

# Principal's Message



It is hard to believe that the 2018-2019 school year is coming to a close. It has been an incredible year. Our students have come so far in such a short amount of time. I want to thank everyone who made this year at Hilltop Elementary successful. Together we will continue working to achieve excellence for the students, staff, and families of Hilltop as we move into the 2019-2020 school year.

As we close out the school year, we have a number of activities that are taking place. Below is a list of dates and times for the majority of upcoming events. We will send home more specific information on events as they get closer.

April 29-May 3:	Hilltop's Christie Campaign
May 6-10:	Staff Appreciation/Right to Read Week
May 9: 9:30/2:00/6:30	4th grade's "Evening of Art and Music"*
May 10:	Student Appreciation Day
May 15: 6:00 pm	Board of Education meeting
May 16: 9:15-10:30 am	4th grade CVMS visit
May 17: All Day	Vehicle Career Day
May 23: 9:30 am	Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast
May 24: All Day	4th grade Science Fair*
	<b>Last day for lunch with your child</b>
May 27:	Memorial Day (NO SCHOOL)
May 30: 9:30/2:00/6:30	3rd grade's "Famous Americans"*
May 31: 11:00-3:00	4th grade Picnic
	1st grade Wagon Trails field trip
June 3: All Day	3rd grade Canfield Walk
June 4: 9:00 am	4th grade Spelling Bee*
2:00 pm	4th grade Math Bee*
All Day	Kindergarten to Akron Zoo
June 6: 9:30 am	4th Grade Graduation*
1:45-3:15 pm	End of Year parties
3:30 pm	4th Grade "Clap-Out"*

**\*open to public**

Information about the 2019-2020 school year, including homeroom assignments, bus-sing information, and Meet and Greet schedule, will be sent to you in a letter around the third week of August. Have a safe and enjoyable summer.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call or email me.

Joe Maroni

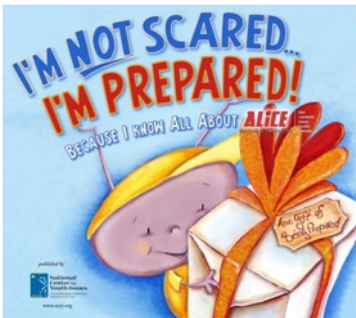
# Building Safety and Security

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Canfield Local Schools has adopted a strategy for lockdown procedures known as the A.L.I.C.E. plan. A.L.I.C.E. is an acronym for Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, and Evacuate. Prior to the A.L.I.C.E. plan, lockdown procedures involved the staff locking their doors, moving the students to a part of the room where they could not be seen, and quietly remaining there until an “all clear” announcement was given. The A.L.I.C.E. plan offers a different philosophy in light of recent school violence. The philosophy of A.L.I.C.E. is to use technology and information in a way so that staff and students can make informed decisions in a crisis, remove as many people as possible from the danger zone, and provide realistic training so that those involved in a crisis have a better chance of surviving.

Younger students need constant reminders of safe practices in order for them to make good decisions related to their personal safety. Parents can prepare their child(ren) for the A.L.I.C.E. plan by helping them understand the following objectives at home.

- There are people of all ages, color, and types who can be mean and may wish to harm them.
- Self-confidence comes from trying things that are hard and getting better each time.
- There are many solutions and options when faced with a problem.
- When your child is prepared for difficult situations, they can make informed decisions and will have more self-control.
- Your child is smart and capable if they have the knowledge.
- Help your child identify and assess possible crisis situations.
- Have your child demonstrate the ability to get away from someone who has their hands on them.
- Have your child explain the different safety drills and what they mean.
- Help your child name where they need to go in case of evacuation (different for each classroom).
- Discuss the importance of following the teacher’s directions without hesitation.



ALICE collaborated with ‘Award Winning’ children’s author Julia Cook to create an Age Appropriate instruction storybook that **teachers and parents** can use as a tool to teach the ALICE concepts to elementary aged school children. Cook’s books have been referenced in publications such as: **Parents Magazine; The New Yorker; Chicago Tribune; Yahoo.com; Dr. Laura.com and BabyZone.com**

The teacher at the Ant Hill School wants her students to be prepared—for everything! One day, she teaches her students what to do if a “dangerous someone” is in their school.

*I’m Not Scared...I’m Prepared!* enhances the concepts taught by the ALICE Training Institute, and make them applicable to children of all ages in a **non-fearful** way. By using this book, children can develop a better understanding of what needs to be done if they ever encounter a “dangerous someone.” Lessons in the book include:

***Listen to the teacher and the announcements***

***There are ways to help the teacher barricade the door***

***There may be a time to go to a rally point with or without the teacher***

This is a great resource that we have provided to our staff to use with our young students. There are several YouTube videos of the book being read available online.

We have also purchased the companion, *I’m Not Scared, I’m Prepared Activity and Idea Book*, which will provide our teachers with ways to protect their students and classroom.

## The Pantry at Hilltop

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Thank you to everyone who has donated food and supplies to make our Hilltop Pantry a reality. We are now able to distribute food to those in need.

If you are willing to help provide supplies, here is a list of some of the items that we collect and distribute:

Applesauce	Crackers	Peanut Butter
Pasta Sauce	Fruit (Canned or Dried)	Rice
Canned Chicken	Granola Bars	Juice Boxes
Canned Fish (Tuna/Salmon)	Instant Mashed Potatoes	Soup/Stew/Chili
Canned Meat (SPAM/Ham)	Meals in a Box	Whole Grain Cereal
Canned Vegetables	Pasta	Macaroni and Cheese

**Items we are currently in need of include: granola bars, canned fruit, juice boxes, pasta sauce, and graham crackers.**

Try to avoid:

- junk food
- items with glass or cellophane packaging, which can be broken in transit
- things that need can openers or special equipment (pop-top cans—whether for veggies, meat or fruit—are a plus)

*Please note that we plan to continue to offer the use of the Hilltop pantry during the summer months and will likewise, gratefully accept any donations made throughout the summer. Summer office hours are 9am to 3pm.*

If you need assistance, please contact the Hilltop office to let us know how we can assist you. All information will be kept strictly confidential.

You can reach the Hilltop office at 330.533.9806 or email me at [jmaroni@canfieldschools.net](mailto:jmaroni@canfieldschools.net)






## Before-School, After-School Care

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Canfield Local Schools has partnered with Zion Christian Early Learning Center to offer before-care and after-care to our students. The program will be held at Hilltop Elementary School for students from both C. H. Campbell and Hilltop. C. H. Campbell students will be transported to and from Hilltop each day utilizing our shuttle bus. The program runs from 6:30 a.m. until the start of school each day and from the end of school until 5:30 p.m. The cost of the program is \$5.20/hour for the 1st child in a family and \$4.00/hr for additional family members. If you are interested in the program, please contact Zion Christian Early Learning Center at (330) 792-4066.

## Statewide Testing

All students in grades 3-4 will be administered standardized testing in English Language Arts and Mathematics through the American Institutes for Research (AIR) testing platform. Testing dates for the 2018-2019 school year are listed below. Please try to avoid these dates when scheduling appointments and vacations. Thank you.

<u>English/Language Arts</u>			
Grade 3: October 23-24, 2018			
Grade 3: April 3-4, 2019		Grade 4: April 1-2, 2019	
<u>Mathematics</u>			
Grades 3: April 10-11, 2019		Grade 4: April 8-9, 2019	

## Lunches

The price for a school lunch is \$2.40, with extra milk costing \$0.40. Please make checks out to Hilltop Cafeteria. We encourage all families to utilize our computer-based prepaid system. This system allows the cafeteria to keep track of food allergies and other student needs in the cafeteria. To learn more about our prepaid system or to view the current menu, please go to: [www.canfieldlocalschoolsfoodservice.com](http://www.canfieldlocalschoolsfoodservice.com). We are asking parents to view the website and check the menu each day. We will not be sending home monthly menus as we have done in the past. Students received their lunch number in their teacher assignment letter. Parents are welcome to come and enjoy lunch with their children, however we ask that you only eat with your child and sit at one of the small tables closest to the entrance. **Parents are not permitted to stay for recess. Parents will be provided with two lunch tickets each year to allow them, or another special person, to eat lunch with their child. Lunch tickets must be handed in upon signing in at the main office and may not be duplicated. Student friends are not permitted to accompany your child to the designated parent lunch area. Parents will always be permitted to take their child out to lunch during the child's assigned lunch/recess times. During the first and last two weeks of school parents will not be permitted to eat lunch with their child so that lunchroom routines may be established. Parents may begin having lunch with their children on Monday, September 17, 2018. The last day to have lunch with your child will be on Friday, May 24, 2019.**

### Lunch Times for 2018-2019:

Kindergarten:	10:45-11:15	Grade 3:	11:45-12:15
Grade 1:	11:15-11:45	Grade 4:	12:45-1:15
Grade 2:	12:15-12:45		

## Helping our School

We collect Box Tops, Tyson labels, and Sunny Delight labels. Please drop off your labels and box tops in the main lobby. You can also register your Giant Eagle Advantage Card under the Apples for the Students Program at [www.gianteagle.com/schools/apples-for-students](http://www.gianteagle.com/schools/apples-for-students). Registering your Advantage Card will allow us to get a percentage of everything that registered users purchase. These are some easy ways to help our schools provide the best education to our students.

# Attendance

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All the Canfield Schools will be following the Attendance Policy written in the Parent Handbook. Please become familiar with this policy. If your child is absent, please call the school on the day of the absence. When your child returns to school, please remember to **send a note** with your child. The note should be dated, list the reason for the absence, and be signed by the parent. If you take your child to the doctor, please send a doctor's note to the school office containing the date of the appointment. Notes from parents and medical excuses must be received in the office within 24 hours of the student's return to school in order for the absence to be verified.

Students who arrive after 8:45 are considered tardy and must come to the office and sign in accompanied by a parent. Please do not drop your student off after 8:45 without bringing them to the office.

# School Safety

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We all want our students to be safe at school and you can help us by following the directions below.

1. When visiting the school, ring the buzzer and identify yourself to school staff.
2. Upon entering the building, go directly to the office, sign in, and get a visitor badge to wear.
3. If you come into the school to pick up your child, please wait in the office while we call your child down.
4. If your child is to go home in a different way than usual, please send a note with your child in the morning. Please do not call after 12:00 p.m. Each unanticipated request to have a student dismissed from class requires a call or visit to the classroom. Our goal is to keep the disruptions to the educational environment to a minimum.
5. Please do not drive into the busing lanes from 8:15-8:45a.m. or 3:00-3:35 p.m.

We want the entire community to feel welcomed in our school and want all of our students and staff to be safe. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

# Transportation

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If you ride the school bus, you will need to be at the bus stop by 7:55 a.m. until the bus route times are established. It is very important for parents to be home each day. Our buses leave Hilltop Elementary School at approximately 3:30 p.m. each day.

## Morning Drop-off Information

1. Parents who plan on driving their children to school should not drop off students prior to 8:30 am. Due to a lack of supervisory personnel, students will not be permitted into the building until 8:30 am.
2. The area in front of the school must be kept clear of traffic so that buses can safely drop off children. Cars should not park or drop off their children using the busing lanes in front of the school. Students can be dropped off at the 3rd and 4th grade entrance on the west side of the building.

## After School Car Riders

Parents who plan on picking students up at the conclusion of the day should follow our Loop Pick-Up Procedures.

1. Car riders will be dismissed at 3:15 p.m. Parents planning on picking up their children from school should contact the office before 12:00 p.m.
2. All children must be supervised as they are released to their parents and/or pick-up designee. Parents should pull up to the fourth grade doors. Please put your child's pass in the window so the adults can see the name. ALL children must get in the sidewalk side of the car. Please help your child buckle up quickly so we can keep traffic moving. We will have three teachers on duty to help the process go faster. Please wait until you are given the signal to exit the lot. Children MUST be safely in the cars before the group of cars can exit. We ask that you exit the lot ASAP so we can eliminate wait time.

## Kindergarten Update

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The school year has flown by! The children have learned so much. But there are 5 more exciting weeks of learning left. The children will continue reading and writing stories. They will learn about the May holidays: Cinco de Mayo, Mother's Day and Memorial Day. They will enjoy the 4th grade Science Fair, Vehicle Day, the 3rd grade show, Famous Americans, and the 4th grade show too. Field Day and Student Appreciation Day are awesome days at Hilltop school. In June, the kindergarten students will take a trip to the zoo! May and June are exciting months for our kindergarten students!

## 1st Grade Update

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Spring has sprung in first grade! It is hard to believe we are in our final nine weeks. The first grade teachers are so proud of all the progress the students are making. They are beginning to read with fluency and expression, they're taking off with their math facts, and their writing and spelling continue to amaze us. We will soon begin to pen-pal with our C.H. Campbell first grade friends. We will be meeting up with them for a field trip to Wagon Trails in late May!

## 2nd Grade Update

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A special thanks to P.T.A. and all of the Hilltop families for helping to make the school year exciting and memorable. We are looking forward to Student Appreciation Day and the end of the year activities/parties. It has truly been a pleasure working with such a great group of kids! We appreciate all of your support at home. Have a safe and enjoyable summer.

## 3rd Grade Update

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Third graders have done a fabulous job in preparing for the Air testing. We are very proud of how seriously they took the testing process and how much effort they put forth while taking the ELA and Math assessments. May brings many exciting events here in 3rd grade. We will be researching our Famous Americans all month and working on our amazing show that will be on Thursday, May 30th here at Hilltop Gymnasium. Students will be learning all about our local Canfield history and historical places around Canfield. This unit will end with our annual Canfield Historical walk on Monday, June 3. As this year comes to an end we are pleased to see how much these third graders have grown and are looking forward to seeing them become the leaders of Hilltop in August.

## 4th Grade Update

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Our year is rounding out. There are so many fun things for our students to look forward to. On May 9 is our fourth grade Art and Music show. Our field trip to see the play Matilda is May 10. May 24 is our Science Fair. The students will present their projects to the school that day. May 31 is our Fourth Grade Picnic. June 4 is our Spelling Bee and our Math Bee. June 6 is our last day of school which coincides with our Fourth Grade Graduation and Clap Out. In math, the students will be reviewing fractions, decimals, and multiplication. In science, we continue to learn about energy. In social studies, we will learn about immigrants to Ohio in the 1800's. In language arts, the students continue to enjoy reading and writing.

## Music

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May is a busy month in the Music Room! The 4th Graders are preparing for their, "Evening of Art and Music" on May 9, 2019, and the 3rd Graders are preparing for their, "Famous Americans" presentation on May 30, 2019. Both shows will have three performances on those dates: 9:30 a.m., 2:00 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. We hope you can join us for one, or both shows!

## Library

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Thank you for another great year with your students. I can't wait for next year so we can do lots of exciting things in the library with books and technology. It is sad, but as the end of the school year quickly approaches we will soon be "closing" the library. All library books will need to be returned to the library the week of May 13th. All lost/damaged books will need to be returned or paid for by the last day in order for you to receive your child's report card. Just because our school library is closing doesn't mean the students should stop reading! Both the Public Library and Barnes and Noble offer wonderful summer reading programs that provide free prizes. Please take advantage of these community programs. Thank you for your support and have a great summer! I can't wait to hear about all the books that the students have read.

## Physical Education

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The theme for physical education in May and June will be on reinforcing throwing and catching skills with baseball, top-pleball, jai-alai scoops, and frisbee activities and games. We will also practice for upcoming field day events. Our Kids Heart Challenge jump rope event brought in \$9,871.00 for the American Heart Association. Thank you all who participated and supported our fundraiser!

## Art

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The focus for May in the Art Room will be "Animals in Art". In this unit, we will learn specifically about the ways in which artists and cultures have been influenced by animals. Their inspiration for expression has been placed upon different species that inhabit the earth along with us.

## Birthday Treats

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Birthday celebrations are so important and we appreciate that you want to help your child celebrate their special day with their classmates, however with all the childhood allergies that are prevalent in elementary schools today it is very important that we take every precaution. Please let your teacher know in advance that you are planning to send in a birthday treat. This will help the teacher plan for children who may not be able to eat that special treat. It is very important that ALL treats come into the office and remain there until lunch time. Food treats must be distributed and eaten inside the cafeteria. Students should notify the lunch room aides if they have a birthday treat in the cafeteria BEFORE passing it out due to allergy concerns. Only students in the child's class are permitted to have a treat. Please do not pass extras out to students in other classrooms. Students are not permitted to take extra treats around to teacher classrooms due to allergy concerns. If at all possible, you could include nutritional information on the treat; it would be helpful and appreciated.

**HILLTOP ELEMENTARY  
SCHOOL**

400 Hilltop Boulevard  
Canfield, Ohio 44406

Phone: 330.533.9806  
Fax: 330.702.7051

<http://www.canfield.access-k12.org/hilltop>

**Canfield Local Schools Vision Statement**

*We will create an educational environment which challenges each student to achieve at their highest potential, leading to top 10 rankings in Ohio by 2022.*

**Canfield Local Schools Mission Statement**

*As a community, we educate, motivate, and innovate for individual lifelong success.*

**Canfield Local Schools on Twitter:  
@CLS\_Cardinals**

**Quotes of the Month**

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*“Even if we never talk again after this day, please remember that I am forever changed by who you are and what you meant to me”* -Unknown

*School may be hard, annoying, and irritating. But admit it, you're going to miss it when it ends.* - Unknown