

HAMMOND TIGER TALES

March 5, 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.

March 6	Interim progress reports issued
March 13	Spirit Day-Wacky Tacky Day
March 19	Spring and Class Picture Day
March 27	5 th Grade Field Trip to Robinson Nature Center
March 27	Spirit Day-Career Day
March 27	Multicultural Night
March 31	3 rd Grade Field Trip to Ellicott City
April 2	Caring School Community Night
April 3	Schools Close 3 Hours Early (12:30 dismissal), Professional Work Day
April 6 -13	Spring Break (Schools closed for students)
April 17	Spirit Day-Fitness Friday
April 23	Take Your Child Work Day
April 28	Schools and Offices Closed (Primary Election Day)



We Like You Just The Way You Are!

NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS AND IMPORTANT REMINDERS

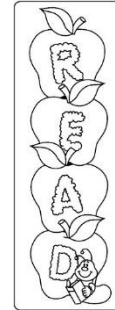
Spring Picture Day

Spring Picture Day and Class Pictures will be held on Thursday, March 19. Please see the attached flier for more information.

Read-a-thon Bookmark Contest

Students are invited to design a bookmark that reflects their love of reading! Entry forms can be picked up in the media center. Completed entries must be returned to the media center by Friday, March 13.

There will be one winning bookmark from each grade and the winning bookmarks will be copied and available for all students to use!



Music News

Congratulations to 5th grade students Dara Akinsanya and Toni Akinsanya on their outstanding performances at Saturday's HCPSS Elementary School Honors Orchestra concert! We are so proud of their hard work, dedication and achievements!

Caring School Community Night

Please join us at Hammond Elementary School on Thursday, April 2 for a night of learning about our Caring School Community Program. The event will be held from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. Students and siblings are welcome! A flier will be sent home with students in next week's Thursday Folder.



Attendance Coding Reminder:

Per [HCPSS Policy 9010](#), a student is considered absent when he/she is in school for less than 2 hours on a regular school day (less than 1 hour on an early dismissal day) due to tardy arrival or early dismissal. If a student is dismissed from the health room and was in school for less than 2 hours, he/she will be marked as excused absent due to illness. All absences and tardies are reported on Quarterly report cards and can also be viewed on [HCPSS Connect](#).

Field Day T-Shirts

The PE department is selling Field Day t-shirts as a fundraiser for PE equipment. T-shirts are \$12 and orders are due by Friday, April 3. View the order form for more information.



2020-2021 Kindergarten and New Family Registration

Kindergarten and New Family Registration Week will be held on March 9-13. Parents are encouraged to visit HES from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. to register their student. 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).



PVMS Parent & Student Information Night

Parents of rising 6th graders attending PVMS are invited to join the PVMS PTA and administration for an informal Meet & Greet on Monday, March 30 at 6:30 p.m. Parent and students will get the opportunity to

ask questions they may have about PVMS and what to expect next year. View the flier for more information.

Important Dates for New Students Attending PVMS

Please see the attached flier for important upcoming dates for incoming PVMS students.

Outdoor Ed Information for Rising 6th Graders Attending PVMS

Who: The PVMS Sixth Grade School Community
(Students, Teachers and Parent/Guardian Chaperones)

What: Overnight trip to NorthBay Adventure Camp

Where: NorthBay Adventure Camp
11 Horseshoe Point Ln, North East, MD 21901
<https://northbayadventure.org/>



When: October 19, 20, and 21 (3 days and 2 nights)

Permission slips and full information packets will be administered to the new 6th grade students on the first day of school in SY 2020-2021. Permission slips and money will be due September 16. A NorthBay Parent Information Night will be held on September 9.

Why: HCPSS Outdoor Education Experience (An Indoor Education experience will be made available back at PVMS, for those students who do not attend NorthBay).

How: We will travel roundtrip by bus to NorthBay Adventure Camp

Cost: \$175/child (chaperones are free and the price covers all meals, accommodations, and activities)

STUDENTS WHO ARE ELIGIBLE FOR FREE AND REDUCED MEALS ARE PERMITTED TO ATTEND THIS TRIP FREE OF CHARGE.

Families with questions regarding this or other financial assistance should contact PVMS Principal Rick Robb directly at 410-880-5840.

New Required Confidentiality Agreement for Volunteers/Observers

The Howard County Public School System is implementing a new Confidentiality Agreement this school year. Any volunteers/observers/chaperones who enter Hammond Elementary School must review and sign the updated [Confidentiality Agreement](#). This form will be available in the front office or you may print and bring your own.

You can view additional Volunteer Training information using the links below:

Confidentiality Training Course

According to HCPSS Board Policy, all parent volunteers/observers/chaperones must complete a "Confidentiality Training Course" about protecting the privacy of our students, staff, and schools before they can register to volunteer. Click on the link below to view the brief 5-minute training. When you have completed the course, print and sign the [Confidentiality Agreement](#). Please bring the signed form to the HES front office.

[Confidentiality Training](#)

Child Abuse and Neglect Training

Maryland State Law and HCPSS Policy 1030 requires all parent volunteers/observers/chaperones to receive training on the reporting procedures of suspected child abuse prior to serving as a volunteer. Use the link to view the "Volunteer Training" presentation. After viewing the training, print and sign the Online Training Certificate of Completion form. Please bring the signed form to the HES front office.

[Child Abuse and Neglect Training](#)

Thank you for your participation in our school and helping to ensure our students remain safe. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the front office: 410-880-5890.

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

Art Camp at RHS and RHHS

Looking for a fun art making experience for your daughter and/or son? Come out and enjoy a week of Art Camp with Howard County art teacher Mrs. Wasilewski. These camps are designed to enhance the skill levels of each individual. Explore and learn about different mediums and techniques. Camp is open to anyone ages 8-13. Each camp offers unique art projects. Returning campers will be delighted with all new experiences. Please email alisa_wasilewski@hcpss.org with questions.

River Hill High School: July 6-10, 9am-12pm

Register at <https://riverhill.membershiptoolkit.com/summer-camps>

Reservoir High School: July 13-17, 9am-12pm

Register at <http://www.rhsboosters.com/camp/>

Sports Camp at Reservoir High School

Come out to Sports Camp the week of July 13 and/or August 3 at Reservoir High School with certified Howard County teachers Phil Ranker (PE), Tom Dougherty (Math) and Hannah Closson (PE). The camp is open to current K-8th graders and features many different sports and activities every day. If your child likes PE, they will love camp. Campers are split into age and ability groups to ensure that everyone has a fun and productive time. For more information, please visit <http://rankerssportsamp.weebly.com> or email phillip_ranker@hcpss.org for questions!

Reservoir High School Yard Sale

The RHS Music Foundation's annual yard sale is on May 30 from 8:00 a.m. to noon and promises to be a fun event! Individual and business vendors can rent spaces for just \$20 each (the rate will increase after May 26). Please save the date and tell your family and friends! Email hsyardsale2020@outlook.com for more information.

HC DrugFree Updates

Free Parenting Classes - HC DrugFree and the State's Attorney's Office are offering another series of evidence-based, interactive parenting classes. Provides the parents of children age 9-14 with the skills and knowledge to reduce the risk that their children will use drugs. Classes will be held on Tuesdays, March 10, 17, 24 and 31 from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Oakland Mills Middle School in Columbia. Parents are expected to attend all 4 classes. For more information, contact HC DrugFree's Executive Director, Joan Webb Scornaienchi at Admin@hcdrugfree.org or 443-325-0040. [Click here](#) to register.

Drive-Thru Medication and Sharps (Needles, Syringes & EpiPens) Collection - HC DrugFree's next drive-thru medication and sharps (needles, syringes and EpiPens) collection will be held on Saturday, April 25 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the Wilde Lake Village Center parking lot. Bring all unwanted and expired over-the-counter and prescription medication. Free and open to the public. No need to get out of your vehicle. Student and adult volunteers welcome. Community service hours available. Medication guarded and transported by the Howard County Police and the Drug Enforcement Administration.

CONTINUING ANNOUNCEMENTS

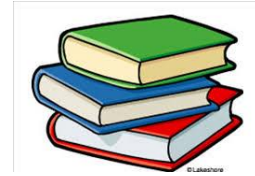
Community Reminder

We ask community members to refrain from walking their dogs on school property during dismissal and when students are outside for PE or recess. Additionally, please remember to pick up after your pet and

dispose pet waste properly. Thank you for helping keep HES a safe and healthy place for our students and staff!

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!



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
- 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

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

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).