

Half Hollow Hills Central School District

SIGNAL HILL

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

670 Caledonia Road
Dix Hills, NY 11746
631-592-3700

Parent /Student Handbook 2009-2010



“Together We Make a Difference”

Handbook Overview



Some of the policies and procedures contained in this handbook come directly from district policies. District policies can be found in their entirety on the Half Hollow Hills Website at www.hhh.k12.ny.us.

Some of the policies and procedures in this handbook only pertain to the Signal Hill Community. Many of our policies and procedures are intended to help students become more responsible and independent in preparation for experiences outside of school. We are very privileged to teach the students in the Signal Hill Community and our goal is to create a successful learning environment that accounts for all students' needs.

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Contact Information

Main Office 592-3700

Signal Hill Attendance 592-3706

Deborah Ostrosky, Principal 592-3700

Christopher Smalley, Assistant Principal 592-3700

Jody Brower, School Nurse 592-3701

Jenine Unverzagt, School Psychologist 592-3707

Dr. Janna Stein, School Psychologist 592-3707

Signal Hill Fax 592-3917

Steven Troy, Transportation Supervisor 592-3855

Please visit www.hhh.k12.ny.us for staff email addresses

Principal's Message

Dear Parents and Families,

Welcome to a new school year at Signal Hill!

The school looks great with children's work adorning the walls. School programs are moving along well, with your children involved in a variety of learning activities and special events. We thank you and our teachers for the contributions you make to the success of the students at Signal Hill. Because of our goal to unify efforts, we are able to see that each child develops to his or her personal best.

With thoughts of working in unity, I ask you to please continue with our commitment to have all children read each night. This can be with you, by themselves, or with a sibling, friend or another adult. The teachers are encouraging this effort through in class reading, homework assignments, reading logs or class incentives. Your continued support of this reading initiative is vital. Students who read regularly generally show greater success in school and in their future lives. In addition, sharing reading time is an invaluable experience for both you and your child. Our combined efforts show children how the school and home carry the same message about the value of reading.

Thank you for your continued support. I look forward to a rewarding year with you, the children, and the caring community of Signal Hill.

Yours very truly,

Deborah H. Ostrosky
Principal, Signal Hill

Mission Statement

Our community of students, teachers, staff & parents, will strive to ensure the highest level of success for all. We will develop children with active, creative minds, a sense of respect and compassion for others, and the ability to take risks, by providing a safe, nurturing environment that fosters self-esteem. Students will have the courage to act on their beliefs and make positive contributions as global citizens.

Together we can make a difference.



Our Staff

Administrators

Deborah Ostrosky *Principal*
Christopher Smalley *Assistant Principal*

Teachers

Kindergarten

Nancy Groudas
Aliaya Laviano
Kim Leace
Mary Picarello
Kathleen Schmitt
Heather Taylor

1st Grade

Alyssa Friedland
Robyn Lang
Brandi Levine
Jeanette Passerello
Danielle Reed
Christine Russo

2nd Grade

Mary Byrnes
Carol Callaghan
Peggy Grodin
Diane Ihne
Margo Lahman
Corinne Short

3rd Grade

Leslie Hilbert
Jaclyn Kaunitz
Susan Kleiner
Richard Mugno
Kara Schwartz

4th Grade

Erica Burns
Dawn Giamalvo
Lindsay Kuschel
Lana Louis
Rita Ryan
Kathleen Zipkas

5th Grade

Melia DiRusso
Eileen Gregory
Nicole Jackson
Tara Pinzino

John Bennett *Band*
Renee Carlo *Reading*
Abby Chibnik *Speech*
Renee Clark *Enrichment*
Nicole Curry *Health*
Sharon Erb *Speech*
Michael Falen *Math*
Amy Fattibene *Speech*
Dina Futterman *Reading*
Kathleen Jackson *Art*
Richard Jacobowski *Orchestra*
Laura Kelley *Resource Room*
Susan Mandel *Hearing*
Dorothy McAvoy *Reading*
Deborah Mueller *IPC Consultant*
Dorothy Newman *ESL*
Jodi Poblner *O/T*

Paula Sher *Music*
Richard VonVoigt *P.E.*
Lauren Weber *P.E.*
Christine Zafonte *Library*

Substitutes

Mary Vellon
Jennifer Trocchio
Julie Throo
Teri Kindelmann
Bernadette Cahalane
Kelly Simpson

School Psychologists

Janna Stein
Jenine Unverzagt

Social Worker

Rosalie Clements

School Nurse

Jody Brower

Paraprofessionals

Lynn Badaracco
Janet Bellezza
Nancy Blinder
Nicoletta Borgia
Christine Burt
Kathy Calderon
Rose Ann Cavallo
Lauren Ciaccio
Maryann Cipriano
Diane Franzese
Susan Gerber

Leah Jarmon
Kiersten Keppler
Patricia Miller
Joseph Nord
Debbie Polidora
Allison Saber
Debra Sidoti
Alicia Tursi
Liz Wilson
Luci Zito
Catherine Zoccoli

Sign In Desk

Gerri Cassandro

Office Staff

Patrice Clemete
Maryann Vosilla

Custodial Staff

James Reichert *Head Custodian*
Christopher Berotti
Stephen Garcia
Daniel Cafisi

Lunch Monitors

Diane Amendolare
Nancy Azodi
Nancy Benkov
Donna Campisi
Gloria Singson

Eleanore Dobiecki
Patricia Johntry
Phyllis Kearns
Johanna Kvilesz
Margaret DeBiase

Kitchen Staff

Michelle Frey *Head Cook*
Wilma Hubbard
Donna Volpe
Marianne Wagner



Hours / Attendance



School Hours

The school day is from 9:10am to 3:20pm. Students being driven to school should not arrive more than 5 minutes before the day begins unless coming for a scheduled activity. When a student is driven to school, the accompanying adult must come into the school office to sign in the student. If your child is taking the bus, please refer to "Expectations for Bus Behavior" on page 13.

Morning Arrival

Students arriving more than 5 minutes before the start of school are considered early and must be accompanied by a parent.

Bus Arrival

Students who take the bus arrive at school a few minutes before the start of school. When our day starts, teachers working on the bus platform monitor the students while they walk into the building. The bus platform is a secure area and is always kept clear of anyone who is not a staff member.

Parking Lot Drop-Off Procedure

Students being driven to school should not arrive more than 5 minutes before the day begins unless coming for a scheduled activity. All students can be dropped in the parking lot at the designated drop off zone between 9:05 and 9:15 only. Parents can only drop students off to a designated Signal Hill employee stationed at the pick up area. Please refer to the "Parking Lot Procedure" on page 12 of this handbook for more details.

Early Arrivals (Morning Clubs, Activities, Extra Learning)

Students coming in for morning clubs, extracurricular activities, or extra learning must be accompanied by a parent.

Late Arrivals

Students arriving late must be accompanied by a parent and brought to the attendance desk in the nurse's office. The attendance desk will then give the student a note that they will take to the main office. The main office will then call into the classroom to alert the teacher that a student will be coming to their class.

Dismissal

All children being picked up by anyone other than their parent or guardian must bring in a note to school. Phone calls will not be accepted for this. All persons picking up a student from school must be 18 years old and will be asked for identification.

Pick-Up Procedure

Any child not going home on the bus requires a note to the teacher. The parent must sign out the student at pick-up time. An announcement will be made at 3:15 each school day requesting that students being picked up report to the gym area. Parents must meet children inside the gym. Of course, in an emergency, the parent may pick up their child without a note. In this case, the parent must come to the school office to sign out the child. Please be prepared to show identification.

Early Pick-Up

If you know in advance you will need to pick up your child early, you must write a note to the classroom teacher. With this information, they can have the child ready for dismissal when you arrive. You must sign your child out at the pick-up desk in the main hallway, come into the office and we will call the classroom.

If you unexpectedly need to pick up your child early, once again you must sign your child out at the pick-up desk and come into the office. We will call your child's classroom. Please be aware, if we do not have a note and you arrive after 3:05 p.m., your child may be in transition. Thus, you will need to wait until 3:15 p.m., the regular pick-up time

Playdates and the Bus

The school bus should not be used to accommodate playdates as many of our busses are at capacity and cannot fit other students on them. If you are going to have a playdate, we ask that it is arranged after school once the students have arrived at home.

There is no way of knowing in advance if a child will have a seat available on their friend's bus. Parents sending their children home on other busses for a playdate may only find out at 3:30p.m. that their child cannot fit on the bus. In this case, the child will be asked to come off the bus and wait in the main office to be picked up by their parents.

Absences

The attendance office should be notified at 592-3706 when a student is to be absent. A written note upon return to school is required. Please notify the school nurse of any contagious disease or virus so the proper precautionary measures may be taken. If your child is absent and you are requesting homework, we ask that you refer to the "Homework Policy" on page 21 of this handbook.

School Closings/ Early Dismissal

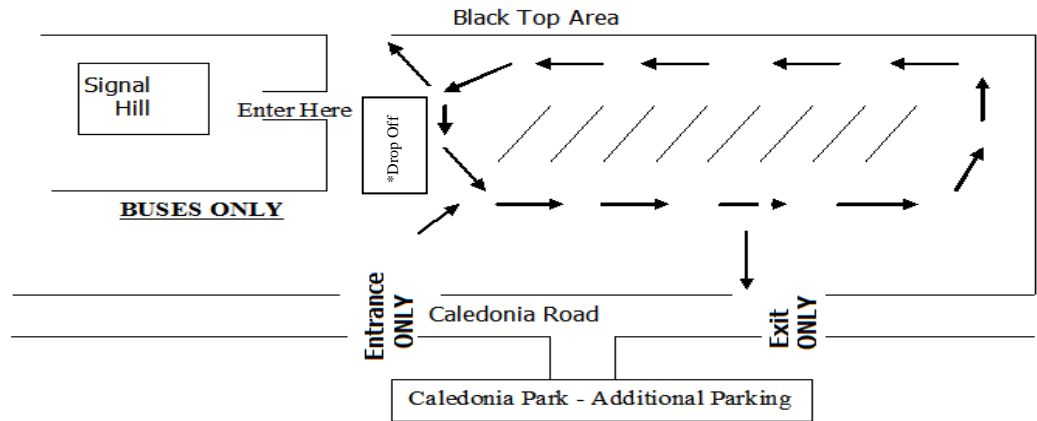
In the case of severe storms or snow, please listen to the local radio and TV stations for the official closing of school before normal dismissal and/or for cancellations before school begins. Up-to-date information can be obtained from the internet at the Half Hollow Hills District Website. In addition, our district has an automated telephone system that will call the home telephone listed on Infinite Campus to alert you to any delays or closings. You will also receive an e-mail notification if you have signed up for e-mail alerts with the district. **PLEASE DO NOT CALL THE SCHOOL BECAUSE IT TIES UP LINES THAT MAY BE NEEDED FOR EMERGENCY USE.** If a storm or other emergency should occur during school hours, children will not be released until it is safe to do so. Since weather conditions are unpredictable, school closing may happen suddenly. Discuss this possibility with your child so that he/she understands what to do or where to go if you are not at home.



Parking Lot Safety Letter

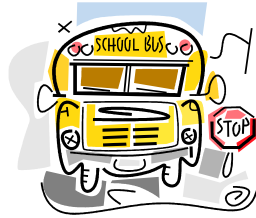
The safety of our children and the entire SIGNAL HILL community is a key priority. Your cooperation with safety in the parking lot is critical and greatly appreciated.

1. Please use the large driveway where the busses enter as our main entrance to the parking lot. You should turn right and proceed in a counter clockwise direction. Use the driveway toward the end of the parking lot for exits only. Do not drive directly across the lot to the back black top area. Follow the diagram below for instructions on how to drive through the lot.



2. Please park your car in a designated spot (not reserved spots), and walk into the building to drop off or pickup your child.
3. Parking lot drop offs are only permitted between 9:05 and 9:15 a.m. in the "**drop off zone". At all other times (this includes early morning activities) drop offs are not allowed and students must be signed in by a parent.
4. Please use the back black top area if you bring your child into school at morning arrival time or at dismissal time if there is no room in the main lot. If there is a field trip or a large event, please use the Caledonia Park lot across the street. We ask this because the children use the blacktop during recess.
5. It is illegal to park in a handicapped parking space unless you have a permit. This is not one of "Ms. Ostrosky's rules," it's the law!!
6. Always proceed cautiously through the parking lot and when leaving a parking lot space. I've seen many near collisions, and people have almost gotten hurt because of a careless or hasty exit from a parking space or from the lot itself.

Expectations for Bus Behavior



- Students will remain seated at all times while the bus is in motion.
- Students will obey the instructions of the bus driver.
- Students will act respectfully toward each other and toward the driver.
- Students will treat the property of others with respect and avoid causing any damage to the bus seats and/or seat belts.
- Students will not throw anything while on the bus or throw anything from the bus through open windows.
- Students will keep hands, arms and head inside the bus at all times.
- Students will refrain from eating and drinking while on the bus.
- Students will refrain from yelling or creating unnecessary disturbances while on the bus.
- Students will not take pictures or videos while on the bus.
- Students will refrain from foul or abusive language at all times.
- Students will resist fighting, pushing, and hitting while on the bus and while getting off the bus.

Reporting Unacceptable Bus Behaviors

Students reporting unacceptable bus behaviors are encouraged to tell their bus drivers. Students are also encouraged to report the unacceptable behavior to Mr. Smalley once they get off the bus in the morning.

Occasionally, parents will alert the drivers about a situation at their bus stop. Parents can also email or call Mr. Smalley with bus issues that they would like resolved. Mr. Smalley's email address is csmalley@hhh.k12.ny.us.

If you have questions about the bus route please call Steve Troy, Transportation Supervisor at 631-592-3855



Health / Allergy Information



Home Sick

Students should be kept home when ill. A child's temperature should be normal for 24 hours before returning to school.

Illness and Accidents During the School Day

You will be notified immediately in the event of an illness or accident so someone can come for your child. It is essential to have a current emergency number and contact information listed with the school office in the event you cannot be reached.

Physical Examinations

According to New York State Law, a physical examination is required for all **new entrants**, kindergarten, second and fourth grade students. This exam must also include the child's BMI and percentage. A physical examination form must be fill out by the doctor and sent in to the nurse. You can obtain this form either at the nurse's office or you can print it off of our school nurses website. Flyers describing the Child Health Plus health plan for kids are available in the Nurse's Office. The plan covers basic preventive medical services and emergency room care. For more information Call 1-800-698-4KIDS.

Immunizations

According to New York State Public Health Law #2164, "No child shall be admitted to public school without documented proof of required immunizations, signed by the doctor."

Measles- 2 doses for measles vaccine
Mumps- 1 dose after 1st birthday
Rubella- 1 dose after 1st birthday
DPT- 3 or more full doses
Polio- 3 or more TOPV, 4 or more IPV
Varicella (chicken pox) 1 dose after 1st birthday

If your child has had any of the diseases indicated below, documentation is required as follows:

Measles/Mumps: A Physician's Written Statement
Rubella: Serological evidence. The lab report must be submitted
Varicella: A Physician's Written Statement

Records must show dates of all immunizations with an authorized signature.

Medication

In order for any medication (including OVER THE COUNTER) to be given at school, the school nurse must be given the following:

- 1) A written notification from the family doctor stating diagnosis, the contents of the prescription and dosage.
- 2) A written request from the parent asking that the medication given.
- 3) A well-labeled prescription bottle with the child's name, date and the doctor's name on it.

Head Lice- Pediculosis

It is advisable to check your child at home for head lice.

School policy recommends: If found at school, the school will contact the parent or guardian. The child will be excluded from school until effective shampooing and nit removal is completed. The school nurse will check all children before they are readmitted.

Allergies

At Signal Hill, we comply with all allergy polices and regulations as outlined by the school district. All Allergen information can be found under the "Parent" tab on the district website at www.hhh.k12.ny.us.



Breakfast / Lunch / Snack



Snack

Snacks brought in from home should make a positive contribution to children's diets and health. The school district has posted a list of healthy snack items on the district website.

Lunch Times

Lunch/Recess times are as follows:

11:15-12:00 12:05-12:50 12:55-1:40

Buying Lunch

Students can buy lunch at Signal Hill. The cost of lunch this year, including one carton of milk is \$1.75. For an additional cost, students may also purchase snacks, ice cream or frozen yogurt. Prices may be found on the menu that is sent home. Lunch money is payable by the student each day to the cashier in the cafeteria. Reduced price or free lunches are available for students who qualify under Federal Law. Applications are sent home at the beginning of the school year.

Pre-Paid Lunch

You can help your children by purchasing pre-paid meals. Pre-paid meals are for the purchase of complete meals only. To order, simply place the designated amount in a sealed envelope and send it to school with your child. Checks should be made out to "HHH School Lunch Program". Mark the envelope "Pre-paid Lunch". Be sure to include the child's name, grade, and teacher. If you are purchasing for more than one child, each child's plan must be purchased separately. You may also use the District's Online Meal Payment system. Please go under the "Parent" tab on the district website at www.hhh.k12.ny.us. A receipt identifying the pre-paid meal plan along with an annual Personal Identification Number "PIN" assigned to your child will be returned to you. This number is to be memorized and presented when purchasing meals.

Recess

Weather permitting, children will go outside for recess. Please make sure they are dressed accordingly. In the event of inclement weather, children will return to their classroom for recess. Lunch monitors will accompany the children during lunch/recess periods.

Cafeteria Rules

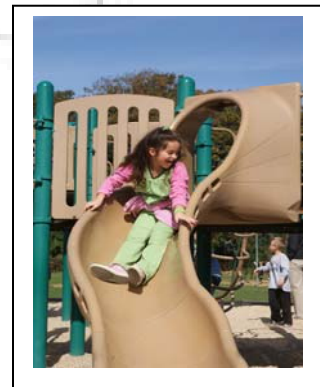
To provide all students with a positive lunch time atmosphere, we ask that students:

- Walk at all times in the cafeteria
- Remain seated while eating their lunch
- Speak quietly at all times in the cafeteria
- Clean up after themselves
- Show respect to everyone in the cafeteria
- Show respect and take pride in school property

Playground Rules

To provide all students with a positive lunch recess atmosphere, we ask that students:

- Always go down the slide, 1 person at a time, sitting and feet first.
- Never jump off equipment. Always climb down to the ground.
- Be cautious of any puddles, mud or wet grass.
- Check with the lunch monitors before going to the bathroom or nurse and always take a buddy.
- All equipment is to be shared and put back neatly.
- Never go into the parking lot to retrieve a ball; alert your lunch monitor.
- Leave rocks, pebbles, etc. on the ground.
- Report dangerous materials to your lunch monitor (i.e., glass).





Teaching and Learning



Curriculum

The Half Hollow Hills Central School District has created an elementary curriculum overview for each grade level. These overviews provide the parents with the skills the students will acquire in English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies. The overviews also serve as a resource to help parents understand the total elementary instructional program. These Elementary Curriculum Overviews can be found at the side of the Signal Hill homepage on the district website at www.hhh.k12.ny.us.

Specials

Each Classroom has one special period per day. Each week, students will have one period of music, one period of art, one period of library, and two periods of physical education. The special period times each day are as follows:

Kindergarten 10:55-11:35	Third Grade 12:25-1:05
First Grade 1:10-1:50	Fourth Grade 1:55-2:35
Second Grade 10:10-10:50	Fifth Grade 9:25-10:05

Band/ Orchestra/ Chorus

In Fourth Grade, students become eligible to join band, orchestra, or chorus. Band, Orchestra, and Chorus meet on certain days before and after school to prepare for both a Winter and Spring Concert. In addition, Band and Orchestra students meet with their instructors in small groups at different times during the school day. A select bunch of third grade students may be eligible for band or orchestra in the later part of their school year.

Technology

Our school district has made some unbelievable strides in implementing technology into the classrooms. Each classroom has a number of Apple desktops on hand for the students to use everyday when necessary. Classrooms also have access to class sets of Apple laptops that are available at different times throughout the week.

Health

In addition to the lessons regarding health and wellness given by the classroom teachers and physical education teachers, each classroom receives a specialized Health Instructional Program implemented by a district Health Teacher. The length of time this program operates varies from grade to grade. For more information please go under the "Teaching and Learning" tab on the district website at www.hhh.k12.ny.us

School Clubs / Extracurricular Activities

Each year, our school offers a variety of different school clubs that students can join. The entrance requirements for clubs can vary depending on the club or activity. The start and end dates, club times, and the number of club members allowed will vary as well. Information about clubs is sent home at different times throughout the year. Detailed club information can be found at the side of the Signal Hill Homepage on the district website at www.hhh.k12.ny.us

Our current school clubs are:

Dance

Intramurals

Newspaper Club

Share Pals

Band

Earthsavers

Math Olympiad

Post Office Club

Student Council

Orchestra

Foreign Language

Math Club

Safety Patrol

Chorus

Extra Learning

Extra Learning is a time when students are engaged in learning experiences with their teacher either before or after the school day. All teachers at Signal Hill offer extra learning and each teacher has different times available. Teachers use this extra learning time to offer additional academic support or curriculum enrichment. At the beginning of each year, teachers share with the parents the days of the week and times they offer extra learning. Please inquire with your child's teacher or the main office if you are unsure when your child's teacher offers extra learning.

Parent/ Teacher Conferences

The district has set up Parent/Teacher conference days so that parents may have a chance to meet with their child's teacher after the first marking period. The teachers work with the parents to help make a schedule for these meetings. Parent/ Teacher Conferences are November 17th and 19th from 6:30-9:00pm and on November 20th during the school day (no school for students this day).

Support Services

Our school has a variety of Support Services that are offered when students qualify. Our school currently has on hand: Speech Teachers, Reading Teachers, E.S.L. Teachers, Physical Therapists, a Math Teacher, an Occupational Therapist, a Psychologist, a Resource Room Teacher, a Social Worker, an Adaptive Physical Education Teacher, and a Behavioral Consultant. Some of these services are recommended for students after the parents have met with the Committee on Special Education (C.S.E.) The Committee on Special Education (C.S.E.) is a multi disciplinary team, appointed by the Board of Education, that coordinates evaluations and makes recommendation for services and/or programs for children identified as having a disability. For more information please visit the district website at www.hhh.k12.ny.us.

Report Cards

For the first time this year, elementary school report cards will be available online through our Infinite Campus Parent Portal page. Parents will need to have access to the Parent Portal with an I.D. and password. For more information about how to access the report cards please click on the "parent" tab at www.hhh.k12.ny.us.

Report cards will be available through the Parent Portal at 4pm on:
November 16, 2009, February 4, 2010, April 22, 2010, June 25, 2010

Testing

All teachers give their students tests in each subject area at different dates throughout the year. Testing will vary from grade to grade and in some cases student to student. Our district has put together a great resource called the Half Hollow Hills Testing and Assessment Guide. This can be found under the "Parent" tab on the district website at www.hhh.k12.ny.us

eBoards

Every teacher in the district has their own personal online site called an eBoard. These eBoards are used by teachers to help highlight the work that is being done in class. Teachers also use their eBoards during their classroom instruction by posting websites or information that students in their class can use as a resource. Teacher eBoards can be viewed through the staff directory located at the side of the Signal Hill Homepage at www.hhh.k12.ny.us

Contacting Teachers

In education, there is nothing more important than communication between teachers and parents. Aside from the Parent/Teacher conferences, it is important for teachers and parents to correspond with one another at different times throughout the year. Parents are encouraged to contact teachers through email or letters sent to the school with their children. Teachers email addresses can be found on the staff directory located at the side of the Signal Hill homepage at www.hhh.k12.ny.us.

REACH Program

REACH/CYA is a community-centered non-profit organization providing social, recreational, informational, educational and advocacy programs for children, youth and families of Commack and Half Hollow Hills. REACH/CYA is funded in part by the Town of Huntington Youth Bureau, the Town-wide Fund of Huntington and private contributions. Certain REACH programs are offered in the Signal Hill School building both before and after school.

For more information visit their website at www.reachcya.org or call their administrative offices at (631) 549-9417.

Homework Policy

Homework has always played an important role in the culture of schooling over the years. Some homework is based on daily lessons learned while other homework may be based on long range projects that the students are engaged in. When a child is out sick for one or two days, the daily homework assignments for those days would be based on work that is unfamiliar to the sick student. For this reason, it would be best for the student to return to school and learn the new material before being assigned the homework. Students who are home sick may always read if they desire.

The faculty of Signal Hill is firmly committed to a homework policy that enhances and extends the school learning experience.

The purpose of homework is:

1. To help develop good study skills
2. To reinforce skills learned each day in school
3. To provide for extended learning experiences beyond the classroom
4. To establish a daily contact with parents who will be constantly aware of the child's academic work, both successes and needs.

Student's Responsibility

- It is the student's responsibility to know their homework assignments and to turn assignments in on time.
- The student should make sure he/she understands what to do before leaving class.
- The student should attempt to complete the assignments on his/her own.
- The completed assignments, if written, should be neat.
- Study assignments should also be considered as homework.
- For safety and security reasons, students may not return to the classroom after dismissal for any forgotten items.

Parent's Responsibility

- It is the responsibility of the parents to see to it that the child knows what is expected and completes daily and long-term assignments.
- The child should be encouraged by parents to do his/her best.
- The teacher should be contacted immediately if the child is experiencing unnecessary difficulty with assignments.
- If your child will be observing a religious holiday, please inform the teacher so that the appropriate homework allowance can be made.

Assignments Missed Due To A Legal Absence

Missed assignments due to legal absence will be available for students who are absent more than three consecutive days.

Tests missed will be made up at the discretion of the teacher.
Family vacations during the school calendar are not condoned.



General Policies



Visitors/ Volunteers

All visitors/volunteers ***MUST*** sign-in/out at the school office and wear a Visitor's Badge at all times when in the school building.

Parties/ Birthdays

At Signal Hill, we recognize that birthdays can play a special part in children's lives. We work closely with parents to insure that all birthdays are recognized. Our school district has set guidelines for birthday celebrations that include food. The following points have been taken directly from the district Wellness Policy. Please visit www.hhh.k12.ny.us for the entire Wellness Policy.

- Birthdays with food are only permitted in Kindergarten and First Grade.
- Healthy foods are suggested and candy is not permitted.
- Water is the only beverage permitted for classroom birthday celebrations.
- Food for birthdays (K and 1) must be commercially prepared and contain a complete list of ingredients with no nuts or nut products. Home baked goods and food prepared at home should not be sent in.
- Food allergic children will not be permitted to eat or touch food brought in for birthdays, class parties, holidays, and celebrations unless approved by the child's parents.
- Parents of food allergic children may choose to send in their own food for these occasions.

Invitations

We ask that parents not send in invitations to be distributed at school as it disrupts the educational process. Invitations should be conveyed through phone calls, email, or other means. A child can only give out invitations at school if they are inviting their entire class.

Field Trips

Field trips are an integral part of the instructional program. To alleviate placing teachers, students and parents in an awkward position, only parents who have been assigned as trip chaperones should attend field trips.

Written parental approval is mandatory for all trips. Medical forms must be completed prior to the first field trip each year.

Cellphones/ Electronic Devices

We discourage all student cellphones in our building but realize that some students might need them after school hours for various reasons. If a student brings their cellphone to school it must be kept in their backpack at all times with the ringer off. If a cell phone makes noise during the day it can be very distracting to the educational process. Cellphones that vibrate or ring during the school day will be taken away and held onto until a parent comes to school for retrieval. Cellphones are also not allowed to be exposed or used on the bus.

Electronic Devices of any kind are not permitted during the school day. Electronic Devices such as video games or iPods can be a distraction to the educational process. Some electronic devices can also be very fragile and break easily.

Photos and Video Taping

Students are not allowed to take photos or videos at school without the permission of their teacher. Photos and videos taken at school for class projects should never be used for other purposes. ***Photos and videos are not allowed to be taken on school busses for any reason.***

Telephone Use

Children will not be permitted to call home for classwork related items that they have forgotten to bring to school (i.e. homework, textbooks, assignments, instruments).

Children are permitted to make emergency telephone calls only. Calls are to be made from the school office.

Lost and Found

There is a lost and found located in the cafeteria of our school. When something is found with a child's name on it, we will return it to the child and that is why we encourage parents to write their child's name on everything. The lost and found usually consists of clothing such as hats, gloves, etc. Parents may come to school and search the lost and found if they feel it is necessary. Items still left in the lost and found at the end of the school year will be donated in June.

Items Left in School

When someone wants to go into a classroom after school hours it creates many safety and security concerns in the school building. Classrooms are considered secure locations consisting of confidential documents, personal items, and high-end technology equipment. In addition, our custodial staff has an enormous amount of tasks to perform at the end of each day in preparation for the next day and do not have the resources to constantly unlock classroom doors on demand. ***For all of these reasons, we cannot allow anyone to go back into any classroom after school hours.***

PTA Information

POSITION	NAME
Co-President	Wendy Natalone
Co-President	Linda Vitellaro
Vice President	Susan Iaccarino
Vice President	Dolores Oesterle
Treasurer	Angela Barry
Recording Secretary	Christine Califano
Corresponding Secretary	Dawn Rosati
Historian	Belinda Hellman
Delegates to Council	Dayle-Marie Dalia
	Irene Doreste
Alternates/Council	Rosemary Cook
	Christine Wohlleben
Past President	Liana Tesoriero

PTA Website: www.signalhillschoolpta.org

Board of Education

Jay Marcucci, President
Jeanine Bottenus, Vice-President
Carole Catapano, Trustee
Eric Geringswald, Trustee
Frank Grimaldi, Trustee
James Ptucha, Trustee
Anne Marie Sorkin, Trustee

District Administration

Dr. Sheldon Karnilow, Superintendent
Ms. Kelly Fallon, Assistant Superintendent for District-wide Administration
Ms. Mary A. Rettaliata, Assistant Superintendent for Elementary Education
Mr. Victor Manuel, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Facilities
Dr. Patrick Harrigan, Assistant Supt. for Research, Assessment and Special Services
Mr. Michael DeStio, Assistant Superintendent for Secondary Education



The "Eagle" Song

Chorus:

We are the Eagles flying high,
Spreading our wings and touching the sky.
And like the Eagle we know we will,
Be brave and strong our whole life long.
We are the Eagles of Signal Hill.

This place is big.
Sometimes we feel small,
But wonderful teachers are right down the hall.
They teach us to share,
To write and learn math.
They'll always be with us as we travel this path. (chorus)

Here with our friends,
We can try anything,
To read and to draw, play sports and to sing.
When we look back,
On our Eagle days,
We'll see how we've grown up,
In so many ways. (chorus)

We can work to make a better world.
This is a goal we can share,
Helping friends and other people in need.
Signal Hill is full of friends who care.

We are the Eagles flying high,
Spreading our wings and touching the sky.
And like the Eagle we know we will,
Be brave and strong our whole life long.
We are the Eagles of Signal Hill.

Gonna fly high.
Gonna fly high.
Gonna fly high.