



This edition of the Hillsdale Falcon Flyer is in memory of Mrs. Renee Burnison.

Falcon Flyer

March 2017



District Will Be Seeking Your Input

It's hard to believe 3/4 of another school year has already passed. I am very appreciative of this community and continual support for our students and staff. I believe we have had a good year, but as administration and staff we will continue to seek ways to improve our schools. It's important to identify areas we can improve as we seek to meet the needs of our students and community. You, as community members, can assist in this process. Later this spring there will be an opportunity for everyone to fill out a survey. We will use this data with our strategic planning process in updating our five year plan. Thank you in advance for assisting with this data collecting survey and for being Falcons Forever!

- Steve Dickerson, Superintendent



Forever a Falcon

Hillsdale High School students and faculty recently said goodbye to an exceptional teacher and dear friend, Renee Burnison, following her courageous battle with metastatic breast cancer. Mrs. Burnison taught chemistry and physics at HHS for nine years. Her passion for science and love for her students was evident in her daily interactions. She pushed through many rough days to continue doing what she loved and was terribly disappointed when she was unable to come to school for her final day. Students and staff shared their love with her through letters that her family read by her bedside at the hospital before her passing. Many of her family members have reached out to thank HHS for those messages and their support through this difficult time. It is clear that Mrs. Burnison's impact stretched far beyond the classroom as she taught us lessons about strength, courage, determination, and faith. Mrs. Burnison's legacy will live on through those who have been touched by her life.



Falcons Forever...

Where are they now?

By Deana Gilmore

Each year, Hillsdale graduates some of the finest Falcons that have walked these halls. We send them off after graduation with a "good luck" wish, and then wonder what happens to them! I would like to take a short moment to feature two former Falcons and their achievements.

For our first feature, I would like to introduce Heath and Lee Burkholder. Heath graduated from Hillsdale in 2011, and Lee graduated in 2013. Since graduation, these two brothers have given of themselves by joining the armed forces.

Heath joined the Marines in 2011. After completing his basic training in Parris Island, South Carolina, Heath was deployed to Afghanistan in 2012, and again in 2014 to Iraq, Jordan, Libya, and Africa. After serving his country for four years, Heath decided to go back to college. Heath is now a proud Falcon for Notre Dame in South Euclid, Ohio. He is a member of the football team, but most importantly, Heath is working on his Bachelor and Master's degrees in Criminal Intelligence of Science. After graduation, Heath plans to have a career with either the ATF, FBI or US Marshalls.

Lee joined the Marines in 2014. Since completing his basic training in Parris Island, South Carolina, Lee has been actively training at Camp Pendleton, California. Lee was deployed to Japan in 2015, although he also did some training exercises in Australia and Humanitarian relief in Guam, Saipan and trained Philippine Marines in the Philippines. Lee was just deployed this November to Japan until May of 2017. After the military, Lee is keeping his options open to what he will do. In the meantime, Lee will serve our country with pride. If you are interested in sending a "Falcon Hello" to Lee while deployed his address is: LCPL Burkholder, Lee

BLT 2/5, Company E
Unit 89091
FPO, AP 96610

Ohio Means Jobs is helping each student in the Hillsdale District to build their skills so that they can prepare for any career they choose. Well, Hillsdale has been preparing their students for the exact same thing for years...we just wanted to share where some of them went. In our next edition, we will catch up with two more former Falcons, and see where their Falcon pride took them. Help us salute our Falcons that have soared before us and see how far our Falcon Pride can take us!

Forensic Science

High school Forensic Science students performed labs to extract DNA from their own cheek cells. They then learned how to cut DNA into fragments and perform gel electrophoresis to create DNA fingerprints, a technique used in both crime and medical laboratories. A gel electrophoresis machine was purchased for the class through Donors Choose. To support other projects like this, visit <https://www.donorschoose.org/MissAbrams>



PTO Information

The PTO meets at 7:00 p.m. on the second Monday of each month in the elementary school cafeteria. If you would like to sign up for the PTO's "Remind" updates, please text @fc7572 to the number 81010.

The Hillsdale Greenhouse classes have been working diligently to prepare for our up-and-coming Plant Sale. Throughout this year, students have learned about plant propagation from seed, as well as division, and the importance of maintaining a greenhouse. The students have used that information to grow a wide variety of vegetables and bedding plants. They have also divided ferns which will all be available at the sale. Please come support the Hillsdale FFA at this year's Plant Sale, **May 8th through May 20th. Weekday hours are 11-6 and Saturdays 9-6.** Funds from the plant sale will support next year's greenhouse program. Thank you again for your support!



The HMS Junior Academic Challenge team participated in the Tri-County Junior Academic Challenge Tournament on March 15, 2017 at Smithville MS/HS. Out of 13 teams, Hillsdale received 3rd place. Congratulations to the following students: 7th graders Brayden Bartter, Caden Fickes, Alyssa Maki, Brody Schoen and Hunter Schuck, and 8th graders Wes Arnold, Thor McDonald and Caleb Murawski. The team was coached by Mrs. Jodi Long.



FFA Member Auction

The Hillsdale FFA Chapter held its inaugural Member Auction in January. Supporters of the chapter from different local businesses were invited. The evening started off with a soup and grilled cheese supper served by Hillsdale FFA members. Continuing the night was the formal monthly meeting of the chapter to conduct business, followed by the auction. "Bidders" donated to the Hillsdale FFA Chapter based off the skills of the member's bio and abilities. In return a member will give eight hours of community service that they have a year to complete.

The Hillsdale FFA chapter would like to thank all that were in attendance for a successful night and for the continued support from the community.

Pre-School News!



Mrs. Bradley's pre-school class had a visit from the Instrument Petting Zoo of the Ashland Symphony Orchestra. Carson Nebergall (left) plays the glockenspiel. Carter Riley (right) plays a violin.



Pictured to the left is Mrs. Bradley's afternoon class. The students made paper hats, lanterns, and fans to go along with their study of Japanese culture.

High School Scheduling Underway for 2017-2018

Parent and student meetings have begun for scheduling students for the upcoming school year! Students and their parents have many course opportunities when completing scheduling forms for next school year. Also at each meeting will be discussed requirements for graduation, state testing requirements and course options for students at each grade level.

New courses for 2017-2018 include a full year pre-engineering and design technology course. This class is a hands on learning lab for students to have exposure to research and design of various products. Also, students will have a full year manufacturing operations course and a full year machine tools course. These classes are open to students in grades 9-12, with an emphasis upon 9th and 10th graders to be introduced to the manufacturing process and the use of hand and electric tools to create projects in the areas of woods, metals and/or plastics.

Following a successful return to HHS, Family and Consumer Science courses will include an additional offering of Child Development, in addition to the current courses of Career & College Readiness, Personal Financial Management, Transitions & Careers and Culinary Fundamentals courses.

In addition, qualified students will have the opportunity again in 2017-2018 to take College Credit Plus courses, receiving both high school and college credit, through North Central State College, at no cost to parents. The following courses will be taught by HHS faculty at the high school: English Composition I & II (new in 2017); College Algebra & Trigonometry; Introduction to Sociology & Psychology and Livestock Production.

Student schedules will be completed and returned to the office within a week of each parent meeting. Student schedules will be finalized in May for the 2017-2018 school year.



Back row, left to right: Hunter Schuck, Caleb Murawski, Thor McDonald, Zach Johnston, Amy Potter, Ben Ferrell, Brody Schoen, advisor Jordan Haynes
Front row, left to right: April Potter, Aiden Fox, Wes Arnold, Desi Swazey

Power of the Pen

The HMS Power of the Pen team competed at the district tournament on February 11, 2017, at Ashland Middle School. Writing for the 7th grade team were Amy Potter, Aiden Fox, Brody Schoen, and Hunter Schuck. Writing for the 8th grade team were Thor McDonald, April Potter, Ben Ferrell, Zach Johnston, Desi Swazey, Wes Arnold, and Caleb Murawski. Of these students, five qualified to compete at the regional tournament on March 25, 2017, at Wooster High School. 7th graders Brody Schoen and Aiden Fox and 8th graders Thor McDonald, Ben Ferrell, and Zach Johnston will represent HMS at regionals. Congratulations to all, and good luck to our regional competitors!



Shen's Army!



Hillsdale students, teachers, and staff members showed their support for Chris Shenberger prior to his final chemotherapy appointment!





Ashland Symphony Orchestra

The third grade students traveled to Ashland University to watch a performance by the Ashland Symphony Orchestra. This was a great experience for our students. They enjoyed the concert and were able to see many instruments they had learned about in music class.



Cheeseburger Paragraphs

First grade classes are beginning to write paragraphs that contain a topic sentence (top bun), three details (meat, lettuce, cheese), and a closing sentence (bottom bun). To help reinforce this concept, students above are eating *Krabby Patties* prior to filling in their "Hamburger" Graphic Organizers!



FALCONS EMPHASIZE PARTICIPATION!

-Submitted by Kevin Reidy

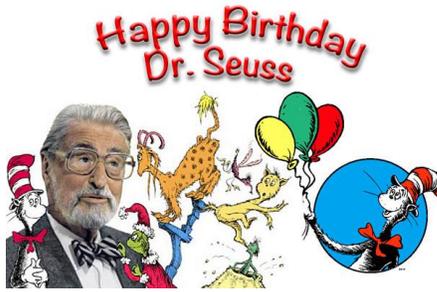
Four years of high school comes and goes rather quickly. Today, many students are balancing family, church, and work obligations, family farming commitments, extra-curricular and athletic activities, academic projects, papers, and technology-based assignments.

In spite of all the commitments of a 21st century teenager, our young people are resilient, and with parent guidance, are ready, willing, and able to participate in the variety of activities that our school provides.

Research has shown that students who are actively engaged in their school tend to have higher performance in the classroom and are better prepared as multi-tasking adults. To that end, we at Hillsdale High School encourage students to be active and involved in as many activities as possible. Hillsdale has, over the decades, had students involved as multiple sport athletes while at the same time, being active as a band or choir member, FFA participant, student leadership roles as well as involvement in other clubs and organizations.

As a small school, we are challenged when students specialize in a particular sport or only one activity. Learning is a lifelong process: the high school setting promotes for teenagers time management, interaction with peers and adults, and having a well-rounded high school experience. Involvement in your school prepares graduates for the changes and challenges that life provides.

Falcons, present and future, PARTICIPATE in all our school provides! Four years move quickly: make the most of the opportunities available in order to have a lifetime of memories.



Every year on March 2nd children all over the country celebrate Dr. Seuss's birthday. Second graders at HES joined in on this fun day to read books by the famous author and to eat green eggs and ham!



A Night of Talent

Hillsdale Middle School recently performed "A Night of Talent." The show was a unique, cooperative blend between Mr. Lewellen's drama class and various individual 7th and 8th grade students.

The drama class wrote a play that they performed. Individual talent acts were incorporated into the play at various points. What a great performance by all!



Klaire Meyer, 6th grade, and Mason Parker, 8th grade, shared their winning **God, Flag and Country** speeches with the Board of Education. They move on to the Erie competition on April 8th. We wish them the best of luck!



The 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*!



FFA WEEK

During the week of George Washington's birthday, FFA chapters from all over the country take part in National FFA Week. The Hillsdale FFA Chapter celebrated this week in a variety of ways.

Each day students dressed up to match the theme and donated \$1 to the families of Mrs. Burnison and Mr. Shenberger. The themes included: Twin Tuesday, Western Wednesday, "Woke Up Like This" Thursday, and FFA/Falcon Friday.

Wednesday of FFA Week the Hillsdale FFA held their annual Farmer Appreciation Lunch for local farmers, chapter supporters, and school faculty. The chapter officer team served these supporters a lunch with ice cream for dessert. Thank you to Buckeye Country Creamery for their donation