



# From Dr. Madden's Desk to Your Home

September 2023

## September Newsletter

### Dear Hillside Families,

Thank you so much for a wonderful opening to the 2023-2024 school year. The Year of Determination is off and running with the students adjusting to the school wide rules and their classroom procedures. It was great to see so many parents/guardians at Back to School Night last week. One of my favorite things to do is to share the school with you. It is such a special place where your children spend so much of their time. As a parent myself, this is important to me too!



We are celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month by recognizing famous Hispanic individuals who have greatly impacted our world. Our entire school is also coming together to ratify our school wide rules this week. This is known as our School Wide Constitution. This is another favorite event at Hillside! Our fourth graders will be participating in a Leadership Summit later this week where they will self select their leadership role for this year. I cannot wait to get these roles off the ground. These fourth graders really do help me lead the school! Finally on Friday, we will conclude with the MTL Fire Department visiting our Grades 1-4 for a Fire Prevention Assembly and a Fire Truck visit for our Kindergarten students.

There will be lots and lots of pictures posted on school media so be sure to follow Dr. Madden on Twitter and Facebook to get an inside look at what is happening "On the Hill." Click

[here](#) to connect with Dr. Madden.

A few reminders for our Families:

### **Parent Pick Up Form**

I appreciate all of the parents/guardians who are filling out the parent pick up form on a daily basis so that we know how your child is being dismissed. We have over 400 students at Hillside and dismissal time is an important part of our day because we have to be sure the students get to where they need to go safely. You do not need to fill out the parent pick up form if your child is attending EDC.

### **Parking**

Please do not park in front of the main office. If you are bringing your child to school or picking up early, please park on the side of the building and walk up to the front door. Thank you!

### **Labeling Personal Items**

When in doubt, label everything! Please be sure everything that your child has is labeled. Some examples include: Lunchboxes, water bottles, jackets, book bags, etc...Thank you!

I am looking forward to much more to come this year. As always, please reach out if you have any questions/concerns.

One determined principal,  
Dr. Madden

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## Click Here to Get to Know Dr. Madden



### **Back to School Night**

Thank you to the many parents/guardians for making Hillside's Back to School Night a HUGE success. We appreciate your partnership in your child's education.



### **Determination Badges**

What is a **Determination Badge** and what happens if my child receives one? Every Friday, Hillside students are recognized for bringing their determination to Hillside by being a determined friend, determined to make good

choices, and determined to help out around the school. Basically going above and beyond to make Hillside a better place to learn is how one earns one of these special badges. This fourth grader assists Dr. Madden in handing these out. Here he is handing one to Mrs. Black. She was honored by a student this week for being determined to take great care of our students!

## Mrs. Marcantonio's and Mrs. Mortimer's Counselor Corner

Welcome Back! We hope you and your family had a fun and relaxing summer! We are excited for the upcoming school year.

As school counselors we wear many hats, but one of our major goals is to support every child every day. If you have any concerns about your child or notice they are having a difficult time, please do not hesitate to reach out to one of us. As part of our role we go into classrooms and teach Character Education lessons, run lunch bunch groups to help students strengthen certain social emotional skills, meet with students individually on a short term basis, and can assist in helping with longer term support. Please do not hesitate to reach out to us at any time.



## Mrs. Sonnie's Mathemagic Memo

K-5 SAVVAS Investigations Resources



### [Math Words and Ideas](#)

- No sign-in is required when using this link.
- You will find GREAT short videos/mini-lessons that help support the math concepts we are doing in school.

### [Investigations Games](#)

- No sign-in is required when using this link.

### [Investigations Digital Math Tools](#)

- No sign-in is required when using this link.

### [Bounce Pages](#)

- Families and students can scan a homework page with their phones, iPads, or PC cameras. The program will search for support (Math Words & Ideas videos, games, etc.) to match that assignment and help families and students.

### [SAVVAS Realize Parent Corner](#)

- This site helps families and students sign in and find assignments and grades.
- [Family Flyer \(English and Spanish\)](#)

## Mrs. Gualtieri's Literacy Loves



Welcome to the 2023-2024 School Year. I am so excited to join the Hillside Family as the new Reading Specialist.



Here are some great resources:

[Sora](#)- Browse a large collection of Ebooks and Audiobooks. Sign in with your MTL Google username and password.

### **Mrs. Black's Nurse's Nook**

Please reach out to Mrs. Black regarding medication/paperwork at [mblack@mtlaurelschools.org](mailto:mblack@mtlaurelschools.org)



**Briean Madden**

Briean is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters

