



FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

It is hard to believe that we are ¼ of the way into another school year. I would like to thank all staff for their hard work over the summer and during our first months of school to ensure a successful beginning. The cooler weather also helped greatly. This year, as in every year, we will face some challenges. As a Falcon community, I know we will be able to work through them together. One challenge we currently are facing is House Bill 410. This changes the way we look at attendance. In all, we have to look at hours missed, not just days. Secondly, there are potential intervention plans to establish upon a student reaching a certain number of hours of missed school with a review of the plan 61 days later. Thirdly, under current law, it does not matter if the absences are excused or unexcused. For additional information concerning this new law, please visit the parent tab on the website. If you have any questions concerning this bill or other issues, please contact me or stop by my office at the high school. I wish all a great school year. Go Falcons!



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Students, staff members, teachers, retired teachers, friends, and family members of Laura Pickersgill gathered together in the HES gymnasium in order to honor her passing.

Following the assembly, guests proceeded to the front driveway where a magnolia tree and plaque have been placed as a memorial for Laura.

Purple and blue balloons (above) were released in remembrance of her, and a group photo (above left) was taken of students and family members whose lives have been influenced by Mrs. Pickersgill. She will be missed by all!

5th Grade Scientists are raising Monarch Butterflies!

Welcome to our Monarch nursery. We have been searching nature and rescuing Monarch eggs and caterpillars to try to help the Monarch butterfly population. Our scientists have been seen under the milkweed leaves, as well as bringing in extra leaves for caterpillar guests to munch on as they grow. We keep each caterpillar in a mesh container with fresh milkweed leaves as food. Timber Banks comes early every day to school and gives our little friends fresh leaves to eat and cleans out their containers. Since we have so many, that is a big job! The caterpillars eat up lots of leaves and grow fast. When they are ready to go into their chrysalis, they will hang from the top of the mesh container. Then they will form into their chrysalis. After about 2 weeks, the butterflies will hatch and we will release them!



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 can sit bean bag chairs, lay
 the floor, and enjoy a good



HHS students also practice daily reading skills by cleaning and taking care of this fun area!



PTO Information

The PTO meets at 7:00 p.m. on the second Monday of each month in the elementary school cafeteria. See us on Facebook for more information!

FFA Agronomy Tea

On September 1st the Hillsdale FFA Agronomy Team won first place at the Agronomy Competition at the Big E (The Eastern States Exposition). This took place in Springfield, Massachusetts. The team qualified by placing 2nd at our state competition. The FFA Agronomy Team members are: Alena Arnold, Alyssa Crytzer, Jessi Raubenolt, and Blayne Bartter. They are coached by Tom Kauffman and Lindsey Bowen. Individually, Alena Arnold placed 1st, Alyssa Crytzer placed 3rd, Jessi Raubenolt placed 4th, and Blayne Bartter placed 5th. They competed with teams from Pennsylvania, Maryland, Delaware, and New York.



Meet Mrs. Tibbs, the newest member of our 5th grade team!



Mrs. Tibbs was a Hillsdale graduate and came to us from Mapleton Schools. She has three children, two of which are Hillsdale graduates and one who is a sophomore. She is certified in Health and Speech Sciences and Early Childhood Education with a 4th endorsement. This is her 4th year of teaching. She is our new Language Arts teacher.

Welcome to HMS, Mrs. Tibbs!



HMS cheerleaders had their *Cheer for a Cure* game and did several things to support Cancer Awareness month and each year both HHS and HMS use the pink pom-poms to show support!



Mrs. Kitty Runkle was honored as Classified Employee of the Year at the Northeast Ohio School Boards Association's Fall Conference on October 4. The Northeast Region covers the school districts from 19 counties! As a head cook, custodian, and bus driver, Mrs. Runkle daily impacts the lives of students and staff with her contagious smile, positive attitude, and amazing work ethic. Congratulations, Mrs. Runkle, and thank you for your faithful service to Hillsdale!



The Big Apple!

This past summer we took 500 students and chaperons to New York City. The trip was incredible. We were able to take in many of the familiar sights as well as many of the local attractions. The students really got a taste for city life and how the Big Apple never sleeps. We averaged 6 miles a day walking with easy narrative explaining the sights. We spent time shopping and reflection at memorials and the 9/11 victims. This year we are going back to Washington D.C. Please consider joining us!



HES PENNY DRIVE

In September HES students, staff, parents, and teachers collected coins for the American Red Cross. After Wayne Savings Bank counted all of the bags of coins, our grand total was \$1,485!!!! All of this money will be used to aide those affected by Hurricane Irma. Thank you so much for your kind contributions!



The 7th grade Science students wasted no time this year, jumping right in with a huge project and some very challenging expectations. As part of the five district collaborative grant to infuse reading and writing into the science content areas, Hillsdale students have been working vigorously to complete a project entitled "The Best Bubble Ever". Students were tasked with learning the steps of the scientific method and then applying them in a design process to create a bubble solution and wand that could be used at the park in Jeromesville. This project has given them a great backdrop from which they can consider even better ways of conducting research and sharing their findings.



Preschool News!

To kick off a fall unit about apples, HES Preschool students h f U j Y ` Y X ` h c Orchard in Ashland.



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Throughout the month of October, preschool students will participate in a variety of fun apple activities: dissecting an apple, studying the life cycle of an apple, making and eating apple crisp, and counting apple seeds.



1st Annual Hillsdale FunFest!

The first Back-to-School Falcon FunFest was held on August 19. This was a free event for the entire community with around 400 in attendance. Those who attended enjoyed inflatables, carnival games, face painting, storytelling, and crafts along with food and music. Thank you to the many booster groups, businesses, and individuals who made the first FunFest a success. We look forward to seeing everyone at next year's event!



First graders are off to a great start this year! In fact, their futures are SO bright, they have to wear shades! They have so many fun and educational activities to get through before the school year ends! 😊



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!**



Congratulations to Hillsdale High Intervention Specialist **Desti Gilmore** who was recently honored as Outstanding Educator for 2016-2017 year by the Support Team Regional Office.