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| **Hillsdale High School** **Foundation eNewsletter** | **April 2016** |

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| ﻿﻿The MISSION of the Hillsdale High School Foundation is to fund the shortfall between what the school district gives our school and what our students need to thrive and succeed. |

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| **Quick Links**[**Our Website**](http://www.hillsdalehsfoundation.org)[**Meet Our Board**](http://hillsdalehsfoundation.org/who-we-are/)[**Donate Now**](https://app.etapestry.com/cart/HillsdaleFoundation/default/index.php)**Contact Us** |

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|     http://content.delivra.com/etapcontent/HillsdaleFoundation/Alumni/images/HHS%20HOF%20Logo.png**Students, Parents Faculty and Alumni are all Invited to Please join us for the Second Annual Hillsdale High School Hall of Fame Event.** **Date & Place**:  April 23, 2016 - Hillsdale High                          School Auditorium **Time**:               5:00 – 6:00 PM Reception with                        Hors D’oeuvres and Beverages                        6:00 – 7:15 PM Induction                        Ceremony in Auditorium **Cost**:                The reception and induction                        ceremony are free of charge.                        However, a donation of$10/adult                        and $5/student is appreciated to                        help cover expenses. There will also be a **Hall of Fame Banquet** with no host bar at the Van’s Restaurant in Belmont from 8 – 10 PM. All are invited to attend, but please register early, as space is limited. The fixed price for dinner is $47 per person. ***Inductees:*** John Hazelhurst (HHS '78), Valerie Fleming (HHS '94), Karen Kraft (HHS '87), Nick Vanos (HHS '81), Bill Watkin (HHS '64- '03) **For more information and to register, click here to go to the** [Alumni website,](http://hillsdalehsalumni.org/)  |

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| **Your Foundation dollars** **at work- The importance** **of staff collaboration** **http://content.delivra.com/etapcontent/HillsdaleFoundation/Alumni/images/Gilbert.jpg** Harvard education professor Roland Barth wrote, “The relationship among adults in schools is the basis, the precondition, the sine qua non that allows, energizes and sustains all other attempts at school improvement. Unless adults talk with one another, observe one another, and help one another, very little will change.” Barth’s quote speaks to the great challenge in public education…how do we create sustainable change in an environment that never pauses? Hillsdale heavily invests in our teachers and staff to ensure they have the time and space to develop collaborative working relationships and create the school you know. By ensuring cross team opportunities that strengthen professional relationships during school hours, scheduling release days to grade and consult, or ensuring paid time during the summer – our students benefit but it comes with a price.  One of the Foundation’s greatest gifts is providing the funds that ensure our teachers have opportunities to improve their craft and the culture of Hillsdale. To all of the families that have given so generously to our school: Thank you!  **Jeff Gilbert, Lead Principal** |

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| **What Your Donations Are Fundinghttp://content.delivra.com/etapcontent/HillsdaleFoundation/Piechart-color.jpg**   |

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| http://content.delivra.com/etapcontent/HillsdaleFoundation/HHSF%20Logo%201.jpg  **Join the HHSF Board** The Hillsdale High School Foundation is seeking new board members to fill a variety of roles, including communications and outreach, accounting, and database management. Please [click here](http://hillsdalehsfoundation.org/wp-content/uploads/HHSF-Bd-App-2.20.15.pdf) if you are interested in joining a dynamic group that works to raise funds to sustain Hillsdale High School's academic excellence. Board positions are two-year terms and require monthly board meeting attendance and participation on board committees. Please click here to contact Lucy Lee for more information or to answer questions. |

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| Let's Hear from the Boosters **DRAMA** **UPCOMING EVENTS**: **WITH GREAT POWER**, an original musical about superheroes forced out of retirement was created by our own very seniors, Alara Magritte Slonaker and Daniel Rosen. These two rockstars have written the music, lyrics, book and have directed, choreographed and designed this entire production. Performances are April 14th and 15th at 7pm in Hillsdale's Little Theatre. Click here to b[uy your tickets today!](http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/2527252) http://content.delivra.com/etapcontent/HillsdaleFoundation/Drama-WGP%20graphic.jpg  **HILLSDALE IMPROV THEATRE (H.I.T.) Squad** end of the year show, May 6th and 7th at 7pm in Hillsdale’s Little Theatre. Tickets sold at the door. http://content.delivra.com/etapcontent/HillsdaleFoundation/HITsquad.jpg  |

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| **DANCE** Director/Choreographer, Sabrina Braccini, in collaboration with guest choreographers Emily Borja, Sean Carino, and Allan Frias present Knight Moves XVIII.In its eighteenth year, Knight Moves is a MUST SEE Dance Concert by the Hillsdale High School Dance Ensemble performing modern, lyrical, jazz, and hip ﻿hop genres providing our audiences with an unforgettable experience.  http://content.delivra.com/etapcontent/HillsdaleFoundation/KMXVII-postcardPOSTER.jpg This production SELLS OUT, purchase your seats now! DON'T MISS THE OPPORTUNITY TO ENJOY THIS EXTRAORDINARY SHOW!!April 28th, 29th, & 30th at 7:30 pm in HHS Auditorium.Friday April 29th ticket holders will enjoy a complimentary reception beginning at 6:30 PM. Tickets: $15 general, $10 student/senior            (under 6 is free) Ticket can be purchased at [www.brownpapertickets.com/event/2521558](http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/2521558) |

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| **PTSO NEWS** **SUPPORTING HHS TEACHERS & STAFF**  Did you know that in addition to supporting events such as junior interview & career day and providing testing snacks, the **PTSO Hospitality Team** provides breakfast (or lunch) at least once a month for the HHS teachers & staff.  Just this semester, this amazing team of 109 parent volunteers, led by Cassy Fuentes and Stacy Plackowski, provided a Welcome Back breakfast in January, a Heart Healthy breakfast for Valentines Day in February & an amazing breakfast spread in March.  Many thanks to all who contribute. **OUTSTANDING SERVICE AWARD**Each year, the PTSO sponsors an event to recognize teachers, staff, parents, and community members who have demonstrated Outstanding Service to the Hillsdale Community.  In a heartfelt evening on March 22nd, the following individuals were recognized for their efforts, Rebecca Bucher, Laura Burtness, Ed Canda, Karl Lindgren-Streicher, Dean Nelson, Kathleen Odell, and Simone Vanos.  These eight names have been added to the Outstanding Service Awards plaque, along with the names of all previous recipients since 1960.  The plaque is now displayed in the Hall of Fame, so check it out! **UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENT**On Friday, April 29th, in support of the amazing Dance Ensemble **Knight Moves** production, the PTSO will be sponsoring a free, community wide event, with yummy food and beverages.  Please join us for a bite to eat and to mingle with other Hillsdale families before this amazing production. **Finding The Right College Fit**:  **A conversation with Maria Furtado, Executive Director Colleges That Change Lives.**The PTSO has teamed up with the Career Center to host an important parent & student program on May 9th, 7pm in HHS Main Auditorium.  This is open to all parents and students throughout the district.  Plan to attend and invite your friends!  |

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| Company Match  **DON'T FORGET YOUR COMPANY MATCH!** Double your donation dollars!  Thank you to all Hillsdale Families who have pursued Employee Company Matches. Last year,  company matches represented an additional $25,000. Let's work to exceed that this year.  If you need any assistance in completing your match request please contact matchinggifts@hillsdalehsfoundation.org. Corporate Matches to Date    AppleColgate-PalmoliveFranklin TempletonGapGenentechGilead SciencesHome DepotLabCorp McKesson  Oracle PG&EPfizerRobert Half Schneider Electric North AmericaTE ConnectivityTPG GlobalTravelersVisa Inc.  WalmartThe Walt Disney CompanyWorkday  |

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| **Funding Focus:****School Safety Advocate**  Your contributions support the crucial position of http://content.delivra.com/etapcontent/HillsdaleFoundation/Houlton.pngSchool Safety Advocate.  Jessica Thomas (Houlton) explains what she does and why the position is invaluable to our high school.  As the Hillsdale School Safety Advocate (SSA), I provide on-campus crisis intervention and risk assessment, mediation, and mental health support to improve students' social-emotional well-being. I work with school staff to identify youth in need of emotional support, conduct mental health and safety assessments, and make referrals for therapeutic services on-campus and in the community depending on the needs of each individual. I also run and organize social-emotional support groups on campus. I am a Marriage and Family Therapist Intern and hold a master’s degree in Counseling Psychology. My primary role is to help students feel emotionally and physically safe. I offer a safe and supportive environment for students to come to express emotions, feel heard and understood, process and resolve social and emotional problems, and learn and practice communication and coping skills. Students come to the SSA office for a variety of reasons, ranging from minor difficulties to crises. I work with students who struggle with issues such as anxiety, depression, self-esteem, self-harm, identity, substance abuse, grief/loss, transitions, family stress, relationships, and peer conflict/bullying. Some students are self-referred while others are referred by a concerned peer, parent, or school staff member. I frequently work with parents as well to alert them of safety concerns, inform them of resources, or to coordinate care at school and at home. Because my primary role involves safety and I need to be available to the entire school, I assess students and refer out for ongoing care. The feedback I have received is that having an SSA is invaluable—for students, teachers, and parents. Students tell me it feels good to vent, to feel heard, and get connected with a support system that can help them through difficult times. Teachers have more time to teach because they can send a student to the counseling center to address deeper emotional issues they can’t address during class. It is common for parents to be shut out from their teen, not able to reach them or know how they are really feeling. Sometimes teens will speak to adults that are not their parents about what they are going through. I have found teens respond well to the environment of trust, safety, non-judgment and caring our counseling center provides. Parents have reported feeling more at ease knowing their teen is being supported by a team of adults at school who pay attention and know what is going on. Overall, I thoroughly enjoy my job because of the personal connection I have with the students and the opportunity to help with their personal growth.  |

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| ***Knights Give******http://content.delivra.com/etapcontent/HillsdaleFoundation/BlueBanner%203.jpg***  On Monday, April 25, 2016, Hillsdale High School Foundation will launch its own week-long ***Knights Give*** campaign in lieu of sharing its donations with the Silicon Valley Gives, a social media fundraising day for local nonprofits. Each day of the week you will hear from our boosters, teachers and administrators about the amazing things happening here at Hillsdale and likely some things you never knew! We will keep you posted on how you can help HHSF raise money, meet our generous challenge grant from Alumni and promote awareness through your social media network!  |

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| **http://content.delivra.com/etapcontent/HillsdaleFoundation/Alumni/images/Abbott%20Scholar.jpg****Mike Abbott and Coach Dick Vermeil, 1962** Dear Hillsdale Community, This past year we lost a well loved and respected alumni, Mike Abbott '62. Hillsdale alumni warmly remember Mike in many ways. A great example is his very moving tribute to Dick Vermeil when Dick was inducted into the Hillsdale Hall of Fame last spring. At Hillsdale High School, Mike was a gifted scholar-athlete, earning an academic scholarship to Stanford.  In 1961 the San Mateo Times quoted then Coach Dick Vermeil who “credited the fine performance of his unbeaten Knights to the fact that several of his first-string gridders, including end, Mike Abbott, are also first-string scholars, near the straight ‘A’ mark in their classroom work.”   The continued link between academic and athletic success and Coach Vermeil’s continued friendship with Mike gives us this unique opportunity to honor his memory. Hillsdale High School remains committed to supporting its student-athletes.  Our After School Learning Center (ASLC) is a critical piece of the school’s support network, providing many students with adult and peer tutors and a welcoming place for study after school. Athletic teams utilize the ASLC for tutoring and studying throughout the school year, ensuring our athletes are also successful students. In these challenging times, all students with an academic need are welcomed at the Center and receive support. School Counselor Ed Canda reports students at the ASLC benefit in many ways and receive: a healthy snack, support from two bilingual paid student tutors, access to computers and educational software, and advice regarding career and college from on-site counselors. A lead adult tutor monitors student attendance, collaborates with parents, teachers and coaches on student progress, organizes educational field trips, and coordinates volunteers and guest speakers.  Ed says with more funding, the ASLC could offer additional tutoring, incentives for attendance, and an intramural sports program. Coach Vermeil has generously donated $5,000 towards funding the ASLC in hopes that it will inspire others to contribute toward the $22,000 required to keep the doors open. We are hopeful that the Foundation's annual fund can fill this gap for this year and coming years. Specific donations to this Center are gratefully accepted. The ASLC, School Safety Advocate, and Professional development all profiled in this newsletter are just a few examples of what our community - Hillsdale families, teachers and staff, alumni, and friends - can directly impact if we continue to work together. WE are making BIG THINGS happen here at Hillsdale for our students. Sincerely,Jennifer RussellHHSF Executive Director  *http://content.delivra.com/etapcontent/HillsdaleFoundation/HHS%20newsletter%20banner%20-%20hillsdalehsfoundation.org.png*http://content.delivra.com/etapcontent/HillsdaleFoundation/PB062097.JPG  |

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| **Freshmen Parent Coffees** The HHSF will be hosting its third annual "Welcome Freshman Parent Coffees" in the cafeteria **June 7th and 9th**. In these one-hour sessions, we introduce parents to the school and answer any questions they may have about Small Learning Communities and their students' transition to high school.  Current parents, teachers, administrators, students and recent alumni lead the discussion groups.  Parents are also introduced to the Foundation and its fundraising mission as well as school-wide volunteer opportunities.   If you would like to share your experiences with the incoming Freshman parents, please click here to contact Jennifer Russell. |

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| **http://content.delivra.com/etapcontent/HillsdaleFoundation/New%20HHS%20athletic%20logo.jpg  ATHLETICS** This was an amazing year for the Athletics Boosters. The team worked this year to push the programs forward while respecting the many accomplishments of the past.   With our fundraising efforts, as well as the $9,000 grant from the foundation, we were able to support the following areas that the district does not support: * Freshman Sports (Football, Volleyball, Basketball, Baseball, Volleyball, Swimming)
* JV Golf Team
* Varsity Assistant Coaching Stipends
* JV Assistant Coaching Stipends
* Strength and Conditioning Trainer
* Coaching Legacy Workshops for parents, player and coaches
* Tony Cecil Athletic Award
* BAOSN
* Weight Room Equipment (Speed & Endurance)
* Music Program stipend for Basketball Games
* Baseball Tarp

 These program areas would not exist without the support from all of our parents and volunteers. Thank you for all your support. Save the date for our annual **Golf tournament on October 16, 2016** at Crystal Springs Golf Course.  |

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| **MUSIC****Jim Yowell, Director of Choirs and Orchestras**, shared this: A trio of students, Joseph Noh, Jamie Ip, and Victor Lin, performed at the recent CMEA Solo/Ensemble Festival held at San Jose State University and were awarded the rating of Superior for their performance, which qualifies them to perform at the State Level Solo/Ensemble Festival in Sacramento. They will perform on Friday, May 6th in the evening hours. Both the Chamber Singers and the Chamber String Orchestra will perform at the up-coming CMEA Festivals. The Chamber Singers will perform on May 7th at Aragon High School at  2:55 PM and the Chamber String Orchestra will perform at Mills High School on May 13th at 9:00 AM. The Alexander String Quartet will perform April 21st for the Chamber String Orchestra and Wind Ensemble students in an informal performance setting at 7:45 AM in Room 501 in the Music Building. In-coming 9th grade students wishing to audition for the Chamber String Orchestra or the Chamber Singers can do so on Saturday April 30th from 9:00 AM-12:00 PM in room 501 in the Music Building.  Audition materials can be obtained by contacting Mr. Yowell in the Music Department.  **Kevin Gallagher, Director of Bands**, shared this: Three members of the Hillsdale High School band program, Lior Kreindler, Karinna Chong, and Sean Canizzaro, who are in a well known brass quintet named "Scarlet Brass", performed at the CMEA Solo/Ensemble Festival held at Skyline College and were awarded "Command Performance".  This is the top rating students can receive at festival, and they are now qualified to perform at the State level in Sacramento! Speaking of some of our stellar students, one of our other band members, Henry Smolen, just received acceptance to what is arguably the top music school in the world - Julliard!  Henry has been playing professionally as a pianist since he was a young boy and is considered to be one of the best pianists in the Western Hemisphere! Our very own HHS Wind Ensemble will be attending UC Berkeley to work with their leading band director, Bob Calonico.  They will be conducted and rehearsed in the UC Berkeley band room and will work with Bob, one of the best directors in the Bay Area. Auditions for the HHS Wind Ensemble and Jazz Ensemble for incoming freshmen are fast approaching!  On Saturday May 14th, any and all incoming freshman will be able to audition for the leading ensembles in the area. Please contact Mr. Gallagher for more details. Thanks to independent donations, the Music Boosters were able to commission Anica Galindo, an up and coming San Mateo composer, to write a composition for the Hillsdale Wind Ensemble. Her piece, entitled "Vigil", will have its world premier at this spring's Band and Orchestra concert, on May 20th at 7:00 PM in the HHS Auditorium. Congratulations, Anica!   |

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| **Recognition Gifts** As the school year comes to a close, consider honoring a teacher, staff member, or your student with a tribute gift, theater seat plaque or walkway brick in his or her name. [Click here](https://app.etapestry.com/cart/HillsdaleFoundation/cart4/index.php) to order. http://content.delivra.com/etapcontent/HillsdaleFoundation/Dew%20Family%20theather%20seat%20plaque.jpgMarcella and Joe Dew  were honored to buy Theater Seat Plaques for their children, Diego '15 & Sophia '18, to commemorate their family's participation in HHS performances. |

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| **To Our Donors . .**Thank you**We are grateful for your contributions.**  |

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| Please visit our website at [www.hillsdalehsfoundation.org](http://www.hillsdalehsfoundation.org)Hillsdale High School Foundation is a 501(c) 3 tax exempt entity which supports academic excellence, booster groups and other activities at Hillsdale High School which make its learning environment unique. |

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