

Mill Hall Elementary

Keystone Central School District

Message From the Principal

After 34 years in education, my husband recently asked me if I still find my job rewarding. Of course, I replied, "YES". Seeing our students enter the building each morning reminds me of how rewarding this job is. I am extremely excited to watch them grow this year and marvel at what wonderful students we have at Mill Hall Elementary!



I would like to take this opportunity to thank each of you for everything that you do to support your child(ren)'s success at school. I can confidently tell you that from the time they enter our doors, our students are loved as a valued member of our school. While our mission is "...to ensure a safe, child-centered learning community where students grow to meet high expectations guided by staff, family, and community support," we also embrace the KCSD motto of "Creating Moments that Matter." As we strive to develop strong academic foundations and create childhood memories, we want you to know that the partnership that we have in nurturing your child is one the family at Mill Hall Elementary values. We encourage you to reach out as often as you'd like with any questions or concerns.

KCSD has adopted a new English, Language Arts program this year for grades K-8. The Core Knowledge Language Arts program not only reinforces reading and writing skills, but also further develops a student's background knowledge in the topics in which they will be reading and writing. I hope your children are able to share some pretty cool facts with you about these topics as they continue to learn. You will be receiving parent letters to help guide your questions about these topics.

Below are some snapshots of our students engaging in the new program.



Mrs. Tarantella's 1st Grade

This class is reading the Brother Grimm fable: The Golden Goose. Background knowledge is also being developed on the key concepts of gold and a goose. Students were also taught related vocabulary words such as greedy.



Mrs. Gonzales's Kindergarten Class

These Kindergarten students are making predictions about the nursery rhyme, *Jack and Jill*.



Mrs. Shafer's 3rd Grade Class

3rd grade students are using text evidence to support their responses to the story they are reading.

Upcoming Activities

September 13- Grandparents' Day beginning at 9:30 (forms were due 9/6)

September 18- PTO Meeting at 6:00 in the Library

September 26 - Homecoming Parade

October 8- Fall School Photos

October 14- No School- Columbus Day

October 15- No School- Act 80- Parent/Teacher Conferences (12:30-3:30 and 5:00-8:00)

October 16- PTO Meeting 6:00 in the Library

October 31- Halloween Parade at 1:00

November 1st- 3 Hour-Early Dismissal




Free Book Fridays



- 📖 One to two Fridays a month, your child can choose a book to take home and keep!
- 📖 We encourage you to read to or with your child from their new books!
- 📖 Sharing a love of reading with your child is a great gift and a great opportunity for them to show what they know!
- 📖 Thank you for your support!

Keystone Conversations

This year, we will be offering monthly 'Keystone Conversations' in an effort to provide our parents and guardians with information they feel would be most helpful to assist in closing the gap between home and school. We would love to hear from parents / guardians to know what training or information they would like to receive. We would like all parents / guardians to complete [this short form](#) to let us know what you need.



CONVERSATIONS

CMMS Library
Tuesday, 9/24
6 - 7pm

Did you know that every school in KCSD has PBIS? Do you know what PBIS is and what it means for your student?

Childcare & light refreshments will be

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.

Stay informed about:

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



ClassDojo

Federal Programs

Annual Notices and Policy Review

Click on the button above to access the information.

Federal Programs Updates

All elementary schools within the district are Title I schoolwide schools and receive Title I federal funds to support the positions of Interventionist and Title I Associates. We determine how to use the funding to staff our buildings based on family input and our school data. If you are interested in becoming a part of our Title I team, please reach out to your building Interventionist or principal. Our Policy 917/918 meetings are a great place to start, because we always review our School Improvement plans and the most updated school data during those meetings.

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 jevey@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 jevey@kcsd.k12.pa.us.

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

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

[Title I Complaint Procedure](#)

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)

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.

Family Activities



2024 Rally Flyer.pdf

[Download](#)

1.1 MB



FLS SAP Brochure 2024.pdf

[Download](#)

1.2 MB



Reading Under the Lights_BHS 2024 (1).pdf

[Download](#)

395.0 KB



Reading Under the Lights_CMHS 2024.pdf

[Download](#)

314.8 KB

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

We're so excited to have our schools filled with students and teachers where we can all grow and learn together!

There is so much awesomeness that can be achieved when we're present at school. If something is getting in the way of your student coming to school, please reach out to your student's teacher, school counselor, district social worker, or school nurse. We want to make sure that your student is receiving whatever supports necessary to help them be successful.

REMINDER: As we start a new school year, 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. Also, students will be **marked tardy after 7:40** this year, as our start time has changed.

Wildcats on the Prowl: AttendanceMatters Now!

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

In one school year

When a student misses 2 days a month, they will **MISS**

20 DAYS A YEAR

30 DAYS OF MATH

60 DAYS OF ELA

+1 YR & OVER 1 YEAR OF SCHOOL BY GRADUATION

It's never too late to improve attendance!

- Going to school more often will make a difference
- Attendance habits will follow your student into work & life.

EVERY DAY COUNTS

School & future success starts with

GOOD ATTENDANCE!!

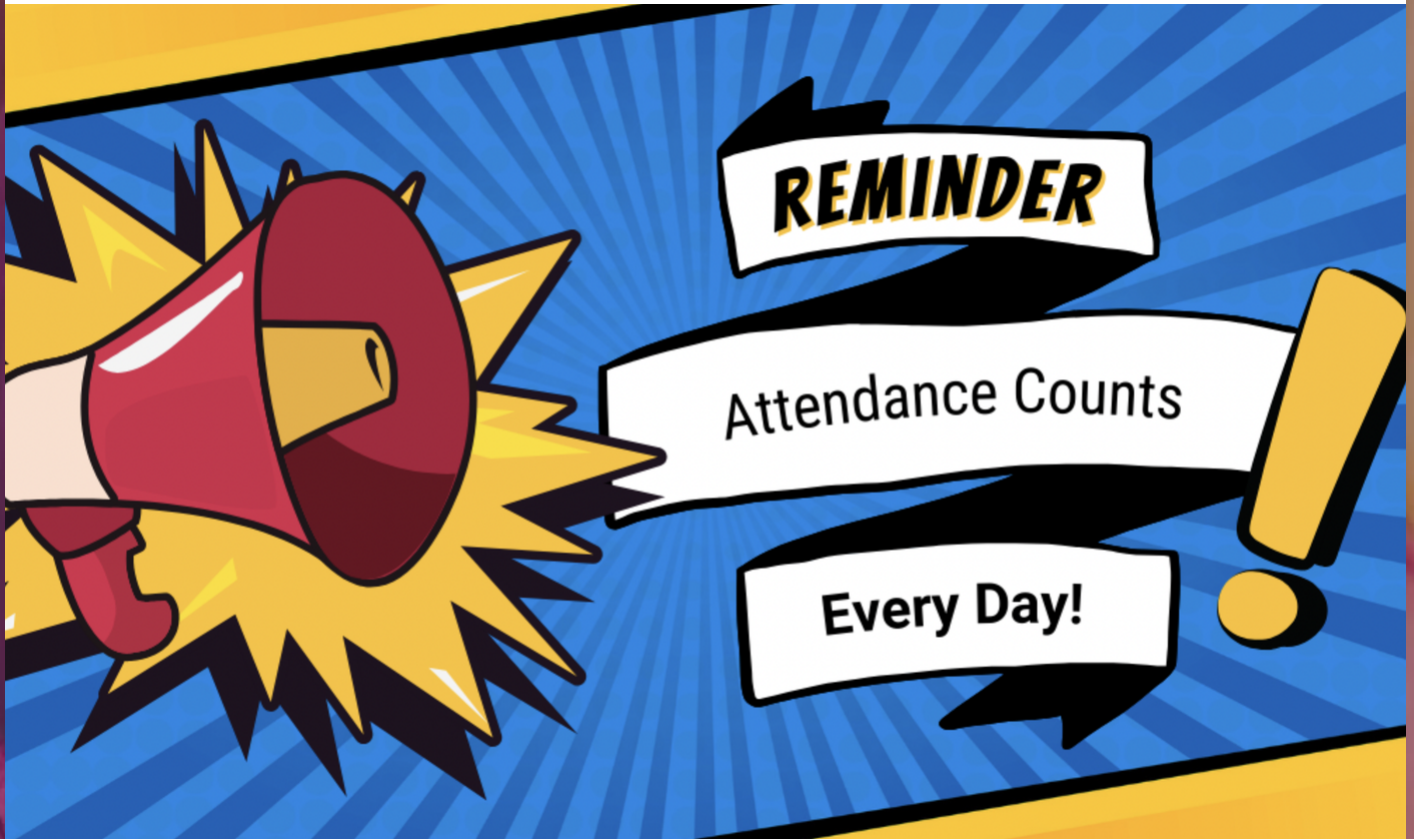
How parents can help?

Make sure your student is at school **on time, every day**

Have conversations with your student.

Attending school DOES make a difference!

Schedule appointments outside of the school day, if possible.

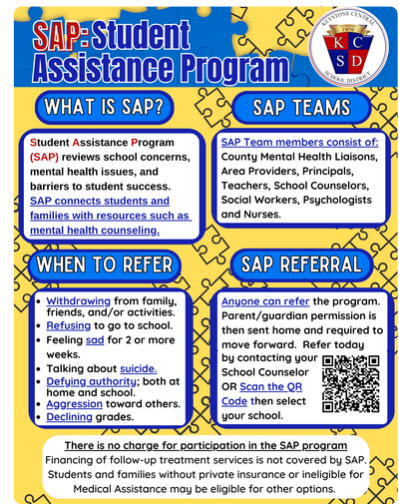


Counseling Connection

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.

Scan the QR code on the picture to make a referral!



Mill Hall Elementary Counseling

I am so glad to be back at school and seeing lots of smiling faces! I do know that although many of our students are very excited to be back at school, there are many that are having a hard time. If you find that your student is having a hard time detaching from you in the morning, a good book to read together is "The Kissing Hand" by Audrey Penn. It tells the story of Chester Raccoon, who does not want to go to school in the forest. His mother talks to him about how sometimes things that we have to do can be scary or strange at first, but that there are a lot of wonderful things he will do at school. She then shares an old family secret with him, which will help keep her love with him while he is away from her. I have read this book with students before and found that they hold on to the wonderful story all year long.

I am looking forward to getting to know our new students and continuing to build relationships with those who were at Mill Hall Elementary last year. If there is anything that you think I can assist your Little Wildcat with this year, please reach out to me! You can reach me by email at bsmith@kcsd.k12.pa.us or by phone at 570-893-4900 ext. 2969

Mrs. Smith
School Counselor

Volunteer Application

VOLUNTEER INFORMATION

The link in the button above should take you to our Volunteer Application. You may also 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 Reporter 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.us/district-offices/human-resources/volunteer-information>

enace@kcsd.k12.pa.us

86 Administration Drive, Mill Hall, PA 17751

ATHLETICS & ACTIVITIES

Support Our CMHS Athletics



Central Mountain High School

Just another SportsHub Sites site

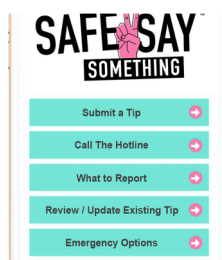
🔗 centralmountainathletics.com

Safety & Security



Safety & Security

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



Safe 2 Say

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



School Gate Guardian

[Click here for more information about School Gate](#)

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

Keeping Up With Keystone

KCSD Virtual Academy

[Did you know that KCSD has an online cyber option for students? Please visit our website to learn more about the flexibility and courses that are available to our students!!](#)

Check out our [Virtual Academy Newsletter!](#)

Keystone Central Career & Technical Center

Please use the following link to read the upcoming events and information for August and September.

<https://secure.smores.com/n/6axde>

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

School Contact Information

Mill Hall Elementary Principal: Dr. Amy Breon

Phone: (570) 893-4900 ext.2910

Email: abreon@kcsd.k12.pa.us

Mill Hall Elementary School Secretary: Mrs. Geli Collins

School Guidance Counselor: Mrs. Bridget Smith

School Nurse: Mrs. Sarah Rathmell & Mrs. Crissie Swartwood



Keystone Central School District

Respect for Yesterday * Pride in Today * Plans for Tomorrow