



Falcon Flyer

February 2020



HILLSDALE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

ISSUE #2

FEBRUARY 2020

From the Desk of the Superintendent:

New Facility & Rover Pipeline Appeal

Thank you for your solid support in passing two levies this past November. These levies allow us to protect Rover revenue and continue with the vision of new facilities for our district and this community.

I know there are some concerns with Rover's appeal of the Ohio Department of Taxation's (ODT) valuation of the pipeline. ODT's figures were over double what Rover presented to be evaluated. Rover will pay the undisputed amount until the appeal is settled.

The undisputed amount is still 1 ½ times more than what was conservatively discussed at the community levy meetings. I am very optimistic that the funding will meet the needs of our construction plans.

I encourage anyone with questions or further concerns to contact me directly at 419-368-8501 or to email me at

hill_dickerson@tccsa.net.

Middle School Earns State's Momentum, Overall 'A' Awards

Congratulations to the middle school faculty, staff and students for their efforts in improving educational performance.

The State Board of Education recognized the middle school, one of only two in the tri-county area and 173 statewide, for surpassing expectations in projected student learning. Students in grades 5 through 8 gained more than a year's worth of growth based on state assessment of standards.

Data-driven decision making continues to be a focus for the district. Teachers analyze their practices across the grade levels in order to improve instruction.

In addition, district personnel visit recognized leaders in education to learn best educational practices.

for more pictures,
information, events

VISIT



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Service is at the Center of a Falcon Heart

At Hillsdale a culture of giving back to the community is strong. The following is just a sampling from this year alone:

- the football team visited Dale Roy for dancing and games, helped the Lions Club with JeromeFest, United Way with "Stuff the Bus" and read to kids at "Reading Under the Lights"
- the Million Words Committee, Academic Boosters and HHS Book Club hosted "Reading Under the Lights," which included a book swap and gifting a new book to each participant
- 6th graders collected items for Safe Haven of Ashland
- HHS National Honor Society hosts three blood drives, one each in October, January and March
- 3rd graders sang at Brethren Care
- HES Student Council placed wreaths on gravesites (Wreaths Across America) at the Western Reserve Cemetery, made no-sew blankets for Hillsdale CARES, and are planning a pop tab collecting competition at the middle school for Ronald McDonald House along with a couple others in the works
- the Veterans' Day Assembly & Breakfast
- the LEO Club organized the Hillsdale CARES Food Drive and is collecting stuffed animals for Akron Children's Hospital
- the Kindness Club sponsored an Animal Shelter Supply Drive
- 7th graders donated "Christmas Shoeboxes" filled with items, such as, gift cards, headphones, gloves, etc. for 9th-12th graders to Hillsdale CARES
- the Spanish & Kindness clubs' "Spreading Christmas Cheer" tour to local nursing homes
- the 5th & 6th grade Ukulele Choir performed at the Ashland Senior Center
- the high school music department and Music Boosters' Veterans' & Active Military Dinner & Assembly
- the high school music department performed their holiday concert at Dale Roy School and HES
- the Academic Boosters donated a book for each child at FFA's Breakfast with Santa
- FFA collected school supplies donated to each 1st grader, collected PJs or \$\$ for admission to the Breakfast with Santa donated to Hillsdale CARES, provide bags of food at HES each week, eat lunch with residents at nursing homes, read/craft with 1st graders
- HHS Book Club donated a basket of books to Brew'd for their customers to enjoy, supporting the club's motto "Promoting Literacy in Creative Ways"
- the high school Child Development class will be making Valentines for the Ashland County Council on Aging



Jingle Bell Rock Night



The high school cheerleaders performed a kick-line dance routine and passed out candy canes to the fans!

Million Words Club

The following individuals have read at least one million words since June 2019. Bookmarks and ice cream gift cards are awarded at milestones and a shirt is earned upon reaching the million word goal.

Anyone in the community interested in jumping on board is welcome! This year's count runs until the end of school. Find more details on the district's website at: www.hillsdale.k12.oh.us/district/million-words-club

6th Graders: Hawley Cade, Gretchen Heldenbrand, Valerie Raubenolt, Brock Bower, Vanessa Harned, Sara Nebergall, Hayden Gerber, Erin Crider

8th Graders: Drew Johnson, Gabrielle Spillman, Elizabeth Arnold, Kailyn Moneer, Alexis Luna, Hailey Stow

9th Graders: Taylor Root

Community Members: George Gilmore, Ellen Wells, Madison Hays, Vella King

School Staff, Teachers & Administrators: Rick Blahnik, Tim Keib, Alyson Baker, Debra Miller, Janet Mowery, Jennifer Seman, Sue Tibbs, Sondra Hays, Carmen Greene, Rebecca Sankoe, Tiki Peterson, Jenny Stump, Violet Gilmore, Lisa Bicker, Tom Selvage



K-6th Graders Receive Book Monthly

Statistics show that reading aloud is extremely important to the development of children. Hillsdale Local Schools recognizes this fact and is excited to utilize Scholastic's reduced book rates to provide books to students.

A book is being provided to every kindergarten through sixth grade student each month. The district hopes students will read these books with multiple family members, adding them to their growing home libraries.



Today's Experiment Is...Stimulant or Depressant?

Biology students at the high school analyzed the effects of four different toxins on live water fleas. After applying nicotine, alcohol, caffeine or epinephrine, they watched the animals' heartbeats through a microscope to determine if the toxin is a stimulant or a depressant.



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Event Calendar is
@ bottom of page**Feb. 14, 17** No School**Feb. 28** HES, HMS Yearbook Orders Due**Feb. 28** Falcon Factor Talent Show ***March 12, 13, 14 & 15***The Addams Family—The Musical* ***March 19** Family STEM Event ***March 24** 3 Score & 10 Banquet ***March 31** HHS Disability Awareness Interactive Event ***Watch for more details in the community and online*

1st Graders Carol in HHS Hallways



In December, first graders traveled to the high school to perform for the Senior Citizens' Breakfast. Following their concert, they stopped in four locations throughout the high school to sing Christmas carols! Thank you to the high school students and staff for allowing us to disrupt your morning – and for joining us in some Christmas cheer!

6th Graders Study Water Erosion

Over the last few weeks 6th graders have been working on their River Works Design Project in *science class*. For this project, they researched different types of erosion and deposition throughout the world and different types of dams. Then they constructed a dam to inhibit water erosion and deposition. The groups worked hard and came up with many innovative ways to create their dams.



5th Graders Represent Book With Three Items

Fifth grade students have been talking it up in their *English language arts class* with book talks. For this nine week's book talk, students made or brought in three items significant to the books they read for independent reading. They wrote a paragraph about how each item was important to the story.

Students then presented and explained the items to their classmates. This assignment not only gets the students excited about being creative, but also allows them to share the good books they are reading and get others interested in reading them, too.

The
Lunch
LadyLily's
MountainHarry Potter
& the
Deathly
HallowsFive
Nights
at
Freddy's



Ohio Author Visits Middle & Elementary Schools

Mary Kay Carson, an Ohio nonfiction author, spoke to K-6 Hillsdale students about the process of writing a book. She discussed the importance of research, organization, editing, and publishing. Students were enthralled by all of Mary Kay's animal photographs and interesting animal facts!

Students in grades 5-8 had the opportunity to sit down over pizza with the author for a Q&A.

Students, parents, and staff members were able to pre-order autographed copies of Carson's informational texts.

The presentation is a part of the district's literacy initiative and was made possible by a generous donation from an anonymous donor.



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Keyword Search:
Carson

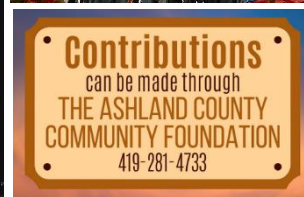
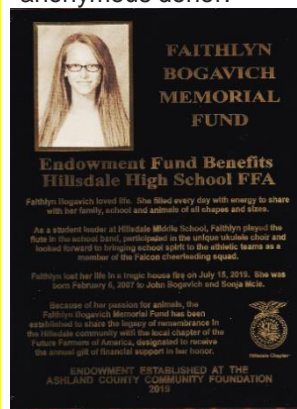
Three Endowments Gifted

Three endowments were generously established for organizations at Hillsdale Schools in 2019. The district sends out a heartfelt thanks to all who have donated.

The Mark Grassman Memorial Fund was created by contributions from an anonymous couple, family and friends to benefit the HHS baseball program. Mark, a 2001 graduate, excelled in three sports, his favorite being baseball.

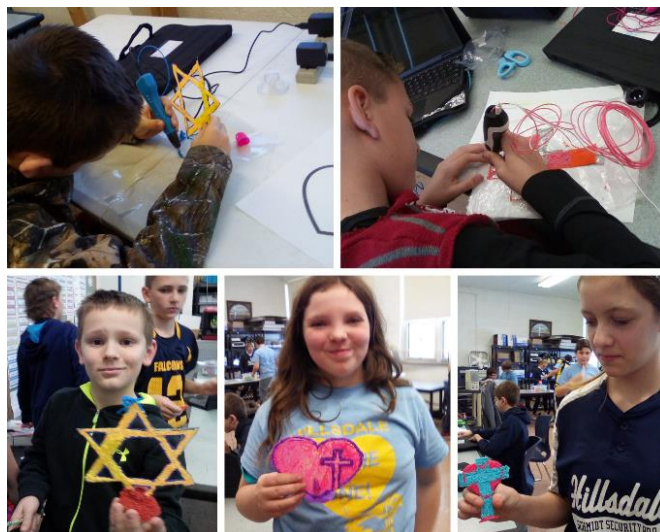
The Faithlyn Bogavich Memorial Fund was established by an anonymous Hillsdale graduate. The earnings from the endowment will support the Hillsdale FFA program in recognition of Faithlyn's love of animals.

The Friends of Hillsdale Class of 1987 Fund will benefit the Hillsdale High School Band in honor of retired director Steve Taylor's 35 years at Hillsdale. This fund was begun with seed money from an anonymous donor.



3-D Pens Offer Connection to Content

Students in Mrs. Stump's 6th grade STEM classes used 3D pens to make a religious symbol they learned about in social studies. Once the symbol was complete, students made a display stand.





The Novice Parliamentary Procedure team placed 4th in the state competition Dec. 14, having placed 1st in the first heat. The team consisted of Gabe Murawski, Haley King, Emily McGovern, Madi Bennett, Kayedance Scott, Baylea Baldner-Wise, Gage Madsen, Zoey McBride and Jax Rogers.

The Advanced Parliamentary Procedure team placed 2nd in their heat in the state competition Dec. 21. The team consisted of Mackala Krichbaum, Olivia Traylor, Josie Rowland, Lauren Ohl, Katelynn Smeltzer, Shawna Barr and Mark Abel.



The Hillsdale FFA chapter's Food Science and Technology team placed 6th at the state competition Dec. 7. The team consists of Sarah Yeater, Caleb Murawski, Brody Schoen and Thor McDonald. Individually Yeater placed 2nd and received a \$2000 scholarship to OSU, Murawski placed 19th, Schoen placed 26th and McDonald placed 31st. They had previously competed in districts Nov. 12., where they placed 1st, qualifying them for state.

The Advanced and Novice Parliamentary Procedure teams both placed 1st in the sub-district competition at Hillsdale High School Nov. 26. Both teams also placed 1st Dec. 9 at the district contest, qualifying them for the state competition.



The Hillsdale FFA chapter attended the 92nd National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, IN. Lucas Markley, Taylor Rebman, and Maryellen Bliss received their **American Degrees**.

The Floriculture team earned a silver rating, placing 24th. Individually members placed as follows: Shawna Barr 55th, Hannah Way 75th, Jessica Raubenolt 91st, and Elizabeth Derr 165th.

The Senior Parliamentary Producer team also received a silver rating. The team consisted of Megan Schwendeman, Caleb Murawski, Clay Schoen, Brody Schoen, Lilly Bolen and Makala Moody.

The chapter also hosted its annual Greenhand and Chapter Degree ceremonies Nov. 13. Twenty-seven first-year high school students earned the Greenhand degree, while 28 members earned the Chapter degree.



The Hillsdale FFA Horse Evaluation team placed 22nd at the All American Quarter Horse Congress Nov. 16. The team consisted of Luke Ryan, Lily Nixon, Katelynn Smeltzer and Madison Mast.

Holiday Performances Galore



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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