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A Message from Admin

Dear HES Families,

As we approach the end of the first marking period, we would like to remind you of the academic resources available on the [HCPSS website](#). You can select the content you are interested in learning more about to support your child's learning at home. The [mathematics family support center](#) and the [English/Language Arts pages](#) by grade include activities and lessons for the major skills taught in each grade. These include how to help your child pick a "just right book" to read at home, and the compensation strategy for addition and subtraction.

Should you have further questions about your child's progress and learning, please save the date for parent conferences the afternoon/evenings the week of November 25th. Watch for more detailed information in upcoming Tiger Tales and school news about how to schedule your parent/teacher conference. Thank you for being a partner in your child's education!

School Picture Retake Day

School Picture Retake Day is November 20 for students in need of a retake or for those who were absent. The photographer will be here from 8:45am -10:00am.

The entire portrait package must be returned to the photographer to have pictures retaken. Please have your child bring the portrait package to the photographer on retake day.

Please print this [order form](#) or visit www.schoolpix.com to order additional portraits.

Standards-Based Instruction and Reporting

Starting this school year, HCPSS will report student academic progress in grades 3rd through 5th using standards-based reporting. This change occurred during the school year 2023-2024 for PreK to 2. To learn more about standards-based instruction and reporting, visit parent resources [at this link](#).

Free Chromebooks for Qualifying Families

As part of a grant from the State of Maryland's Connected Devices Program, our school is partnering with the [Bright Minds Foundation](#) and the Howard County Government to provide qualifying families with one free Chromebook and charger per household. This free new HP Chromebook can be used by your family to connect with our schools, access community services, or for any other purpose that would be of benefit to you. In order to qualify for a free Chromebook and charger, you must meet the following criteria:

- Your family has not already received a free device from one of these organizations: Community Action Council of Howard County, Howard County Office of Children and Families, or Making Change;
- You are the parent or legal guardian of a student currently enrolled in HCPSS;
- You meet **one** of the income qualifications outlined on the application form; and,
- The application form is fully completed.

If you qualify for a Chromebook and have completed the Google Form application, you will be notified by Hammond Elementary School when the device is available in November/December for pick up. At that time, an adult family member (at least 18 years old) will need to come to the school to receive the device. When you pick up the device, you will receive information about setting up the device and how to access technical support. These are not HCPSS devices, and will not come loaded with any HCPSS educational applications. HCPSS is not responsible or liable for the operation, loss, or repair of your Chromebook or charger. Families will be responsible for their own internet service. Families will have 5 days to exchange any non-functioning devices. Please

read the instructions and complete the Free Chromebooks for Eligible HCPSS Parents or Guardians Google Form at [this link](#) by **Friday November 1, 2024**. If you have any questions, please contact Sara Koerber, Instructional Technology Teacher.

We look forward to partnering with the Bright Minds Foundations, Howard County Government, and you for this incredible opportunity!

A Note from Music

Christ Episcopal Church
6800 Oakland Mills Road, Columbia, MD 21045
presents

Larissa & Friends Recital

Saturday, November 9, 2024
5:00pm

Music Director, Larissa Sanders,
performs piano and organ works
joined by guest musicians



featuring works by
JS Bach,
Germaine
Tailleferre,
Samuel Coleridge-
Taylor,
and Louis Vierne

Reception to follow

No tickets required
Free will offering accepted
Donations will support the Music Ministry

Orchestra and Band Winter Concerts

Our Hammond ES Orchestra and Band Winter Concerts will take place on Monday, January 13 in the Hammond MS Gym. More information will be shared in the next few

weeks. Please contact Mrs. Jacobs (Orchestra) or Mr. Obrigewitch (Band) with any questions.

Chorus at Hammond

Our 4th and 5th grade chorus students have started working with our two music teachers, Mr. Burrows and Mrs. Sanders. We have over 90 students singing in chorus this year! We are excited to hear them sing in our two upcoming concerts. We will share the concerts with the Hammond Middle School choruses. Save the date for our Winter Concert at Hammond High School on Wednesday, December 18 at 7pm.

End of Quarter 1 Celebrations

It is hard to believe, but Quarter 1 is coming to an end on October 30. We will mark the day with grade appropriate celebrations at the end of the school day on October 30. To see the details click on the links below.

[Grades K-1](#)

[Grades 2-5](#)

Honoring Dr. Martin Luther King

This year, the Howard County Office of Human Rights and Equity have several exciting opportunities for students to engage with Dr. King's vision of equality, justice, and community service. Additionally, all the awards come with cash prizes.

Poster Contest: Open to Elementary, Middle, and High School students, participants can visually express their interpretation of Dr. King's dream through creative poster designs. All entries must be received by November 15.

For more information, including deadlines and submission guidelines, please visit <https://bit.ly/2025MLKContests>.

2025 STUDENT CONTESTS:

Honor Dr. King's Legacy & Win Cash Prizes!

Elementary, Middle & High School Poster Contest:

Create a piece of artwork that illustrates how we can make positive changes in ourselves, schools, and communities.

High School & Middle School Essay Contest:

Write an essay about a time that you created positive change in yourself, school, or community. Discuss challenges, outcomes, and personal growth.

High School & Middle School Oratory Contest:

Create a 5-7-minute speech that illustrates how you created positive change in yourself, school, or community. Discuss challenges, outcomes, and personal growth.

GET AN APPLICATION:

@ [HTTPS://BIT.LY/HCMLK25](https://bit.ly/hcmlk25)

For More Information:

Call (410) 313-6430

Email: MLK@howardcountymd.gov



SUBMISSION DEADLINE:

Entries must be received by
November 15th, 2024 at 5:00 PM EST

Via Email: MLK@howardcountymd.gov

Via Mail: Howard County Office
of Human Rights & Equity
9820 Patuxent Woods Drive, Suite 237
Columbia, MD 21046

Young Authors' Contest

The Howard County Literacy Association invites students in grades **1-5** to submit their original poems and/or short stories to the annual writing contest called **The Young Authors' Contest**.

Click here to view the slides describing the contest rules: [Contest Slides](#) All entries must be submitted as a Word document. In addition, all entries must have a completed YAC Cover Sheet sent as a PDF. Click here to make a copy: [Cover Sheet](#)

Submissions may be emailed to Paula Stehle at paula_stehle@hcpss.org **and** Elizabeth Kluh at elizabeth_kluh@hcpss.org by **December 20, 2024**. Contact Mrs. Stehle and Mrs. Kluh with any questions. All Young Authors' Contest information can be found on the [HCLA website](#). Howard County Literacy Association welcomes parents as members. Visit the [HCLA Welcome Page](#) for information about joining.



YOUNG AUTHORS' CONTEST 2025

SoMLA is thrilled to unveil the 2024-2025 Young Authors' Contest, presented in collaboration with various State of Maryland Literacy Association (SoMLA) local chapters. This exciting competition is open to students from grades 1 to 12, encouraging them to showcase their creativity and talent through original short stories and poetry. As an important note, the use of artificial intelligence (AI) in supporting student work is strictly prohibited. Local contests will be hosted by the respective SoMLA chapters, with the top winners progressing to the state-level competition. Join us in celebrating the budding authors of Maryland and their remarkable literary endeavors!

GRADE-LEVEL GUIDELINES

All entries must be original work and submitted in 12-point Times New Roman font. Entries must not include graphics. Only individual entries are accepted; group submissions are not being accepted. Submissions that do not meet these guidelines will be disqualified.

Elementary 1-5

- Short story entries must range between 100-400 words in grades 1-2
- Short story entry must range between 300-800 words in grades 3-5
- Poetry entries will consist of a single poem, any style from a minimum of 25-150 words

Middle 6-8

- Short story entries must range between 600-1,600 words
- Poetry entries will consist of a single poem, any style, and must range between 25-200 words.
- Entries must not include graphics

High 9-12

- Short story entries must range between 800-2,000 words.
- Poem entries will consist of a single poem, any style, and must range between 25-300 words.



Submit entry and cover sheet to your school by December 20.

Submission Requirements:

- Each entry must include a completed cover sheet with a signature by the student author's guardian.
- Each participant must submit two files (original work and cover sheet).

For additional details and guidelines, contact your local SoMLA Young Authors' Contest Chairperson or go to

Howard County Literacy Association website
<https://hocoreads.weebly.com/young-authors-contest.html>

Hammond Pride Fridays

HAMMOND
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

PRIDE DAYS

Students and Staff
are invited to wear
their Hammond
Elementary apparel
and/or school
colors to show their
Hammond pride.

EVERY FRIDAY!

MARK YOUR
CALENDARS!





Important Dates

- 10/28 Flu Clinic - Flu and Covid shot Clinic at school
- 10/30 End of Quarter 1
- 10/31 Schools Closed for students
- 11/5 Election Day - Schools & Offices closed
- 11/8 Report Cards available at 4pm
- 11/8 Window opens to schedule Parent-Teacher Conferences
- 11/14 Hearing & Vision Clinic
- 11/21 Hearing & Vision Clinic - RESCREENING
- 11/21 Parent-Teacher Conference scheduling window closes at 4:00 pm
- 11/25 School closes 3 hours early
- 11/25 In-Person Parent-Teacher Conferences
- 11/26 School closes 3 hours early
- 11/26 Virtual Parent-Teacher Conferences
- 11/27 School closed
- 11/27 Virtual Parent-Teacher Conferences
- 11/28 School closed
- 11/29 School closed
- 12/9 Orchestra and Band Winter Concerts at HMS gym