



# Falcon Flyer

September 2015



HILLSDALE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

ISSUE #3

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# VOTE

**On November 3<sup>rd</sup> the Hillsdale community has the opportunity to say YES to our 1.4 mill permanent improvement RENEWAL levy!**

This levy is collecting at .57 mills, which equals \$17.52 a year for \$100,000 of property valuation. A permanent improvement levy can only be used for projects and/or equipment that have a useful life of 5 years or more. To gain additional information concerning this levy please attend one of the three town hall meetings or the community breakfast on October 31<sup>st</sup> from 7:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. in the HHS cafeteria.

**The town hall meetings are as follows:**

- Hayesville:** Kendig Park on October 19<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 p.m.
- Mifflin:** Community building on October 26<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30 p.m.
- Jeromesville:** Firehouse on October 26<sup>th</sup> @ 8:00 p.m.

You may also contact Superintendent Steve Dickerson with questions at 419-368-8501 or at [hill\\_dickerson@tccsa.net](mailto:hill_dickerson@tccsa.net). Visit us at [www.hillsdale.k12.oh.us](http://www.hillsdale.k12.oh.us) or on Facebook at Hillsdale Local Schools Strategic Planning Committee. #FalconsForever

Hillsdale Elementary School students participated in a Fabulous FALCON kickoff assembly! Students were reminded of what it means to be a Fabulous **FALCON**: **F**riendly, **A**ccepting, **L**earning, **C**onsiderate, **O**rganized, **N**oble, **S**incere. They were also reminded of our school-wide "Hillsdale High Five," which means *Eyes Looking, Ears Listening, Feet Still, Mouth Quiet, and Brain Working*. Ms. Dropsey also provided a slideshow of Hillsdale students, teachers, and staff members who were caught being Fabulous FALCONS!



Fourth graders had fun learning how The Scientific Method is an organized way to answer a question. During this experiment we answered the question, "How long does it take to change whipping cream into butter?" We even got a snack out of the experiment, yummy homemade butter on Saltine crackers!



The Hillsdale FFA did a service project for the community this year by purchasing many of the Hillsdale first graders' supplies for the 2015-2016 school year. The FFA students asked for donations and received some supplies from Farm Credit, American Dairy Association, Ohio Pork Productions, and Ohio Corn & Wheat Growers Associations. Also a big thank you to Jodi Long, an active FFA parent, who went with a group of students to purchase the supplies that were not donated. The supplies that were given to the students included paper towels, wet wipes, tissues, Ziploc bags, pencils, markers, crayons, scissors, dry erase markers, glue sticks, and a few fun items for the students to keep. The FFA officers were at the elementary school during Open House to deliver the supplies to Ms. Dropsey, Mrs. Fickes, Mrs. Copenhaver, and the first grade students. The service project was a great thing for the community and helped to get the high school FFA students involved with the younger students.



The HES P.T.O. will be hosting another **Basket Auction** this year! Students and teachers have donated items to be assembled into themed gift baskets. The gift baskets will be available for bidding during Parent/Teacher Conferences and during the Homecoming football game. All proceeds from the basket auction will be used in our elementary building. Thank you to everyone who donated items for the basket auction!



### **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 101" updates, please text @fc7572 to the number 81010.



Mr. Kent Hostettler has joined the Hillsdale Middle School staff as the 8th grade math/algebra teacher. He received his education from Ashland University. He comes to us with 6 years of teaching experience, most recently at Central Local Schools, in Defiance, Ohio. Kent chose the teaching profession because he enjoys working with people. He feels that working with students makes each day unique. In his spare time, he enjoys playing softball and working on his family farm.



HMS 5<sup>th</sup> graders are fortunate to participate in the D.A.R.E. program with Deputy Angie Hamilton. The highlights of our first lesson on Sept. 14<sup>th</sup> were using the "drunk goggles" to see how alcohol can impair our vision and the pig lungs showing the harmful effects of smoking.



## Ashland University Football Readers

HES second grade students were joined by Ashland University football players! One football player came to each second grade classroom to read a story to the students. The students were then given a copy of the read-aloud to take home with them!



Miss Lindsay Bowen returns to Hillsdale Local Schools from 2 years at RG Drage Career Center. Lindsay graduated from the Ohio State University and has been teaching Agriculture Education for 16 years. She also serves as one of Hillsdale FFA's advisors. Miss Bowen chose the teaching profession to provide students with a hands-on learning opportunity and to increase their knowledge of agriculture. In her spare time, she exhibits dairy cattle at state and national shows and enjoys spending time with her nieces and nephews.



Mrs. Nichole Blosser comes to Hillsdale Middle School after teaching for 5 years at Madison Middle School. She earned her teaching degree from OSU. She joins our staff as the 6<sup>th</sup> grade math teacher. Nichole enjoys traveling, boating, softball, and kickboxing outside of school. She also loves spending time with her 1½ year old son, Casey, her husband, and their two dogs.

## Junior High Agriculture Classes

Every 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grader will have Agriculture Education class for a nine week period. In this class, students will be introduced to several avenues of agriculture. Students will learn: *Introduction to Agriculture, Landscaping/ Floriculture, Animal Science, Woodwork/Metal Working, Food Science, and Biotechnology*. Pictured below are many of the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade Agriculture students, who have been learning about floriculture/landscaping. Mary Cox, of Floral Garden Florists, came to the classroom to teach students the mechanics of a bud vase. Students then designed their own bud vases and they did a beautiful job!



This year, HMS 5<sup>th</sup> graders will be attending Camp Nuhop Outdoor Education Center for the first time ever! We are so excited about this opportunity. The Education Coordinator came on September 14<sup>th</sup> and spent some time with our students in the afternoon, telling students all about this upcoming adventure and answering questions. We also held a parent meeting in the evening so that parents could ask questions and learn more about the program. We'll be there May 2-3, 2016!



Eighth Grade Agriculture students are pictured to the left. They planted mums around the Middle School as a Service Project for the month of September. Their help was greatly appreciated!



Marjorie Travis, our current Treasurer, resigned at the end of August effective September 30th. Mrs. Travis began her career at Hillsdale in 1993. Since then, she has been instrumental in maintaining our district's financial soundness, especially during our recent loss of state funding and local taxes, which led to budget cuts in the district. She was honored for her years of service at a cake reception prior to the September School Board Meeting. Mrs. Travis plans to spend more time with family and to travel. We wish her all the best in retirement!



**Pictured Above:** Nick Hickey, Matthew Way, and others show off their Lego RC projects during the May senior citizen breakfast.

We will continue our monthly breakfast for area senior citizens. Our schedule this year is listed below. Please come at 8:30 a.m. and enjoy a delicious breakfast and be entertained by our awesome students!

10/13/15	2/9/16*
11/17/15	3/8/16*
12/8/15	4/12/16*
1/12/16	5/10/16*

\* Tentative dates - new school board will decide on dates in January.

It is a tradition at Hillsdale High School that ALL freshmen learn to sing the Alma Mater and Fight Song! This way students can sing along when the songs are played at games and special events and can show their spirit, pride, and loyalty to Hillsdale! Mrs. Snow teaches these songs to the students, who then practice them throughout the first few weeks of school. During class, they also discuss the importance and meaning of both songs. It is a tradition that most students enjoy!



We have several new staff members here at Hillsdale High School. We are happy to report that Lindsey Bowen is back teaching several agricultural classes. Tara Herberger is teaching Art I, II, and III, as well as art classes at Hillsdale Middle School. We continue to share several teachers between all three buildings in an effort to use tax dollars in the most effective way. David Moore is our new full-time district technology person. Moving from a part-time technology person to full-time will be crucial in getting the district prepared for state required on-line testing, as well as keeping our buildings running smoothly. This change was suggested by the Strategic Planning Committee and was possible due to the passage of the May levy. Thank you again for your support!



**Pictured Above:** Mr. Hoffman and Ryan Markley practice welding on the virtual welder

The Hillsdale FFA has a new addition to their department this year. Through grants, the FFA was able to purchase two virtual welders made by Lincoln Electric. These welders are completely computerized so that students can learn to weld correctly and safely. The students enjoy the opportunity to be able to use these machines. "The virtual welders are extremely helpful to use. They show you how to weld properly and show you your mistakes so that you can fix them when you actually weld in the real world," says Sean Fitzsimmons, a junior in FFA. The virtual welder can hook up to the projector so that all students can be involved while one student welds. The welder grades the weld and is able to graph progress and improvements made by a student. The virtual welders are a great tool and students really enjoy using them!



We are excited to offer several new class options to our students this year. We currently have 27 students taking one or more online courses through VLA, or Virtual Learning Academy. These are online high school classes offered through Pioneer Career and Technical Center in Shelby, Ohio. Pioneer provides the curriculum while Hillsdale faculty oversee, grade and guide students throughout. We also have College Credit Plus courses which are online college-level courses for which the students earn college and high school credit simultaneously. Currently there are 33 students taking advantage of one or more of these courses.

**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!**



Hillsdale High School will be hosting a Veterans Day Assembly on Wednesday, November 11<sup>th</sup>. We would love to invite as many of our local veterans as possible to the assembly. Please contact Mr. Reidy 419-368-6841 or Mrs. Sigler 419-368-8514 if you know of any local veterans we can invite to this celebration.

On Saturday, August 29<sup>th</sup>, a group of Hillsdale High School Staff and friends participated in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Kickball tournament to benefit the Hayesville-Vermillion Fire Department. According to Chief Steve Young, there were 8 more teams this year for a total of 28, 15 of which were adult teams. The money raised from this fundraiser will go toward updating some outdated equipment at the firehouse. Next year's tournament will be Saturday, July 16<sup>th</sup>, 2016.

