

SPOTLIGHT ON HILLS AND DALES SENIOR CLASS

The Senior Class at Hills and Dales is comprised of eight students, two aides, and one teacher. The classroom is a Moderate/Intense functional unit bringing together students from the high schools of Highland County. Students are placed at Hills and Dales based on the recommendation of their IEP team, which is comprised of representatives from the home school district, Hills and Dales personnel, and the parent and/or guardian of the student, keeping in mind the needs of the student. Offered at Hills and Dales is Physically Therapy, Speech, Adaptive Physical Education, Occupational Therapy, along with a functional curriculum based on the State Standards used for all high school students.

We strive to practice life-skills on a daily basis, promoting independence in all areas of the students' development. Laundry, cooking, personal hygiene, job skills, socialization, recreation, computer skills are examples of what you will see happening in the classroom, throughout the building, and carried into the community. Our students are willing to try anything as evidenced by their willingness to prepare snacks for the Preschool Classrooms weekly, cooking for staff periodically, washing ball uniforms, weeding the flower gardens, and distributing a weekly newsletter to mention a few of their job opportunities.

We are working hard on expanding our computer skills for communication, socialization, and entertainment. The planets, birds, eggs, and habitats are examples of topics we have studied this year. Shopping for supplies, going to the movies and the library, and bowling are a few of our favorite community outings. We love to have visitors and encourage anyone that is not familiar with Hills and Dales to stop by and see what wonderful learning is taking place in the Senior Classroom and throughout the entire building. Pictured below are members of the senior class on community outings.