



# Husky Paw Prints

"Stepping up to the challenges of tomorrow  
by preparing today"

**Hillside Elementary**  
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Volume 9, Issue 11  
 Lori Fanning, Principal

October 22, 2009  
 Patti Blalock, Assistant Principal

Website address: [www.fultonschools.org/school/hillside](http://www.fultonschools.org/school/hillside)



OCTOBER 30, 2009  
 BOOK CHARACTER DAY



Costumes are to be designed after characters in books, not scary Halloween costumes. Please remember that weapons, even if they are part of the costume, are not permitted at school.

Dates to Remember

**October 22, 2009**  
**FCBOE Board Meeting,**  
**6:30pm, Dunwoody**  
**Springs ES**

**October 26, 2009**  
**Smoke House visits 1st**  
**Grade**

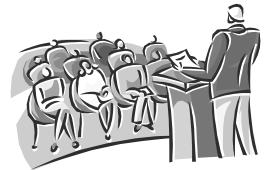
**October 27, 2009**  
**Rising 6th Grade Parent**  
**Mtg, 9:00am, Media**  
**Center**  
**Strengthening Families**  
**Seminar, 6:30pm**

**October 30, 2009**  
**Book Character Day**



*From the Desk of:*  
 Lori Fanning, Principal

On Tuesday, October 20<sup>th</sup>, Hillside ES hosted its first State of the School Presentation in three years. Our staff, parents, and community were joined by Deputy Superintendent Dr. Linda Anderson and Area Superintendent Robert Lynch. Most of the contents of this speech had already been shared with staff, PTA Executive Board Members and the Local School Advisory Committee members at previous meetings. The presentation began with a celebration of the great things that have happened at Hillside over the last school year. Firstly, Hillside ES led Fulton County Elementary Schools in individual student gains on the Mathematics portion of the 2008-2009 CRCT. We also celebrated the long traditions of parental involvement – PTA reports a significant increase in membership for this school year. Additionally we celebrated our legacy of serving a culturally diverse group of children. Finally, we celebrated the implementation of the Balanced Literacy Program and our school-wide discipline plan – Husky Pride.



The presentation also highlighted the future realities facing Hillside ES. The economic demands on the school budget and family budgets indicate that the cost per pupil allocation was reduced in the face of one of the worst economic downturns in American History. Family budgets have been reduced, parents have lost jobs, and the need for assistance for many families has increased. One indication of the down turn in the economy has been the request for Free/Reduced Meals Program. Historically, Hillside had approximately 20% of its student population qualifying for this program. Since the economic down turn, the percentage of students qualifying for the Free/Reduced Meals Program has increased from 30% for 2008-2009 to 52% for 2009-2010. As a result of this data, Hillside ES qualifies to receive federal funding to provide support for students who are economically and educationally disadvantaged. With all of the discouraging news regarding the economy comes the great news that our students continue to understand the value of giving. Recently, our students collected over 1400 food items to donate to the North Fulton Community Food Bank.

Lastly, the presentation included the standardized test data that was the driving force behind the Hillside School Improvement Plan. Indicators from the Iowa Test of Basic Skills show that scores in Third and Fifth Grade Reading and Language Arts have dropped over the last two years while the CRCT Reading/LA and the Georgia Writing Assessment have remained the same. The data from these standardized tests along with teacher input was the driving force behind implementing the Balanced Literacy Program. This program uses Georgia Performance Standards as its content base and provides a systemic framework for the student work that needs to be done in these areas in order for our school to see improved student achievement. Mathematics scores improved dramatically for all students but further work in student subgroups will be a focus of the School Improvement Plan. Success in Mathematics is attributed to the use of item analysis on the Checkpoints Benchmark Tests taken by students during the school year. Using student data to drive instruction allows our teachers to individualize instruction for all learners. A final area of focus will be our continued focus on implementing our Hillside Technology Integration Plan.

The Hillside State of the School Presentation will be posted to the school website as soon as the voice over has been completed. Hillside extends a huge thank you to its community for all of the continued support!!!

Business Partners

**Platinum Partners**

- Bruster's (Ellard Village)
- Chick-fil-A at Rivermont Station
- Newtown Recreation
- The Dojo
- The Special Occasion
- Twisted Taco

**Gold Partners**

- Citrus Solution
- Dream Dinners
- Mibab Orthodontics
- Walton Centennial Apartment Homes

**Silver Partners**

- Atlanta Kids Directory
- Children's Dental Zone
- Children's Dentistry
- Foot Solutions
- Synergy Fine Art
- The Pediatric Place

**FULTON COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD MEETING TONIGHT!**

There will be a Fulton county school board meeting this Thursday, Oct 22nd (tonight) to discuss the 2 proposed school calendars for next year. Each calendar will have 177 days and be 10 minutes longer. Early release days will be eliminated in both. One calendar starts on Aug 23rd and one will start on Aug 16th. The meeting is located at Dunwoody Springs Charter School and will begin at 6:30 pm.



## ATTENTION PARENTS OF 5th GRADERS!

Holcomb Bridge and Haynes Bridge Middle Schools will present a Q&A meeting about life in middle school. Principals, Joy Schroerlucke & Debbie Reeves, 6th grade Counselors, Euodia Harris & Chris Martinez, and PTA Presidents, Lynda Andrews & Karen LeCates, will be on hand to answer all your questions about middle school, including the areas of academic life, social life, and volunteer opportunities. Please join us on Tuesday, October 27 at Hillside Elementary School at 9:00am. Other dates to remember:

### Holcomb Bridge MS

Oct 27-immediately following Q&A meeting, or about 10:30am—Parent Tour

March 25-meeting for families of rising 6th graders

May 6-rising 6th graders visit the school

### Haynes Bridge MS

Nov 2-10am, Parent Tour (designed to help those parents that are evaluating various middle school options and would benefit from an early look at what Haynes Bridge has to offer.

This tour does not replace the rising 6th grade parent information night that will take place in March 2010. Please rsvp to Wendy Lichtenwalter at [jwlichtenwalter@bellsouth.net](mailto:jwlichtenwalter@bellsouth.net) if you are interested in attending.

March 25-meeting for parents of rising 6th graders.



## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Do you like to scrapbook? Would you like to make a photo album of the exciting things happening at Hillside? The PTA is looking for 1 to 2 individuals to make a scrapbook of the events & PTA Programs happening at Hillside to be submitted for the KrogerPlusLearning Award. If interested, please contact Stacy Christie at [stacychristie@bellsouth.net](mailto:stacychristie@bellsouth.net).



## YEARBOOKS - ORDER YOURS TODAY!

Yearbook order forms and receipts will be in your child's folder today. If you have already purchased a yearbook, you will have a receipt and an order form. Please use the order form to note if you would like to add personalization to your child's yearbook. Also, if you have taken or will take pictures at any Hillside events, please download your pictures to a disk and leave it in the yearbook box by the volunteer computer. The Yearbook Team thanks you in advance! Questions? Please e-mail Alice Brauckman - [abrauckman@bellsouth.net](mailto:abrauckman@bellsouth.net) or Melissa Stone - [melissastone@earthlink.net](mailto:melissastone@earthlink.net).



**COLORING BOOK CONTEST FOR ROSWELL!** It's time for the Drippy Dropperson Coloring Book Contest! Draw a picture of Drippy conserving or protecting our water resources and send it in by November 20, 2009. In December, a panel of judges will choose the top twelve drawings which will make up the coloring book. The best drawing will be on the cover! Each winner and their family and teachers will be invited to Roswell City Hall to be honored in front of Mayor and Council in the spring for the unveiling of the coloring book.

## Last Call For "Recycled Items" Needed For Science Day!

We still need 2-liter bottles (rinsed with lids), 1/2 gallon milk and /or Orange Juice containers (rinsed), toilet paper and paper towel rolls, newspaper (folded), and various sizes of plastic bottles (rinsed with lid). Please put them in the box labeled "science day materials" in the front lobby. Science Day is Wednesday, November 4th. If you have any questions please contact Heather Cannon [hpcannon@charter.net](mailto:hpcannon@charter.net) or Allison Merrill [thosmerrills@yahoo.com](mailto:thosmerrills@yahoo.com).



## HATS OFF TO HILLSIDE HUSKIES!

Thank you to everyone who helped to make this year's hat parade a success! The hat parade raised \$409.00 this year and it will all be donated to the Heavenly Hats Foundation on behalf of Hillside ES!!! Thank you SO SO SO MUCH!!!

**A WORD FROM OUR CLINIC:** If your child needs to borrow clothes from the clinic, please wash and return these items as soon as you can. The clinic is in need of any size pants for both boys and girls, and would greatly appreciate any donation of new underwear for young girls and boys. (Please note that underwear should not be returned to the clinic).



## FREE COMMUNITY HEALTH AND DENTAL FAIR

**When:** Friday, Oct 23 from 9:00am-5:00pm, and Sat, Oct 24 from 9:00am-5:00pm.

**Where:** 77 East Crossville Rd, Roswell, GA

**Services include:** general screening for glucose, hemoglobin and blood pressure. Physicians and Pediatricians will be available on site to assist all guests. Eye screenings, adult and pediatric vaccines, women services, diabetic foot care, chiropractors and therapeutic massages will also be offered as optional services. Dental services will include extractions, fillings, sealants and hygiene. Entertainment for the whole family will also be provided.



## HUNGER AWARENESS WEEK

Thank you all for making Hillside's canned good and coat drive so successful!

More than 1400 canned goods and over 70 coats were donated to North Fulton Community Charities.

The following classes have won a pajama day for bringing in the most cans:

*(The date for your pajama day will be announced soon)*

PreK and Kindergarten: Ms. Lee

1st Grade: Tie: Mrs. Getsay and Ms. Smith, 2nd Grade: Ms. Thomas,

3rd Grade: Mrs. Via, 4th Grade: Ms. Eastman

5th Grade: Ms. Beasley

Congratulations to the winning classes and thank you all again for your generous donations. Way to go Hillside Huskies!