Hi Hawk Families!

I hope your weekend was great! I want to share the article that was published from Cobb Ed TV about our guest speaker – Kevin Atlas from this past Wednesday. It sparked a movement at Hillgrove that our students will never forget. I came to tears with excitement as I watched him impact the lives of all who listened. He spoke to hearts and loved on the students in a way that empowered them to change some habits. He gave them many ideas of how to make life better for themselves overall. He was the dream speaker that I wanted to speak to my students ever since I met him last year at a Disney Award Show for BSN Sports. He promotes a “Believe In You” series that Hillgrove will most definitely incorporate in our curriculum during Hawk Hour. It was life changing for many of my students!

Many parents, teachers and students reached out to me about it. It literally sparked engaging conversations (without technology!), in the hallways, classrooms, cars and dinner tables as the feedback revealed. Check it out. It was a day that we will remember.

http://www.cobbsports.org/kevin-atlas-encourages-and-challenges-students-to-others-focused-outlook/

Here is one email from a student that you should read to hear the impact.

Dear Mrs. Stewart,

I want to thank you for today. Besides the fact that you are a pretty amazing principal you have just done something that before today I would’ve never thought possible. You got high school kids to listen. Genuinely listen. I didn’t see airpods or iPhones or hear annoyed side talk like I would’ve normally expected to hear. I have to admit I was a bit incredulous to hear rumors about a basketball player who would be talking for one hour straight. First off, I’m not athletically inclined at all. So automatically I expected it to be this pompous older man with a muscular body to discuss college and life and what not. But then Kevin Atlas started talking and sharing ‘the two elephants in the room’ and immediately we, all my friends as well I, were enraptured with what this man had to say. He touched on so many subjects, family issues, disabilities, mental conditions, medical situations that if not the first thing applied to one person it was something else. And if not, unfortunately, it was probably more than only one.

2019 as a whole was a roller-coaster of emotions and experiences that in 2018 I had not expected to occur. I wouldn’t change a single note of the song since it has brought me to today and the way things are now and I wouldn’t change that for the world. However that didn’t mean I hadn’t come into the year of 2020 a bit skeptical and weary of what surprises it might bring. When you said today that it was our 2020 gift, I really took it to heart.

Hearing Mr. Atlas talk was really what I needed to hear this start of the year. Especially with everything going on around everyone’s lives more specifically the ‘mental avalanche’ many students subject themselves to which causes issues for those closest to them. I think it really did move people, to tears even. With definite confirmation after talking with not only my friends, some pier and even kids that stayed in classes from different grade levels and all my teachers.

So thank you for trying so so hard to get this speaker to come to the school. I really hope you can make more things like this happen because I believe any future incoming eight graders should hear about this. Even if nothing like this happens again I’ll always remember this.

Also to let you know, something one of my teachers stated; they said that the way people react to something/someone that has truly hit home is to either scoff and make fun of it/them or truly be motivated and admire it/them. Either ways, every single soul in that school building was touched and whether or not they reacted in the hopefully latter way, it really did affect everyone in the end which is what matters most.

Again thank you and just continue being so strong willed and determined. Best of luck with your 2020.
The Hillgrove Foundation is closing in on the “Roaring 20’s Silent Auction Gala.” This is the replacement for what used to be Casino Night and we are excited to have this Hillgrove Fundraising Event. It is March 27th at 7:00PM at the Cotton Gin. It is $50.00 per person. Please mark your calendars and plan to support our school. The funds go toward purchasing more technology resources for our students and Capital Improvements for our campus. We appreciate your support!

Happenings:

January 15th – Faculty Talent Showcase (Theater Department Fundraiser) – Come out at 7:00p.m. to support the Theater department and see our staff’s great talents. 😊

January 16th - Please join us for this Community Event! – January 16th: Movie and Panel event regarding Anxiety: Please mark your calendars. [https://www.eventbrite.com/e/angst-tickets-84905870745](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/angst-tickets-84905870745)

January 17th – School-Wide Pep Rally during the day and Hoopcoming Event at Basketball Game that evening. Senior Night/Swimming.

January 23rd – 2nd Semester Open House (Details forthcoming)

One of the movements as a result of our speaker, that we are pushing as a school is to encourage students to support each other in all areas not just sports or football. Students want to now be more deliberate about attending events and other sports that they don’t typically attend. Please join us in encouraging that as we take on building our community in this way and showing support to all students and programs and not just some. Encourage your child to attend something they’ve never
attended. All students need to see and feel love and support. All of them, so we will work harder to do this.

From Sherri Thoroughman – Athletic Director

Hello Hawks!

I hope everyone had a great week last week. It’s Hoopcoming (Homecoming) week. Show your school spirit by participating in the dress up days. Come out and support our Hawks!

Here is how it went for our Hawks last week:

Swim and Dive- They took 3rd place at the Wheeler Invite. Olivia DeVore took 1st place in the diving!


Varsity Girls Basketball- lost to North Cobb 61-41 and lost to Marietta.

Tip Off vs Marietta

9th Grade Boys Basketball- lost to North Cobb 42-37 and beat Marietta 39-37.

JV Boys Basketball- beat North Cobb 43-32 and beat Marietta 47-39
Varsity Boys Basketball- lost to North Cobb 66-41 and beat Marietta 41-40.

Varsity Wrestling- at the Area 3-7A Duals they took 3rd place. In the first round they lost to Marietta. In the 2nd round they beat Kennesaw Mountain 57-25. In the 3rd round they beat Marietta 39-38 and lost to North Paulding 41-34 in the match for a true 2nd place. Connor Powell went 4-0 on the day with 3 pins, Ricky Roberto went 4-0 on the day with 4 pins. Diego Portugal went 3-1 on the day with 3 pins. Connor Cooper went 3-1 on the day with 3 pins, Zion Rutledge went 3-1 on the day with 3 pins. Antoine Joseph went 3-1 on the day with 3 pins, and Kyle Kalminski went 3-1 on the day with 3 pins.

Basketball Cheerleaders- They are always there to support the teams!

Kevin Atlas- Everyone was engaged and inspired by Mr. Atlas.
Mr. Atlas met with the Department Chairs and Counselors before he spoke to the students.

Mr. Atlas with the Counselors and Department Chairs.

Mr. Atlas met with a group of student leaders and they had a fantastic conversation about school culture.

Student Section- Our students came out supported the teams this week!

Students at game vs Marietta.

Follow us on Twitter @hillgrovesports or find more information on our website at www.hillgroveathletics.com. Visit our galleries online. Mrs. Morgan continues to upload more pictures!

Here’s what’s happening this week 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>All Basketball</td>
<td>McEachern</td>
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<tr>
<td>1/15/20</td>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>7:00 PM</td>
<td>Drama</td>
<td>Faculty Talent Show</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Orienteering Navigator Cup</td>
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<tr>
<td>1/19/20</td>
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<td>NJROTC</td>
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Reflecteds that benefit us all

“People don’t like school because everyone focuses on themselves so much. Love, support and compliment someone else and it will change the culture of your school”

Kevin Atlas (paraphrased)