



*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 succeed.*



**Kevin McAnerney's Computer Science Class displays their skills at the Foundation's Donor Appreciation Event**

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**Tom & Helen Nixon**

**Donor Appreciation Event**

**On Friday, November 6th, 2015 we hosted a donor appreciation event prior to the drama production of RENT. It was great to meet so many current families and alumni that are part of the giving community at Hillsdale. We are hoping with your help we can grow that community this year.**

Harris Wasim, a senior, taking computer science for the first time said:

**"If it were not for your support and generous donations I would have to wait until college to take a course like this, and I plan to major in computer science, I am so excited and grateful to have this opportunity in high school!"**

**Company Matching**

Several donors have taken advantage of their company's matching policies. They are as follows:

Apple

**Foundation Funded Computer Carts**



**Jeff Gilbert speaking at Donor Event**

Each day I drive down Hillsdale Blvd and see the Oracle towers in the distance, I am reminded that we live in the most dynamic, tech-rich community in the world. Unfortunately California's funding model has not provided the resources necessary to equip our students with the technology that has been proven to boost engagement and critical thinking in the classroom. A few years ago, Hillsdale hosted a visitation by Tennessee school educators who expressed their amazement at the lack of computers in California schools. Over the past several years, our district has made progress in providing additional resources, but we still have a huge gap to fill.

The Hillsdale High School Foundation has stepped in this past year to provide funding for game-changing technology on our campus. The result of donations from both families and alumni can be seen in Room 428: 36 new lap-tops has made possible the addition of a class-section of Digital Photography and three class sections of Computer Science, a new program at Hillsdale. We are partnering with Technology Education and Literacy in Schools (TEALS) to bring this valuable opportunity to our students, and math teacher Kevin McAnerney is leading the design of the new program.

--Jeff Gilbert, Lead Principal

Electronic Arts  
Gap  
Genentech  
Google  
Home Depot  
Juniper Networks  
Kaiser Permanente  
Oracle  
Pacific Gas and Electric  
Visa

*"Directly supporting the HHS Foundation for six years and counting has been extremely fulfilling knowing the youth of tomorrow are getting the personal attention to their education they deserve. The part I like best is my employer **Home Depot** matches my gifts dollar for dollar."*

--Robert Kearns, HHS Parent

Please be sure to inquire if your company offers any matching possibilities.



Kevin McAnerney with his student Joshua Romulo

Thanks to the Foundation's support over 100 students are taking "Principles of Computer Science" in our inaugural year! In addition to funding the computers, the Foundation helped recruit three volunteers from the Hillsdale community to co-teach the course: Jon Neil, Christopher Hogan and Jonathan McEvoy. They bring industry expertise from Invidia, Google and the gaming industry into the classroom to help our students learn to code and be exposed to many facets of the Computer Science Industry.

The class is based upon the course "The Beauty and Joy of Computing" which is endorsed by the College Board and code.org and offered at U.C. Berkeley. The focus is developing sound programming practices using SNAP & Python programming languages, as well as addressing social issues around computing such as privacy, the digital divide, cryptography and much more. Students in this course will be eligible to take the Principles of Computer Science AP test, which is scheduled to be offered in 2016/17.

The goal of the program goes beyond just learning how to code. Its intent is to close the equity gap in computing, and get under-represented groups involved in the field. Expanding the program in the future could incorporate offering an AP JavaScript course and teacher training on how to incorporate coding into all our classes.

But what is really exciting about creating an expansive Computer Science program at Hillsdale is the potential to incorporate computer science principles and skills in all our courses. Imagine a physics class where students learn to code projectile motion, math courses that teach coordinates through coding, or social science classes that analyze data using computational thinking. Further support from the foundation can help realize the development of these courses and the teacher training required to incorporate these essential 21st century skills in every classroom.

The Foundation is excited to help Hillsdale take the first step in creating an educational experience in which all students gain core computer science skills across their entire curriculum.

--Kevin McAnerney, Computer Science teacher



### The Hillsdale HS Alumni Association

is proud to be a committee of the Hillsdale HS Foundation and to have demonstrated our continuing support for today's Hillsdale students by donating \$40,500 this past year.

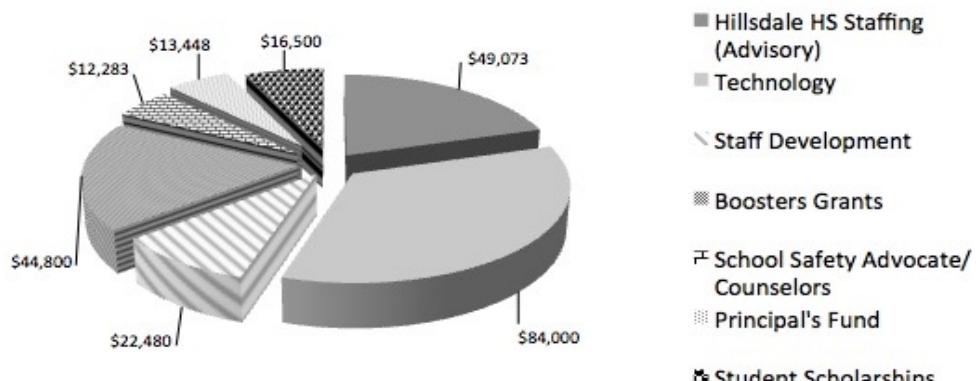
These funds were used to provide cutting edge science equipment, a classroom set of laptop computers, and scholarships to honor Homer Zugelder, Keith Gordon, and Rich Mazzoncini, three beloved Hillsdale teachers.

Our upcoming events include the **20<sup>th</sup> Annual Olde Knights' Luncheon** on December 5<sup>th</sup> and the **2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Hillsdale HS Hall of Fame Ceremony** on April 23, 2016. More information on both events can be found by visiting our [website](#). If you are a member of a Hillsdale HS class between 1957 and 1990 we hope you will join us at this year's luncheon. Register [here](#).

In addition, all current Hillsdale staff, students, and parents are invited to submit a nominee [here](#) for induction into the HHS Hall of Fame. You might also want to view the 2015 HHS Hall of Fame ceremony. View [here](#). Go Knights!

### What Your Donations Are Funding

#### HHSF Proposed Fundings in 2014-2015





Principal Jeff Gilbert presents Coach Parodi with a brick from the Class of 2015, HHS 14 - AHS 13.

Looking for the perfect way to honor a special coach, teacher, or your child? Leave a lasting impression with the purchase of an engraved brick in the field walkway or an engraved theater seat plaque. Click [HERE](#) to learn more.

## Let's Hear from the Boosters

### DRAMA

#### CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CAST & CREW OF *RENT*!

Congratulations to Hillsdale's own Drama Director, Allison Gamlen, and the entire cast and crew of *RENT* for an amazing production which took place November 5-8th! *RENT* was such an intense, mature, emotionally-charged production – and our students did a phenomenal job pulling it off! We are also excited to share with you that we partnered with the non-profit organization, One Warm Coat, and collected over 80 coats from audience members for this organization. Be sure to save the date for our spring play, *Stage Door*, coming to you March 11-13, 2016.



#### IMPROVAPALOOZA

Friday and Saturday, December 4th & 5th @ 7 P.M. Hillsdale High School's Little Theater (\$10 students/\$15 adults)

In one of the most popular shows of the year, the Improv Team members of both Hillsdale and Aragon will be joined onstage by professional adult improvisors who are alumni of both teams. In this high energy, completely improvised evening of unpredictable theatre, Act I will see the alumni/student teams from each school compete in rounds of scenes, songs and games. In Act II, the two schools will come together to create a completely spontaneous performance piece based upon the audience suggestion of a single word!



Jennifer Russell, Executive Director

Dear Hillsdale Community,

I feel like I've gotten on a fast moving train that is going to great places. I am enthusiastic to be part of the energy and excitement of Hillsdale High School and strongly believe together we can all make a real difference in the lives of our children by supporting the various needs of the school through giving to the Foundation.

Hillsdale High School is extremely effective in supporting and inspiring its students through its unique and ground breaking Small Learning Community (SLC) model. Since we hold all students to high standards, we must provide the necessary support systems for students to reach these goals. We must also provide a structure that will enable teachers to employ the best strategies and provide greater personal care for their individual students. This all costs extra money but our children are worth it! Please consider being part of the growing Hillsdale community that supports our school. We are currently about half way towards our goal of \$325,000 for this year.

A little over a year ago, we created the Hillsdale Sustainability Board, which is composed of Booster leaders, faculty, administration and HHSF board members. We are seeking to promote a greater sense of community and teamwork in communication, fundraising and fiscal responsibility to better support the Booster groups.

The HHSF board, now in its eighth year, works with parents and alumni to fund all these critical areas for the school. We are very fortunate that Brett Dyer continues his tenure as President of the Foundation with the support of a committed board. I, myself, am pleased to have joined this dedicated team as their new Executive Director in July of this year. I have over a dozen years experience in nonprofit management, consulting and fundraising. I earned my BA in History from Vassar College and my MBA from UC Davis. I have dedicated my career to serving public purpose causes and marshalling resources to institutions doing great things. My most recent position was in communications and fundraising at Stanford's Graduate School of Business.

Together with Hillsdale families, alumni, friends and community, we are already doing great things and with your help, we can continue to make BIG THINGS happen here at Hillsdale.

Sincerely,  
Jennifer Russell

### ATHLETICS

The 9th Annual Hillsdale Golf Tournament was held at the beautiful Crystal Springs Golf Course on Oct 18th 2015.

We had over 95 players including Alumni, Faculty, Coaches, Students and Friends of Hillsdale. The event raised over \$7,000 for the Athletics Department. The proceeds will be used to support the Athletics Boosters focus of 2015/2016 to fund freshman sports and coaches stipends.



From left: Brian Sena, Phil Strause, Brandon Blundell, Matthew Averill

## MUSIC

The HHS Music program under the direction of Kevin Gallagher and Jim Yowell, will have it's annual two nights of **Holiday Concerts** at the HHS Auditorium, 6:15 pm Reception, 7:00 pm Performance

**Wednesday, Dec. 9th featuring Jazz Band, The Women's Choir and the Chamber Singers**

**Thursday, Dec. 10th featuring Concert Band, Wind Ensemble, the String Orchestra and the Chamber String Orchestra**

Please join us for this fun family event to celebrate the sounds of the holidays with our talented singers and musicians!

Tickets are available at the door (\$10 adults, \$5 HS student or senior, children under HS age free)

The Music Boosters are hosting a Winter Holiday Concert Reception both nights 6:15 to 6:50 pm prior to the Performance with holiday treat donations.

## From Sabrina Braccini and the Dance Booster

*"Thank you to the Foundation for their support and to all those families that donated to dance through the Foundation. We couldn't do it without you."*

## Thanks to our generous Sponsors:

B Metal Fabrication, Inc., Friends of Hillsdale, TJC Flooring, Beacon College Funding, Janakes Electric, Bella Nails, Rodan Builders, Judy's Home, All Industrial Electric, Boys Waterpolo, Classes of 2013, 2015 and 2018

## Special thanks to our 2015 Golf Tournament Committee:

Cliff Cassin, Lisa Cassin, Clinch Fuentes, Allison Giannini, Michelle Zalba, Cassy Fuentes, Armando Sandoval, Joe Fernando, Jon Heintz, Bill Quirke, Lynne Quirke, Lisa Tsuruoka, Catherine Heintz, Diane Mahanty, and Lynn Taylor

Please join us for our monthly Athletics Booster Meetings on the First Tuesday of every month in room 210.

## PTSO

Hillsdale's PTSO Hospitality had a rather ambitious goal this year to provide breakfast to our amazing hardworking teachers before every holiday. Our first breakfast was the week before Halloween. We served quiche, bagels, muffins, hard boiled eggs, fruit, juice and coffee. We had never done anything like this and had no idea how much food to provide. To our amazement, every scrap of food was gone by 10:30! Our last breakfast was served November 24th and again, all the food was gone by 10:30!

We have a feeling the teachers like the breakfast. We could not have done it without the generous donations by our wonderful Hospitality volunteers. We are always impressed how fast our requests are fulfilled. In December, the Hospitality team will provide a little Christmas party for our teachers complete with cookies, hot chocolate and a gift raffle.

If you would like to sign up to receive our hospitality volunteer request emails, please contact Stacy at [stacyplackowski@hotmail.com](mailto:stacyplackowski@hotmail.com) or Cassy Fuentes at [cassandra@cmcs.org](mailto:cassandra@cmcs.org).

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.