Hi Hawk Families!

Hillgrove Welcomes Dr. Byron Slack as the new Head Football Coach! Coach Slack has been married to his lovely wife Mary Francis for almost 22 years. His son Zion is 19 years old and currently attends Valdosta State University.

Coach Slack is coming from Lowndes High School where he served as the Defensive Coordinator and the Strength and Conditioning Coordinator for the past three years.

Coach Slack’s football experience includes serving at Camden County for 13 years and Defensive Coordinator four of those years, Minnesota State University as Defensive Line Coach and Recruiting Coordinator, University of Auburn as a graduate assistant working as the Strength and Conditioning Coordinator and Dunwoody High School as a Defensive Assistant.

Coach Slack was born and raised in Anchorage, Alaska. He moved to Georgia in the 8th grade and graduated from Terrell County High School. After high school Coach Slack served our country in the US Navy from 1987-1991. Upon his honorable discharge he enrolled at the University of West Georgia where he played football and was a first team All American in 1996. He was inducted in the West Georgia Hall of Fame in 2003. Coach Slack received his undergraduate degree in Special Education from the University of West Georgia.

He moved on to the University of Auburn where he received his Master of Education (Med) degree. He has since furthered his education by earning a doctorate from NOVA Southeastern University in 2014.

We are proud to have Coach Slack join the Hillgrove Staff and Community. He will be taking the reins reporting to Hillgrove on February 24, 2020. He will be teaching in the PE Department.

Coach Slack will meet the staff and the football team Tuesday, February 11th. We are happy to have him join our team!

On Wednesday February 26th

- There will be a Community Meet & Greet with Coach Slack from 5:00p.m. – 6:00p.m. All stakeholders are invited to come by and meet Coach.
- Present and Future Football Hawk Parents will then meet with the Coach at 6:30p.m.

Locations for both meetings will be announced in the next Hawk Highlights.
Our Volunteer of the Year: I want to take a moment to acknowledge Mrs. Sarah Bell! She is our Volunteer of the year and we appreciate all that she does. She works particularly with the Cross-Country Team. We are aware of the great works that volunteers do with selfless time, energy and sacrifices all for the benefit of our students and our school, so we say Thank you to Sarah and we applaud the work that she does for Hillgrove.

Counselor Appreciation Week was this past week and we most definitely celebrated our counseling department, but I wanted to make you aware of how grateful we are for our Professional School Counselors! Heather Boyle, Myesha Davis, Myranda Calloway, Peggy Hurst, Jacqueline Sullivan and Dr. Mirna Wynn. These ladies work gracefully serving and providing academic and social emotional support to our students every day. Clifford Donlon and Latoshia Breazeale assist with the support of the office and we thank them as well. This department helps to monitor our student’s growth and development while keeping them aligned for graduation. Thanks to our counselors for their hard work, time, energy and dedication to keeping Hillgrove Deliberately Successful!

Academic Night – February 13th

In the Hillgrove Auditorium

Hillgrove High School provides advanced coursework in all academic areas as well as in fine arts and career/technical areas.

The Advanced Academic Night will give detailed information that will help you and your child make informed decisions when deciding his or her future high school course of study. You'll have the opportunity to:

- Review current AP and Honors course descriptions with each academic department.
- Attend AP/Honors breakout sessions specific for upperclassmen and current 8th grade students.

Program
6:00-6:20 PM Welcome/ Opening Remarks.
6:20-7:00 PM Breakout sessions specific to upperclassmen and current 8th graders.
7:00-7:45 PM Release to cafeteria for a chance to meet with academic department chairs

Are you looking to help our students, our school? Come out to the Gala sponsored by the Hillgrove Foundation. It is March 27th at 7:00PM at the Cotton Gin. It is $50.00 per person. This fund raiser will assist us with technology resources and capital improvement. The Foundation also funds teacher grants to provide assistance and resources for classroom improvement. We have lots of needs, we just need lots of money. 😊 The best part is the community camaraderie! Come out and dance and eat. Can you do the Charleston? I hear there will be a contest! It will be fun. Hope to see you there!
Please mark your calendars and plan to support our school. We appreciate your support!

Calendar of Events:

- February 13th – Advanced Academic Night – 6:00p.m.
- February 17th – 21st – February Break – No School
- February 26th – Community Meet and Greet with New Coach – 5:00p.m to 6:00p.m
- February 26th – Football Parent Meeting (Present and Future) – 6:30p.m

From Sherri Thoroughman – Athletic Director

Hello Hawks!

I hope everyone had a wonderful weekend. We are in the post-season for winter sports, and spring sports are in full swing! We have almost made it to the February break. Come out and support our Hawks!

Here is how it went for our Hawks last week:

Diving- Olivia Devore took 7th place in 7A at the GHSA State Diving Championships.
Swimming- At the GHSA State Swimming Championships the boys medley relay took 14th place in 7A. Tommy Bried took 4th in 7A in the 200 IM. Tommy also took 6th in 7A and Daniel Decarlo took 9th in 7A for the 100 Fly. The girls 200 Freestyle Relay took 14th in 7A.
Warming up for Prelims

State Swimmers

Tommy 200 IM

Varsity Wrestling- 4 wrestlers have qualified for the GHSA State Finals after going to State Sectionals. Antoine Joseph is an alternate at 220 pounds.

Connor Powell- 120 pounds - took 3rd place

Ricky Roberto- 145 pounds- took 2nd place

Zion Rutledge- 182 pounds- took 7th place
Sarai Sanders- 162 pounds- took 1st in her weight class in the girls division and is the 1st female state qualifier for Hillgrove.

Varsity Girls Basketball- lost to North Paulding 60-55 in the 1st round of the Region 3-7A tournament. Kennedi White and Logan VanArsdale were named to the All-Region 3-7A Team.
Varsity Boys Basketball - beat North Paulding 62-50 in the 1st game of the 3-7A region tournament. They lost to McEachern 96-38 in the Semi-Final game. They lost to Kennesaw Mountain 59-53 in the consolation game and they will be the #4 seed for the GHSA State Tournament this week. They will travel to Camden County. Nate Meshida and Braylen Howard were named to the All-Region 3-7A Team. Here are the brackets for the GHSA State Tournament. [https://www.ghsa.net/2019-2020-ghsa-class-aaaaaaa-boys-state-basketball-championship-bracket](https://www.ghsa.net/2019-2020-ghsa-class-aaaaaaa-boys-state-basketball-championship-bracket)
Basketball Cheerleaders- They continue to provide support for the teams!

JV Girls Soccer- they beat Sprayberry 10-0 and Pebblebrook 10-0 in their first 2 games of the season.

Varsity Girls Soccer- they beat Etowah 6-0 in their season opening game.

JV Boys Soccer- they lost to Pebblebrook 4-0.

Varsity Boys Soccer- they beat South Cobb 8-2 in their season opening game and also beat Etowah 2-1.

Varsity Baseball- they lost to Pope 6-4 in their season opening scrimmage.

Boys Lacrosse- Beat East Paulding 22-4 in their season opening scrimmage. Several of the players braved the cold and rain and went to Dowell Elementary School to open car doors and greet their students.
Girls Lacrosse - lost to Cambridge in their season opening scrimmage.

Athletic Department-

In conjunction with the Physical Education and Social Studies Department, we celebrated National Girls and Women in Sports Day.

This was all of our female athletes together for the first time.

National Signing Day - 7 more student athletes signed to play their sport in college. All of these students are football players.
Drama- They went to ThesCon over the weekend. 39 hillgrove theatre students saw shows from all over the state and participated in workshops with theatre professionals from across the country.

Braylen Howard- football-Albany State
Cameron Kawa- football-Berry College
Matthew McCravy- football-Berry College
Issaiah McCray- football-Albany State
James Reddick- football-Morgan State
Evan Wallace- football-Centre College
Trevarus Walker- football- Albany State
FBLA- They hosted the Miss Hillgrove Pageant. This year’s Miss Hillgrove is Kyami Cruz. They want to give a big shout out to all of their contestants, volunteers, and sponsors for making this year's pageant a success!
Spanish 7 and Art- Mrs Collier-Johnston and Mrs. Erwin took 2 writers and 2 artists to Dowell Elementary on 1/28/2020 to present books to the DLI principals. Each school is taking back 9 copies for each of their DLI teachers. It totaled 389 books going out into our community for teachers to use as resources with their students!
Here’s what’s happening the next 2 weeks at Hillgrove:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>Mon</td>
<td>5:30 PM</td>
<td>VB Lacrosse</td>
<td>South Cobb</td>
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<tr>
<td>2/10/20</td>
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<td>4:15 PM</td>
<td>JVG Tennis</td>
<td>Campbell</td>
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<td>9:00 AM</td>
<td>Varsity Wrestling</td>
<td>GHSA State Tournament</td>
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<tr>
<td>2/13/20</td>
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<tr>
<td>2/14/20</td>
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<td>7:30 PM</td>
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<td>Dance Team</td>
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<td>Track-Distance</td>
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<tr>
<td>2/22/20</td>
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<td>Winterguard</td>
<td>Alpharetta</td>
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**Reflections that benefit us all**

"Slow success builds character; fast success builds ego."

*Dale Bronner*