



Hillsdale Community Schools DISTRICT NEWSLETTER



Fall 2021



Hornets a Buzz For Homecoming 2021

Page 3



Gier Earns Third Place Ribbon

Gier Elementary's booth earned a third place ribbon at the 2021 Hillsdale County Fair. Mrs. Dickinson helped children create works of art that were displayed with the theme "Together Again."



Girls Get IT Day

Girls at Davis participated in a virtual field trip for Girls Get IT day. The day is to help teach girls about jobs in the field of technology. The activities included app design, learning about binary code, and ways to manage big projects. [#STEMFUTURE](#)

Hillsdale High School 30 S. Norwood Ave. 517.439.4320	Horizon Alternative School 30 S. Norwood Ave. 517.439.4320	Davis Middle School 30 N. West Street 517.439.4326	Gier Elementary School 175 Spring Street 517.437.7347	Bailey Early Childhood Center 59 S. Manning Street 517.437.7369	District Office (Inside HHS) 30 S. Norwood Ave. 517.437.4401
AMY GOLDSMITH <i>Principal</i>	AMY GOLDSMITH <i>Principal</i>	BARBARA WHEELER <i>Principal</i>	LAURIE VANORMAN <i>Principal</i>	SHELLEY ELLIS <i>GSRP Program Manager</i>	SHAWN VONDRA <i>Superintendent</i>
DAVID PRATT <i>Athletic Director Dean of Students</i>					

Inaugural Alumni Tailgate

A first time alumni tailgate event was held where past and present Hornets were able to buy old yearbooks and photos. Over 26 yearbooks were purchased with all proceeds to benefit the yearbook club. Please email suggestions for future alumni activities/events you would like to see to prideinthehive@hillsdaleschools.org.



Anyone Can Be a Hero

Our fifth grade students listened and discussed the book, "The Man in the Red Bandana." The book is about Welles Crowther, a man who was considered an everyday hero during the September 11th attacks. When he was a boy, Welles' father gave him a red bandana, which he always carried with him. On September 11, 2001, Welles Remy Crowther saved numerous people from the upper floors of the World Trade Center South Tower. Many people said the "man with the red bandana" helped them out of the building. Unfortunately, Welles didn't make it out, but because of him, many others did. Our fifth graders concluded that anyone can be a hero. Something as simple as talking to someone who is sitting alone or smiling at someone next to you, could make you their hero. All fifth grade students were given a red bandana, to remind them that they can also be someone's hero!



Hornet Football Learns "Get To" Attitude

The Get To! Foundation, which is to honor the life of Ben Jones, a Former Hillsdale College Football player and head football coach at Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook, stopped by the Hornet football practices. The group talked to the teams about living life with a "Get To" attitude, not "I have to." The foundation raised money and donated football pads, cleats and t-shirts for the Hornet football team.



Softball Camp Held

The Hillsdale Softball Lady Hornets welcomed 39 campers for the first Girls Youth Defensive Softball Camp on Sunday, October 17. It was a beautiful day for all the campers for skill building. The coaches and players would like to thank everyone who helped support them in their first camp. [#itsagreatdaytobeahornet](https://twitter.com/itsagreatdaytobeahornet)

Teacher Spotlight



Robyn Galloway
Gier Elementary

Robyn Galloway instills a love for learning in all of her students. Students in Mrs. Galloway's class come to school excited to learn and do their best. Mrs. Galloway has taught her career in Hillsdale Community Schools. She sees each year as a new adventure and an opportunity to connect with her students and their families.



John Coakley
Davis Middle School

John Coakley is currently completing his 20th year of teaching in Hillsdale Community Schools. During this time he has served in a variety of assignments and currently excels teaching 8th grade American History. He provides a history-rich classroom environment filled with historical props that brings history to life for his students. In addition, he is often found playing his guitar to enhance his students' learning. He also serves as the After School Program Coordinator at DMS.



Micha Moore
Bailey Early Childhood Center

Micha Moore is a Developmental Kindergarten teacher at the Bailey Early Childhood Center. Mrs. Moore is an experienced educator with advanced training in early childhood education and child development. She designs learning experiences that build upon a child's natural curiosity. The classroom has many resources to provide a beginning student a great learning environment. Christina Jarrell is a classroom aide in the Developmental Kindergarten program and along with Mrs. Moore, they work each day to provide the children with a language-rich classroom environment which stimulates cognitive growth along with the social and emotional development of each child.



Donna English
Hillsdale High School

Donna English grew up in Detroit, but after 35 years she now calls Hillsdale home. Donna has a Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education, Language Arts, and History from Siena Heights and a Masters Degree in Educational Technology from Western Michigan University. She also has an additional endorsement in secondary English from Siena Heights. In August, she successfully passed her Yoga Teacher Training Class and is now a certified Yoga Teacher with an additional endorsement as a Social Emotional Learning Facilitator. When she is not at school, she enjoys working out, doing yoga, reading, traveling, and cooking.



Warren Miller
Horizon Alternative School

This is Mr. Miller's first year working with Horizon Alternative School and HHS Online students, having joined the HCS team in 2020 to oversee DMS online learning. For the two decades prior he was a band and choir director in Jackson County, and taught eight years previously in his home state of Indiana. Mr. Miller holds a BS in Music Education from Ball State University and a MA in Secondary Education from Spring Arbor University. He retired from the US Army Reserve in 2018 after 33 years, holding the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. In his spare time he works with local choirs and bands, referees youth soccer, and is the PA announcer for Hillsdale College Athletics. His wife and three of their sons are HHS graduates with the fourth son a member of the current HHS sophomore class.

Developmental Kindergarten

The program is for children who are age 5 or will turn age 5 by December 1st. After completing a school year experience in the DK program, many of the students will attend a traditional kindergarten class at Gier Elementary School the following year.



Hornets a Buzz For Homecoming 2021

The Hillisdale High School halls were buzzing with excitement and school pride after being decorated to kick off Homecoming 2021! Prior to Friday's game and introduction of the court, the students and staff participated in dress up days, various activities, annual homecoming parade through downtown Hillisdale and capped the week off with their homecoming dance. Dress up days included: Monday - Color Wars; Tuesday - Country or Country Club; Wednesday - Dynamic Duo; Thursday - Theme Day (Halloween, Christmas, Fourth of July, Easter); Friday - Maize and Blue.

Following the Homecoming parade Friday evening, the community enjoyed hot dots, chips, cookies provided by the Hillisdale Community Schools Board of Education. The night concluded with the Hornets capturing a 40-6 homecoming victory over Columbia Central High School.



Congratulations to our Homecoming King and Queen



Members of the Homecoming Court included: Jillian Monahan (9), Jael Miller (10), Kailey Hendee (11), Nicole Brock (12), Olivia Gendron (12), Shea Woodard (12), Grace Sheffer (12), Rylie Dietz (12), Bethany Taylor (11), Karsyn Stebbins (10), Abigail Nolan (9), Aaron Webb (10), Gabe Rocha (12), Erik Hecklinger (12), Jonah Richards (12), Aidan Flannery (12), Cooper Eggleston (11), Jace Ringman (10), Alan Torres (9), Quade Mesarosh (12), Kodi Zuver (11), and John Petersen (9). Not pictured: Quade Mesarosh (12), Kodi Zuver (11), John Petersen (9)

Shea Woodard & Gabe Rocha!

We Are Hiring!

The district is actively recruiting substitute staff members for the schools, including parents and other adult family members. This is a great way to work and be on the same schedule as your child or grandchild. We have a dedicated staff of employees, but there are times when these people cannot be at work. The impact of the substitute teacher and educational assistant shortage has already taken its toll and contributed to the need for two weeks of virtual learning at Davis Middle School.

The following substitute positions are in "very high need":

- Classroom Teacher
- Educational Assistant
- Bus Driver

There is also an ongoing need for these substitute positions:

- Bus Aid
- Cook
- Custodian
- Maintenance Department
- Secretary

Substitute teachers are employed by EduStaff. This company provides substitute teachers to schools across Hillsdale County and beyond. While there is a large area of service, a local person can designate a specific school or school district to only sub in those places. And, if a person is not available on a given day, that spot can be declined. Even being able to sub occasionally will be of great help. These are paid positions. The teaching positions are paid by the half day or

whole day. All other positions are paid by the hour. Subbing in the school can strengthen the relationship of a family member with their student's school. Filling a vacancy can help the school and classroom in the absence of the regular staff member. This might be a great fit! If you are interested in substitute teaching contact the EduStaff offices at 877-974-6338 or go to their website at www.edustaff.org to access information and to complete an application. To qualify to substitute you must have a transcript indicating completion of 60+ credit hours from a four-year college or university with a minimum 2.0 GPA, or hold a valid or expired Michigan Teaching Certificate.

If you are interested in becoming a substitute educational assistant, bus driver, cook, custodian, bus aide, secretary, or in the maintenance department, contact the district office at 517-437-4401 or go to www.hillsdaleschools.org and click on the "EMPLOYMENT" tab in the white banner on the top of the district's home page.

PRSR STD
ECRWSS
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
EDDM RETAIL

Local
Postal Customer

Support Our Schools



Hillsdale Community Schools is participating in the Amazon Associates Program. As an Amazon Associate we earn from qualifying purchases. Please visit the school's website and use the Amazon shopping link to have a discount from your purchase benefit HCS.

The Hillsdale Community Schools Education Foundation recently enrolled in the Kroger Company's Community Rewards Program. They will give back five percent of purchases, up to \$5,000 each year, to our organization. This funding will provide grant money for all teachers in the Hillsdale Community Schools.

Your Kroger card can be linked to our organization in a few easy steps.



1. Go to Kroger.com
2. Click on the orange box to either Sign in or create an account. Please have your Kroger card available if you are not already registered.
3. Enter the Organization Number: 91473

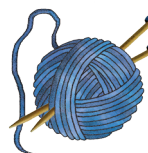
Hornets Get Dunked

A few Hornet staff members including Aaron Cory, Maranda Hawkins-Barkey and Lauren Whedon, participated in a Dunk Tank event during the first ever Radiothon hosted by WCSR 92.1 on September 23. Hillsdale's Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) program lost its federal funding due to budget cuts. This accounted for over 50 percent of their operating budget. CASA provides advocates for foster children in and around Hillsdale and Jackson counties, so they are a vital program to the community. With a goal of \$10,000 in 12 hours, The Hillsdale County Community Foundation (HCCF) provided a matching grant up to \$10,000. The final tally from the Radiothon (including the match from HCCF) was \$46,389.35!



Knitting our Hive Together

Hillsdale High Knitting Club is gratefully accepting donations of new yarn and/or monetary donations to purchase yarn. Please drop off donations to the high school to the attention of the Knitting Club advisor, Sue Postle.



Knitting club is a place to make new friends, while learning a skill in a safe and welcoming atmosphere. Did you know that knitting helps to reduce stress, improves your mood and concentration? Thank you for your support!