

# **HAMMOND TIGER TALES**

**February 6, 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.*

**February 13 & 14**

February 14

**February 17**

February 18 & 25

February 20

February 28

March 6

March 13

March 19

March 27

March 27

March 31

April 2

**April 3**

**April 6 -13**

**April 28**

**Schools Close 3 Hours Early (12:30 dismissal), Parent/Teacher Conferences**

Spirit Day-Wear Red or Pink Heart Health Month

**Schools and Offices Closed (President's Day)**

Kindergarten Field Trip to Savage Branch Library

1<sup>st</sup> Grade In House Field Trip – Cosmic Adventures

Spirit Day-Hat Day

Interim progress reports issued

Spirit Day-Wacky Tacky Day

Spring and Class Picture Day

5<sup>th</sup> Grade Field Trip to Robinson Nature Center

Spirit Day-Career Day

3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Field Trip to Ellicott City

Social Emotional Learning Family Night

**Schools Close 3 Hours Early (12:30 dismissal), Professional Work Day**

**Spring Break (Schools closed for students)**

**Schools and Offices Closed (Primary Election Day)**



*We Like You Just The Way You Are!*

*Dear Parents,*

*Third quarter is now under way and we are looking forward to a great second half of the school year. As a reminder, parent/teacher conferences will be held on February 13 and 14. All students will be dismissed at 12:30 p.m. on both days.*

*On Friday, February 14 we will be celebrating Valentine's Day in our classes. Please be sure to review and sign the activity menu permission slip for this celebration. We also encourage all students to wear red or pink that day in honor of Heart Health Month.*

*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 were 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 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 4th GT Math had an opportunity to meet with their child's math teacher during November conferences. Parents of students in 5th Grade GT Math can schedule to meet their child's math teacher during February conferences.

### **Caring School Community Corner**

While change can bring new opportunities and great possibilities, it can also be accompanied with some challenges and unpleasant feelings. Please check out the [HCPSS page](#) dedicated to supporting students through the recent attendance area adjustments. The following strategies can be useful in helping your child(ren) navigate any big transition:

- Have an open conversation
- Listen to your child's excitement AND concern
- Offer choices, when possible, surrounding the change ("Would you like to go explore the playground at your new school this weekend or over the summer? Would you like to explore the school and teachers on their website? How would you like to keep in touch with old friends?")
- Allow your child(ren) to be upset ("I know you are feeling sad, change can be hard. It is OK to feel upset.")
- Focus on the positive ("While you may feel sad to leave friends behind and uneasy about meeting new people, this can also be an opportunity to make new friends.")



If your child is in need of additional support during this time, please reach out to your school counselor for assistance. Additionally, please keep an eye out for welcome meetings, events, and information being hosted by many schools to assist families with this process.

## **2020-2021 Kindergarten and New Family Registration**

Kindergarten and New Family Registration Week will be held on March 9-13. All information can be found on the Howard County Public School System [website](#).

Students must be registered by their custodial parent (biological, adoptive, legal guardian). Parents can complete a registration form at their school or fill out one ahead of time to complete the registration process.

Parents must live in the school attendance area of the school in which they plan to enroll their student.

- Verify school attendance area – [HCPSS School Locator](#)
- View boundary lines of attendance areas – [click here](#).
- The following original documents are required at time of registration:
  - Parent picture ID: original driver's license, military ID, or passport.
  - Signed original, current lease or deed with your address, valid dates, signatures.
  - Current utility bill with name and address (non-cellular telephone, gas and electric, cable bill).
  - Student's proof of birth (original birth certificate, baptismal certificate, hospital certificate, passport or military ID).
  - Proof of parental relationship, custody, or guardianship. If applicable, bring legal proof of custody (court order).
  - Student's current proof of immunizations signed by a doctor/health care provider.
  - Student's most recent grade report, transcript, report card from last school attended at time of withdrawal, if applicable.
  - Documentation of Special Education (IEP), 504, Psychological Report, or related services.
  - Any additional paperwork that may be necessary due to special living arrangements or circumstances.

**Please note:** Children must be 5 years old by September 1 in order to enroll in kindergarten. Every child who is 5 years old by September 1 must be enrolled in a state approved kindergarten program this fall or have an approved [waiver](#).

All HCPSS elementary schools provide full-day kindergarten programs.

Note: Students who need ESOL services or parents who need language support should contact the [International Student Registration Center](#) at 410-313-1525 (Korean/English) or 410-313-7102 (Spanish/English).



## **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!

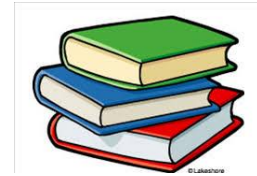


### **Wands for Wildlife**

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 front office!

### **Girl Scout Troop 720 Book Drive**

Girl Scout Troop 720 will be holding a Book Drive to donate toward Better World Books. The donation box will be available in the HES lobby through the end of the year. Thank you for your support!



## **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).