

HAMMOND NEWS



HAMMOND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

8110 Aladdin Drive

Laurel, MD 20723

410-880-5890 Safe-to-School 301-725-9250 <http://hes.hcpss.org>

May 13, 2010

May 14

SCHOOLS OPEN FOR STUDENTS (Previously marked on calendar as Professional Work Day)

May 17

VOLUNTEER TRAINING 9:15AM – MEDIA CENTER

May 19

VOLUNTEER TRAINING 6:30PM – MEDIA CENTER

May 20

Enrichment Fair 6-8pm

May 25

Chorus Concert 7pm

May 26

PTA Family Night at Red Robin 4-9pm

May 27

Field Day (Rain Date 6/2)

May 28

Family Life Preview 5-6pm (for parents of 5th graders)

June 4

Kindergarten in house field trip/ Catoctin Wildlife 9:30-10:30am

June 7

5th grade Simulated Congressional Hearing

June 7-10

4th grade poetry recital 9:30am HMS cafeteria

June 9

5th grade Family Life (taught in school)

June 10

Volunteer Tea 9:15-10:15am cafeteria

June 11

1st grade Author's Tea 12:30-2pm

5th grade field trip Mt. Vernon

Spring Carnival 5-8pm

Kindergarten end of year picnic 10am

June 14

5th grade move up/farewell ceremony 9am

June 15

5th grade picnic 10:15am – 3:15pm

June 16

End of year picnic 1st and 2nd grades (time to be announced)

June 17

End of year picnic 3rd grade 9:30-12:30pm and 4th grade 12:30-3:30pm

JUNE 18

Last day of School for students and staff

LETTER FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT REGARDING LAST DAY OF SCHOOL FOR HES & HMS

This year's severe winter has resulted in the school year being extended to June 23rd. This has shortened the amount of time to complete construction projects scheduled for this summer. To ensure projects scheduled for HES and HMS are completed by the first day of school next fall, both schools will be dismissed for summer on Friday, June 18th. The project schedule is very tight and depends on the construction crews working 12-16 hour workdays. The three school days and the added weekend will provide the crews with the equivalent of 10 additional workdays to complete the project. The decision to close schools early was not made lightly. Closing the schools early was the most viable option and supported our interest in completing the projects on time. We believe it is better to sacrifice days at the end of the year rather than jeopardize opening the schools on time in August. We appreciate your understanding and think you will be pleased with the transformation over the summer.

IMPORTANT CHANGES TO SCHOOL CALENDAR

Howard County has made changes to the school calendar to make up school days missed due to inclement weather. May 14th (marked on the calendar as schools closed for students/professional development day) will now be a full instructional day for students. Due to construction, June 18th is now the last day of school. This information is also posted on the Howard County website; www.hcpss.org.

VOLUNTEER TRAINING SESSIONS

There are a variety of opportunities coming up for you to volunteer at HES. If you would like to participate in Field Day and upcoming field trips, you must complete a volunteer training session. There are two scheduled, Friday, **May 14th at 9:15 am**, and Monday, **May 17th at 6:30pm**.

FIELD DAY INFORMATION & VOLUNTEERS STILL NEEDED

REMINDER: FIELD DAY IS WEDNESDAY MAY 26th. PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT YOUR CHILDREN ARE DRESSED IN COMFORTABLE, APPROPRIATE CLOTHING. PLEASE REMEMBER TO PUT SUNSCREEN ON YOUR CHILD THAT DAY. ALSO YOUR CHILD MAY BRING IN THEIR OWN WATER BOTTLE (MAKE SURE TO HAVE IT LABELED SO IT DOES NOT GET LOST). Mr. Pfeffer and Mrs. Serpico still need volunteers for Field Day; if you are available (and have been volunteer trained) please fill out the form that was sent home or email Mrs. Serpico at suzanne_serpico@hcpss.org
ADDITIONAL VOLUNTEER TRAINING SESSIONS ARE: Friday, May 14 at 9:15am and Monday, May 17 at 6:30pm.



SIMULATED CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS

The Simulated Congressional Hearing (SCH) is the culminating activity for fifth grade social studies in the Howard County Public School System. Throughout the year, students study four units of instruction: Colonial America, The American Revolution, Building a New Nation and We the People. The SCH is an authentic performance-based assessment where students demonstrate their understanding of the U.S. Constitution and the Bill of Rights. Students display their expertise on topics ranging from colonial life and government to the contemporary rights and responsibilities of citizens in our country. Our SCH will take place on Friday, June 4th, with our Opening Ceremonies beginning at 9:15am. Sessions will run all day, so please join us and watch your child in action!

THANK YOU FOR A SUPER STAFF APPRECIATION WEEK AT HAMMOND!

The entire staff would like to thank Mrs. Bastien (the chairperson) and all of the wonderful volunteers that worked so hard to show the HES staff a fabulous week of treats and sweets! The staff was treated to massages, lunch, breakfast, chocolate goodies, and special individual treats! We truly feel appreciated!

PTA NEWS

PTA Nominating Committee Chairperson

The HES PTA is seeking a person who is willing to be the Nominating Committee Chairperson. This person would be the point of contact for HES parents or teachers who wish to be nominated for the PTA Executive Board. If you are willing to serve as the chairperson, please contact Mrs. Armstrong for more information at 410-880-5890 or caa1130@comcast.net.

RED ROBIN – NEW VENUE FOR PTA FAMILY NIGHT IN MAY!

Join us for Family Night at *Red Robin*[®], *Tuesday, May 25th* between *4 and 9pm*. Red Robin[®] is known for their gourmet burgers, being dietary/allergy friendly, using only fresh quality ingredients, preparing customized orders and providing service with a smile. *Red Robin*[®] will donate 15% of all Hammond Elementary sales to the HES PTA. The restaurant is located at the corner of Snowden River Parkway and Dobbin Road at Columbia Crossing. *Flyers are required*. Spread the word and we will see you there.

GOT SHADE? The HES PTA is seeking some!

Due to school renovation, in the absence of rain, the 2010 HES PTA Spring Carnival will be staged entirely outdoors at the rear of the Middle School. If you own a pop-up canopy that you are willing to lend for our event, please contact Amy Shugar at (301) 633-8874 or sheashug@comcast.net. Thanks in advance for helping us out.

2010 HES Spring Carnival Poster Contest

Earn up to 20 free tickets for the HES PTA Spring Carnival. Poster submissions are being accepted until Wednesday, May 26th. All entrants will receive 10 free tickets and all grade winners will receive an additional 10 tickets. Contest rules can be viewed at www.hespta.org/springcarnival2010.html.

PTA SPRING CARNIVAL FOOD DRIVE CONTEST

Over 1000 food items have been collected to help needy families in our community! Contest standings will be announced each Monday. The grade that donates the most food items during the contest period will win a Popsicle Party with Mr. Vanisko. The contest will continue through June 4th, therefore, any grade can still win. Thank you for the contributions so far, and remember to keep the food items coming!

THANKS FOR THE STUFFED ANIMALS and HAPPY MEAL TOYS!



Due to your overwhelming response, we cannot accept anymore stuffed animals or happy meal toys this year. We look forward to seeing you at the Spring Carnival on Friday, June 11th. Thank you very much for your support!

COMMUNITY EVENTS

COLUMBIA ASSOCIATION – SUPREME SPORTS CLUB FREE BASKETBALL MINI-CAMP

The Supreme Sports Club will offer a free Basketball Mini-Camp for boys and girls in grades 2 – 10, on Sunday, May 23, from 10:30am – 12:00pm. Participants with all skill levels and abilities, members and non-members are welcome. The mini-camp is a preview of their Summer Basketball Camp held in one-week sessions from June 28 – August 27. Mini-Camp participants will receive a \$50 coupon to attend the summer camp. For more information, call 410-381-5355.