



# Falcon Flyer

## October 2019



HILLSDALE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

ISSUE #1

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### From the Desk of the Superintendent: HILLSDALE LEVY RENEWALS

We have been busy getting facts out concerning the two levy renewals on the November 5<sup>th</sup> ballot. I have spoken at informational levy meetings in Hayesville, Jeromesville, and Mifflin and would like to extend my thanks to each village for hosting. We had a good turnout from the community, and I want to thank everyone who attended. There were great questions and discussions.

Your YES vote on these levy renewals means:

- **NO CHANGE in the tax dollars being collected**, which allows us to maintain current operating dollars.
- maximizing the amount of dollars that can be collected from the Rover pipeline. We would lose 43.5% of the revenue if the levy renewals fail.

Please see the district website at [www.hillsdale.k12.oh.us](http://www.hillsdale.k12.oh.us) for additional information. Material can be found under "Levy Renewals 2019" tab.

I sincerely encourage anyone with questions to contact me directly at 419-368-8501 or to email me at [hill\\_dickerson@tccsa.net](mailto:hill_dickerson@tccsa.net)

*Career & College Readiness* class, along with *English IV* classes, traveled to Kent State University in early October. Students toured the four year public campus and learned about admission criteria and financial aid requirements. This field trip came at a perfect time for our students because many are planning their next steps after high school graduation. *Culinary* classes have kept busy learning about proper measuring techniques, kitchen safety, and nutritional recommendations. Students have enjoyed sampling the tastes of various food as part of the curriculum, too. *Personal Finance* students have tracked their money to learn about teenage spending habits. Information about banking and credit cards have been included within the curriculum.



First grade students enjoyed a field trip to Ramseyer Farm in Smithville! They went on a hayride, picked their own pumpkins in the pumpkin patch, had a picnic in the barn, learned about local crops, sampled kettle corn, and had a little extra time at the end for some FUN!!!



On October 3<sup>rd</sup>, eleven Hillsdale High School student athletes hosted 60 others from the Wayne County Athletic League for a Leadership Summit at the high school. The fast-paced, high-level engagement program was designed to develop stronger high school student leaders through team building, problem solving, trust building, brainstorming ideas, developing consensus and understanding the importance of effective communication skills.

"I hope the kids came out of the day with some insight on what good leaders are. Leaders make good choices, are good communicators, and good listeners," Hillsdale Athletic Director Jodi Long said, noting that, "Even though they are competitors on the field, they can make some new friends."

Hillsdale High School principal Dave Baker spearheaded the experience, meeting with local school administrators before the start of the school year to propose the idea. "I believe in the importance of growing and developing great leaders," Baker said. Baker has coordinated over 100 leadership summits for a variety of school-related and business groups. "He is a great leader and is eager to share his love for students," Mrs. Long said about Mr. Baker. "He has great energy and is a positive addition to our district."

The students were chosen by members of the coaching staff and administration. Those honored with selection are pictured below from left to right: Principal Dave Baker, Sean Sigler, Max Vesper, Caden Fickes, Liz Norris, Lacey Fickes, Madison Mast, Olivia Traylor, Jordan Taylor, Brayden Bartter, Mason Myers, and Ty Williams (Briar Funk, not pictured)





Hillsdale FFA members Alyssa Crytzer, Megan Schwendenman, Julia Harper, Caleb Murawski, Aubrianna Gibson, Cassian Filbrun, and Nathan DeRodes attended FFA Camp Muskingum, located in Carroll County on the banks of Leesville Lake.

This year a variety of age groups attended the camp. Sophomore Cassian Filbrun, said, "There were so many opportunities to meet new people and have lots of fun. I really enjoyed FFA camp as a first year camper!"

Throughout the week campers were able to meet other FFA members from all over Ohio. They also met with the newly-elected Ohio FFA Officer Team, as well as the past state officers who served as staff during camp. Students took part in many leadership workshops, team building activities, and outdoor recreation.

Camp activities included motor boating, canoeing, kayaking, paddle boating, paintballing, shotgun and rifle ranges, sports, swimming, and socializing with new friends. Dances were held the first night and the last, and members had the opportunity to meet and hang out with other members.

The Hillsdale FFA chapter would like to thank the Hillsdale FFA Alumni for their donation to give these members a great opportunity for leadership and team building.

(Left to right, top): Megan Schwendenman, Julia Harper, Aubrianna Gibson, (Bottom) Nathan DeRodes, Caleb Murawski, Cassian Filbrun, Alyssa Crytzer



Third graders visited Ayer's Dairy Farm in Perrysville to learn about a variety of skills and products on the farm. This field trip is provided by the Ashland County Farm Bureau.



Thank you to Ms. Meyer, Mrs. Moody, and Mrs. Morgan for organizing CAMP RAH RAH 2019!





The 46<sup>th</sup> annual Hillsdale Arts & Crafts show will be held on Saturday, November 9 from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Hillsdale High School. Over 100 vendors will be on hand with items ranging from baked goods to Christmas decorations to handcrafted items, leatherwork, ceramics, toys, quilts, paper crafts, wood carvings, and more. Food will also be served throughout the day by our Academic Booster Club. Come join us for the fun and festivities and get a head start on your Christmas shopping.

On September 27, second grade students visited the Wilderness Center near Wilmot, Ohio. The purpose of the field trip was to blend science, writing, social studies, and play. Groups of students rotated through different activities. The artifact presentation offered a historical timeline about early people in Ohio and their development to the present day.

While hiking, students learned to identify poison ivy, other plants, and tree sap. They also took a squirrel census and participated in a sensory experience, closing their eyes and listening to nature's sounds. Students enjoyed lunch at the Prairie Picnic Shelter before visiting the unique and creative playground. Thank you to the parent chaperones who attended.



## Thank you to everyone who attended *Cleats and Treats!*



Under the direction of Elizabeth Derr, the Hillsdale FFA Chapter hosted a community service project to donate necessary school supplies to all 70 Hillsdale first graders. Derr applied for the "Living to Serve" grant from the National FFA Organization to help cover the cost for the school supplies. On August 17, Shawna Barr, Thor McDonald, and Brock Hoverstock attended the first grade open house to represent the Hillsdale FFA Chapter and help the teachers pass out supplies for the first day of school.



(Pictured left to right) Thor McDonald, Shawna Barr, Mr. Hoffman, Brock Hoverstock, Mrs. Copenhaver, Ms. Dropsey, and Mrs. Fickes



This year, seventh and eighth grade middle school students have a chance to participate in a variety of elective courses in the afternoon. One of the classes that is new this year is Mrs. Stump's "BRAINBOX" class. This course offers a variety of challenging engineering and hands-on activities for students. There is some coding and programming, building upon principles learned in sixth grade, and then there are "Fast Fifteen" minutes where students have an opportunity to explore. Students in the first nine-weeks class have used mini-drones, 3D pens, keva planks, and a button maker. They've created designs for the Silhouette Cameo vinyl cutter, and created both LEGO and K'NEX creations. They've also built their own bristle bots, and used tablets to control the Sphero. Students are also working on duct tape activities, and hope to construct a Geodesic Dome with PVC pipe. This class has been a great deal of fun and still more opportunities await! This class was funded in part from a grant from the Martha Holden Jennings Foundation and it is hoped that it will spark interest in additional STEM and Makerspace opportunities for students at the middle school.



Hillsdale FFA officers participated in their annual officer retreat on June 18-19. The 2019-2020 officer team consists of President Jarrod Lifer, Vice President Elizabeth Derr, Secretary Clay Schoen, Treasurer Brock Hoverstock, Reporter Shawna Barr, Sentinel Olivia Traylor, Student Advisor Megan Schwendeman, Historian Thor McDonald, Parliamentarian Jacob Chio, and Chaplain Caleb Murawski.

The retreat began at Hillsdale High School with an activity to get to know one another. The team then traveled to Miller's-Hawkins market to purchase breakfast for each other based on information given in the activity earlier in the day. The retreat was held at the Mohican Lodge in Perrysville. Most of the time was spent planning the 2019-2020 school year. Then the team worked on communication and listening skills with Hillsdale High School principal Davis Baker. After their lesson with Mr. Baker they traveled to The Cabin restaurant, ate a delicious meal, and ended the day with swimming, beach volleyball, and spooky stories!

On the second day the officer team continued planning activities for the upcoming school year. The team ended the officer retreat by playing fun games at Scene75 Entertainment Center in Brunswick. The 2019-2020 officer team had a successful trip planning events, setting personal and team goals, and team bonding.



(Left to right, bottom): Clay Schoen, Jarrod Lifer, Thor McDonald, Caleb Murawski, Jacob Chio (Left to right, top) Megan Schwendeman, Shawna Barr, Olivia Traylor, Elizabeth Derr, Brock Hoverstock

The Hillsdale FFA chapter sent five delegates to this year's Washington Leadership Conference in Washington, D.C. Hillsdale FFA members Jarrod Lifer, Brody Schoen, Colby Helbert, Makala Moody, and Mackala Krichbaum experienced riding an Amtrak train from Ohio to Washington, D.C. They also traveled on the metro in the city each day. FFA members from all over the country attended the conference to learn about leadership, purpose, and service. According to the National FFA website, "WLC is the pinnacle leadership conference offered by FFA to any and all members that are able to attend". Jarrod Lifer stated, "WLC was a great experience. I met many great people and learned a lot about leadership." During the conference members also attended a Washington Nationals baseball game, toured the United States Supreme Court, Arlington National Cemetery, the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, the US Capitol Building, and many other sights in D.C. Members were also able to attend group sessions to work on establishing a "Living to Serve" plan. These plans are meant to help serve members' communities. Members identified their purpose, and planned the steps necessary to achieve their goal. On the last night of WLC many eyes were opened to the problems this world faces. Members saw the state of others in our country and wanted to do something about it. The next day WLC students participated in a service project where they packed oatmeal for people in need. The facilitators of the conference took this time to remind the students that they can make a difference. The delegates had a hard time saying goodbye to their new friends and the experiences of the week. However, they were excited to bring back their new leadership abilities, personal growth, and "Living to Serve" plans to the chapter. The Hillsdale FFA chapter would like to thank the Hillsdale FFA Alumni for their donation to give these members a great leadership development opportunity.

*Pictured below (left to right): Jarrod Lifer, Colby Helbert, Brody Schoen, Mackala Krichbaum, and Makala Moody*



The high school library is ready for business!



Thank you for joining us at *Reading Under the Lights!*



The Hillsdale Local Schools would like to thank Bookmasters for making this newsletter possible! Without their help, we would not have been able to print and distribute this amazing *Falcon Flyer*!



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