



Principal's Message

Happy 2020! It is going to be a great year and a year full of new and exciting things. Yes, 2020 will have its challenges, but working together, we can overcome whatever obstacles the year may bring and celebrate reaching new achievements. One promise that I will make this year is that we will continue to work very hard to provide the best educational experiences for our students and families.

The biggest event of January is our annual Dinner with Dad. Dinner with Dad will take place on Thursday, January 23rd from 6:00 to 8:00 pm at Mr. Anthony's in Boardman. Reservations will be due by January 14th. This is a great way for our dads to spend some quality time with their kids. We will have great food and a DJ for entertainment. PTO will also be raffling off some really impressive gift baskets. It should be a great night. We look forward to seeing you there.

I would like to say Thank You to everyone who sent gifts to me for the holidays. The kindness and generosity of our Hilltop families never ceases to amaze me. I greatly appreciate the opportunity to be a part of this outstanding school district.

If I can be of any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me. Have a great month!

Joe Maroni

PBIS

Positive Behavior Interventions and Support (PBIS) is an approach schools can use to improve school safety and promote positive behavior. It also helps schools decide how to respond to a child who misbehaves.

At its heart, PBIS calls on schools to teach kids about behavior, just as they would teach about any other subject—like reading or math. PBIS recognizes that kids can only meet behavior expectations if they know what the expectations are. A hallmark of a school using PBIS is that everyone knows what the appropriate behaviors are. Throughout the school day—in class, at lunch and on the bus—kids understand what's expected of them.


The foundation of PBIS at C. H. Campbell and Hilltop in Canfield are the building-wide expectations of:

- **Be Safe**
- **Be Responsible**
- **Be Respectful**

Our behavior expectations are presented in our 1) **Behavior matrix**, which will be posted in all areas of the school environment, as well as 2) **Direct teaching through lesson plans** which helps students engage in the expected behavior.

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 2019-2020 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 22-23, 2019 	
Grade 3: April 1-2, 2020	Grade 4: March 30-31, 2020
<u>Mathematics</u>	
Grades 3: April 29-30, 2020	Grade 4: April 27-28, 2020

Lunches

The price for a school lunch is \$2.45, 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. 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 16, 2019. The last day to have lunch with your child will be on Friday, May 22, 2020.**

Lunch Times for 2019-2020:

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

Birthday Treats

Birthday treats should be placed in the office 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. Please do not send extra treats. Students are not permitted to take extra treats around to teacher classrooms due to allergy concerns. Do not send treats that need to be cut, refrigerated, or frozen. Extra treats will be discarded.

Helping our School

We collect Box Tops, Campbell Soup Labels, 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. 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

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, even if they are dropped off in the Loop, 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

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 3:00-3:40 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

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.

Before School, After School Care

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.

The Pantry at Hilltop

Our pantry is starting it's second year. We are thankful for everyone who has donated items in the past, but our need continues. If you are willing to help provide supplies, here is a list of some of the items that we collect and distribute:

We are currently in need of the items listed below:

Juice Boxes or Sunny D

Crackers

Granola Bars

Macaroni & Cheese

Meals in a Box

Canned Soup

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)

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

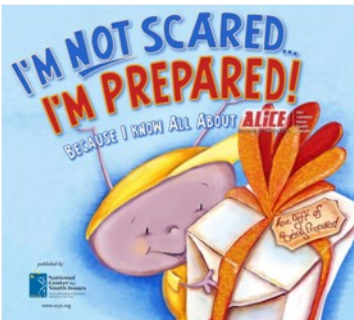
Building Safety and Security

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).

*ALICE collaborated with ‘Award Winning’ children’s author Julia Cook to create an Age Appropriate instruction story-book 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.

Kindergarten Update

Happy New Year! Kindergartners will be jumping into the new year by learning how to write all uppercase letters. Students will be able to identify, write and make each letter sound by the end of January. We will begin "tapping" (sounding out) three letter short vowel words. In math, students will work on measuring objects using non-standard forms of measurement and writing numbers 11-20. Our unit studies will focus on the winter season and animals that hibernate.

1st Grade Update

First grade is enjoying our winter wonderland! We are setting goals for the New Year as we begin the second half of first grade! We are observing changes in our environment and learning about winter animals. In writing, we are practicing our skills as we learn to create "How-to" pieces. Our Math unit involves using the number line as a tool for counting and solving problems. We will also be using penguins as a context for measuring and comparing our heights with theirs! As always, we are encouraging the children to keep warm by snuggling up with their favorite book and keep up that wonderful reading practice at home!

2nd Grade Update

Thank you to everyone who attended our "Holidays Around the World Program" in December. We enjoyed learning about different customs and traditions from various countries around the world. We look forward to setting personal goals for school and at home so that we can start the new year working hard to achieve them. We will be observing different weather changes throughout the winter season. In math, we will continue to use strategies to add and subtract two-digit numbers within one-hundred.

3rd Grade Update

Happy New Year from Third Grade! We have enjoyed learning about cultures from Around the World. Third grade students have been spending time sharing and learning from their peers. In Science we will be studying energy and the different types of energy. The students be introduced to renewable and non-renewable resources in January. The children will continue to read a variety of genres in guided reading. The students are working on the writing and reading connection. In Math, we will be working on measurement & fractions and the many possible ways these can be solved. Bridges lends itself to individual problem solving and the sharing of ideas.

4th Grade Update

Fourth Grade continues to work hard at all they do. Guided reading groups are working on the reading skills students need daily. Writing narratives and persuasive pieces are the focus for practicing great writing skills. In social studies, the students are going to be learning about Ohio's involvement in the War of 1812. In science, the students will be wrapping up their fast/slow earth changing processes unit. In math, the focus will be addition, subtraction, and place value.

Music

Attention third graders and parents: It's time to start learning how to play the recorder! In January, you will receive a letter explaining the recorder program. There will be an order form attached to the letter to return with payment for the students' recorder and lesson book. Please keep an eye out for this letter. I will have it to you shortly!

Fourth graders and parents: please start looking for the recorder and lesson book that you purchased last year, as we will be using those again this year. If you lost either one, or are new to our school, I will have order forms available to you as well at the beginning of the new year.

Library

Please don't forget that we have our ongoing Lego drive. In January, we will be programming our robots that can have Legos attached. It will be super exciting! I would also like to thank everyone who supported the birthday book sale! As we enter this crazy time of year, please take the time to sit with your child and read with them. There is nothing more magical than a story shared with a loved one.

Physical Education

In January students will learn basic basketball skills including dribbling, passing and shooting. Students will use these skills in playing various fun, age-appropriate, activities and lead-up games per grade level. Jumping with both the long ropes and individual ropes will be the focus for the end of the month. Hilltoppers will again be participating in our February fundraiser for the American Heart Association. All students will be doing all types of jumping activities for The Kids Heart Challenge event the week of February 3rd - 7th in their physical education classes. Please register for our school team at heart.org/KidsHeartChallenge or by searching Kids Heart Challenge in the app. store on your mobile device. Our students are learning how to keep their hearts healthy and how they can help others by collecting donations for the AHA. A parent letter will be coming home soon with additional information.

Also, students who would like to enter in the Ohio Schools Create A Cover Contest should have their artwork to me by Friday, January 24th providing me time to do a bulk mailing. The Ohio Schools magazine is encouraging students to design a cover for the June issue that best expresses their ideas on "What I like most about my school." Art work should not include text or the Ohio Schools name, must be Vertical 8-½ x 11 inches, and any media may be used. Winners will have their design featured in the June 2020 issue and receive a gift card to Barnes and Noble Bookstores.

Art

Our focus in the Art Room during January will be upon the "Foundations of Art" or The Elements of Art and The Principles of Design. In this unit, we will be observing the Masters and the ways in which they used the basic elements, like line, shape, color, form, space, texture and value in their works of art. We will be using those same elements and principles as we create our own masterpieces!

**HILLTOP ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL**

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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.

Visit us on Twitter!
@CLS_Cardinals

Important Dates

January 2, 2020:	School Resumes
January 7/8/9:	2nd grade CogAT testing
January 14:	2nd grade Iowa Reading Assessment
January 15:	2nd grade Iowa Mathematics Assessment
January 16:	PTA General Meeting (6:30 pm– Library)
January 17:	PTA General Meeting (9:00 am– Cafeteria_
January 20:	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (NO SCHOOL)
January 23:	Dinner with Dad @ Mr. Anthony's (6-8 pm)
February 3-7:	Jump Rope for Heart
February 6:	Parent/Teacher Conferences (4:00-7:00 pm)
February 13:	Valentine's Day parties (1:45 pm)
February 13:	Parent/Teacher Conferences (4:00-7:00 pm)
February 14-16:	Mid-Winter Break (NO SCHOOL)