



## Hillside News From Dr. Madden's Desk to Your Home



### September Edition

## Look Back... and Moving Forward

Dear Hillside Families,

Welcome to the 2018-2019 school year at Hillside! Whether you are a returning family or a new family, I hope your kickoff to the school year was a memorable one. It is so great to have our students and staff back in the building. It sure does get quiet over the summer months. Our entire staff welcomed our students with open arms on Thursday. Over the next few weeks, our staff will work to build their classroom communities by discussing classroom and school procedures and rules. A Responsive Classroom/School environment requires our staff to establish relationships with each of our students so that they understand their importance in our larger school community. As a school, we will work to ratify our Hillside Constitution on Friday, September 14th. This Constitution becomes the foundation of our school community and bonds us together around similar rules and expectations. It is one of my favorite moments with our students.

This year our school theme is: *The Year of Teamwork*. The students will be engaging in various activities to kick off this year's theme. Be sure to check out how you can help us launch our theme at Back to School Night. Throughout the year, our staff will be honoring our students (bulletin board is located in the main entrance hallway) for being good teammates. For example, random acts of kindness, helping others, and positively contributing to our overall school culture will be just a few of the ways our students will be recognized. Furthermore, our school will be participating in two schoolwide projects this year. An "in school" project and a project that will impact the Mt. Laurel community will be planned. Be on the lookout for these projects to be announced.

Thursday evening, September 13th, our Back to School Night will be held from 6:30 to 7:45pm. There will be two sessions so that you are able to visit multiple teachers that evening. Please enter and exit through the main entrance of the building. There will be no large meeting in the gym. When the doors open, you may report directly to your child's classroom. A **NEW change** to our evening is that our Special Area teachers will be located in the Media Center at tables so that you can visit them to learn more about their programs.

Our staff looks forward to seeing our families at the PTO's Back to School Picnic this Friday, September 14th from 4:00-6:30pm. The PTO organizes this wonderful evening for the staff and families. It is a fantastic way to kickoff the school year as a TEAM!

Please be sure to read the Parent Handbook which is filled with a lot of important information for our families regarding school and district policies. It is important that you get acquainted with these policies, especially in regards to what is needed when working with our main office to ensure a safe student drop off and pick up. Additionally, please see the school security letter which outlines arrival, dismissal, and important information.



Our Year of Teamwork will be a journey for all of us. The Hillside Staff is here to work together with you to ensure that our students have a successful school year. There are so many possibilities up around the bend. I can't wait to see where we go together; *as a TEAM.*

All the best,  
Dr. Madden

## Upcoming Events @ Hillside

| School Events   | PTO Events (See Hillside Happenings each week for more information)  |
|---|--|
| 9/13/18-Back to School Night @ 6:30-7:45<br>9/19/18-No School-Yom Kippur<br>9/27/18-Fire Prevention Assembly and Fire Truck Visit<br>9/28/18- Student/Staff Spirit Day (topic will be announced)<br><hr/> 10/23/18-Picture Day<br>10/26/18-Student/Staff Spirit Day (topic will be announced) | 9/14/18-Back to School Picnic<br>9/17/18-Spirit Wear Sale Begins<br>9/20/18-PTO Meeting @ 7:00pm (New parent tea at 6:30pm)<br>9/20/18-Dine Out Night<br>9/20/18-Plant Sale Orders Due<br>9/28/18-Spirit Wear Orders Due Back<br>9/29/18-Plant Sale and Clothing Drive<br><hr/> 10/26/18-Ladies' Night<br>10/29/18-Pumpkin Palooza |

**Save the Date for Halloween Parade--10/31/18**

**More information to come!**

### Meet Our New Staff

Garrett Seville is our new Basic Skills Math Teacher. We are excited to have Mr. Seville join our staff. He will have an immediate impact on the students he works with.

Kim Corona is our ESL Teacher. She will be working at Hillside and Larchmont this school year. We are happy to have Ms. Corona bring her knowledge base to Hillside to support our students and staff.

Tracy Weist is our new Case Manager. Ms. Weist is an LDTC and brings a wealth of knowledge in assisting students and teachers academically, socially, and emotionally.

**Connect with Hillside: Follow Dr. Madden on Twitter @MTL\_HSPincipal and/or Facebook @hillsidees**