

# **HAMMOND TIGER TALES**

## **January 23, 2020**



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

January 24	End of Quarter 2
<b>January 27</b>	<b>Schools Closed for Students, Professional Work Day</b>
January 30	Window to schedule parent/teacher conferences opens
January 31	Spirit Day-NFL Day
February 3	Quarter 2 report cards issued
<b>February 4</b>	<b>Schools and Offices Closed (Election Day)</b>
<b>February 13 &amp; 14</b>	<b>Schools Close 3 Hours Early (12:30 dismissal), Parent/Teacher Conferences</b>
February 14	Spirit Day-Wear Red or Pink Heart Health Month
<b>February 17</b>	<b>Schools and Offices Closed (President's Day)</b>
February 18 & 25	Kindergarten Field Trip to Savage Branch Library
February 28	Spirit Day-Hat Day
March 13	Spirit Day-Wacky Tacky Day
March 27	5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Field Trip to Robinson Nature Center
March 27	Spirit Day-Career Day
March 31	3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade Field Trip to Ellicott City
April 2	Social Emotional Learning Family Night
<b>April 3</b>	<b>Schools Close 3 Hours Early (12:30 dismissal), Professional Work Day</b>
<b>April 6 -13</b>	<b>Spring Break (Schools closed for students)</b>
<b>April 28</b>	<b>Schools and Offices Closed (Primary Election Day)</b>



*We Like You Just The Way You Are!*

*Dear Parents,*

*Friday, January 24 marks the end of second quarter and the halfway point of the 2019-2020 school year. This is a good time of year to check with your child to see if any school supplies need to be replenished. Report cards for Quarter 2 will be issued on Monday, February 3. Please be sure to celebrate your child's growth and success for this school year. We are certainly proud of all their accomplishments, both small and large.*

*Parent/teacher conferences will be held on February 13 and 14. As a reminder, all students will be dismissed at 12:30 p.m. on both days. We encourage you to take this opportunity to meet with your child's teacher to discuss your child's progress. Specific instructions on how to sign up for a conference are posted in our announcements.*

*Thank you for your continued partnership!*

*Sincerely,*

*Kimberlyn S. Stoll*

*Principal*

*Hammond Elementary School*

[kimberlyn\\_stoll@hcpss.org](mailto:kimberlyn_stoll@hcpss.org)

## **NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS AND IMPORTANT REMINDERS**

### **February Conferences**

Second quarter report cards will be issued on Monday, February 3. The Howard County Public School System calendar allows for teachers in grades K-5 to schedule conferences on February 13 and 14. As a reminder, all students will be dismissed at 12:30 p.m. on February 13 and February 14. You can access your child's math teacher's conference schedule beginning Thursday, January 30 at 12:00 p.m. through [www.hcpss.org/connect](http://www.hcpss.org/connect). The conference scheduling window remains open until Tuesday, February 11. Please [click here](#) for specific instructions on how to register for a Conference. Parents of students in 4<sup>th</sup> Grade G/T Math had an opportunity to meet with their child's math teacher during November conferences. Parents of students in 5<sup>th</sup> Grade G/T Math can schedule to meet their child's math teacher during February conferences.

### **Art Room News**

First graders Torin Heffner and Isabelle Sullivan will have artwork on display at the Howard County Department of Education Building from February 6 through April 14. The exhibit is entitled "First Grade Showcase." A reception for student artists, their families and friends is scheduled for February 19 from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m. (Snow date on February 26). Congratulations to Torin and Isabelle!

### **Caring School Community Corner**

Throughout the second quarter, the students have continued to learn about various Social Emotional Topics during community circles including exclusion and resolving conflicts. The students are enjoying discussing these topics with their classmates and utilizing strategies taught in the curriculum. We encourage you to ask your students about the Social Emotional Topics they are learning about during community circles.



### **From the Nurse's Office**

As we continue into flu season, this is a reminder that good hand washing and covering sneezes/coughs with tissues and sleeves are essential steps to preventing the spread of "germs." Also remember that despite concerns about school attendance, your children's health (and the health of other children) is most important of all. For this reason, we ask you to please:

- Call/email the school nurse and your teacher to let us know if your child is absent with a contagious illness such as strep throat, or the flu etc. Please provide any documentation from your physician about diagnosis and release to return to school. (Ear and sinus infections, while often a reason for keeping a child home, are usually not contagious.)
- Keep your child home if he/she has a fever of over 100.0 degrees. A fever indicates that your child has an infection that could be passed to other students. \*If you give your child Motrin or Tylenol, the fever will, of course, disappear but he/she will still be contagious to others. Children must be fever-free for 24 hours (without medication) before returning to school!
- Have your children wash their hands properly after using the restrooms and prior to eating.



Regarding the gastrointestinal illness that is circulating with symptoms of vomiting, diarrhea, nausea, fever and abdominal cramps: gastrointestinal illnesses can spread quickly from one person to another through contact with an infected person and contaminated surfaces.

Remember the best way to prevent and control an infection is by frequent and thorough handwashing with soap and water along with frequent cleaning of high contact surfaces.

Additionally, ill persons should not return to school until they have been without symptoms for at least 24-48 hours, so they have time to rest and feel back to normal.

If your child currently has symptoms named above, make sure they drink plenty of fluids to prevent dehydration and encourage increased hand washing. If symptoms become severe, contact your physician.

Thank you very much for helping keep all our students healthy!

Melissa Rozgonyi, RN  
HES School Nurse  
melissa\_rozgonyi@hcpss.org  
Health Room # (410) 880-5893



### **Girl Scout Troop 4507 Donation Drive**

Girl Scout Troop 4507 will be holding a Donation Drive to support the Canine Humane Network located in Highland, MD. The organization rescues and fosters dogs for adoption. We are collecting small dog collars, dog toys, paper towels, gently used towels, laundry detergent and sandwich-sized Ziploc bags. The donation box will be available in the HES lobby from Tuesday, January 21 through Friday, February 7. Thank you for your support!



### **Wands for Wildlife**

HES students are collecting old mascara wands to help support wildlife rehabilitation. A wildlife rehabilitation nonprofit in western North Carolina recycles old mascara wands to help remove fly eggs and larvae from the fur of animals. They work great because the bristles are close together and gentle to use on the injured and orphaned wild animals receiving care. Before donating your wands, please wash them in warm soapy water. Wand donations will be collected through Friday, February 14. Look for donation boxes in the media center and lobby!

## **CONTINUING ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Recess Policy**

With winter weather here, please be sure to send your student to school with a coat, hat and gloves each day. Per HCPSS policy, students will be outside for recess when the temperature combined with the wind chill is not less than 20 degrees Fahrenheit. If the temperature combined with the wind chill is below 20 degrees, students will have indoor recess.

### **Emergencies/School Closings**

In times of emergencies/school closings, information will be shared with the community through the following:

- The school system's homepage: [www.hcpss.org](http://www.hcpss.org)
- HCPSS News email and text message alerts
- HCPSS Information Hotline: 410-313-6666
- Twitter - @hcpss
- Facebook - Howard County Public School System
- HCPSS Cable TV - Comcast 95/Verizon 42



### **Text Alerts**

If you are interested in receiving school text alerts, please subscribe by texting the word "YES" to 67587 from the cell phone number on file in HCPSS Connect.

### **Birthday Celebrations**

In order to avoid disappointment for our students and to maintain an environment conducive to learning, please understand that birthday party invitations should be distributed outside of school. A student directory is now available on Family File. On the special day, if you choose to bring lunch for your child, please remember only your child is allowed to enjoy the meal and/or snack as we have to assure safety for students with allergies, and dietary needs.



### **Absence Reporting and Change in Dismissal Reporting**

In an effort to go green and reduce interruptions to the classroom instruction, we ask that you use the following Google Forms for reporting absences or if there are any changes in your child's dismissal routine: HES-Reporting Absence(s) Form and HES-Change in Dismissal Routine Form. These forms are available on Hammond Elementary School's website: [hes.hcpss.org](http://hes.hcpss.org)

**Please be advised:** You will need your photo ID any time you are entering the building.

## **Volunteers Welcome!**

The old proverb is right! It takes a village to raise a child and we need your support. Volunteering is easy and fun!

Each year HCPSS/HES requires you to take 2 short trainings online before volunteering in the school or on field trips. Visit the HES website, click on Get Involved and scroll down to "Volunteer" section. The link will take you to the HCPSS Parent Volunteer Information page. *Due to liability and safety concerns, Hammond Elementary requests that small children do not accompany parent volunteers.* Questions or Concerns? Email: [volunteer@hespta.org](mailto:volunteer@hespta.org)

Please be advised you will need to turn in your volunteer certificates to Mrs. Bajwa or Mrs. Hawkes if you are planning on volunteering in the classroom or attending your child's field trip(s).