

# HAMMOND TIGER TALES – October 8, 2015



*Hammond Elementary school provides a safe, nurturing learning environment that fosters individual success through academic excellence, and appreciation of diversity, to ensure lifelong learners.*

## Important Dates:

October 14	Kindergarten Field Trip – Sharp’s Farm 9:15 am – 1:15 pm (raindate 10/22/15)
October 15	Fall FUN RUN
October 16	<b>Schools closed for students</b>
October 19	Vision and Hearing Screening
October 19	5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Field Trip-Terrapin Adventures 9:30 am -2:30 pm
October 28	Vision and Hearing Re-screening
October 30	Halloween Parade 11:00 am Schools close 3 hours early (HES 12:30 pm) End of 1 <sup>st</sup> Marking Period
November 6	2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade Field Trip Howard County Conservancy (9:15 am-2:00 pm)
November 13	Flu Mist Clinic (PLEASE note date change from 17 <sup>th</sup> )
November 16-20	American Education Week and HES Book Fair
November 16	4 <sup>th</sup> Grade Field Trip – American Art Museum 9:30 am-2:00 pm
November 17	Family Math Night 6:00-8:00 pm
November 18	1 <sup>st</sup> Grade Field Trip – Brunswick Bowling-9:30 am -12:30 pm
November 19	Spirit Day (wear HES attire or yellow & green)–Double Tuffy Day

## Planting Seeds of Knowledge Message:

I would like to share our school procedures for the upcoming Halloween festivities that will be conducted on the morning of Friday, October 30. Our Instructional Leadership Team’s decisions considered the diversity of our student population, individual student needs, and our commitment to providing a safe environment.

All students will have the opportunity to participate in a costume parade and party. Teachers will work with room parents to coordinate volunteers and donations. If your family does not wish to have your child(ren) participate in these events, please notify the classroom teacher in advance of October 30, so that alternative arrangements can be made for your child(ren) during the party/parade time. We will also be hosting a school-wide lunch period for students to eat in the classroom with their teachers. Your family will have a choice as to whether to bring a bagged lunch from home or to purchase a bagged lunch from the cafeteria. Please note your preference on the letter that is coming home today with your child and return it to your child’s teacher by **Friday, October 23**. Your purchase will be deducted from your child’s lunch account the day of the celebration.

Our families and special guests are welcome to join us for the parade that begins at 11:00 AM. Please gather around the blacktop area of the playground. If there is rain on this day, the parade will be cancelled. In order to maintain a safe environment during the festivities, we will be unable to accommodate visitors within the classrooms before or after the parade. Because October 30 is an early dismissal day, you may decide to take your child(ren) after the parade, but will need to sign them out in the office.

When selecting a costume for your child, please be reminded that systemic policy does not permit violent or gory outfits. Students may not bring toys that resemble weapons such as guns, knives, and swords or wear masks. Please also consider costumes and make-up (full face cannot be covered) that students can independently manage. Additionally, if you join the festivities and decide to wear a costume, please follow the same guidelines provided for students.

Kimberlyn S. Pratesi  
Principal

### **FALL FUN RUN REMINDER:**

Fall Fun Run Thursday Oct 15th during your child's related arts time. Make sure they dress appropriately and wear their tennis shoes. 5<sup>th</sup> Grade – 9:10 am, 4<sup>th</sup> Grade -10:10 am, 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade – 11:10 am, 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade – 12:10 pm, 1<sup>st</sup> Grade 1:10 pm, Kindergarten – 2:10 pm.

### **Emergency Information Needed**

*Family File* is replacing the Emergency Procedure Card and can be found by logging in to HCPSS Connect at [www.hcpss.org/connect](http://www.hcpss.org/connect). In the *Family File* section, parents will find all of the information historically located on the Emergency Procedure Cards such as contact information, medical considerations, and preferences. Find *Family File* at [www.hcpss.org/connect](http://www.hcpss.org/connect). A mailing has gone home to all families that have not completed this very important task. Please feel free to contact Kristin Monteith or Kerry Greer at 410-880-5890 for assistance.

### **Free HES Fundraiser**

Want to help Hammond with a fundraiser that's totally free? You'll also get free CFL Lightbulbs, handheld shower heads, and more! Sign up for a Free Home Energy Checkup that takes less than an hour. You can find information in your child's take-home folder on a blue sheet of paper or you can visit: <http://hes.hcpss.org/messages/hammond-fundraiser-free-check-it-out>

### **Volunteers Welcome**

If you are interested in volunteering in your child's classroom, field day, field trips, cafeteria, reading program – PLEASE – go to the following website and complete the training video and follow the directions. <http://www.hcpss.org/parents/volunteer-information/>. The certificate of completion should be printed and returned to the front office staff.

### **Daily Five Reading Program**

Thank you to all families that have donated books for our Daily Five reading program. The staff is thrilled to have so many new books in their classroom libraries! If you have books to donate to our K-5th grade classrooms we would greatly appreciate it. Simply leave them in the front office and tell the secretaries they are for Mrs. Smith. If you have any questions, please email me at [Laura\\_M\\_Smith@hcpss.org](mailto:Laura_M_Smith@hcpss.org)

### **Green Team Requests**

Green team needs a bird feeder! Please contact [Laura\\_valente@hcpss.org](mailto:Laura_valente@hcpss.org) if you have one available to donate to HES. Thank you!

### **Thank you**

We will have four additional World Clocks on the wall of our main hallway very soon! Thank you to the following families that made that possible: Chen/Zhang, Liang, Zhou/Qian, Li/Chen, Hao, Chen/Huang, Yang/Yu, Shen/Liu, Tao/Wang, Zhang/Xu, Zhang, Wang/Xie, Yu, Zhou/Zhang, Lei/Zhu, Wang/Ye, Lu/Chen, Ye/Liu, Holmes/Zhang. We appreciate your generosity!

### **Student Dismissals**

Please notify the front office prior to 2:30 pm for any dismissal changes or send a note in the morning.

### **Student Attendance**

When your child has been absent, you may email your child's teacher (please cc: [Kristin\\_Monteith@hcpss.org](mailto:Kristin_Monteith@hcpss.org), our new Teachers' Secretary/Attendance Secretary) or you may send a note upon their return. Please remember to write your child's first and last name, date of absence, and reason for the absence.



Hammond Elementary will be continuing our food drive. In September we collected over 200 items! We really appreciate all of the donations. All food will be donated to LARS (Laurel Advocacy and Referral Services) and will benefit our community right here in Laurel. Please send any non-perishable food donations in to school with your child. Collection boxes are throughout the school and will be picked up by LARS. Thank you in advance for any donations!

### 9<sup>th</sup> Annual ADHD Awareness Evening

The Howard County Public School System (HCPSS) will be holding its 9<sup>th</sup> Annual ADHD Awareness Evening on October 8, 2015 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. in the Centennial High School auditorium. Our guest speaker will be Dr. George McCloskey, a professor in the Psychology, Department at the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine. Dr. McCloskey's presentation "*Executive Functions and the Gap between Knowing and Doing*", will provide participants with information regarding executive functions and strategies to improve them. This event is free to the public and there is no registration required. For more information, please contact Sally Dorman at 410-313-1252 or e-mail [sally\\_dorman@hcpss.org](mailto:sally_dorman@hcpss.org).

### **Coffee & Conversation**

The Board of Education of Howard County regularly holds *Coffee & Conversation* sessions at schools throughout the county. These meetings provide citizens with an opportunity to share a cup of coffee and chat informally with Board members.

The meetings are held in various regions of the county; however, interested persons from throughout the county are invited to attend any or all of the meetings.

#### ***The next Coffee & Conversation***

**With the Board of Education will be held:**

**Saturday, October 24, 2015, 9:30 - 11 a.m.**

**Deep Run ES Cafeteria**

**6925 Old Waterloo Road, Elkridge, MD 21075**

### SPIRIT WEAR

**Show your school spirit! Hammond spirit wear is now available. All ordering is done online and items are shipped directly to you. Go to [www.hammondspiritwear.com](http://www.hammondspiritwear.com) and check out the items. From October 1st until October 15th you get FREE SHIPPING when you enter the code HM1015. If you have any questions, please contact Christina Alvarez: [calvarez957@gmail.com](mailto:calvarez957@gmail.com)**

### HES PTA Talent Show on Friday, Dec 4, 2015 at 6:30 pm

HES Staff and PTA have decided to hold a Fall Talent Showcase!! So dust off your dance shoes, tune up your instrument, get your groups together, and let's get on with the show!

Anyone who wishes to participate in the Talent Show **MUST** sign up for an act review, using this link: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0f45a4a82ba31-hestalent>

<b>Act Review Signup Deadline</b>	October 10, 2015
<b>Act Review Dates &amp; Times</b>	October 12, 14; 4:30 - 6:00 every 10 minutes October 13, 15; 4:00 - 6:00 every 10 minutes
<b>Dress Rehearsal</b>	December 3, 2015, 4:00 PM in HES Gym
<b>Show Time</b>	December 4, 2015, 6:30 PM in HES Gym

If you would like to volunteer or have any questions, please contact Sumaira Bajwa at [bajwasumaira@yahoo.com](mailto:bajwasumaira@yahoo.com).

### **Future Golden Bears:**

Join in the Hammond High School Homecoming Parade on October 10, 2015 presented by Hammond High School's SGA and Boosters organizations.

- **When: Saturday, October 10, 2015, 10:00 AM Check –in and Line-Up, 10:30 AM Parade Start**
- **Where: Kings Contrivance Village Center, in front of the Amherst House**
- **Attire: Sports Teams wear matching Jerseys. Clubs and Activities wear matching T-shirts, if possible. Parents wear your Spirit wear.**
- **Accessories: Banners/poster boards with your group's title and best smile. Flags for Scout Groups**

Ages up to 10 yrs, who will attend Hammond HS are invited to participate. Strollers are welcome with adult supervision Convertibles and pick-up trucks, drivers and pre-parade line-up help needed, 10 AM day of Volunteers, please contact Shaun Borsh

[410.381.4366/nsborsh@verizon.net](mailto:410.381.4366/nsborsh@verizon.net) or Karin Bruce, 410.381.6694/karinfbuce@comcast.net.

### **Policy Highlight (each newsletter will contain a summary of HCPSS Policies)**

Policy 9010 - Attendance

Regular daily attendance is vital to the continuity of classroom instruction and participation in school activities. Therefore, students are required to be in school or to be attending a school activity each day school is in session. In recognition that situations do arise that necessitate absence from school, the Board of Education allows students to be lawfully absent for a death in the family, illness, a court summons, hazardous weather as determined by the Superintendent, work release, religious obligation, declared State emergencies, suspension, or for other emergencies or set of circumstances which in the judgment of the Superintendent or designee constitutes a good and sufficient cause for absence.