

Hammond Elementary School

Week of September 29, 2020

September 28, 2020

Dear Hammond families,

Thank you again for your attendance at last week's Back-To-School Night presentations. If you were unable to attend, each grade-level presentation has been added to our school's website, <http://hes.hcpss.org/>. Last Friday, important information about [staffing changes](#) were shared with the community. We wish Mrs. Oswald all our best as she prepares to retire on October 1st.

Please plan to attend our PTA Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, September 29th at 7:00 p.m. Below you will find the information for joining the meeting. Also, if you have not done so already, please consider joining our PTA. By getting involved at your child's school you'll be part of the solution by helping to make positive changes. Local **PTAs** support improvements through advocacy and play an **important** role in fundraising for curriculum based programs and social events. The HES PTA is a tremendous asset to our school community and needs your support.

The week's family communication includes a great deal of additional information. Please enjoy reading about upcoming virtual school spirit days, reprinted kindergarten & first grade writing notebooks, and setting up your own family dashboard in Dreambox. You will also find information about upcoming MAP Testing and Emergency Drill Discussions.

Thank you for your support! We hope to see you at the PTA Meeting!

Ms. Ciarapica
Principal
lisa_ciarapica@hcpss.org

Mrs. Mapson
Assistant Principal
nykia_mapson@hcpss.org

PTA Meeting - Tuesday @ 7:00 p.m.

Hammond Elementary PTA welcomes you to join us for our first general PTA meeting of the 2020-2021 school year, on Tuesday, September 29th at 7pm. This will be a zoom meeting to discuss our PTA [agenda](#). Please read over our agenda prior to the

meeting to help facilitate conversations. Please use the zoom meeting [link](#), or meeting ID: 931 4992 9646 and Passcode: 7Ct5Ps and try to sign in a few minutes prior to 7pm so we can honor everyone's time. While all HES families can attend, we highly encourage parents to set up their [account](#) with Memberhub and pay their [dues](#) as members to be able to vote. If you miss the meeting, the minutes will be posted on our website for your convenience, along with updated PTA information: www.hespta.org We hope you can join us!

Upcoming HES Virtual Spirit Days

Let's all stay connected by having a little fun from afar. Students and staff are invited to participate in the following spirit days:

- **Friday, October 2nd** - Show your HES Pride and wear your Spirit Wear or school colors (green & yellow)
- **Friday, October 9th** - Pajama Day
- **Friday, October 23rd** - Crazy Hair Day



http://nykia_mapson@hcpss.org

Kindergarten & First Grade Writing Notebooks

When distributing school supplies, our kindergarten and first grade writing notebooks were mistakenly reversed. Please accept our apologies. We would like each student to have the correct notebook. New copies have been prepared for each student and have been placed in our school's vestibule. You may pick up the correct writing notebook any day between 8:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. You do not need to return the incorrect notebook.

Google Meets for Students

As we continue with virtual learning and students gain the skills they need to navigate the online platform, we encourage you to provide your child(ren) with some independent physical space when possible. To the greatest extent possible, we look forward to increasing students' independence when participating in learning. Live,

synchronous instruction is intended for students, yet we understand that a parent may be nearby to offer technical support. If your child asks for help, encourage your child to raise his or her hand or put the question in the chat box for the teacher to address. This happens naturally in the classroom, promotes greater independence and provides the teacher with observational data about how students are learning.

Dashboard in Dreambox

Families are able to set up a [Family Dashboard in Dreambox](#) for each student. A Family Dashboard allows families to monitor their child's progress and see what information their child is learning. Please consider setting up this dashboard to provide continued opportunities for monitoring progress.

Face-to-Face Supports to Small Groups of Students

In the coming weeks, HCPSS will begin providing face-to-face support to small groups of students. Identified students and staff have been invited to complete an interest survey. If you did not receive a survey, it is because your child has not yet been identified for in-person support.

All students who receive special education services will receive an email with directions to complete a survey. If your child receives special education services, and you did not receive an email by Friday, September 25, then please reach out to Ann Scholz (ann_scholz@hcpss.org) from the Office of Special Education Compliance, Non-Public Services, and Family Support. More information about the HCPSS In-Person Support initiative can be found here: <https://www.hcpss.org/2020-2021/small-groups/>.

Ms. Freitag, School Psychologist Office Hours

Starting Monday, October 5, please join Ms. Freitag for Office Hours from 12-1 PM. This will reoccur every Monday from 12-1. If you want to join in to ask a quick question, or share a concern, please use the code hes-schoolpsych. As always, Ms. Freitag is available to set up a Google meet at any time by reaching out via email at angela_freitag@hcpss.org

Emergency Drill Discussions

We want to make you aware that during Virtual Learning, students and staff will not be practicing emergency response procedures and drills as they would in the traditional setting. However, HCPSS staff will conduct short reviews of response procedures with students throughout the first semester as part of the Emergency Response Preparedness Plans practice. On Friday, September 25th, teachers reviewed the procedures for an evacuation. On Tuesday, September 29th, teachers will review the procedures for a modified lockdown.

We encourage you to ask your child about the drill discussions and let us know if they have any questions or concerns. You can find detailed information about emergency procedures at www.hcpss.org/safety/. Our goal each and every day is to provide a safe and healthy learning environment for all students and staff at Hammond. We will continue to keep you updated on future response discussions as they occur. For questions about Emergency Preparedness, please contact Mrs. Mapson (nykia_mapson@hcpss.org)

MAP Testing Information 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th Grade

On Wednesday, October 7 and Wednesday, October 14, students in grades 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade will take the Measured Academic Progress (MAP) assessment. The data from the MAP assessment will help schools and teachers measure where your child is starting the year academically. The HCPSS intends to also give the assessment in winter and spring to measure how your child's learning is progressing throughout the year. The MAP test does not affect grades and the difficulty adjusts depending on how your child responds. It is normal for students to only answer about half the questions correctly. To learn more about the MAP assessment, please visit: <https://www.nwea.org/the-map-suite/common-questions-families/>

Please note that we are offering two time slots for your child to log into the Google Meet to take this assessment. Your child only needs to attend one time slot on each date and you can choose whatever is most convenient for your schedule.

- Wednesday, October 7th 9:00am-11:00am **or** 1:00pm-3:00pm-Reading MAP assessment
- Wednesday, October 14th 9:00am-11:00am **or** 1:00-3:00pm-Math MAP assessment

If your child is unable to attend, makeup testing will be offered during asynchronous learning times. Teachers will share Google Meet information and your student's testing group as we get closer to the Oct 7th date. For questions about MAP testing, please contact Mrs. Mapson (nykia_mapson@hcpss.org)

Due to testing, HCPSS is making the following adjustments to asynchronous assignments for the weeks of October 7 and 14:

- No Dreambox assignments will be assigned on Wednesday
- No Lexia Core5 assignments will be assigned on Wednesday
- No mathematics task will be assigned on Wednesday
- No changes will be made for related arts and science asynchronous assignments

Previously Shared Resources **School Counselor Corner**

[Mrs. Kennedy](#), our School Counselor, is also available to support students and families when adjusting to our virtual learning environment. Please do not hesitate to contact her for additional assistance (mkennedy@hcpss.org). Check out her Canvas page [here](#).

Social Opportunity: Girls on the Run

Sign up your grade 3-5 daughter for Girls on the Run! They have space in their virtual group. Get social connection and exercise through this supportive community! Financial scholarships are available! For more information, please email dianne.beer@gmail.com.

Social Emotional Learning - Spotlight Students

Please take a moment to review information about [Spotlight Students](#), which is a part of our Social Emotional Learning program. Students participate in Social Emotional Learning activities each morning from 9:00 - 9:15 a.m.

PTA School Spirit

HES spiritwear has [free shipping](#) Sept 18 and goes through October 5th! Please visit www.spiritwear.com for more information!

Need technical support while working from home?

- [Directions for connecting a Chromebook to Wi-Fi](#) to connecting to your home network.
- [Directions for students who forgot their username and/or password](#)
- Learn how to navigate the [Canvas Calendar](#)
- [Virtual Instruction Student Tip Sheet](#)
- [Student Technology Resources](#): Provides guides, resources and videos for HCPSS student technology. Below are some direct links to commonly used resources:
 - [Canvas Orientation](#) - includes how to navigate Canvas
 - [Google Meet](#) - includes a [video overview](#) of how to login
 - [Chromebooks](#) - provides a variety of resources for using an HCPSS Chromebook
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[Technology Devices & Support](#)

Google Meet Expectations for Students and Parents/Guardians

[Meals for Students](#)

Free Vaccine Clinics

[Accessing and Managing Student Assignments in Canvas](#)

[HES Staff Update \(9-25-20\).pdf](#)

[HES Spirit 2020.png](#)

[Family Dashboard in Dreambox.pdf](#)

[HES Week of September 28, 2020.pdf](#)