

Hammond Elementary School



Tiger Tales

October 13, 2022



Please find the most recent updates from Hammond Elementary School. Included in this newsletter, you will find information regarding:

- End of Quarter Celebrations
- Bus Reminders
- Fun Run
- Young Author's Contest
- Counselor's Corner
- Spirit Days
- From the Health Room
- WALKTOBER
- PTA News
- Important Dates
- Continuing Announcements
- Community News

END OF QUARTER CELEBRATIONS - FALL

As part of our school system's commitment to equity and inclusion, we continue to focus on building community and creating welcoming environments for all students. To continue to support this commitment, Hammond Elementary moved away from Halloween celebrations at school a few years ago. In lieu of a celebration of Halloween that excludes members of our school community, we have implemented End of Quarter Celebrations to acknowledge all students for their commitment to learning. Student behaviors are strategically acknowledged and reinforced in order to foster an environment conducive to academic growth and success. To reward these behaviors, and in lieu of Halloween parties, we will be having special celebrations. To view the flier for grades K-2, click [here](#). To view the flier for grades 3-5, click [here](#). We are excited for the activities this fall brings including our FALL Fun Run, PTA-Sponsored Movie Night, and our FALL End of Quarter Celebration.

IMPORTANT BUS REMINDERS

As we continue to review and practice our expectations with our students for school, we also wanted to take a moment to review and highlight bus safety expectations and procedures.

The bus is an extension of the school day and students are expected to follow directions of the bus driver and school bus rules. We want to ensure the ride to and from school is a safe and comfortable bus environment for all. In order to ensure the ride to and from school is safe, enjoyable and comfortable for all, families, please remind your bus rider(s) of the following:

- Only students and the bus driver are permitted on the bus. If you have any concerns that arise, please contact the school.
- Make sure students are at the bus stop at least 8-10 minutes before the bus arrives. Students should be prepared to enter the bus when it arrives.
- There is no eating, drinking or using cellphones while on the school bus. Cellphones and food should be away during the school bus ride.
- For their own safety, students must remain flat in their seats at all times while the bus is in motion for their safety.
- Students should use a voice level that is not distracting to the bus driver and courteous of others while riding the bus each day.

We will uplift this same message at school and we appreciate your continued support!

For complete information regarding our HCPSS Parent and Student Bus Responsibilities, see the document linked below.

[HCPSS Parent and Student Bus Responsibilities](#)

Please do not hesitate to reach out to the school and or the transportation office if you have any concerns regarding your child's bus transportation.

PE'S FUN RUN

The PE department's annual **FALL** Fun Run will occur during your child's Related Arts time. You are welcome to run with your child, cheer, or volunteer! If you are coming to observe, you must first come to the office to sign in. If you plan to volunteer you must have fulfilled the Volunteer Criteria (found on the front page of the [school website](#)) and have the certificates on file in the front office. Please use the [Signup Genius](#) if you are able to volunteer. Email Ms. Serpico with any questions sserpico@hcpss.org

YOUNG AUTHOR'S CONTEST

The Howard County Literacy Association is launching the annual **Young Authors' Contest** again this year for students in grades 1-5! 🏆

We are excited for our Hammond students to have this opportunity to showcase their writing talents in this year's contest! ✎

Please see the [flier](#), the [cover sheet](#) and the [slide show](#) for specific entry instructions. Submissions due by December 9. If you have any further questions, please have your child ask his/her homeroom teacher.

COUNSELOR'S CORNER

Free Clothing Give Away and Fresh Food Distribution

The North Laurel Community Center will be hosting a Clothing Give Away on 10/22/22 from 9:00 - 11:00 am! Please see the [flier](#) for details!

Also, the Salvation Army Family Store at 3267 Pine Orchard Lane, Ellicott City, will be hosting a [Fresh Food Distribution](#) on 10/24/22 from 12:00 - 2:00 pm!

Medical Assistance Insurance

Families have more time to renew their medical assistance insurance!

Please be advised that MA redeterminations have been extended through January 31st, 2023.

Families can call (410) 313-5845 to receive assistance.

SPIRIT DAYS

Mark you calendars for our School Spirit days! The next one is on Friday, November 4.

FROM THE HEALTH ROOM

There will be a flu vaccine clinic at Hammond Elementary. Maryland Partnership for Prevention, in partnership with the Howard County Health Department and Howard County Public Schools, will be hosting a flu vaccine clinic on Friday, October 28th.

Pre-registration is required and will close on Saturday 10/22. **You must register before 10/22** if you want your child to get a flu shot at school. [Register your child here.](#)

This clinic is NO COST for students.

WALKTOBER

Join the Howard County Local Health Improvement Coalition (HCLHIC) and local partners for a month of walk/move events called Walktober 2022, a celebration of our State's official exercise and a call to action to promote walking for improved health for residents of all ages and abilities.

[View a list of upcoming events.](#)



PTA NEWS

Volunteering with 4th Grade

We have an exciting opportunity to help our 4th grade students through one-on-one volunteering in October. Sign up [here](#) for as many slots as your schedule permits.

Talent Show

We would love to bring back the HES Talent Show this school year! If you'd like to join the planning committee, email president@hespta.org.

Outdoor Movie Night

Update: We've had such a great response that we will be moving to a waitlist soon. When we do, the Google form will be updated with that note.

We are also looking for a few volunteers to help with checking people in the night of the event. Email president@hespta.org if you're interested!

Premiere Outdoor Movies presents: Monsters, Inc. on the multipurpose field of HES on Friday, October 28. Bring a picnic dinner, and come as early as 5:30pm to hang out with old friends and make some new ones too! The movie will begin at 7:00pm. **Due to licensing restrictions, we are limited to a maximum audience size of 200 people. Please fill out the form to request free tickets:** <https://forms.gle/Cr7DGQzuWpg2f4pF7>.

- We'll provide free popcorn.
- Feel free to dress in costume if you'd like!
- We will move indoors to the middle school cafeteria (for the picnic) and gym (for the movie) in the case of inclement weather.
- Please note, this is NOT a drop-off event.

A message from the PTA Staff Appreciation Committee

Sending a heartfelt thank you from the Staff Appreciation Committee to all the families who supported our first Monthly Mission. We were overwhelmed and truly grateful for the response to our request for donations and we're so excited to treat the amazing HES teachers and staff later this month! Stay tuned for details about our November Monthly Mission.

How do I join the PTA?

Registration for the 2022-2023 school year is open at the HES PTA [MemberHub site](#)

Grade Level Facebook Pages

Did you know that each grade level has a Facebook group page where parents and families can share ideas, ask questions, and get to know each other? To find the right group(s) for your family, check out the list on the [Family Resources](#) page of the PTA website. (We also have a PTA Facebook page that's viewable even if you don't have a Facebook account.)

Subscribe to the PTA Calendar

Want to know when all the events are happening? Subscribe to our calendar to see restaurant nights, fun-filled family activities, PTA meetings, and more! Visit: hespta.org/56-2/ and click on the plus sign at the bottom of the calendar.

Coming Soon

- Next PTA meeting: November 15 at 7:15pm in the Media Center (with Zoom option)
- Next restaurant night: November 16 at Sushi Nari in Columbia
- Square 1 Art: stay tuned for more details on this popular fundraiser where you turn your child's artwork into a variety of fun keepsake items

Support the PTA while you shop!

- HarrisTeeter: Link your VIC card online each Fall at www.harristeeter.com/together-in-education
- AmazonSmile: Go to <https://smile.amazon.com> and select Hammond Elementary PTA as your charity

IMPORTANT DATES

October 14	Last day of Bullying Prevention week - Wear green!
October 18	PE's FALL Fun Run
October 21	School will be closed for students. Professional Work Day for School Staff
October 22	Last day to register for the Flu Clinic (see above)
October 24	School will be closed for students. Professional Work Day for School Staff
October 28	Flu Clinic at HES - must be pre-registered by 10/22 (see above)
October 28	Outdoor movie night "Monsters, Inc" (see PTA section for more details)
November 2	Students dismiss 3-hours early (12:30 p.) - End of 1st Marking Period
November 3	3rd Grade Field Trip to Ellicott City
November 4	Spirit Day - Students/staff wear HES apparel or school colors
November 4	End of Quarter 1 Celebrations (see fliers above)
November 16	Restaurant Night: Sushi Nari in Columbia
November 8	Schools & Offices Closed - Election Day
December 2	Spirit Day - Students/staff wear HES apparel or school colors
December 9	Young Author's Contest submissions due (see above)

You may link here to access the [HCPSS Calendar for the 2022 - 2023 School Year](#).

CONTINUING ANNOUNCEMENTS

Transportation

Changes in afternoon transportation should be submitted to your child's teacher in writing (note or email). For changes that occur after 12 pm, please call our front office team (410-880-5890) to communicate the change and they will provide the information to your child's homeroom teacher. Please communicate all changes no later than noon each day to ensure they are communicated to your child prior to dismissal.

[Bus Numbers & Routes](#)

[Car Loop Dashboard Cards](#)

Are You Moving?

If your family is moving out of the Hammond Elementary district or even just down the street, we still need to know! Please contact the Front Office at 410-880-5890 if you are changing your address over the summer. Chromebooks must also be turned in if your family moves out of county.

Chromebook Care Webpage

There is a new webpage for students, [Chromebook Care](#), which includes tips on caring for and transporting Chromebooks, as well as student mobile technology support and additional resources.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Please visit the [link](#) to the Howard County Public School System's Community News and Programs page.

