

Mill Hall Elementary

Keystone Central School District

Message From the Principal: Dr. Breon

Our Mill Hall Elementary Wildcats have had a great month of learning while building in some fun, as well. We celebrated the 100th Day of school with an assembly of games focused on the number 100; we Shared the Love at Valentines Day; our WOW Paw Winners celebrated with Pop-Tarts with the Principal; we learned about electricity safety at an assembly sponsored by PP&L; celebrated our students success with a Board Games PBIS (Positive Behavior Supports and Interventions) Reward for the month; and kicked off Read Across America with some guests from the CMHS Student Athlete Leadership members. Our staff also welcomed over 45 children for our 2024-25 Kindergarten Class. There were a lot of smiles for the Class of 2037!



Mill Hall Elementary has seen an increase in the number of student absences this school year. Please know your child is missed every day that they are not in school, and they miss key instructional opportunities that when accumulated can have a detrimental impact on their growth as a learner. While we recognize occasional absences are necessary for illnesses and appointments, we encourage you to help us continue to grow your child(ren) through regular attendance. The Attendance Regulations from our Keystone Central Elementary Student Handbooks is copied below:

ATTENDANCE REGULATIONS

There is a direct and positive correlation between regular school attendance and achievement. Students and families are encouraged to avoid any unnecessary absence from school.

- **Examples of excused absences include:** illness, death in the family, medical or dental appointments, required court appearance, unavoidable family emergencies, or other 'urgent' reasons such as impassable roads.
- **Funeral absences:** local funeral = 1 day excused; out of town funeral = up to 3 days excused; exception includes immediate family member = 5 days excused absence

- **Examples of unexcused absences include** oversleeping, car issues, missing bus, hunting, shopping.
- **Excuses can be emailed to:**
 - Mill Hall Elem mhattendance@kcsd.us
- When a student is tardy to school, they will be expected to turn in a note. Their tardy absences will be marked as unlawful/unexcused if there is no excuse turned in to the attendance office by the third (3rd) day following the absences. For example, if your student is absent on Monday, you **MUST** send in an excuse for that absence by Thursday of that week or it will be marked as an unlawful/unexcused absence. Excuses may be questioned or refused if not signed by the parent, legal guardian, or physician.
- You will receive a letter when your child has **3 unlawful days**. The letter will contain information about a **School Attendance Improvement Conference (SAIC)** to assist with regular school attendance. The school counselor will contact Children and Youth's truancy outreach worker and the KCSD attendance officer will be notified.
- When your child has **6 unlawful** days, the KCSD attendance officer may file a citation with the magisterial district judge and your student will be formally referred to Children and Youth.
- After your child is absent for **10 days** (parental excuse days) you will receive a letter informing you that your child has reached 10 days. After this, you **MUST** turn in a physician's excuse for every absence for the rest of the school year.



100 Second Post-It Challenge



Electricity Safety Assembly



PBIS Board Games Award



100 Marble Challenge



Pop-Tarts with the Principal



Welcoming our Class of 2037!

Upcoming Activities

March 1-7: Read Across America ([Books](#) & [Spirit Schedule](#))

March 8: Act 80 Day - No school for students

March 11: In-Service Day (AM Parent Conferences as requested) - No school for students

March 18-22: Spring Scholastic Book Fair

March 20: Family Book Fair Shopping 4:00-6:30 and PTO Meeting at 6:30

March 22: PBIS Popcorn Fundraiser

March 28: 3 hr. Early Dismissal (PM In-Service)

March 29 - April 1: Spring Break

April 4: Spring Pictures

Messages and Updates through Class Dojo

KCSD has moved back to ClassDojo as our messaging app. Please be sure to connect (or reconnect) so you don't miss any important information from your child's school or teachers.



ClassDojo

Stay informed about:

- School events and activities
- Important deadlines and assignments
- Emergency alerts and school delays/dismissals/closures

Federal Programs

Annual Notices and Policy Review

Click on the button above to access the information.

Winter Federal Programs Updates

On February 8, 2024 we held a Stakeholder Committee meeting to review the following information:

1. Federal fund usage requires transparency and stakeholder input
2. We shared-
 1. How we monitor important aspects of our staffing and use of funds
 2. How we use data to determine needs and how the funds are used to address needs
 3. How we are preparing to write the 2024-2025 grants and are seeking your input

We are always looking for community members who want to be involved in reviewing our data and our plans and want to have input. If you are interested in joining our team, [please complete this form to help us maintain a communication list of willing Stakeholders to turn to when we need input.](#)

Title I funds follow the students. When our students attend a nonpublic school, our school funds are allocated on a per pupil basis to the nonpublic school to support any students who have an academic need who would have attended a KCSD school. We work with our nonpublic schools to help support our students, because no matter where they attend, students who reside within the boundaries of KCSD are our students.

Title II funds are designed to support the teachers. We use Title II funds for professional development in areas such as mathematics, English/Language Arts, and social-emotional learning.

At all school levels, we use Title IV federal funds to purchase incentives for PBIS (our positive school-wide behavior supports) rewards, and we emphasize the goal of following school rules in all schools.

Required documents for families:

Right to Request Qualifications of Teachers (see Annual Notices and Policy Review button above) - if you wish to request a paper copy, please contact rmurty@kcsd.k12.pa.us .

Note: If your child is taught for four or more weeks by a teacher who is instructing in a content area for which they are not currently certified, the district must notify you. Four-week notification letters will be added here if that becomes necessary.

Non-Discrimination Statement (see Annual Notices and Policy Review button above) - if you wish to request a paper copy, please contact rmurty@kcsd.k12.pa.us.

[Title I District Parent Policy - Policy 918](#)

[Coaching Newsletter for Families - How We Teach Reading](#)

[Title I Complaint Procedure](#)

[School Improvement Plan](#)

Family Connections

ESL

Math: Learning Together at Home

Math is everywhere! When you measure an ingredient for a recipe, tell time, pay a bill, or look at the daily temperature, you are using math. These activities offer ideas on how to make math fun at home and start building some math skills that kids will use as they get older. [Click to learn more!](#)
[Video](#) (Spanish Only)

#KeystoneCares - Music in our Schools

Music In Our Schools Month

#KeystoneCares
presents

March 2024

Make music at home
and snap a photo.

Send a photo and description to
pr@kcsd.k12.pa.us
to be highlighted on our
social media pages

Sing a solo
Sing with a family member
Play a musical instrument

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Attendance is a priority at KCSD!

Help us reach our Attendance Goal of **94.1%**.

For the month of February, our students showed up **90.8%** of the time.

As of March 1st, there are only 66 school days left. We want to see you all 66 days!!

Remember: Excuses need to be turned in within 3 days of an absence. Use your school's attendance email to make sure that the excuse notes get turned in on time.

Wildcats on the Prowl: AttendanceMatters Now!

ATTENDANCE EMAILS

Email your excuses to the addresses below
→ Save them in your phone contacts today!

BTAttendance@kcsd.us - BHS & BMS
CMHSAttendance@kcsd.us - CMHS
CMMSAttendance@kcsd.us - CMMS
LCAttendance@kcsd.us - Liberty-Curtin
MHAttendance@kcsd.us - Mill Hall
RVAttendance@kcsd.us - Renovo
ROBBAttendance@kcsd.us - Robb
WWAttendance@kcsd.us - Woodward



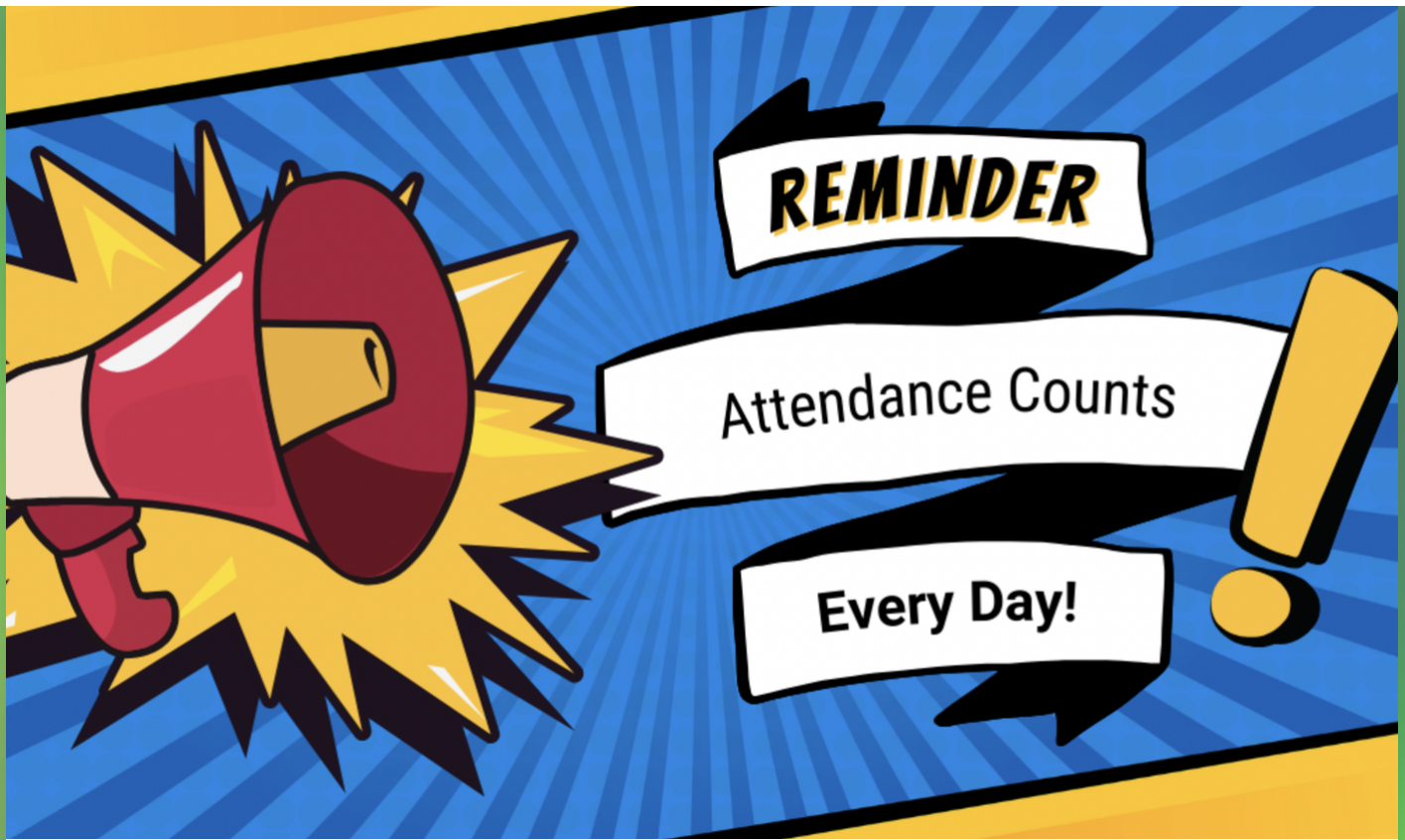
Going on a trip?
Please complete the [educational trip form](#) & submit it to your learner's attendance office for review & approval - this must be turned in at least 1-week in advance.

Having issues with getting your student to school? Is your student experiencing school stress?

Reach Out TODAY:



Or go to: tinyurl.com/KCSDhelp



Counseling Connection

SAP

If you are concerned about a student for any reason, you can make a SAP referral. The SAP referral can potentially lead to any needed services and/or supports the student may need to be successful. Click on the picture to make a referral!

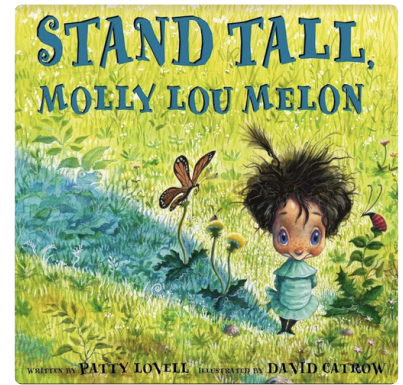


Mill Hall Elementary School Counseling

Building confidence can be difficult for anyone to do. To help your Little Wildcat with their confidence, consider doing positive self-talk every day with some daily affirmations. I recommend picking 3 or 4 affirmations and using the same ones every day. Below are some examples:

- I am smart.
- I am strong.

- I am creative.
- I am brave.
- I am loved.
- I am worth it.
- I am courageous.
- I am talented.
- I am kind.
- I am unique and special.



I also wanted to give a spotlight to a great book about confidence.

"Stand Tall, Molly Lou Melon" by Patty Lovell is a wonderful story of a girl named Molly Lou Melon who builds confidence with the help of her grandmother. Her grandmother encourages Molly Lou to embrace each of her unique qualities.

Please reach out to Mrs. Smith with any concerns you may have.

bsmith@kcsd.us or 570-893-4900 ext. 2969.

Hillarie Reese: School Social Worker

Phone: 570-893-4900 x3000

Email: hreese@kcsd.us

Healthy Mind, Healthy Home, Healthy YOU!

Report to Parents: 5 Fun Ways to Instill a Love of History in Kids

History tells the story of how we got to where we are today as a society—and it's chock full of lessons that inspire us to make a difference in the world around us. Use these fun ideas to help your child learn about history.



- 1. Visit a Museum or Historical Site:** Was an inspiring historical figure born in your town? Is your town known for something famous? Whatever makes your town unique, there's bound to be a museum or historical site to celebrate it.
- 2. Listen to a Kid-Friendly Podcast:** You name it, there's a podcast for it—including podcasts for budding history buffs. Ask questions about a favorite fact they learned, how it makes them feel, and why the topic interests them.
- 3. Read About Historical Figures:** Many people in history have made a lasting impact on society. Learning about them enables kids to see themselves in others, learn about different cultures, be inspired, and grow their minds.
- 4. Celebrate Your Family History:** Everyone has a story—your family included. Encourage your child to learn about your family's history and culture and share their stories, too.
- 5. Cook Up a History Lesson:** Find a recipe that is meaningful to a different country or culture. Learn about things like how the meal is prepared and presented and when the dish is traditionally served. Then, eat up!

VOLUNTEER INFORMATION

<https://www.smores.com/361wz-keystone-central-school-district#:~:text=VOLUNTEER%20INFORMATION,to%20Clearance%20Page>

The link in the button above/QR Code should take you to our Volunteer Application.

You need to apply on-line at

<https://www.applitrack.com/kcsd/onlineapp/> instead of using a paper form.



Clearances and Mandated Reporter training are also required. Here are the links:

- Clearances
- (Act 34) PA State Police <https://epatch.pa.gov/home>
- (Act 151) PA Child Abuse <https://www.compass.state.pa.us/cwis/public/home>
- (Act 114) FBI <https://www.identogo.com/locations/pennsylvania>

Use service code to receive the correct clearance: 1KG6XN

Mandated Report Training <http://www.reportabusepa.pitt.edu/>

Elizabeth Nace is our Personnel Secretary & Volunteer Specialist, you can use the information below to contact her, and she said she is happy to help you and answer questions!

570-893-4900 x 2319

<https://www.kcsd.k12.pa.us/en-US/human-resources-32e72bfeenace@kcsd.k12.pa.us>

86 Administration Drive, Mill Hall, PA 17751

[General Link to Clearance Page](#)

Translation Services

If your family speaks a language other than English, the district has access to translators and interpreters that can accompany you in meetings with teachers and school members. If you would like to be connected with a translator or interpreter please reach out to your child's teacher or the school guidance counselor. The accessibility features in the top right corner of this Smore allow you to translate this page.

ATHLETICS & ACTIVITIES

Check out our School websites for CMHS Athletics



Central Mountain High School

Just another SportsHub Sites site

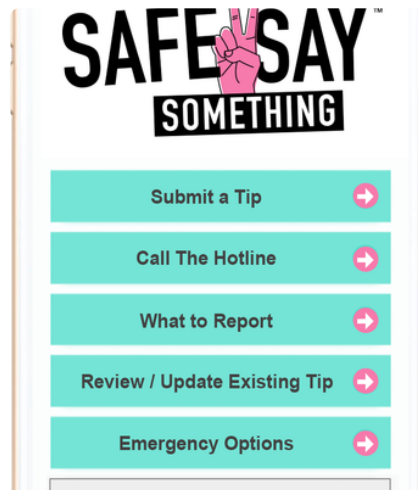
centralmountainathletics.com

Safety & Security



Safety & Security

[Click here for updates and information about KCSD Safety and Security.](#)



Safe 2 Say

[Click here to access information about Safe 2 Say.](#)



School Gate Guardian

[Click here for more information about School Gate Guardian and the district requirement for all visitors to show ID.](#)

Keystone Central School District has School Resource Officers throughout our district for safety and security.

Officer Scott VanGorder - Central Mountain High School


Officer Cory Beaver - Bucktail High School & Renovo Elementary

Officer Luke Motter - Central Mountain Middle School

Officer Mike Fetzer - Elementary district-wide and District Attendance Officer

Officer Todd Brian - District-wide

School Day Schedules

	Mill Hall Elem. (K-4) Liberty-Curtin Elem. (K-4) Robb Elem. (K-4) Renovo Elem. (K-6) Woodward Elem. (K-4)	Central Mountain Middle School (5-8)	Bucktail High School (7-12) Central Mountain High School (9-12)
Doors Open Bus Arrival Parent Drop-Off Breakfast	7:20 am	8:00 am	8:00 am
Instruction Begins	7:55 am	8:20 am	8:20 am
Instruction Ends	2:30 pm	3:15 pm	3:20 pm
Bus Departure Parent Pick-Up	2:30 pm	3:15 pm	3:20 pm

Keeping Up With Keystone

Virtual Academy

[Did you know the Keystone Central School District offers a full cyber program to students K-12?](#)

Keystone Central Career & Technical Center

Please use the following link to read the upcoming events and information for December/January.

<https://www.smores.com/3dme6>

Data & Performance

Upcoming Assessments

Save the Date for State Assessments!

Spring PSSA- All students in grades 3-8 ELA and Math, Science Grades 4 and 8

ELA: Window April 22-26

ELA District Testing April 22, 23, 24

4th & 8th Grade Science District Testing- May 1 & 2

Math/Science/Make ups: Window April 29-May 10

Math District Testing-April 29,30

Local District Assessments

All students in grades K-8 will be participating in our upcoming local district assessments which will be administered in the Fall, Winter and Spring. Students in K-2 will be tested using the Acadience assessment and students in grades 3-8 will be tested using NWEA MAP assessment. These assessments are administered in the Fall, Winter and Spring and will provide you as well as their teacher valuable information on academic growth. To learn more about our assessment please click the links below. **The final Testing Window will be May 13-17.**

[NWEA Family Toolkit](#)

[NWEA FAQ](#)

[About Acadience](#)

Quick Links

Many questions can arise concerning your child's laptop, internet access, busing information or maybe you'd like to volunteer in your child's school. These links below can help you get answers or point you in the direction of who to speak to.

KCSD Technology Department

Click on the button above to access the information.

KCSD Transportation Department

Click on the button above to access the information.

KCSD Volunteer Application & Information

Click on the button above to access the information.

KCSD Student Handbooks

Click on the button above to access the information.

KCSD Food & Nutrition Services

Click on the button above to access the information.

Special Education

Click on the button above to access the information.

Shop @ Weis, Earn \$\$ for your School!

Most Up-to-Date Elementary Lunch Menu

Menus for March 2024

Keystone Central S. D. Elementary Lunch

This institution is an equal opportunity provider. Menus are subject to change.

Friday, March 1

Regular
Macaroni & Cheese
Green Beans
Cucumbers w/ Dip
Mandarin Oranges
Milk

Alternate
Hot Dog on Roll

Oh, the Places You'll Go!
by Dr. Seuss

March 2 is
"Read Across America" Day

Monday, March 4

Regular
Chicken and Waffles
w/ Gravy
Peas & Carrots
Chilly Cucumbers w/
Dip
Perfect Peaches
Milk

Alternate
Chicken Nuggets w/
Breadstick

Tuesday, March 5

Regular
Soft Taco w/ Fixins
Salsa
Steamed Broccoli
Fabulous Fruit
Cocktail
Milk

Alternate
Chicken Nuggets w/
Breadstick

Wednesday, March 6

Regular
Mini Corn Dogs
Baked Beans
Crispy Celery w/ Dip
Pears
Milk

Alternate
Chicken Nuggets w/
Breadstick

Thursday, March 7

Regular
French Toast Sticks
w/ Egg Patty &
Sausage Patty
Smiley Potatoes
Fresh Carrots w/ Dip
Strawberry Cup
Milk

Alternate
Chicken Nuggets w/
Breadstick

Friday, March 8

Act 80 Day

No School

DON'T FORGET TO
SPRING
FORWARD
ON MARCH 10!



Monday, March 11

In-Service Day
No School

Our teachers are
busy sharpening
their skills for you!

Tuesday, March 12

Regular
Chicken Noodle
Soup
Colby Jack Cheese
Stick & Breadstick
Super Salad w/
Dressing
Mixed Vegetables
Pineapple

Alternate
Cheese Pizza

Wednesday, March 13

Regular
Cheese Steak
Sandwich (NEW)
Gorgeous Green
Beans
Cinnamon Sugar
Roasted Chick Peas
Peaches
Milk

Alternate
Cheese Pizza

Thursday, March 14

Regular
Chicken Caesar Salad
w/ Dressing
Shamrock Pretzel
Cheery Cherry
Tomatoes
Bananas and
Oranges
Milk

Alternate
Cheese Pizza

Friday, March 15

Regular
Hamburger on Roll
Baked French Fries
Courageous Carrots
w/Dip
Pears
Milk

Alternate
Cheese Pizza

NUTRITION TO GO

What's the skinny on potatoes? **EAT THE SKIN!** Ounce for ounce, the skin contains more fiber, iron, calcium, and many other vitamins and minerals than the meat of the spud. The potato is the world's most widely eaten vegetable. Idaho produces a third of all U.S. potatoes - about thirteen billion pounds a year!

A TASTY MORSEL FOR PARENTS

MARCH IS NATIONAL NUTRITION MONTH

ABC
123

WHEN YOU EAT WELL, YOU CAN LEARN WELL.

Word of the Month
dauntless

adj. 1. incapable of being discouraged or intimidated 2. brave 3. fearless <a dauntless fighter against corruption>

1 AND ONLY!

The Everglades in South Florida is the only place in the world where alligators and crocodiles both live together in the wild!

(Neither of them actually wear crocs, though!)

ST. PATRICK'S DAY

MARCH 17
Follow a Rainbow to a Pot o' Gold!

Monday, March 18

Regular
Sweet & Sour
Chicken w/ Rice
Steamed Broccoli
Fresh Green Peppers
w/Dip
Strawberry Cup
Milk

Alternate
Chicken Nuggets w/
Breadstick

Tuesday, March 19

Regular
Meatloaf w/ Gravy
Whipped Potatoes
w/ Gravy
Soft Pretzel
Gorgeous Green
Beans
Mandarin Oranges
Milk

Alternate
Chicken Nuggets w/
Breadstick

Wednesday, March 20

Regular
Toasted Cheese
Sandwich
Tomato Soup
Fresh Broccoli & Dip
Fantastic Fruit
Cocktail
Milk

Alternate
Chicken Nuggets w/
Breadstick

Thursday, March 21

Regular
Boneless Chicken
Wings w/ Goldfish
Crackers (NEW)
Scrumptious Sweet
Potato Fries
Brave Baked Beans
Blueberries &
Bananas
Milk

Alternate
Chicken Nuggets w/
Breadstick

Friday, March 22

Regular
Cheese Pizza
Salad w/Dressing
Marvelous Mixed
Vegetables
Pears and Pineapple
Milk

Alternate
Chicken Nuggets w/
Breadstick

OFF THE CLOCK.

A clock can't always tell you when it's time for breakfast! Eat at home, before you start your day. Or eat when you get where you're going. Or eat something mid-morning. Research even suggests kids learn and feel better when they eat TWO smaller healthy breakfasts.

EAT BETTER. PLAY HARDER. LIVE HEALTHIER. LEARN EASIER. WELLNESS IS A WAY OF LIFE!

Monday, March 25

Regular
KC Bowl
Breadstick
Wild Whipped
Potatoes
Golden Corn
Peaches
Milk

Alternate
Hot Dog on Roll

Tuesday, March 26

Regular
Ranch Chicken Wrap
(NEW)
Crazy Carrots
Three Bean Salad
Apple Slices
Milk

Alternate
Hot Dog on Roll

Wednesday, March 27

Regular
Macaroni & Cheese
Gorgeous Green
Beans
Cucumber Salad
Pears
Milk

Alternate
Hot Dog on Roll

Thursday, March 28

Early Dismissal
Regular
Fish Sticks (NEW)
Sweet Potato Fries
Salad w/ Dressing
Fruit Cocktail
Milk

Alternate
Hot Dog on Roll

Friday, March 29

Spring Break

No School Today

SPRING BREAK!

Break begins at the end of classes:
March 28

Classes resume:
April 2

Mill Hall Elementary School Contact Information

Elementary Principal: Dr. Breon- abreon@kcsd.k12.pa.us

School Counselor: Mrs. Smith- bsmith@kcsd.k12.pa.us

School Secretary: Mrs. Collins- gcollins@kcsd.k12.pa.us

School Phone: 570-893-2900 ext. 2910



Keystone Central School District

Respect for Yesterday * Pride in Today * Plans for Tomorrow