

Brookings School District

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

HILLCREST ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Shannon Smith, Principal 304 15th Avenue ● Brookings, SD 57006 ● Phone 605-696-4600 ● Fax 605-696-4642

December 2024 School Board Report



A Great Place to Work

Hillcrest Elementary is a great place to work because of the creative and caring spirit of our staff. Our student pick-up team goes above and beyond by dressing up in fun costumes, bringing extra smiles and laughs to families during pick-up time. This small but meaningful gesture reflects the positive and supportive culture that makes Hillcrest such a special community.

A Great Place to Collaborate

Hillcrest Elementary is a great place to collaborate because of our strong partnerships that foster meaningful connections between students of all ages. Through the Peer-to-Peer Program, Brookings High School students visit Hillcrest one day a week to support our learners in preschool and special education. This program not only provides valuable mentorship and role modeling for our students but also creates a positive and inclusive environment. Hillcrest students eagerly look forward to these visits, and the high schoolers' presence has a lasting, positive impact on our school community. This collaboration highlights our commitment to building supportive relationships that benefit everyone involved.

A Great Place to Learn

Hillcrest continues to be a great place to learn, offering opportunities that celebrate diversity and enrich our students' understanding of the world. Second grade had a wonderful presentation by the Dakota People of Flandreau. We are incredibly thankful for the opportunity to learn from them as they shared their artwork, clothing, music, games, and language. This experience provided a meaningful connection to cultural heritage and history, fostering an appreciation for the richness of our community. Moments like these exemplify Hillcrest's commitment to creating an inclusive and engaging learning environment.

