

Hammond Elementary PTA

Monthly Newsletter: October 2025



The Hammond Elementary School Parent Teacher Association (PTA) is a volunteer group that partners with families and staff to support students and build community. Membership is just \$10 per person, and your support helps fuel the programs, events, and resources our students and teachers rely on. **Join us today at hespta.org!**

Trunk-or-Treat

Join us for a spooktacular evening of fun at Hammond Elementary School's **Trunk-or-Treat** on **Thursday, October 16 from 6–8pm** in the school parking lot! There will be decorated trunks filled with treats and goodies, a festive **costume contest**, and an exciting **raffle** with prizes from Pepperjacks, Hyper Kidz Columbia, Monster Mini Golf, NOW Massage, and more! Enjoy delicious bites from **food trucks**, dance to the **music**, and celebrate the season with our school community.

🎃 Don't miss this family-friendly event—we can't wait to see you there! 🎃

Restaurant Night

Wednesday, October 29

Red Robin

8640 Snowden River Parkway

20% is donated to PTA

(see flyer for more details)



🏀 Harlem Wizards Basketball Game 🏀

Monday, November 10, 6:30pm - 8:30pm, Atholton HS

The Harlem Wizards are taking on our very own teachers and staff in a high-energy showdown packed with trick shots, laughs, and epic dunks. Bring the whole family for a night of fun, school spirit, and support for our PTA! **Tickets are on sale now—grab yours before they are gone!** <https://www.harlemwizards.com/tickets/Columbia>

Purple Star Program

We are excited to share that our school is pursuing the **Purple Star School** designation, a prestigious honor recognizing schools that support military-connected students and their families. This designation ensures dedicated resources, a liaison, and a welcoming environment to help children transition smoothly. By fostering inclusivity and empathy, the Purple Star initiative strengthens our entire school community—contact Captain Michael Goff (goff.michael14@gmail.com) to get connected.



Thank you for Supporting Recess!

A huge thank-you to all the families who contributed to our recess supply donations! Thanks to your generosity, our students now have plenty of playground favorites to enjoy—your support truly makes recess more fun.

Spotlight on APFO: Why It Matters for Our Schools

PTA Council of Howard County (PTACHC) is closely monitoring proposed changes to the **Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance (APFO)**, a policy that helps ensure schools and infrastructure can support new housing growth. A 2026 proposal would eliminate current overcrowding protections and replace them with a developer fee — even if schools are severely over capacity.

This change could:

- Remove limits on school overcrowding
- Shift financial burden to taxpayers
- Undermine funding for student education and school construction

The PTA's position is clear: no school should be intentionally overcrowded or underfunded.

👉 Learn more at ptachc.org and consider contacting the **County Executive** & **County Council** to share your concerns.

HES PTA PRESENTS:

TRUNK OR TREAT

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16

6-8 PM

HES PARKING LOT

8110 ALADDIN DRIVE, LAUREL

TREATS & GOODIES

COSTUME/TRUNK CONTESTS

FOOD TRUCKS, MUSIC & MORE

RAFFLE TICKETS
10 FOR \$9



SPONSORED BY



Red Robin® will give

**20% OF FOOD SALES*
BACK TO**

HAMMOND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

**Show this flyer or simply mention the fundraiser to
your server to have your sales counted.**

FUNDRAISER DETAILS

8640 Snowden River Parkway, Columbia, MD 21045

October 29, 2025*

If ordering online, please follow these instructions:

- 1** Start your order at redrobin.com/order and select the restaurant above.
- 2** In the menu, go to the category labeled "Fundraisers (To-Go Only)" and click on that item.
- 3** Click the "add" button, and then "add to bag."
- 4** Add your meal items and check out.
- 5** Arrive at Red Robin, come in, say hi, grab your food and be on your way! If your location has curbside pick-up, we can bring it to your car too!

*Fundraiser during restaurant operating hours. Visit redrobin.com and find this location to view hours. Donation based on all eligible net dine-in and to-go food sales only. Excludes sales from catering (at select locations), 3rd party ordering and delivery sites, alcohol, gift cards, retail, tax and gratuity. Offer void if flyer is distributed in or near the restaurant during fundraiser day & hours.

Red Robin

FREE CLASS FOR PARENTS AND GRANDPARENTS



Taking HoCo Families to the Next Level

Guiding Good Choices® is an evidence-based, interactive prevention program that helps you build a stronger bond with your child, while also providing skills proven to reduce the risk of children engaging in substance use or other risky behaviors. Learn how to:

- Prevent Drug Use in Your Family
- Develop Healthy Beliefs and Clear Standards
- Avoid Trouble and Respond to Peer Pressure
- Manage Conflict and Express Feelings Constructively
- Strengthen Family Bonds
- And More!

This series of five Zoom classes is for **parents, guardians, and grandparents** of 9-14 year olds, but will consider slightly older or younger children on a case by case basis. Adult **or** child must be a Howard County resident.

Class Dates: Tuesdays/Thursdays:

November 11, 13, 18, 20 and December 2

(Participants are encouraged to attend all 5 sessions.)

Time: Noon - 1:30 p.m.

Register: <https://tinyurl.com/GGC-Fall2025>

Learn more: hcdrugfree.org/currentevents

HCDrugFree
Empowering the Community

