



# Hillside Traditional Academy

## NEWSLETTER



January 12 2021 | Issue 4

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### MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL



Dear Parents and Guardians:

Welcome back HTA families! I hope that everyone had a restful winter break. The staff at HTA are ready to jump into the new year with students. I know that students will be eager to visit with their classmates. We must remember that we are still following Covid restrictions and policies. Students will continue to interact only with their learning groups and cohorts. Frequent handwashing/sanitizing is expected and the wearing of masks is encouraged.



VectorStock

Please remember that students should bring a packed lunch from home. Please do not drop off take-out food at the office.

We all look forward to the day the Covid restrictions and policies are lifted and parents can support our school community from inside the building and students can engage in athletic activities with their peers at other MPSD schools.



### Kindergarten Registration

We have a total of 60 spots for Kindergarten students for the 2021/22 school year. Registrations for siblings of HTA students (those that will be attending the 2021/22 school year) ran from December 2 to December 17, 2020. We will be registering students off of the Kindergarten Registration Waitlist in the coming weeks.



### Foundation Skills Assessments—FSAs

The Foundation Skills Assessment is an annual province-wide assessment of all B.C. students' academic skills in grades 4 and 7, and provides parents, teachers, schools, school districts and the Ministry of Education with important information on how well students are progressing in the foundation skills of Reading, Writing, and Numeracy.

This year's assessments will take place on February 12 — March 26, 2021.





HUMAN  
EARLY LEARNING  
PARTNERSHIP



The Middle Years Development Instrument (MDI) is coming to your school in January/February!

Mission School District has partnered with the Human Early Learning Partnership (HELP) at the University of British Columbia to measure and promote children’s social and emotional development, health, well-being, and assets through the Middle Year Development Instrument (MDI). The Middle Years Development Instrument (MDI) is a self-report questionnaire that asks children in middle childhood about their thoughts, feelings and experiences. The MDI is the first survey of its kind to gather information about the lives of children both in school, in the home and in the community, from their own perspective. The survey questions align with the BC Ministry of Education’s K-12 curriculum, which includes a focus on promoting children’s personal and social competencies.

Grade 5 and 8 students are invited to complete the MDI during class time between:

January 11th and March 5th, 2021.

For more information and to view the questionnaires:

<http://earlylearning.ubc.ca/mdi/>

Parent FAQs:

<http://earlylearning.ubc.ca/mdi/parent-guardian-resources/>

## Message From Our PAC

Hillside Parent Advisory Council is a volunteer organization comprised of parents and guardians who are all dedicated to the successful education of our children. Everything we do is based on volunteers and we are always looking for those of you to help make a difference. Many hands make the job easier!

PAC is a wonderful way to network and connect with other parents at our school. Joining a PAC meeting gives you the opportunity to find out what's happening and to be a part of the discussion. The PAC meet monthly throughout the school year to discuss a wide variety of matters including upcoming school activities, events, school improvements, and fundraising.

All your consideration and participation in our children's school is incredibly appreciated no matter how small or hands on. We are all in this together!

Please consider joining us for our next PAC meeting that is scheduled for Tuesday January 19th at 7:00pm via zoom. Zoom meeting ID and password will be sent out the day before the meeting!

If you have any questions or suggestions and ideas for the rest of the school year and are not able to join the meeting you can email the PAC at any time.

hillsidepac@gmail.com





**BLACK  
SHIRT  
DAY**



## **BLACK SHIRT DAY**

**On January 15th, wear a black shirt to  
show your support against racism and  
racial injustice.**

**HELP FOSTER SOLIDARITY AGAINST ALL FORMS OF RACISM AND  
HATE. POST YOUR BLACK SHIRT PHOTOS ON SOCIAL MEDIA  
USING #BLACKSHIRTDAY #SD75**

## Formal Uniform Day—January 14, 2021



The dress code at Hillside Traditional Academy was established to:

- ◇ Develop a strong school focus and pride
- ◇ Give student a sense of belonging to a unique school
- ◇ Discourage competition based on clothing

It is important that we all support the requirement of the Hillside Traditional Academy uniform guidelines.

**WHITE SHIRT** - White golf/polo shirt, , white dress shirt or blouse with collar

**CRESTED POLO** – Royal Blue crested polo with collar

**CRESTED OVERLAY** - Royal Blue crested pullover/cardigan style sweater or Vest

**PANTS** – Uniform - Dark Navy dress pants

**SHORTS** – Uniform - Dark Navy flat front – Mid Thigh/Knee Length

**SKORT** – Uniform - Dark navy skort – knee length

**JUMPER** – Uniform- Dark Navy Jumper – knee length

**SHOES** – All black or can have up to 10% color.

**SOCKS/TIGHTS** – Solid Colours, Black, White, Navy or Royal Blue. Tights. (Leggings must be ankle length with corresponding socks.

**ACCESSORIES** – Hair, Jewelry etc should follow the school colours and not be distracting to the other students in the classroom

*Our students are ambassadors for Hillside Traditional Academy in the community; well-groomed students who wear well maintained uniforms create a positive image. We believe that the responsibility for maintaining the dress code rests with the parents and students together.*

*Thank you for your efforts and support in ensuring our students follow the dress code.*



## **Congratulations to Sean V. in Mrs. Spicer's class for her efforts in the Legion Branch # 57 Mission Remembrance Day Contest!**

**Sean won an award in 3 categories:**

- \* **Poetry**
- \* **Literary**
- \* **Poster**

**Sean was awarded a \$50.00 gift card. She placed second in the Zone 2 competition and received \$15.00 in the Junior Poster and \$10.00 in the Junior Poem categories.**

**Way to go Sean!**

**We are very proud of you!**

  
**LEGION**

### Why war?

Why was there war when there could be peace  
There could be hope and victory  
And even in between  
When there was war  
Soldiers hoped that they would survive  
Thousands of people and soldiers got killed  
And thousands of people starved to death in the war  
when there was war  
there were bombs and shells  
And blood everywhere on the ground  
Tears on peoples faces when they found out that there loved one was dead  
When there was war  
You could hear gunfire from the hills  
Childhood was the most wonderful time of your life  
But the war took it away from children at that time  
When there was war  
There was no basic food or any of the other things a person needs  
When you looked through a broken window  
You could see a park  
But it's empty, no children, no joy  
when there was war  
there is no basic food or any of the other things a person needs  
At times of the war  
The water and electricity could be gone for days or even weeks  
The war was brutal, wicked, and cruel  
Peace, love, hope, and victory was more powerful than war  
With no war children can play in peace  
And have no fear of bombs and falling shells  
With no war people can spend a peaceful time with there family and friends  
With no war there was a smile on everyone's face  
Because there are no more deaths, bombs, shells, and especially no more fear



*Mark it on your calendar now!*

*School District 75 and the District Parents  
Advisory Council (SD75 DPAC) present*

## FAMILY MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLNESS FORUM

*Thursday, January 28th at 7pm via ZOOM*

- *selfcare tips for wellness and mindfulness*
- *strategies for dealing with stress, anxiety and depression*
- *emotional regulation*
- *resources for students and family members to help support them during these unprecedented times*

*[www.dpacsd75.com](http://www.dpacsd75.com) for more info*





**Mission Public Schools supports and encourages the wearing of masks. 😊**

Please help our schools to stay safe. We are encouraging everyone who can to wear a mask. Masks can be part of the measures we all take to slow the spread of Covid-19; every individual that wears a mask helps decrease the likelihood of transmission and thus reduces the possibility of an outbreak in one of our schools.



Please wear a mask when indoors and when you cannot maintain physical distancing from others. Masks can help us keep each other safe in a variety of settings.

Questions? Please contact [angus.wilson@mpsd.ca](mailto:angus.wilson@mpsd.ca)

### Upcoming Important Dates

January 14, 2021	Uniform Inspection Day
January 15, 2021	Black Shirt Day
January 28, 2021	Family Mental Health and Wellness Forum
February 10, 2021	Indigenous Cultural Day
February 12, 2021	Professional Development Day (NID)
February 15, 2021	Family Day (NID)
February 24, 2021	Pink Shirt Day
February 26, 2021	Half Day—Students dismissed at 11:00
March 12, 2021	Non-Instructional Day
March 15 - 26 , 2021	Spring Break - Schools Closed
March 29, 2021	Schools Re-Open

