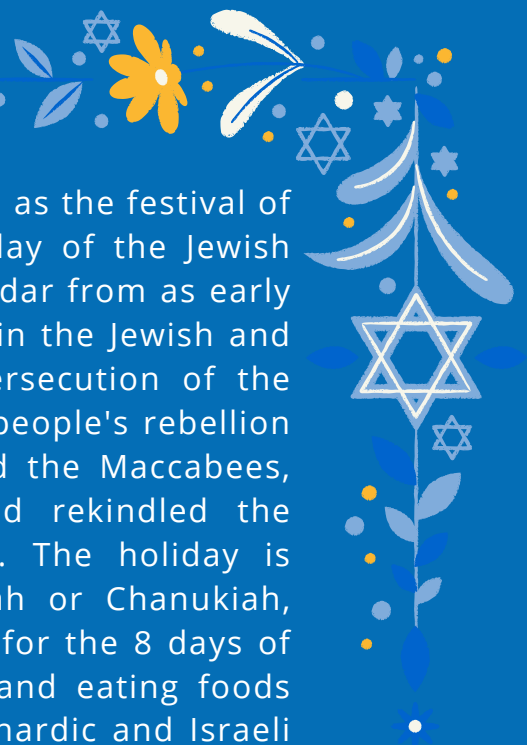


Chanukah 2023



Chanukah, the Jewish festival of rededication, also known as the festival of lights, is an eight-day festival beginning on the 25th day of the Jewish month of Kislev. The holiday moves throughout the calendar from as early as late November into early January due to differences in the Jewish and Gregorian calendars. Chanukah commemorates the persecution of the Jews by Syrian Greek rulers in the 2nd century B.C.E. A people's rebellion ended their rule and the victors, led by a group called the Maccabees, rededicated the desecrated Temple in Jerusalem and rekindled the Menorah (7 branch oil lamp) that had been defiled. The holiday is celebrated by lighting candles in a Chanukah menorah or Chanukiah, which has 9 branches - one for the utility candle and 8 for the 8 days of the holiday. Other observances include festival songs and eating foods cooked in oil, particularly donuts called sufganiyot (Sephardic and Israeli tradition) and potato pancakes called latkes (Ashkenazic tradition). Gift giving, including gelt (chocolate coins or money) have also recently been added to the tradition. For more specific ritual observances and instructions, see <https://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/hannukah>.

Community Chanukah Celebrations!

Tuesday, December 12 (6-7 pm)
Main Street and Ellicott Mills Rd
8394 Main St
Ellicott City, MD 21043

Wednesday, December 13 (6-7 pm)
Turf Valley Towne Square
11075 Resort Rd
Ellicott City, MD 21042

Thursday, December 14th (6-7 pm)
Dorsey's Search Village Center
4765 Dorsey Hall Dr
Ellicott City, MD 21042

B"H

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nicholas.lamanna@nm.com
nicholaslamanna.nm.com

Columbia Floors

SUN | DEC 10 | 5 PM

**COLOR BURST PARK
COLUMBIA MD**

Christmas 2023

Christmas means "Christ-mass." Although the date is a guess, the tradition of observing it goes back to at least the fourth century. Under the influence of the church, Christian traditions replaced pagan solstice festivals throughout Europe. Christmas Eve is celebrated in anticipation of Christmas day. Many other varying cultural traditions and experiences are also associated with Christmas Eve around the world, including the gathering of family and friends, the singing of Christmas carols, the illumination and enjoyment of Christmas lights, trees, and other decorations, the wrapping and/or opening of gifts, and general preparation for Christmas Day.

Christians celebrate Christmas Day as the anniversary of the birth of Jesus of Nazareth, a spiritual leader whose teachings form the basis of their religion. No one knows for sure on what day Christ was born. Dionysus Exiguus, a sixth-century monk, who was the first to date all of history from December 25th, the year of our Lord 1. Popular customs include exchanging gifts, decorating Christmas trees, attending church, sharing meals with family and friends and, of course, waiting for Santa Claus to arrive. Christian stories replaced the heathen tales, but the practices hung on. Candles continued to be lit. Kissing under the mistletoe remained common in Scandinavian countries. But over the years, gift exchanges became connected with the name of St. Nicholas, a real but legendary figure of 4th century Lycia (a province of Asia). A charitable man, he threw gifts into homes.

Check it Out!

[History of Christmas](#)
from History.com

[Merriweather Symphony
of Lights](#)

November 23, 2023 - January 1, 2024

Community Events

[The 2023 Great Lisbon FARMERS FEED THE HUNGRY Christmas Parade](#)

Historic Town of Lisbon
15928 Frederick Rd.
Woodbine, MD 21797
Parade starts at Noon!
[Click here for more info](#)

[Barnyard Light feat. Live Nativity](#)

Christmas at Mary's Land Farm
4979 Sheppard Ln.
Ellicott City, MD 21042

[2023 HoCo Holiday Lights Map](#)



Kwanzaa 2023

What is Kwanzaa?

Kwanzaa is a Swahili word that means "first" and signifies the first fruits of the harvest. From December 26 to January 1, many African-American people celebrate Kwanzaa.

Dr. Maulana Karenga, professor and chairman of Black Studies at California State University, Long Beach, created Kwanzaa in 1966. After the Watts riots in Los Angeles, Dr. Karenga searched for ways to bring African Americans together as a community. He founded US, a cultural organization, and started to research African "first fruit" (harvest) celebrations. Karenga combined aspects of several different harvest celebrations, such as those of the Ashanti and those of the Zulu, to form the basis of Kwanzaa.

Celebrate in HoCo!

Kwanzaa Celebration 2022

Wednesday, December 28th at 5:30 pm
Harriet Tubman Cultural Center



Resources

[Kwanzaa](#) from History.com

[Five Kwanzaa Celebrations Around the Country](#) from New York Times

The Seven Principles of Kwanzaa

Unity: Umoja

To strive for and maintain unity in the family, community, nation, and race.

Self-determination: Kujichagulia

To define ourselves, name ourselves, create for ourselves, and speak for ourselves.

Collective Work and Responsibility: Ujima

To build and maintain our community together and make our brother's and sister's problems our problems and to solve them together.

Cooperative Economics: Ujamaa

To build and maintain our own stores, shops, and other businesses and to profit from them together.

Purpose: Nia

To make our collective vocation the building and developing of our community in order to restore our people to their traditional greatness.

Creativity: Kuumba

To do always as much as we can, in the way we can, in order to leave our community more beautiful and beneficial than we inherited it.

Faith: Imani

To believe with all our heart in our people, our parents, our teachers, our leaders, and the righteousness and victory of our struggle.

Collaboration with Multilingual Achievement Liaisons

Student Access and Achievement Program supports various school-based acceleration and enrichment programs offered during the school day, after school hours, and beyond the school year. The goal of Student Access and Achievement is to provide support for our school system's efforts to accelerate the academic achievement of all students, especially Black/African American, Hispanic/Latiné, multilingual, and English Language Learners. Multilingual Achievement Liaisons collaborate with students, staff, families, and community members to accelerate the academic achievement of all multilingual students. Multilingual Achievement Liaisons provide support to one or more school communities.

Multilingual Achievement Liaisons are placed based on several criteria which includes the number of students who are multilingual, may participate in ESOL programs and the number of parents who need language assistance. Currently, there are 9 full time and 5 temporary staff serving 16 schools, which have the highest number of the above-mentioned variables. For a list of Multilingual Achievement Liaisons in HCPSS, see the following page.

Resources

[Making Classrooms More Inclusive for Multilingual Learners](#)

For tips on making classrooms more inclusive for multilingual learners, click on the link above.

[Luminus Network for New Americans](#)

The Luminus Network for New Americans is a local network that provides support services and key resources for immigrants from more than 90 countries. Luminus stresses the importance of making sure that all people deserve belonging, are provided with resources to information and access to resources that will help shape their lives and brighten their future. See link above.

Multilingual Achievement Liaisons by School



Name	Position	School
Dongram Ha	Multilingual Achievement Liaison	Centennial High School
Angie Lee	Multilingual Achievement Liaison	Marriotts Ridge HS (T, F)
BC Ni Chin Tial (Bi Bi)	Multilingual Achievement Liaison	Thomas Viaduct MS Hanover Hills ES
Chianing Tsao	Multilingual Achievement Liaison	Dunloggin MS
Masooma Mohiuddin	Multilingual Achievement Liaison	Hollifield Station ES
Kay Kim	Multilingual Achievement Liaison	Bellows Spring ES
Ade Hou	Multilingual Achievement Liaison	Centennial Lane ES Northfield ES
Anna Sung	Multilingual Achievement Liaison	Elkridge ES
Min Woo	Supervisor	Old Cedar Lane
Ming Jun Sun	Multilingual Achievement Liaison	Long Reach HS
Monica Ranta	Multilingual Family Registration Center (MFRC)	Old Cedar Lane
Temporary Staff	Multilingual Family Registration Center (MFRC)	Old Cedar Lane
Soyoun Choi	Multilingual Achievement Liaison	Manor Woods ES St. John's Lane ES
Sung Kim	Multilingual Achievement Liaison	Veterans ES
Haejin Suk	Multilingual Achievement Liaison	Burleigh Manor MS
Stacy Huh	Multilingual Achievement Liaison	Hammond HS
Lee Griffin	MFRC Counselor	Old Cedar Lane
Erin Coleman	MFRC Counselor	Old Cedar Lane
Angela Lamas Martin	Technical Assistant	Old Cedar Lane

Check out this amazing resource from Lake Elkhorn MS!



LEMS ESOL Quick Reference Guide

Multimodal Instruction		
Visual	Auditory	Kinesthetic
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Illustrations and colors • Texts with pictures • Videos • Visual worksheets/projects • Graphic organizers • Infographics • Slides 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repetition of key concepts • Music • Reading of a text (ex. Audiobooks, ReadWrite) • Recordings of lessons/notes • Recording options for projects 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gestures • Demonstrations/modeling • Real-life examples • Group work • Movement

Differentiate Questions by Language Level				
Entering (Level 1)	Emerging (Level 2)	Developing (Level 3)	Expanding (Level 4)	Bridging (Level 5)
<u>This looks like...</u> - Minimal comprehension - No verbal production	<u>This looks like...</u> - Limited comprehension - Responds with words	<u>This looks like...</u> - Increased comprehension - Simple sentences	<u>This looks like...</u> - Some errors in speech - Good comprehension	<u>This looks like...</u> - Complex sentences - More complex errors
Examples				
- Draw, mime, point, circle - Name objects, people, pictures - Ask wh- questions	- Describe pictures, events, objects, people - Restate facts - Ask wh- questions	- Formulate hypothesis - Describe processes or events - Retell stories or events	- Discuss stories, issues and/or concepts - Give speeches/oral reports - Offer creative solutions to issues/problems	- Engage in debates - Explain phenomena, give examples, justify responses - Express and defend points of view

Instructional Methods to Use
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explicitly teach key words from the text/lesson/unit with visuals and provide opportunities for the students to practice (e.g., fill-in-the-blank exercises with word banks, matching images to key words) • Provide sentence frames, graphic organizers, outlines, checklists, word banks • Utilize the "I do, we do, you do" strategy so MLs can observe how to complete an assignment/what is expected of them • Use gestures and visuals in conjunction with verbal instruction • Modify and/or chunk text to make it more accessible, color-code important information • Adjust the lexile/reading level of texts when available to better meet student needs • Utilize content-specific glossaries and/or cognates whenever possible • Provide both paper and electronic copies of assignments and notes



ACHIEVING ACADEMIC
EQUITY AND EXCELLENCE
FOR BLACK BOYS

The AAEEBB Speaker Series

welcomes

Dr. Kelsie Reed

***Reframing our Perception
of Black Boys***

Thursday, December 14, 2023

4:30pm-6:00pm



Topic:

On Thursday, December 14th from 4:30pm-6:00pm, the Achieving Academic Equity & Excellence for Black Boys (AAEEBB) initiative will host Dr. Kelsie Reed.

Session Overview:

This presentation is dedicated to reframing the educational perception of Black boys away from a deficit model towards one that recognizes and fosters their inherent potential. It seeks to challenge and transform the biases that lead to the overidentification of Black boys in special education, advocating for a strength-based, culturally responsive approach. The goal is to empower educators with the mindset and tools necessary to nurture the brilliance of Black youth, thereby driving systemic change and educational equity.

Speaker Profile:

Dr. Kelsie Reed is a nationally certified school psychologist in Prince George's County Public Schools. Dr. Reed is passionate about disrupting the school-to-prison pipeline, dismantling deficit thinking in education, and supporting the needs of youth through strength-based approaches. Dr. Reed is co-author of the best selling education book, *Hacking Deficit Thinking: 8 reframes that will change the way you think about strength-based practices and equity in schools*. She is also the founder of the Strength-Based Collective where strength-based research, tools, and resources are distributed to educators and parents. Through her research, practice, and advocacy work, Dr. Reed aims to inspire others to foster a more equitable and inclusive society, where individuals of all backgrounds feel seen, heard, and empowered.

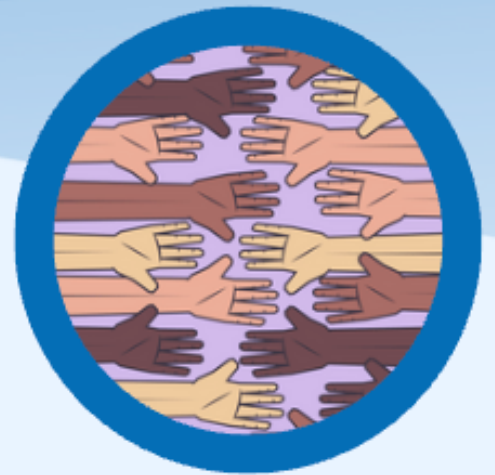
[Register Here](#)



OFFICE OF
**DIVERSITY, EQUITY
& INCLUSION**

DEI FOUNDATIONS

OPEN TO ALL EDUCATORS



The DEI Foundations seminar is open to educators in the district who are interested in engaging in a two-day transformative learning experience that will deepen your understanding of the language and approaches to DEI efforts in HCPSS. The participants will use a self-reflective approach to explore tools to support the goal of equity. Substitute coverage is available. Participants must be able to attend both dates. For questions about the seminar please contact Dr. Razia Kosi at razia_kosi@hcpss.org. For questions about registration or subs, please contact Vivian Kelly at vivian_kelly@hcpss.org.



FACILITATORS: *Dr. Razia Kosi & Alyson Mitchel*



January 24, 2024
March 14, 2024



8:30am-
3:30pm



Staff Development
Center

Registration on Frontline

- **Register for the activity in Frontline.** Select Professional Growth> select Activity Catalogs from left panel navigation> select District Catalog> Enter the Course Code (DEI Foundations District Educators 240180022) in the Search Term(s) box and click blue Search button > Select the session of your choice (see dates above)> select Sign Up Now button
- **Secure your substitute in Frontline.** To navigate to Absence Management from Professional Growth, expand the menu in the upper left corner. Create Absence> Use Absence Reason- Prof Development > Diversity Equity Inclusion. (Do NOT click Diversity Equity Inclusion Title II)
- **Enter absence in Workday.** A screenshot of this flier can be uploaded as documentation when prompted to upload. Workday > Time Off>Request Time Off> Select Date> Type: Professional Development