



The Parent Hill  
Informed  
Week of 4/9

### Principal's Memo

My two children, now 16 and 18, would ask me each year if they could opt out of the state test when then were in middle/high school. I told them yes, as long as they also opted out of their test to get a driver's license, the ACT/SAT to get into college, and all subsequent tests to get into the professional field of their choice. Needless to say, they took the state test every year. Regardless of whether I agree or disagree with state testing and the enormous implications on teacher evaluations, teacher bonuses, and school ratings, my own kids took the state test because it was not not about their self-interest, but an opportunity to gain practice with assessment. These next two weeks will bring anxiety and stress, but after watching my own kids prepare for high school exams, college exams, and more...this stress and anxiety is less about the test and more about helping our kids learn to manage the stress they will encounter in life.

At Hill, we strive to create a *joyful* and *academically robust* learning environment for all students that is *rooted in relationships*.

Monday, April 9

- **Girls Soccer vs McAuliffe Manual;** 4:00 @ Cramner Park
- **Baseball vs McAuliffe Manual;** 4:00 @ Hill
- **Girls Lacrosse Practice;** 5:00 @ Hill
- **Boys Lacrosse Practice;** 3:00 @ Hill

Tuesday, April 10

- **Baseball Practice;** 3:00 @ Hill
- **Girls Soccer Practice;** 3:00
- **Co-ed Tennis Practice;** 3:00-4:15
- **Dance Practice;** 3:00-4:30

Wednesday, April 11

- **Dance Practice;** 3:00-4:30
- **Dungeons & Dragons Club;** 3:00-4:30 in TBD
- **Boys Lacrosse Practice;** 3:00 @ Hill
- **Girls Lacrosse Practice;** 5:00 @ Hill
- **Baseball vs McAuliffe;** 4:00 @ Hill
- **Girls Soccer vs McAuliffe;** 4:00 @ Cramner Park

Thursday, April 12

- **Shakespeare Music Club;** 2:45-4:00 in Room 17
- **Art Club;** 2:45-3:45 in Room 120
- **Comics & Collecting Club;** 2:45-3:45 in Room 223
- **Co-ed Tennis Practice;** 3:00-4:15
- **Girls Soccer Practice;** 3:00
- **Girls Lacrosse vs McAuliffe;** 4:30 @ Hill
- **Boys Lacrosse vs McAuliffe;** 4:00 @ McAuliffe

Friday, April 13

- **Carnival School Dance;** 6:00-8:00pm

### UPCOMING EVENTS

- April 7–May 3; Citywide Middle School Art Show
- April 24; Citywide Middle School Art Show Reception

Parents are encouraged to attend the next Family Leadership Institute from 9:15-11:15 a.m. **April 12** at the Park Hill Golf Club. Family Leadership Institutes promote academic partnerships and leadership through interactive sessions that bring families from across the district together to enhance their advocacy skills at home, school and the district level. The topic for this session is organizing others. Attendees will learn about the organizing cycle, advocacy at the school level, school and district success, and English Language Acquisition Districtwide Advisory Committee board elections. Food, childcare and interpretation services will be provided at no additional cost. Families can register [here](#). If you have questions, email [Lilian Pacheco](#).

### ACCELERATED READER

All students are expected to read and comprehend 20 books independently throughout the year. We measure comprehension using the Accelerated Reader quiz bank. These books can be selected from within your child's reading level using our school and classroom libraries. Some students have selected books outside of these libraries based on their interests. In such cases, teachers have created quizzes or ask students to create quizzes that demonstrate their comprehension. Please contact your child's Language Arts teacher if you would like to know how many books your child has read and comprehended this year.

### OBSERVING RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS

If your child will be observing religious holidays, like Passover this past Friday, please email [Sean.Kavanaugh@dpsk12.org](mailto:Sean.Kavanaugh@dpsk12.org), so her or his attendance is marked properly.

### CARNIVAL DANCE

Student Council is planning a Carnival Dance on Friday, April 13th from 6-8pm. Ticket prices are \$3 for admission, \$10 for admission + Chick FilA dinner, and \$15 for admission, dinner, and 10 game tickets (this is half off for game tickets!). At the door, admission is \$3 and game tickets are \$1. We will have several fun things to enjoy, including a Bouncy House, Kona Ice, a Dunk Tank, Face Painting, and of course, awesome music to dance to. Students will not be permitted to attend the dance if they have any behavior incidents they have not served community service for (students can see their ADOc to determine if they have any outstanding behaviors). If you would like to volunteer to chaperone the dance, please email the Student Council Coordinator, Drea Aguirre at [andrea.swiney@dpsk12.org](mailto:andrea.swiney@dpsk12.org)

### PTSA FACEBOOK

Please join our Hill Facebook Page to keep up to date on school events and more. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/hillmiddleschool/>

Mark your calendar for 5/5/18...the Hill Gala. Tickets and details can be found at <http://hillptsa.weebly.com/gala.html>

The PTSA is seeking donations of gift cards for the 5/5/18 gala. Please drop these off at the front desk if you'd like to help. If you can't join us, you can still support the school and win incredible prizes like a bike, Nuggets tickets, and a Steamboat vacation.

Buy tickets here: <http://hillptsa.weebly.com/gala-raffle.html>