

DISTRICT NEWSLETTER



20
SPRING
23

GRADUATION
EDITION

Senior Night and Graduation

MAY
25

SENIOR CLASS NIGHT

May 25, 2023
Thursday, 7:00 pm

MAY
27

HORIZON HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION

Sat., May 27, 2023 at 10:30 am
Davis Middle School Auditorium

MAY
28

HILLSDALE HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION

Sun., May 28, 2023 at 2:00 pm
Hillsdale High School Gymnasium



From the Principal's Desk

"It's hard to believe we are fast approaching the end of this school year! I can't thank staff, parents and our supportive community enough for continuing to go above and beyond the call of duty to provide whatever was necessary to add to our students' already rich school experience. We have been able to celebrate so much inside and outside of the classroom this school year.

This year, our students have had so many opportunities to be exposed to world class educational experiences. For example, our student athletes were celebrated at an awards banquet which featured the only living Medal of Honor recipient in Michigan. Our music department students were able to experience world class music and art in their New York City trip and students from our Business Professionals of America club were able to represent H.H.S. at State as well as the National Competition in Anaheim, California.

As we look to the end of the year, I am excited to celebrate our seniors. Despite the challenges that this group has faced over their four years, they have done a tremendous job in creating a myriad of opportunities for themselves beyond H.H.S. We have many moments to cherish and celebrate.

A final word to our seniors: Thank you for all your hard work throughout the school year. I am so honored to be your Principal and to celebrate your success. Your perseverance over the last four years makes me proud to be a Hillsdale Hornet.

We are looking forward to Class Night and graduation to celebrate your success. Go Hornets!"

- Josh Perrin

Academics All-State Teams for 2022-2023

Go, Hornets!

The Hillsdale High School's Academics All-State Teams for 2022-2023 are:

- Softball
- Volleyball
- Wrestling
- Boy's Tennis
- Girl's Tennis
- Girl's Soccer

The **Comp Cheer** received an Honorable Mention!



How to Enroll Children in H.C.S.

Hillsdale Community Schools is still accepting new registrations for 2023/2024 Kindergarten and Preschool classes. Any child who will turn **four (4) by December 1, 2023**, is eligible for our high-quality, kindergarten-readiness preschool program at the Bailey Early Childhood Center. Interested families can call Bailey at 517-437-7369 for more information.

Any child who will turn **five (5) by December 1, 2023**, is eligible for the kindergarten program. Two different kindergarten options are available to families; the district supports traditional and developmental kindergarten classrooms. Families interested in gathering more information or enrolling their student in one of the kindergarten classes can contact Gier at 517-437-7347 for more details.

NEW ENROLLMENTS

- Complete pre-registration at hillsdaleschools.org
- Receive a confirmation email
- Sign-up or log in to PowerSchool
- Complete Enrollment forms
- Submit the required documents to the School Office

RETURNING STUDENT REGISTRATION

- Sign-up or Log-in to your PowerSchool account after July 1, 2023 (You can access PowerSchool from hillsdaleschools.org)
- Verify or Complete returning student registration forms
- If required, submit documents to verify changest

Principal Retires!



"Dear Hornet Families and Friends,

It has been an honor to serve the families and students of Hillsdale Community Schools for the past 23 years in various capacities. I have so

many fond memories of my time at Bailey School and at Mauck. As a special education teacher, I worked closely with families for many years. We celebrated milestones together and worked through some tough times. My first and second grade students taught me so much about perseverance. I am lucky to have some of their children at Gier now! As the Gier principal, I have had the privilege of working with a staff of people who put children first. They are hardworking, kind and selfless. Our community is blessed to have excellent people helping families and teaching children. I am so thankful that I have influenced the community of Hillsdale in a positive way. We will see each other at sporting events, community celebrations and the grocery store. It is always a great day to be a Hornet!" – Laurie VanOrman

Congratulations on your Retirement!

Congratulations to other members of Hillsdale Community Schools on their retirements: Elaine Riopelle (10 years), Robyn Galloway (35 years), and Janet Lum (36 years).

H.C.S. Foundation Fund Recipients

The Hillsdale Community School's Education Foundation Fund Selection Committee recently met and has chosen the Hillsdale Community Schools Foundation Fund distribution recipients. They awarded several \$500.00 mini-grants to: Davis Middle School – Science Olympiad and Hillsdale High School – Athletic Captain's Clinic and Life Skills Class.

Thank you to Hillsdale County Community Foundation, which provides financial guidance and fund management.

LCAA Double Scholar Athletes for League 3.5 GPA or Higher

We honor our Lenawee County Athletic Association Senior Athletes, who maintain high academic standards and participate in multiple sports annually. Recently, Hillsdale High School held its version of the Lenawee County Athletic Association Scholar-Athlete Banquet. The event was held at the Dawn Theater in downtown Hillsdale. To qualify for the honor, Senior athletes had to have earned a 3.5 or higher G.P.A.,

participated in a sport 3 out of 4 years, and participated in 2 sports their Senior year.

The student-athletes were honored to have James McCloughan as their guest speaker. James is a retired teacher from South Haven, Michigan. Before his 30-year teaching career, Jim was a combat medic in Vietnam. While in Vietnam, Jim's courageous acts on the battlefield on May 13-15, 1969, earned him the Congressional Medal of Honor.



Pictured (left to right): Chloe Easterday, Jack Granata, Lillyana Macie, Shae Arnold, Peter Moore, Megan Rufenacht, Soren Gambill, Addison Hoffman, Christopher Matzke, Grace Terpening, Gavin Wickham, Bethany Taylor, Trevor Wagler, Brody Young. Not pictured Kiera Young.

Fine Arts Festival



Artrageous is a collaborative event celebrating visual and performing arts success. Students are encouraged to display their artistic personalities through doing art projects, participating in the play "The Addams Family," or performing with the band and choir. Artrageous is supposed to display all of the success that happens through Hillsdale High School's arts programs. The Artrageous Soup Bowl fundraiser was a huge success! The students sold over 49 bowls and raised close to \$245.00, which were donated to H.H.S. McKinney Vento students.

Under Scope



Mrs. Holland's class enjoyed examining Objects under microscopes with Mrs. Delosantos.

Wrestlers Went to State



Pictured (left to right): Wyatt Wahtola, Stephen Petersen and John Petersen.

Three Hornet Wrestlers participated in the MHSAA state meet in March held at Ford Field in Detroit: Stephen Petersen, John Petersen, and Wyatt Wahtola. John Petersen earned all-state honors by taking 5th place in the 215 lb. weight class. Great job, Hornets!

Grant Awarded!

The Walmart Community Grants Team and Facility #1809 recently awarded Hillsdale Community Schools a \$1,000.00 grant to purchase C.P.R. training equipment and materials.



Pictured (left to right): Aleta Hutson, Walmart Representative; Beth Ballinger, H.C.S. School Nurse; and Gale Fix, Walmart Representative.

2023 Induction Ceremony



The Baw Beese chapter of the National Honor Society honored its new members during the 2023 Induction Ceremony. Thank you to H.H.S. principal Josh Perrin for being the keynote speaker at the event. Congratulations to this stellar group of Juniors! We are excited to witness their impact on the community during their senior year.

Guys with Ties Club



Guys with Ties Club came into the Kindergarten rooms to buddy read. These young men were extremely polite and respectful and set a stellar example for the youngest students at Gier. What a great day to be a Hornet!

Lady Hornets



The 4th grade Lady Hornets are completing their service project! They decided to do a food drive, but as a bonus, write positive notes on the items. The Lady Hornets collected food will be taken to a local food bank!

Monthly Technology Clinics



National Honor Society has partnered with the local Senior Center to offer monthly technology clinics for senior citizens staffed by high school N.H.S. members. Both parties have enjoyed these times together, growing as a community!

Project R.E.D.



A special Gier THANK YOU to everyone who helped make Project R.E.D. (Rural Education Day) possible for our 4th graders. The students enjoyed the trip to the fairgrounds and learned a lot about local agriculture.

Honoring Nita Phillips

Hillsdale Community Schools was blessed in memory of educator Nita Phillips. Bailey and Gier Elementary received over 350 new books, rugs, rocking chairs, flexible seating, and decor. Hillsdale High School and Davis Middle School were gifted \$1,000.00 each to purchase new library books.



Each new book has a sticker on the inside cover in Nita Phillips' memory. Nita worked in the district for over 20 years, and her greatest love was teaching children to read. What fitting gifts delivered in her memory during "March is Reading Month." Nita's husband, Scott, and her sons, Ryan and Kyle, were on hand for the ribbon-cutting event.

New Library Books



Check out our new books at the Gier Library! Mrs. Crall's 3rd grade is showing off what you made possible. Every book in this picture was purchased with funds earned at our last book fair. Thank you for your support!!!

Underwater Robotics Competition



Davis Middle School Students recently competed in an underwater robotics competition. Teams had to work together to complete various tasks like measuring and retrieving pool rings. James Bertakis, Baylee Nicholson, Elizabeth Sumnar, and Bryce Youngman won the Square One Award for overall great performance across the board. Drayden Springborn, Kolby Youngman, Jaelyn Cole, and Josh Portteus took 1st place for their robotics presentation that explained their journey of designing, creating, and testing. **#RoboticsRocks**

B.P.A. National Leadership Conference

Sixteen students from Davis Middle School and two from Hillsdale High School attended the Business Professionals of America (B.P.A.) National Leadership Conference in Anaheim, California, April 26-30, 2023

The conference brought together around 6,000 delegates from across the country to vie for top honors in business and information technology skills competitions, attend leadership and professional development workshops, and receive awards for community service activities.

"This conference is a culmination of a year's hard work and dedication to our program. We are excited to celebrate our students' successes. Through B.P.A., our students have strengthened their leadership, business, and technical skills." – Laura Wilson and Andrew Eisenga (D.M.S. and H.H.S. B.P.A. Advisors)

Hillsdale High School students competing at the conference:



Hillsdale High School student Hannah Baker will compete in Entrepreneurship at the conference, and student Alivia Turner will compete in Advanced Desktop Publishing.

Davis Middle School students competing at the conference:



Ella Wilson, Zara Wolf, Kailyn Frosch, Susan Petersen, Madelyn Wilson, Monica Flannery, Maryn Stebbins, Nash Adams, Tate Ortiz, Bryce, Kolby, Logan Youngman, Kaydence Hartzler, Taryn Mullaly, Ansley Van Zant, Emily York, and Bryce Youngman.

Gier's Magic Trick



Mr. Klingler and Mr. Marvin had the Gier Kindergartners perform a magic trick. Now you see them, now you don't!

Congratulations Class of

2023

Hillsdale High School 2023 Graduates

Grant Alley
Shae Arnold
Kalee Aube
Easton Avery
Hannah Baker
Jordan Barnes
Savannah Bieskie
Brynn Bigelow
Cooper Bigham
Connor Blake
Rayven Bonter
Clayton Bowditch
Benjamin Brock
Lucas Brouse
Victoria Brown
Alexis Bryan
Braidyn Burlew
Lochlain Cain
Emma Charboneau
Kia Charboneau
Wayne Cloyd
Emma Crowe
Allison Davis

Jacob Davis
John Deck
Justis Duke
Cloey Easterday
Draydon Eckelberry
Cooper Eggleston
Bradley Ellsworth II
Madelyn Fix
Thallen Forant
Aedon Foster
Soren Gambill
Gage Glover
Jack Granata
Keeta Greenlee
Maya Hamilton
Chloe Hawkins
Kailey Hendee
James Hill
Addison Hoffman
Haylee Hoffman
Colby Holden
Kristopher Johnson
Neveah Kershaw

Kyleigh LaFollette
Owen Lambright
Morgan Landel
Kaylynn Luke
Lillyana Macie
Christopher Matzke
Shaun McGuire
Walker McNair
Madison Miller
Rachel Miller
Kaden Moore
Peter Moore
Noah Mosher
Daveena Moyer
Nicholas Neitling
Tanner Nichols
Leah Nye
Jayden Pauken
Alexis Pienta
Kasper Ritchey
Megan Rufenacht
Zoe Ruley
Angelina Seelye

Tarah Semmler
Derek Siddharth
Seth Sizemore
Bryce Slabaugh
Daylan Sprague
Ashton Spratt
Kenneth Stenkowski
Chaysan Storm
Bethany Taylor
Jasmin Taylor
Charles Teller III
Grace Terpening
Alivia Turner
Rianna Vincent
Trevor Wagler
Kaitlynn Webster
Olivia Weller
Gavin Wickham
Emmalee Winner
Brody Young
Kiera Young
Jennah Zimmer
Kodi Zuver

PRSR STD
ECRWSS
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
EDDM RETAIL

Local
Postal Customer

Horizon High School 2023 Graduates

Nevaeh Curtis
Ashlynn Knoblauch
Emilia Lopez

Gage Loveless
Shane Osborne
Luke Perry

Noah Ramey
Riley Stevens
Lacie Stump

Kedrick Wolcott
Trevor Wortham

Hillsdale Community Schools Board of Education



NICOLE HOFFMAN
President



KATHY PETERSEN
Vice President



REBECCA
PORTEUS
Treasurer



LESLIE BENNETT-
GRANATA
Secretary



ERIC MOORE
Trustee



DAN LARUE
Trustee



PAT FLANNERY
Trustee

Hillsdale High School

30 S. Norwood Ave.
517.439.4320

JOSH PERRIN
Principal

DAVID PRATT
Athletic Director
Dean of Students

Horizon Alternative School

30 S. Norwood Ave.
517.439.4320

JOSH PERRIN
Principal

Davis Middle School

30 N. West Street
517.439.4326

BARBARA WHEELER
Principal

Gier Elementary School

175 Spring Street
517.437.7347

LAURIE VANORMAN
Principal

Bailey Early Childhood Center

59 S. Manning Street
517.437.7369

ALLISON WIRICK
Director

District Office (Inside HHS)

30 S. Norwood Ave.
517.437.4401

SHAWN VONDRA
Superintendent

www.hillsdaleschools.org