

Hillcrest's Parent Newsletter

February 2023

Dear Hillcrest Families,

Time has been flying and we are in February, we have exactly four months to go. We want our students to receive the best educational support through higher levels of learning and to have a learning growth mindset.

This month we are celebrating Black History Month. We want to culturally engage our students with literature that celebrates Black History and Culture.

I want to ask all the parents to participated in the **5 Essentials survey** we need a 20% or more participation rate in order to receive a report. Our school uses the survey as a tool to gage how we are doing and to make improvements in the areas of Effective Leaders, Collaborative Teachers, Involved Families, Supportive Environment and Ambitious Instruction.

The survey window will close on March 31, 2023.

Link for parents to take the survey: <http://survey.5-essentials.org/illinois/survey/parent/>

We continue to focus on student attendance for the remainder of the school year. We have seen improvements in attendance. At Hillcrest, starting the week of February 13, we will generate a perfect attendance report every two weeks. We will draw two names from each classroom. The students who are chosen have an opportunity to choose a prize for their perfect attendance. At the end of the school year (May), we have a prize drawing for all the students who have perfect attendance for the whole year. Please help us make sure your child comes to school on time and be present every day!

We are almost finished with our ACCESS testing and will be looking forward to the Illinois Readiness Assessment (IAR) administration in March, more details will come in the March newsletter.

At U-46, we encourage students to make good choices around healthy eating and physical activity to promote positive outcomes. With Valentine's Day around the corner, we will continue this practice by promoting celebrations with non-food items. To stay aligned with the USDA's Smart Snacks requirements, Hillcrest will not allow food-related celebrations nor

distribute snacks to students to eat in the classroom during the school day. The school day concludes 30 minutes after the students are released from school. Please see the following [link](#) for non-food valentine's ideas.

Make sure your child is wearing appropriate clothing for the weather. Remember students have outdoor recess and only have indoor recess if the temperature or wind chill falls below 10 degrees.

We also have several events coming up soon. Please mark your calendars:

February 9: Kindergarten Registration in Person at Hillcrest 4 – 6 p.m. Door #23

February 10: Bring Someone Special Dance from 6-8 p.m.

February 14: Valentine's Day

February 17: End of 2nd Trimester

February 20: President's Day Holiday – No School

February 21: Grades Confirmed and Posted by 4:00 p.m. Online via Infinite Campus

Sincerely,

Dr. Rosado

Principal