



**2024/25 Hillsdale Middle School
Back to School FAQ**
1301 Brabham St, El Cajon, CA 92019
(619) 441-6156
<https://www.cajonvalley.net/hillsdale>

Principal -Michael Wallace

Assistant Principals - Sarah Williams, Adrian Jankowski, and Kirsten Williams

Q	What is the calendar for the 2024/25 school year?
A	The first day of school is Wednesday, August 15, 2024 CVUSD School Year Calendar
Q	What are Hillsdale's school/office hours?
A	School begins at 9:00 am and students are dismissed at 3:30 pm (2:30 pm on Mondays). Our front office is open from 8:30 am until 4:00 pm (2:45 on Mondays).
Q	What are the drop off and pick up procedures?
A	Drop Off: Students may enter our campus either at the Main Gate or at the Apolinaria Gate. Gates open at 8:45. Supervision before 8:45 is limited. Pick Up: Students may exit at either gate.
Q	Where should I drop off my child if they are late to school?
A	If your child is late to school, they will need to check in at the front office.
Q	What should I do if I need to pick my child up early OR if my child will be absent or tardy?
A	We encourage all doctor, dentist, etc. appointments to be made after school hours but understand that this is not always possible. If you need to pick your child up early from school, please come to the front office with identification and our office staff will be happy to help. For safety reasons, students can not be picked up during their lunch period. Please plan to pick them up at least 30 minutes before or right after lunch.

	Please call our Attendance Line (619) 590-6899 to let us know about any absences or tardies.
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Q	What does a middle school class schedule look like? How long is each class period?
A	We follow a traditional bell schedule with 50 minute periods, except for Monday, which is a minimum day and dismissal is at 2:30pm 6th grade students are teamed - they have a math/science teacher and an English/history teacher. Seventh and eighth grade students have math, science, history and English. All students have a PE period and an elective.

Q	What electives does Hillsdale offer? How will my child's elective be decided?
A	Elective offerings will provide students with experiences in different interest areas/RIASEC themes. Your child received an elective interest survey from their 5th grade teacher to complete in the Spring. If your child did not complete the survey an elective choice will be reviewed when your student is enrolling. We have electives such as drama, band, orchestra, career explorations, art, Spanish, robotics and STEM. Many 6th grade students will be on an elective wheel so they can sample several of our exciting classes! Seventh and eighth grade students are able to participate in leadership electives like ASB and yearbook, as well.

Q	What is my child allowed to bring to school?
A	Please look out for information from your student's individual teachers to learn more about what supplies will be needed. Other acceptable school items include: Chromebook/charger Backpack Lunch (if they will not eat the school lunch provided) Water bottle Our front office cannot guarantee your student will receive an item that you drop off for them during the school day. Please make sure your student has all of their supplies before they leave for school.

Q	How can I help my child be successful on days he/she has PE?
A	Students are required to wear PE uniforms, as students will be dressing out and using the locker rooms in PE this year. Students will be able to purchase their uniform during their PE class during the first week of school. For your student's safety, closed toe shoes must be worn. More information will be shared by your student's PE coach when the school year begins We encourage all students to bring a personally labeled water bottle each day.

Q	Is breakfast available?
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A	We will be offering breakfast to any student at no charge. Students will have the opportunity to pick up a warm or cold breakfast choice once the campus opens at 8:45am. Students will need their student ID to get a free breakfast and lunch.
Q	What do I need to know about lunch?
A	Lunch is 30 minutes and is free for all students. There are usually 2-3 lunch options. The school office cannot accept lunch deliveries for students. Students will not be released during their lunch period.
Q	Do you offer honors classes? How can my child get into honors classes?
A	Honors will be offered in English and math at all grade levels, based on iReady and CAASPP test scores, citizenship, and academic performance
Q	What should my child do if they need to visit the Health Office?
A	If your child needs to visit the health office (for health concerns, medication, etc.), students will either notify their classroom teacher or complete a visit request through our virtual health office.
Q	What is the cell phone policy for students on school campus?
A	Cell phones must be off and put away when at school.
Q	When is Chromebook Hospital available?
A	Students may get Chromebook support during their Advisory class Tuesday through Friday. Teachers will direct students in need of support to our Chromebook Hospital, which is located on site.
Q	How can I monitor my child's activities on their Chromebook?
A	<p>The Bocksi Parent Dashboard is available to all Cajon Valley families. Bocksi gives parents the flexibility to enforce some of their home policies such as bedtime and access to control over specific content.</p> <p>Video : How to set up Bocksi https://blocksi.net/howto_parent.php</p> <p>Parents will need:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Your student's school email address which reads like this, 123456@cvusd.co 2. The parent's email address that is connected to your student's school contact information 3. Go to Bocksi.net and click Login
Q	My child is an incoming 6th grader or is new to Cajon Valley. How will my child receive their new Chromebook for school?

A	6th grade students and students that are new to Cajon Valley will receive their new Chromebook during the second week of school.
Q	How will my child be graded?
A	Students will be receiving feedback on their progress and grades from their individual teachers. Additionally, progress reports or report cards will be provided every six weeks. Please check the Parent Portal to find your child's grades. You may also contact your child's teacher with any questions you may have throughout the year. Since progress reports and report cards are available online, we will not be sending home a printed copy with your student.
Q	What's the best way to contact my child's teacher or school staff?
A	Feel free to email your child's teacher and/or staff. Below is a link to the Hillsdale Staff Directory. Hillsdale Middle School Staff Directory CVUSD uses ParentSquare for school communication, primarily with email, text and app notifications. ParentSquare automatically generates an account for each parent, using their preferred email address and phone number. We encourage parents to access their accounts so they can download the mobile app and update their preferences on when and how they are notified. For additional information, and the link to download the mobile app, please visit the Cajon Valley website https://www.cajonvalley.net/Domain/3000
Q	What counseling services are available? How do I contact a counselor?
A	Our counseling center is committed to creating a safe and welcoming place for students and parents to address any academic, social, or personal concerns that they may be experiencing. Our goal is to assist students to grow academically and socially during their time at Hillsdale. The middle school years offer new experiences, challenges, responsibilities, and opportunities for students to clarify values, set goals, and continue developing confidence and positive self-esteem. Mandy Bell (A-C) updegraffa@cajonvalley.net Daniel Shea (D-J) shead@cajonvalley.net Haley Bareno (K-P) (barenoh@cajonvalley.net) Kara Smith (Q-Z) (smithk@cajonvalley.net) Counseling office phone number (619) 441-6186
Q	Is there a student handbook?
A	Yes, our student handbook is digital and can be found on our website at: Student Handbook You will find all kinds of information about policies and procedures like student dress code, cell phone policy, discipline and more in our handbook.
Q	I applied for a transfer and have not heard if my child has been accepted, when can I expect to find out?

A	<p>If you applied for a transfer by the February 1, 2023 deadline, you should have already received an email from Longe Range Planning to call Hillsdale. If you applied by the deadline and have not received an email, please contact the Hillsdale Counseling Department at (619) 441-6186.</p> <p>If you applied after the deadline, please keep an eye out for the email and contact Hilldale Middle School when you receive it.</p>
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Q	Are there any after school sports or clubs?
A	<p>Hillsdale offers amazing before and after school enrichment opportunities dedicated to providing enrichment activities for students. This program is referred to as ELOP and is partnered with EDP. Free programs are after school intramural sports including soccer, flag football, volleyball, track and basketball. All other after before & school clubs are fee based. Signs ups can be done through the parent portal at cajonvalley.net</p> <p>HMS Club Descriptions Camp Sunrise/Sunset FAQ</p>

Q	What about 6th grade camp?
A	We are scheduled to attend Camp Cuyamaca March 31st- April 4th, 2025. 6th grade teachers help coordinate this and will begin to share information in late Fall.


Q	Does Hillsdale have an Extended Day Program?
A	Yes - before and after school care; Link to EDP information: CVUSD EDP

Q	Will transportation be available next year?
A	<p>Students with transportation services specified in their IEP will be provided with transportation. You can contact CVUSD Transportation at 619-588-3177.</p> <p>More to come on fee-based transportation for other students</p>

Q	When will my student receive his or her schedule?
A	Schedules are often being finalized right up until the last minute. Our goal is to provide families with access through Zangle of their student's schedule no later than the night before school begins. We will also have schedules available on the morning of the first day of school for any student who did not receive their schedule by email.

Q	What if there is a problem with my student's schedule?
A	Schedule changes are not usually made in the first two-three weeks. Students can meet with a counselor after that time to discuss options.

Q	How can I access ParentPortal?
A	Each parent has an account on the parent portal that can be accessed at: https://parentportal.cajonvalley.net/ . If you need more information regarding your child's progress, please contact your child's teacher. If you need a copy of your login information, please contact the counseling office at 619-441-6156.

Q	Is there a PTA at Hillsdale?
A	<p>Yes! We love our PTA!. Sign up below</p>  <p>The poster is for the Hillsdale Huskies PTA. It features a blue background with a white and yellow Husky logo in the top left corner. The text 'JOIN HILLSDALE PTA!!' is prominently displayed in yellow. Below this, it says 'Help us to make a positive impact on the Hillsdale Community by donating! These funds go directly to the programs and events that PTA sponsors.' A QR code is located in the top right corner with the text 'SCAN HERE!' below it. The membership levels are listed as follows: 'CHOOSE YOUR LEVEL OF SUPPORT: TOP DOG \$ 200, PACK LEADER \$ 100, HUSKY FRIEND \$ 50, GENERAL MEMBERSHIP \$15'. At the bottom, it states 'Any Level above General Membership will be entered into a drawing for prizes! You could win a 2024 Yearbook, PE Clothes, or some swag!'.</p>

Q	When is Back to School Night?
A	Back to School Night at Hillsdale is scheduled for Wednesday, September 13, 2023 from 5:30pm-7:30pm. More information will be shared at the beginning of our new school year.

Q	Where can I get more information that is not provided here?
A	Starting on August 9, you may call the Hillsdale office, M-F 8:30am-4:00pm and we will direct you to the staff member or department who can help (Office will be closed on August 10th for districtwide activity) OR you can visit our website at HMS Website or follow us on Facebook at Hillsdale Middle School Huskies.

2024-2025 HILLSDALE MIDDLE BELL SCHEDULE

6th	7th	8th
Advisory - 9:00-9:30	Advisory - 9:00-9:30	Advisory - 9:00-9:30
Period 1 - 9:34-10:25	Period 1 - 9:34-10:25	Period 1 - 9:34-10:25
Period 2 - 10:29-11:20	Period 2 - 10:29-11:20	Period 2 - 10:29-11:20
Lunch A - 11:20-11:50	Period 3A - 11:24-12:15	Period 3A - 11:24-12:15
Period 3B - 11:54-12:45	Lunch B - 12:15-12:45	Period 4A - 12:19-1:10
Period 4B - 12:49-1:40	Period 4B - 12:49-1:40	Lunch C - 1:10-1:40
Period 5 - 1:44-2:35	Period 5 - 1:44-2:35	Period 5 - 1:44-2:35
Period 6 - 2:39-3:30	Period 6 - 2:39-3:30	Period 6 - 2:39-3:30
Monday: Minimum Day		
Advisory - 9:00-9:06	Advisory - 9:00-9:06	Advisory - 9:00-9:06
Period 1 - 9:10-9:55	Period 1 - 9:10-9:55	Period 1 - 9:10-9:55
Period 2 - 9:59-10:44	Period 2 - 9:59-10:44	Period 2 - 9:59-10:44
Lunch A - 10:44-11:14	Period 3A - 10:48-11:33	Period 3A - 10:48-11:33
Period 3B - 11:18-12:03	Lunch B - 11:33-12:03	Period 4A - 11:37-12:22
Period 4B - 12:07-12:52	Period 4B - 12:07-12:52	Lunch C - 12:22-12:52
Period 5 - 12:56-1:41	Period 5 - 12:56-1:41	Period 5 - 12:56-1:41
Period 6 - 1:45-2:30	Period 6 - 1:45-2:30	Period 6 - 1:45-2:30