

AUGUST

# FRIENDLY HILLS MIDDLE SCHOOL

2014-2015 School Year

## From Mr. Hiti

Dear Friendly Hills Parents/Guardians and Students,  
I am very excited to be the principal at Friendly Hills Middle School! Thank you to everyone who has stopped by to introduce themselves and welcome me. I look forward to working with you during the 2014-15 school year and providing your student(s) with many opportunities to learn and be an active participant in each and every classroom.

My number one goal each day is to provide students with a safe learning environment that promotes creativity, critical thinking, and analyzation skills necessary to compete in the 21st century. I really enjoy being in the classroom and taking an active part in the learning process. The best part about my job is being able to work with teachers and students in the classroom. Learning is fun, exciting and has endless possibilities. I can't wait!

Your role as a parent/guardian is very important to your middle school student. I encourage you to be an active participant during the upcoming school year. There will be many different events for you to be involved in, and no matter the role, your presence is valuable.

Please take time to talk with your student about being involved in a co or extra curricular activity. Middle School is the time to explore and try new things as students prepare for high school and beyond. The activities are fun and help students connect with each other.

Once again, I am very excited to begin working with you and our students. I look forward to meeting you in the next few weeks! Enjoy the last few weeks of summer.

## Upcoming Events

### August 2014

- 8-19 - WEB leader training
- 8-26 - Middle school start up event 3-7pm
- 8-29 - 5th grade curriculum night

### September 2014

- 9-2 - First day of School!
- 9-4 - Back to School night for grades 6-8 only
- 9-5 - Warrior Rally 5-6:45 at Heritage Middle School
- 9-5 - Varsity Football at Matson Field 7pm
- 9-8 - Picture Make-up Day
- 9-26 - No School Teacher Professional Development Day
- 9-29 - PTA open meeting 6:30-8:30 pm

## BACK TO SCHOOL DAY AUGUST 26 3-7 P.M.

**B**ack to School Day is designed for students and parents to come into school and take care of important items that help ensure a smooth start to the school year. At this event you will be handed a checklist that helps to guide you through the process of getting ready for school.

Students will pick up their schedule and locker assignments, be able to take pictures, register for athletics and purchase school spirit wear.

Parents will be able to deposit money in student lunch accounts, fill out athletic forms, sign up for school view and list serv to make sure they are informed throughout the school year.

You will be greeted by the PTA and have the opportunity to see what events are coming up, as well as ask any questions you might have pertaining to the upcoming school year.

Students will be able to drop things off in their lockers, so they do not have to bring everything in on the first day.

If you are unable to attend this event, student schedules will be available on the first day of school, pictures will be made up on September 8, and you can send money for student lunches with your students.

This is a fun event, we hope to see you there!

# Quick News

<u>Health Office Update</u>	<u>Friendly Hills PTA</u>	<u>Activities</u>																
<p>NO SHOTS, NO SCHOOL: Minnesota State Law and ISD 197 policy requires students to have documentation of receiving the required immunization or legal exemption to enroll in or stay enrolled in school. This needs to be completed before the students first day of attendance for the 14-15 school year. On another note, please welcome Ms. Jennifer Rockow to Friendly Hills. Ms. Rockow will begin her duties as the school nurse beginning August 25, 2014. She can be reached at 651-403-7602.</p>	<p>The Friendly Hills PTA officers for the 2014-15 School year are:  <b>President</b> - Melissa Zeleny  <b>Co-President</b> - Linda Stringer  <b>Secretary</b> - Adrienne Meyers  <b>Treasurer</b> - Kristen Stamman  <b>Volunteer Coordinator</b>- Nicole Paradise  <b>Communications</b>- Ann Williams</p> <p>You are encouraged to attend PTA meetings throughout the school year and to visit the PTA table at the Back to School event on August 26 to find out how you can help at specific school events. Your time and commitment to Friendly Hills is valued!</p>	<p>Friendly Hills will offer activities/clubs in all grades for students to join. Please watch the daily announcements for start times and information regarding each club/activity. Some examples of these activities include the following:</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">Kindness Crew</td> <td style="width: 50%;">Yearbook</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Student Council</td> <td>Math Team</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tutoring</td> <td>Chess</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Summit Singers</td> <td>Jazz Band</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lego Robotics</td> <td>WEB</td> </tr> <tr> <td>LiveGreen</td> <td>Ski Club</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Minds in the Middle</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Homework Club</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	Kindness Crew	Yearbook	Student Council	Math Team	Tutoring	Chess	Summit Singers	Jazz Band	Lego Robotics	WEB	LiveGreen	Ski Club	Minds in the Middle		Homework Club	
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## Fall Middle School Sports

<u>Sport</u>	<u>Grades</u>	<u>Location</u>
Boys/Girls Soccer	Grades 7-8	Friendly Hills
Boys/Girls Cross-Country	Grades 6-8	Heritage/Friendly Hills
Football	Grades 7-8	Heritage
Girls Volleyball	Grades 7-8	7th @ Heritage/ 8th @ Friendly Hills
Girls Tennis	Grades 6-8	Sibley

### Reminders

**Picking up Students for appointments** - Please stop in the attendance office to sign your student out when they are going to an appointment. This helps to ensure student safety, and helps the office maintain accurate information.

**Bus Cards**- Bus cards will be mailed out to your home the week of August 18th. If you have any questions regarding busing, please contact the main office at 651-403-7600.

**First day of School**- Parents are more than welcome to be in the building on the first day of school to make sure their student knows where their class is. You are more than welcome to help put school supplies in the lockers, and walk your student to class. There will also be plenty of staff, parent volunteers, and WEB leaders assisting. We want to relieve your anxiety. You are welcome!

**Warrior Rally**- This is a fun, community event that is held at Heritage Middle School prior to the first Henry Sibley football game. There are plenty of fun activities for students to participate in, and it is a great way to meet people and take part in school pride. We hope to see you there with your school spirit!

# Middle School Sports Information

## **Athletic Forms and fees**

Athletic forms may be picked up at either middle school, or you may download them from the middle school athletics website. All forms must be completed and returned to the front office or register online prior to student participation, [www.isd197middleschoolsports.com](http://www.isd197middleschoolsports.com)

### **Required Forms include:**

- A) Physical exam clearance form (Pages 1 & 2) - good for 3 years
- B) Parent permit form
- C) Registration Form/emergency card

### **Fees**

A \$135.00 fee is charged for participation in athletics. Payment of the fee is required before equipment can be issued and practice begins. Checks can be made payable to ISD 197.

**Maximum Family Fee-** An ISD 197 family fee is not to exceed \$675.00 in one school year, and includes students in grades 6-12. Please notify the secretary or Athletic Director if you have reached the family maximum.

**Reduced Fee-** The \$135.00 fee can be reduced or waived for students who are enrolled in the Federal Free & Reduced Lunch Program. Please contact Dan Norris, Middle School Athletic Director, [dan.norris@isd197.org](mailto:dan.norris@isd197.org) to request a reduction or waiver of the athletic fee, or if you need to discuss alternate payment options.

### **High School Sports Participation**

If your child participates in a high school sport, the fee charged will be at the high school rate of \$225 and registration should be completed through the high school. Please contact the athletic secretary, Sue Soine, [sue.soine@isd197.org](mailto:sue.soine@isd197.org)

### **Equipment and Uniforms**

Most game equipment and uniforms are provided by the school. Coaches will inform athletes of any additional items that should be provided by the family. Several sports utilize t-shirt jerseys that must be purchased for \$15 by the family. The student may then keep the t-shirt jersey and use it for multiple years.

Appropriate practice wear must be provided by the athlete and should reflect current weather conditions. Practices will not be cancelled due to cold or light rain and students should dress accordingly.

All school uniforms and equipment must be returned to coaches in good condition at the conclusion of the season. Failure to do so will affect eligibility for future sports. Student's are responsible for the replacement cost of lost and damaged equipment.

### **Practice Times and Transportation**

All practices will be held after school at their respective location. Practice will be held after school from 3:20 - 5:20 daily.

Activity buses run every day at 5:20 p.m. The buses will transport the middle school athletes to Henry Sibley High School where they will then get on the appropriate activity bus which will drop them within a few blocks of their home.

If games last beyond 5:20 p.m., parents are responsible for providing transportation home from school. If practice concludes early the students will be notified ahead of time so they may arrange for a ride. Practice will always conclude so that student's have the opportunity