



August 2020

## Upcoming Key Dates



[8/31/2020](#)

First day of school!

[9/7/2020](#)

No School

[9/8/2020](#)

First day of kindergarten!

[9/10/2020](#)

Grades 1-4 Curriculum Nights will be video presentations posted on Schoology

K Curriculum Night video was sent to parents on 8/27

[9/28/2020](#)

No school

## Welcome Back!

The Hillside PTO is excited to welcome you to the 2020-2021 school year. We recognize this year will be unlike any other. As a result, our goal is to provide the Hillside community with information and resources that will keep us and our children connected regardless of the learning option that is selected by each family this year.

The Hillside Elementary Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) is a volunteer-run group committed to enhancing the school experience of the students and families in the Hillside Elementary School community. Our 2020-2021 Board members are listed below. We do have some [open positions](#) available for the school year if you would like to join.

Thank you for your on-going commitment to Hillside. We look forward to a unique but great year!

### Stay Connected

This year, staying connected will be even more important than before. The PTO has a number of forums to do so:

- The **Hillside PTO website** (Note: to volunteer for any future events or activities, you will need to [register](#) for an account on the site)
- The **Hillside PTO Facebook page** (*Hillside Elementary School PTO*)
- The weekly **Highlights email** sent each Sunday ([sign up here!](#))

We leverage email blasts and Instagram ([@hillsidegiraffes](#)) on an as-needed basis. Additionally, the Hillside directory will be online this year and will be made available at no charge to all families. More details will be provided shortly.

Outside of the PTO, we have a number of fantastic parents who have also set up grade-level Facebook groups. These are great

places to share and discuss information relevant to your child(ren)'s class. The groups are generally named by year with *Hillside Elementary 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Families – T/E Class of 2031* as an example.

### Events and Programming

As expected, many of the typical events are not being scheduled at this time, including cultural arts assemblies. We will, however, communicate any new virtual events through the PTO website and the Highlights email mentioned above. Our PTO Board will continue to evaluate options and post information about each event as the year unfolds.

### Fundraising

Fundraising for the school is a critical piece of the PTO mission. With the PTO social events that are generally used to raise money on hold, we appreciate all donations made through our Friends of Hillside campaign. You can make a tax deductible donation [here](#). These funds directly support the on-going PTO programs for our Hillside students. We also give donations at the end of each school year to a number of organizations that support our community including ARCH, BUILD, Dental Clinic, FLITE, T&E Care and the Berwyn Fire Company.

Any updates on the giving projects that we have historically held, such as food and clothing drives, will be communicated as we continue to navigate our current environment.

In the meantime, we still are collecting **Box Tops**! To date, the PTO has received nearly \$7,000 through this program. This program has moved online – please download the Box Tops app on your smartphone and start scanning receipts today.

You can also contribute to the Hillside PTO by leveraging the [AmazonSmile program](#). Choose Hillside Elementary PTO as your charity and Amazon will donate 0.5% of your eligible purchases to the PTO!



## 2020-2021 PTO Meetings\*



*All meetings take place on Tuesdays and are open to all!*

09/01/2020 – 9:45 a.m.

10/06/2020 – 6:30 p.m.

11/10/2020 – 9:45 a.m.

01/05/2021 – 6:30 p.m.

02/02/2021 – 9:45 a.m.

03/02/2021 – 6:30 p.m.

04/06/2021 – 9:45 a.m.

05/04/2021 – 6:30 p.m.

*\*Note all meetings will be held virtually.*

## 2020-2021 PTO Board

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President: [Kate Miller](#)

Vice President: [Tracy Fauls](#)

Treasurer: [Jacqui Cosgrove](#)

Assistant Treasurer: [Emily Phelan](#)

Secretary: [Stephanie Costabile](#)

VP Cultural Arts: [Janet Malin](#)

VP Fundraising: [Krishna Patel](#)

VP School Services: [Jami Barnett-Gallagher](#)

VP Communications: [Molly Bogan](#) (out-going); Shannon Murtaugh (in-coming)

VP Social Programming: OPEN (please visit the [PTO volunteer page](#) if interested)

Endowment Fund Treasurer: OPEN (please visit the [PTO volunteer page](#) if interested)

Endowment Fund Board: OPEN (please visit the [PTO volunteer page](#) if interested)

**The Hillside Elementary PTO is a non-profit organization of parents and/or District personnel formally recognized by the Tredyffrin/Easttown School District. The Tredyffrin/Easttown School District has not released your name, address or e-mail address to us, unless previously authorized by you.**