

Social Responsibility and Community Service

Hilldale School offers a rigorous, well-rounded academic curriculum that includes all of the essential subject areas like Reading and Writing, Language Arts, Math, Science, and Social Studies. Spanish, Music, Art, Geography, Computer Education, and Physical Education are also taught in order to provide our students with a broad education superior to the norm. In addition, Hilldale is working to supplement this comprehensive curriculum by integrating four core themes into our daily program: Character education (“Ethics”), world citizenship, environmental stewardship, and community service.

During the past decade, many high schools and some private middle schools across the United States have made community service hours mandatory in order to graduate from high school. The Hilldale School is one of the few elementary schools which actually has the students participate in community service and which stresses social responsibility.

Last year, the Hilldale students, teachers, and parents participated in a wide array of activities to help others: The National “Make a Difference Day” took place October 21, 2004. Our upper school students, parents, several teachers, and the principal spent two days cleaning up an overgrown public green strip across from the upper campus. They removed the trash, cut back the weeds, removed dead trees, and pruned trees and shrubs. They then kept the area clean by picking up the litter each week. This was a wonderful project for which Hilldale was recognized in a local newspaper. Other students and parents joined the downtown “Make a Difference Day” campaign to do projects in town, and many volunteered their time to spruce up the Hilldale campus before gathering to celebrate their accomplishments over a cook-out. Everyone learned to appreciate that, even in our own neighborhoods, there are things which we can each do to improve our world and “make a difference.” This event will take place each year in October...