Weeks® shopping period. Offer cannot be combined with any other offer and is not valid on previously purchased merchandise or merchandise purchased for resale purposes. Offer applies to store stock only and excludes clearance items, tennis balls, gift certificates, gift cards, UnderArmour products, Nike Hero products (Hyperize, Air Force, Shox, Air Jordans & LE), Timberland Men's 6" Premium Boots, Skechers Shape-Ups, Reebok Easy Tone and New Era On-Field Fitted headwear. Additional exclusions may apply. Void if copied or transferred. Organization must spend a minimum of \$500 to receive a 5% donation.

Valid From: 2/16/2018 1 3/15/2018



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Hillside Families!

Cradles
to Crayons

**The 2018 CLOTHING, TOY
AND BOOK COLLECTION IS ON!**

Please help us for **NEEDHAM GIVES BACK!** A town wide program held annually in Needham to benefit Cradles to Crayons: www.cradlestocrayons.org

We will have a collection bin in the lobby from March 6 – April 6!

We are collecting GENTLY used clothes (including coats, hats, boots, etc), small toys, books, and baby equipment, (no large plastic toys or electronic toys please!). The need is very GREAT as so many struggle to keep their kids safe and warm! So please dig deep and clean out your closets for a great cause!!! These items are distributed to over 130,000 children in Greater Boston each year!

And on April 7, join us to **volunteer** to help sort, organize and pack the donated items. The event takes place at the Needham High School cafeteria on **Saturday, April 8, from 10 – 1**. It's a great way to show your kids how good it is to do something important for those in need!!

To register to volunteer, email Needham@CradlesToCrayons.org

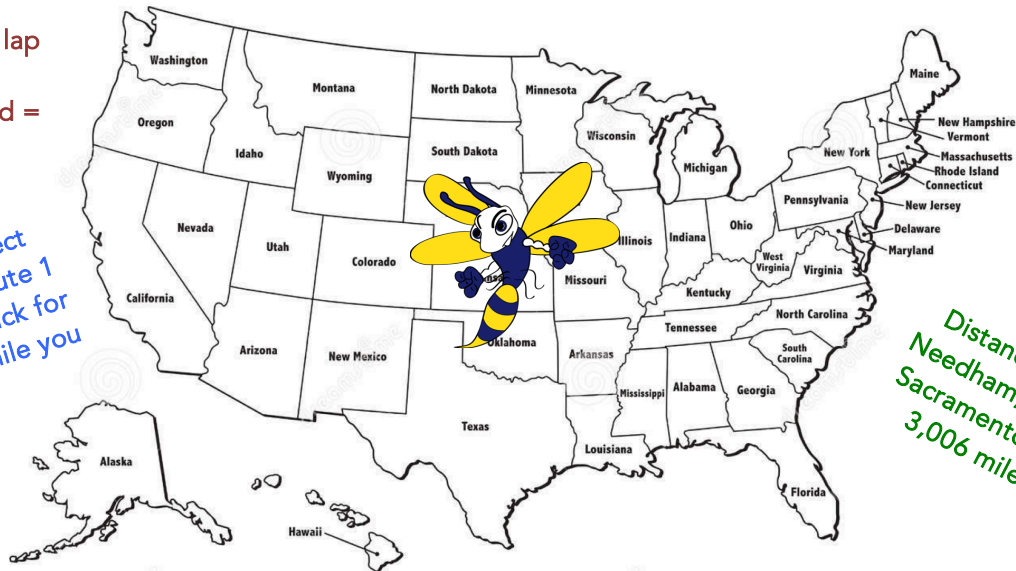


One day, every child will have the basic things they need to be safe, warm, and feel valued. --C2C

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.