

Our Parent Community

Children are the most important thing in their parents' lives, and conversely, parents are the most important thing in their children's lives. The relationship that they have is fostered over years of nurturing care and home "education." They entrust these tender souls into the hands of a school in the hope that teachers and administrators can partner with them in the development of well-educated minds, healthy bodies, socially responsible inclinations, and generally happy outlooks on life.

Hilldale School accepts this as a daily goal: To give "our" children the best training in all of these areas. Our teachers are trained and reminded of how important it is to deliver a quality education, to delve into the yearly topics in as much depth and breadth as time permits, to utilize methods which foster creativity and critical thinking, and to be alert to problems which a child may be experiencing. They are asked to watch for both weaknesses and strengths, in the hope that we can strengthen their areas of challenge and celebrate and provide an outlet for their areas of strength. The children, in turn, are asked to give their personal best effort in all that they do. Indeed, the school motto, "Rising to the Challenge," is chanted loudly on the playground every day and is taken as a serious guideline throughout the day.

Coming from many different backgrounds and ethnic groups, our parent community is strong and supportive. All share a concern about the academics of their children, as well as generally common goals and values. They are willing to do what it takes to give their children the best education and school environment they can. While it is not required, many parents choose to help out with field trips and special events, treats for class parties and teacher appreciation events, as room parents and general assistants, for fundraising, and for recruitment. Parents gather to talk at the pick up area and in Parent Association meetings, sharing their thoughts and feelings and quickly developing a close-knit bond. The home-like setting of the school fosters this family-like feeling, and in turn encourages further openness and cohesiveness among our parents, teachers, and students. Parents partner with the teachers to make sure that the children do what they need to do at home and at school to develop into caring and successful citizens.

This is a very special place, and we are all ever so thankful to have found it!

May we always preserve these bonds...