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District Goals:

Increase student achievement 🐾 Improve transparency throughout our communities 🐾 Practice fiscal responsibility

A Message from Mrs. Cook,

Happy New Year to all of our Hillside families! Let's work together to make 2025 a great year!

8th Grade D.C. Trip

Don't forget that the Washington D.C. Trip Parent Meeting will take place on Thursday, January 9th at Hillside Middle School at 6:00pm.

Group Pictures

Sports and club pictures will be taken on January 17th. Please speak to your advisor for times.

Newspaper Staff

Congratulations to our Newspaper Staff on the completion of their first edition of the Tiger Tribune! They did an amazing job putting this paper together. If you have not yet had the chance to read it, please click [here!](#)



Dates to Remember:

Jan 8	PTA Council Mtg Valley Forge, 7:00 pm
Jan 9	DC Trip Parent Mtg, 6:00 pm
Jan 14	PTA Mtg Media Center, 4:30 pm
Jan 17	Group Pictures, Candids, Winter Sports
Jan 20	Martin Luther King, Jr Day No School
Jan 24	End of 2nd Marking Period No School for Students
Jan 29	Tiger Way Store
Jan 31	Pajama Day

Links of Interest:

- [HMS PAW](#)
- [Daily Attendance](#)
- [Attendance Flyer](#)
- [Pajama Day Flyer](#)
- [CCPL Library News](#)
- [Library Events](#)
- [Library Winter Reading](#)
- [December Tiger Tribune Issue 1](#)

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Administration

Charles Smialek | Ph.D., Superintendent
 Sean Nuccio | Treasurer/CFO
 Michelle Cook | Principal
 Lisa Kubinski | Assistant Principal
 Michael Guildoo | Dean of Students

Hillside Middle School
 1 Educational Park Drive
 Seven Hills, Ohio 44131
 440-885-2373

Board of Education

Steven Vaughn | President
 Mark Ruda | Vice-President
 Linda Kohar
 Brittany Kurpik
 Ashley McTaggart



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Attention 8th Grade Families - High School Registration Information

The 8th Grade Parent Night at both Normandy and Valley Forge for incoming 9th graders will be on Monday, January 27th at 6:30 in the auditorium. Important information about registering and getting your child ready for high school will be discussed at the meeting. Families will have the opportunity after the presentation to meet the department heads to discuss course offerings, including Honors and AP courses. Everyone is encouraged to attend. If you want to request that your child attends a different high school than your assigned home school, the School of Choice application is due by **January 31st**. ([School Choice Link](#))

Important Dates for Registration for 8th grade

January 27, 2025
January 27-31, 2025
February 3 - 10, 2025

Parent/Guardian Meeting Normandy and VF at 6:30 p.m.
Classroom Presentations
Home Access Open for Students to Enter Course Selections

CHESS CLUB

Here are the Chess Club meeting dates for the start of 2025:

January 9th

January 23rd

February 6th

Only those students who have already registered may attend these Chess Club meetings.





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Home Liaison Hub



House Bill 214 Religious Expression Days and Absence Reporting

Over the summer, Governor DeWine signed House Bill 214 into Ohio law, effective Oct. 24, 2024. The House Bill created a new section in the Ohio Revised Code regarding guidelines for how schools will accommodate student absences due to sincerely held religious beliefs and practices. *This language does not replace existing requirements for students to be excused for religious purposes. It does, however, allow parents to notify schools of up to three days for their child to be excused for religious expression.*

In addition to being excused, all the following are true for these three days:

1. Parents must communicate the dates to the school within 14 days of the beginning of the school year. This will be expected to be put in place for the next school year.
2. The school must work to accommodate any conflicts the missing days have with academic requirements. Based on the assignments of the day, students can work with their individual teachers to ensure they have the chance to make up assignments missed.
3. None of the days may count toward the "excessive absence" thresholds that schools communicate to families under Ohio law. Only if the school is notified that the absence is due to a religious holiday will it be marked as such. **This is why it is important to communicate with the school of a religious holiday.** If you do not contact the school, then the absence will be deemed truant and the day will count, just as any other day an absence is not reported to the school.



**For Community Supports and Assistance,
please click on link below:**

<https://linktr.ee/pcsdcommunitysupports>