



Brookings School District

Empowering all learners to embrace and be inspired to realize their potential.

HILLCREST ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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November 2024 School Board Report

A Great Place to Work:

Hillcrest Elementary is a great place to work, where our commitment to positive student behavior shines through our monthly assemblies. These gatherings create a supportive and inclusive environment where we celebrate students' accomplishments and reinforce our shared values. Each month, students, teachers, and staff come together to recognize positive behaviors and highlight the ways students contribute to our school community. This practice not only builds a sense of unity among students but also fosters a positive culture that staff are proud to be part of. The assemblies give us a unique opportunity to collaboratively shape our school's climate, making Hillcrest Elementary a place where everyone feels valued and motivated to contribute to student success.

A Great Place to Collaborate:

Hillcrest Elementary is a great place to collaborate, especially during our professional development days focused on enhancing instructional practices. Our recent training sessions on Explicit Instruction and the Science of Reading provided an invaluable opportunity for staff to come together, deepen their knowledge, and share strategies. The sessions were designed to strengthen our understanding of evidence-based practices, giving us the tools to improve literacy outcomes and engage students more effectively. Our team was able to build a shared vision for instruction, fostering a strong sense of support and camaraderie. This collaborative approach to professional growth empowers every educator at Hillcrest to bring their best to the classroom, making it a place where teaching practices and student success are continuously elevated.



A Great Place to Learn

Hillcrest Elementary is a great place to learn, especially with our Walk to Read reading groups, which are tailored to meet each student's unique learning needs. During these sessions, students are grouped by reading level and work with dedicated teachers on targeted literacy skills, ensuring everyone gets the right support and challenge to grow as readers. This focused, small-group approach not only helps boost reading confidence and ability but also fosters a love for reading. At Hillcrest, every child is given the tools and encouragement they need to succeed, making it a wonderful environment for learning and growth.

