

The 2024-2025 school year is off to a great start! Our faculty and staff started on September 3 and 4, 2024, and we welcomed back our 1,191 students on Thursday, September 5, 2024.

Thank you to the PTO who provided a wonderful first day breakfast for our faculty and staff on September 3, 2024. We are all grateful for your kindness and warm hospitality!

I want to express my heartfelt gratitude to everyone who worked so attentively over the summer to prepare for the school year. Special thanks to our secretaries, business office, and custodial staff for their dedication. Thanks to our administrators for their extensive planning efforts and to our teachers for creating welcoming classrooms and engaging lessons for our students. I am confident it will be a fantastic year ahead!

As students begin their new year of learning, teachers will be administering benchmark assessments over the next few weeks. Students in grades K and 1 will have Aimsweb assessments in early literacy and numeracy. Students in grades 2 through 4 will have Linkit assessments in math from September 16 - 20, 2024, and in language arts from September 23 - 27, 2024. Students in grades 5 through 8 will have Linkit assessments in math from September 16 - 20, 2024, and in science and social studies from September 23 - 27, 2024, in language arts from September 16 - 20, 2024, and in science and social studies from September 23 - 27, 2024. This information has been shared with parents. The assessments will provide teachers with an early indication of the level of support students may need to meet grade level standards. If any parent has questions about the assessments, they may contact Ms. Zanin at Hillside Elementary School or Mr. McElroy at Tenakill Middle School.

Mark your calendars for Back-to-School Nights:

- Wednesday, September 18, 2024: Grades 5–6, TMS, 7:00 9:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, September 25, 2024: Grades 7–8, TMS, 7:00 9:00 p.m.
- Thursday, September 26, 2024: Grades 3–4, HES, 7:00 8:00 p.m.
- Thursday, October 10, 2024: Grades PreK–2, HES, 7:00 8:00 p.m.

Once again, our district will observe Hispanic Heritage Month starting on Monday, September 16, 2024. Students will learn about the cultures and contributions of people of Hispanic heritage throughout this month.

Vincent Mc Hale