



# THE HAWK TALK (FAMILY)

## Principal Message

Skyhawks Families,

This past week, our team has made some significant progress toward our return to in-person learning plan. The purpose of this communication is to provide more context to questions you asked in the past regarding our learning plan. Let me start by saying that while these decisions have been collaborative, no plan would honor or capture all of the voices. However, I think it is important to name that we listened and worked together to create a plan that ensures equity in learning for all of our kids in our school community.

As mentioned last week, families will receive personal communication via School Messenger to their email regarding your students' cohort beginning next week. **All families should verify their email in Parent Portal as soon as possible.** All students at Hill have been cohorted in order to know which days they will receive live instruction with their teachers. Again, this will be communicated to each family via School Messenger. Families will also begin to see new schedules in Parent and Student Portal starting next week. **One significant change that all families should note is that our in-person students will NOT begin until Monday, October 26th. This allows us to start our in-person instruction on a Monday instead of the middle of the week. Additionally, October 23rd will be an asynchronous day for all students. This day will be focused on teacher training for the return to in-person. There will be no live instruction.**

Moving forward, our school day will start at 7:50 am and dismiss beginning at 2:15 pm. All in-person students will finish dismissing at 2:30. Stay tuned for more directions on drop off and pick up locations for in-person students.

**Students in our MI classroom who have selected in-person will be in school M-F for in-person instruction and begin on October 21st.** Virtual students in our MI classes will have access to live instruction each day. If you have questions about MI instruction, please reach out to your child's teacher. If your child receives transportation per their IEP, please contact transportation for route information by calling 720 423 4699.

***What can your student expect based on your Virtual or In-person Selection:***

### **In-person students ( Cohorts A or B):**

Will report to school on the days that align with their cohort.

Will have two days of in-person live instruction and two days of asynchronous work (independent work that aligns with what they learned in class).

Fridays will be virtual live instruction.

### **Virtual Students (Cohorts A or B):**

Will stream into class on days that align with their cohort.

Will have two days of streaming live instruction and two days of asynchronous work (independent work that aligns with what they learned in class).

Fridays will be virtual live instruction.

While we know a teacher can't be replaced with independent work, we are forced to think of school differently this year without attempting to re-creating what we have done in the past. Asynchronous work is independent work that will focus on students practicing skills that they are learning in their streamed or in-person instruction. Tasks are aligned to standards and will support students in demonstrating mastery of grade-level standards. Students may also work on long-term projects and explore topics that are not related to content that they are learning in school.

As I mentioned, there is no right way to make these shifts as we return to in-person, and I know that there are mixed emotions about where we landed. That is true for me too. However, every time I think, well, maybe we should have done something different, another road block or reason why it would not work, becomes apparent. As your school leader, I can say that I believe at the core of who I am as an educator that this plan and our teachers will accelerate all students despite us "doing" school differently.

As a reminder, school leaders will host a learning session for families on how we plan to address "Acceleration" at Hill during this temporary shift on October 15th at 5:30 pm. Here is the zoom link: <https://uso2web.zoom.us/j/5136190793?pwd=Rm4xTmt4TmFqNEdDSnRGcTZzeU1rQT09>

Wishing you and your family continued health,

Principal Adams





### **SchoolPool (Community Carpool)**

Struggling to find transportation when school returns to in-person learning? Hill is partnered with Schoolpool! Schoolpool is a secure program that helps families get their children to/from school. Get connected with Hill families who live in your neighborhood to form carpools, RTD groups, walking groups, or biking groups to and from school, best of all it's free! Families must [opt-in](#) to participate.

### **Flu Shots Available**

Getting the flu shot helps to protect yourself and others, and shields those who may be at a high risk for flu complications. Flu shots are now available for NO cost to DPS students at:

Place Bridge Academy Denver Health School Based Clinic

7125 Cherry Creek Drive North

Denver, CO 80224

Appointment Line: 720-424-2050. Please call for appointment! For any questions please contact Nurse Merri at [merri\\_hoffman@dpsk12.org](mailto:merri_hoffman@dpsk12.org) or 720-423-9691

### **Grading At Hill**

At Hill Campus of Arts and Sciences, we are fully invested in our students' success. Therefore we are rolling out a new grading systems that embraces our philosophy that no students will fail at Hill. We will no longer give "Fs". We are making this shift because we are currently in a pandemic and we want to make sure that we are supporting our students by being flexible and understanding with grading. It is important for us to be responsive to our community, therefore we are also raising the bar by letting students know that passing is the only option.

Here is our grading system:

A: 100-90

B: 89-80

C: 79-70

D: 69-60

N/A: 59 and Below

### **Need Transportation?**

If you will be returning to in-person learning and will need transportation assistance please email [Lillian\\_Brown@dpsk12.org](mailto:Lillian_Brown@dpsk12.org)

### **Skyhawk Swag**

Friday October 23rd from 3:00-5:00pm, Hill will be selling ALL Hill shirts for \$5 and ALL sweatshirts and hoodies for \$10. Come to HCAS and get some Hill Swag for your first day back to in-person learning!!

# New Hill Courtyard!







Help us celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month by participating in our first Hispanic Heritage Month Festival. We're encouraging all of our students to participate and submit an entry for a chance to win a prize! Official rules and instructions available at [THIS](#) link. Deadline to submit is 10/21.



#### Upcoming Dates:

October 13- Family/Teacher Conferences- 3-7pm  
 October 15- Hill Accelerated Learning Session- 5:30 pm  
 October 16- No School (Teacher Comp Day)  
 October 19- No School (Non-Student Contact Day)  
 October 20- No School (Non-Student Contact Day)  
 October 21- New Student Schedules Start  
 October 26- In-Person Students Return  
 October 30- Family Forum- 2 pm  
 You can find more important dates, details and events on our website!



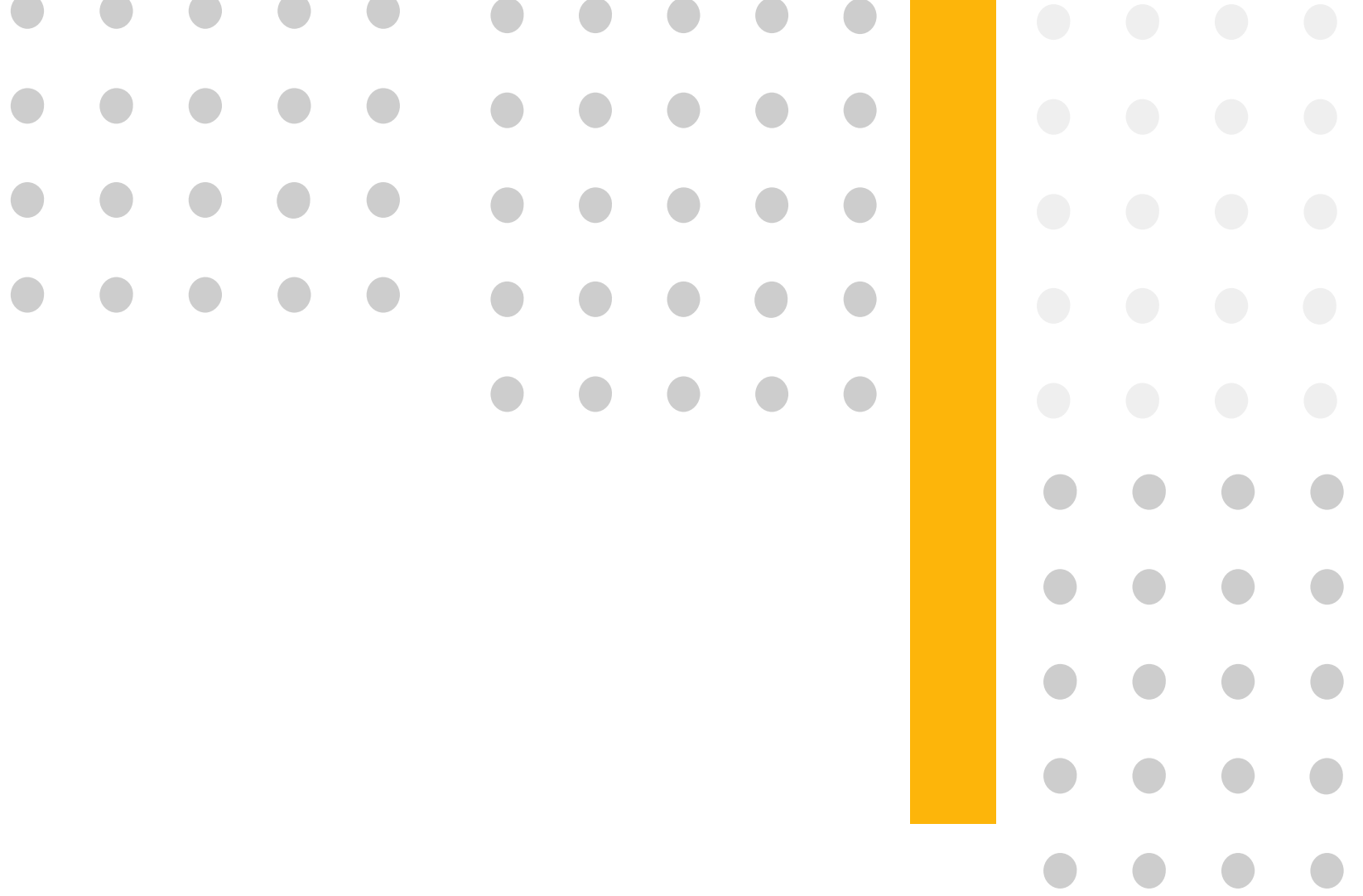
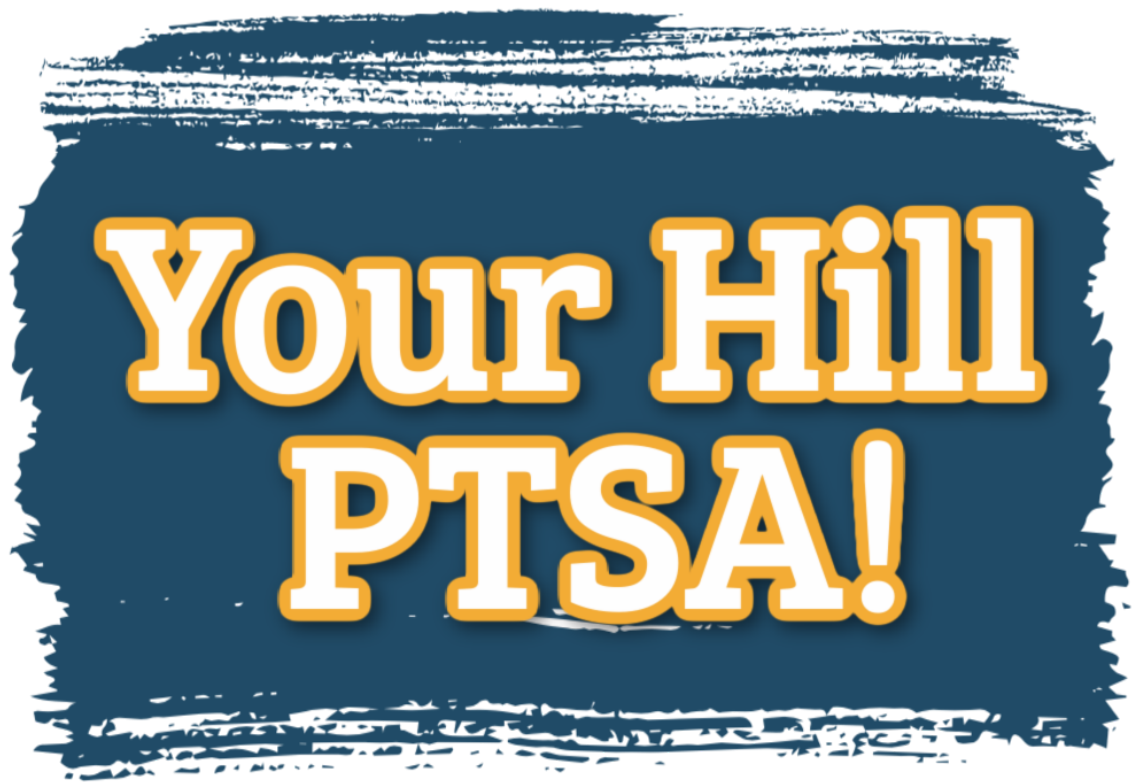
Students are allowed to wear traditional medical masks or fabric masks in any appropriate print besides bandana print. "Neck Gaiter" masks are not allowed.

## Name Our Cafeteria & Courtyard



Hey Skyhawks we need YOU! Our brand new cafeteria and courtyard is almost done and we want your help in choosing a community name for our space! Submit your name ideas [HERE](#) for consideration. The top ideas will be voted on school wide.





# Hey Skyhawks!

**Next PTSA Meeting RESCHEDULED** - with conferences and Fall Break next week, the October PTSA meeting has been rescheduled to Thursday, October 22, 6:30 PM. Zoom link below - note passcode: zoom (and will be on the webpage)

Topic: October PTSA meeting

Time: Oct 22, 2020 06:30 PM Mountain Time

<https://uso2web.zoom.us/j/7876373999>

Meeting ID: 787 637 3999

Passcode: zoom

One tap mobile

+13462487799,,7876373999#,,,,,0#,,910503# US (Houston)

+16699006833,,7876373999#,,,,,0#,,910503# US (San Jose)

**Hill Cares Coat & Outwear Drive.** Please help Hill's students with your unwanted, gently used outerwear! As you clean your closets for the winter, set aside coats/jackets, mittens/gloves and hats for Hill. We will then distribute them to families/students at Hill. Thank you!

Drop boxes are located at:

Hilltop: 140 Krameria St

Lowry: 7064 E 2nd Ave

Virginia Village: 627 S Grape St

**Butterbraids Fundraiser.** The Art Committee is hosting a Butter Braid Fundraiser through October 19th. 40% of sales will go directly to helping fund upcoming activities for all of our wonderful Arts departments including Band, Dance, Drama, Orchestra, Theater and Visual Arts. Please use the link below to add your child's information and the orders will be ready under their name for pickup:

<https://store.myfundraisingplace.com/RegisterSeller/79f84665-dcb9-4ab6-a109-3a2b58faacb4>

This is an online fundraiser, but if your student would like to solicit sales door to door please reach out to Julie Seltenhammer - [spankyhammer@gmail.com](mailto:spankyhammer@gmail.com) for a paper order form.

The Butter Braids will be distributed on Oct. 27th

**Haircuts for Hill!** Get your kiddo (and maybe yourself) in for a trim and support Hill. Do good and look good! SportClips at Mayfair Plaza (13th & Krameria) will donate \$1/kid cut and \$2/adult cut through December 21!!

**Don't forget:** You can earn money for Hill Keep your eye on Hill FB page for important updates from PTSA re: Dine Outs, Ways to Engage, etc!! We post frequently!

For full PTSA information and more details, visit the [PTSA's webpage](#).