

Hillside School



HISTORY AND MISSION

Our school, located in Marlborough, Massachusetts, is an independent, nonsectarian school that has been enrolling middle school boys (currently 165) as boarding and day students in grades 4 through 9 since 1901. At our founding, the school was a type of safe haven for boys whose families were unable to care for them during the industrial revolution of the early 1900's. Today, our students' needs are different but no less worthy. We provide a structured, supportive, and challenging environment for boys who are both traditional learners and those with learning differences. Our mission is to maximize the potential of every student in mind, body, and spirit.

THE CAMPUS

The city of Marlborough (population 37,699) is 30 miles west of Boston and 17 miles east of Worcester. The Assabet River flows through Hillside's 150-acre wooded campus which has its own spring-fed pond, a working farm, and six acres of athletic fields. The rural, wooded areas surrounding the school provide opportunities for hiking, bicycling, canoeing, and other outdoor pursuits, while the nearby cities offer ample cultural, recreational, and historic attractions.

EDUCATION

Hillside School offers a strong fundamental education within a nurturing family environment. Study skills and participation are two hallmarks of Hillside's academic program. Emphasis on social skills and character development are also stressed. We have small classes (average class size of 10-12 students) and individual attention (faculty to student ratio of 7:1). Our Academic Center contains 20 classrooms, WiFi computer access, and 3 science labs. Other important elements of the program include a top-notch tutorial program, leadership development, community service, and wonderful art and music programs. A strong sports program with at least 7 different teams for each season helps to keep the Hillside boys well rounded. Hillside School is able to offer a robust and caring program as a result of our compassionate and devoted community.



RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

Since the year 2000, Hillside's student population has more than doubled in size. Along with this growth we have added a student center which includes a dining room that seats 200 people, 2 new dorms, a second wing on the Academic and Health Center, a new library, a chapel, a pool, tennis courts, track, athletic fields, and an Innovation Center where among other things the boys can learn computer coding, robotics, 3D printing, and how to use a laser cutter. Current initiatives include more new dormitories and renovation of our farm.

FARM PROGRAM

Since Hillside's inception in 1901 on the family farm of our founders, Charlotte and Mary Drinkwater, the farm has played an integral role in the life of the school. One of the attractions of our current location, when we moved here in 1927, was that it came with a working farm. In the early days, we counted on the farm for survival, eating or selling most of what was grown or raised. Today, the Hillside School Farm still plays an important role in the educational program of our students. Through our Eco-team and Farm Immersion classes, the farm at Hillside provides the students with a variety of projects, lessons, and activities. The focus is to educate students on where their food comes from and the significant roles animals play on the farm through hands on activities.

CORE VALUES

Hillside embraces the five core values of Honesty, Compassion, Respect, Determination, and Brotherhood as guiding principles for overseeing student behavior and achievement.

DAR SUPPORT

Since 1925 Hillside has been the recipient of generous assistance from the Daughters of the American Revolution and is proud to be one of only six schools in the nation to be a DAR Approved School. In addition to attending conferences and chapter meetings, Hillside recognizes and honors the Daughters who so generously support Hillside School with our annual DAR Day celebration each year. We invite all of you to come to campus to meet our boys and see what makes Hillside such a special place. Please contact Hillside's Director of DAR Relations, Rich Meyer, at rmeyer@hillsideschool.net if you should have any questions about Hillside or would like to come for a visit.



Ed Chase
Headmaster since 2015

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