

September 28, 2009

Dear Hilltop Families,

Thanks to each of you for helping establish a great school year. The work you do as parents to send your children to school rested, fed, and ready to learn is critical and appreciated! I'm seeing evidence of great learning going on in all of our classrooms. These first few weeks are so important for establishing a supportive classroom culture, getting the routines in place, and for the teaching and learning process to get going.

It is so rare that we have the experience of a lockdown, let alone two in a single school day before we've had a chance to hold a practice drill. I'm very proud of how well our staff responded this past Thursday – especially with many of us off campus with the 6th graders at Camp Killoqua. The experience has given us some great feedback for how we can improve our own system and response, should law enforcement officials ask us to lock down in the future. Please don't hesitate to call me with any questions. So far this year we have practiced an earthquake drill. We will be having our first fire drills of the year in the next two weeks.

The Building Team met last week. This team is comprised of parents and staff members. Our first task was to review the feedback from the green sheets we sent home the first week of school. This gave us some great direction for our work this year. One of our big topics was safety before and after school. We have refined our system for the bus and student pick up areas. I encourage you to talk with your child about the importance of being safe and careful in their journeys to and from school. We hope that all drivers are being observant and safe to ensure the safety of our students.

We have received the parent reports of the WASL results from testing last spring. They were mailed on Friday. I encourage you to contact your child's teacher if you have any questions about your child's results. As a reminder, these assessments are just a piece of information that helps us to know if a student is meeting the learning expectations as well as how we're doing as a school with instruction.

I am so enjoying getting to know the students, staff, and families here at Hilltop. This is a school community with so many strengths – it is a privilege to serve here. Again, if we haven't met please introduce yourself the next time you're on campus.

Susan

This Week

- Thursday 6:30 – Ice Cream Social and PTSA Meeting
- Saturday – Lynnwood High School Tours & Dedication 1:30 for reception & tours, 3:30 for Dedication

Upcoming Events

- October 8th Jog-A-Thon
- October 9th – Non Student Day
- October 26th – 30th 11:40 Dismissal – Parent/Teacher conferences
- October 30th – PTSA Fall Carnival 6:00 – 9:00 PM

Fliers in the Office

- Camp Fire
- Girl Scouts
- Boy Scouts
- Camp Fire USA

**October – Cooperation
Tolerance
Citizenship
Acceptance**