

Hammond Elementary School



Tiger Tales

November 19, 2020



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Greetings,

On behalf of our staff, we have enjoyed celebrating American Education Week with our Most Valuable Partners. We hope you had an opportunity to view our [Thank You Video](#), which serves as just a small token of our appreciation for the partnership between school and families. It truly does take a village.

We are hopeful to see many, if not all, of our families represented next week during Parent Teacher Conferences. In some ways, you have probably seen your child's teacher more than ever; however, Parent Teacher Conferences provide an opportunity to learn more about your child's engagement in and progress with virtual learning. During these times, we seek opportunities to connect with each other and we look forward to doing so with you.

We wish each of you a wonderful, safe, and restful Thanksgiving.

Sincerely,

Ms. Ciarapica

NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS AND IMPORTANT REMINDERS

Parent Teacher Conferences

Parent Teacher Conferences are scheduled for Monday, November 23 through Wednesday, November 25. The window to schedule conferences through [HCPSS Connect](#) will close on Thursday, November 19. We will be offering Google Meet conferences for Homeroom and 4th Grade G/T Math only in the Fall. Math conferences will be held this Winter in February.

The Related Arts Team will also offer Office Hours during fall conferences for any interested families. Click to view the [Related Arts Office Hours Schedule](#). In addition, Mrs. Kennedy is available for families on Monday, November 23 and Tuesday, November 24 from 12:30 - 7:30 p.m. Please contact Mrs. Kennedy directly to set up a conference (mkennedy@hcpss.org).

Please refer to the [Parent Teacher Conference Scheduling Guide](#) and [Parent Teacher Conference Google Meet Guide](#) for more information.

Week of November 23

As a reminder we have early dismissal on Monday, November 23 and Tuesday, November 24 due to Parent Teacher Conferences. Additionally, there is no school for students on Wednesday, November 25. Please view the [HES Early Dismissal Schedule](#) to see what your child's schedule will be for the day.

HES Virtual Spirit Day

Let's all stay connected by having a little fun from afar. Students and staff are invited to participate in Spirit Day on Friday, November 20-**Twin Day!**

Administrator Office Hours

Ms. Ciarapica and Ms. Mapson will be offering virtual office hours on Monday, November 23 and Tuesday, November 24 from 5:00-6:00 p.m. This is an opportunity for parents/guardians to drop in and ask any questions or share feedback. We are looking forward to spending time chatting and connecting with you. The Google Meet information is below:

- Monday, November 23
<https://meet.google.com/bot-rmpp-rbj>
Or dial: +1 443-429-0842 PIN: 263 728 266#
- Tuesday, November 24
<https://meet.google.com/hzg-hbej-qtc>
Or dial: +1 314-730-0759 PIN: 370 249 949#

Young Authors' Contest

The Howard County Literacy Association is launching the annual State of Maryland Young Authors' Contest!

Students in Grades 1-5 are encouraged to submit a short story and/or poem by Monday, December 2 using the following guidelines:

- Entries must be original work.
- All entries must use no smaller than 12 point font in Times New Roman.
- Short story entry must range between 100-400 words (gr. 1-2) and 300-800 words (gr. 3-5).
- Poem entry will consist of a single poem, any style, and must range between 25-150 words (all grade levels).
- Entries must not include graphics.
- Each entry must include a completed cover sheet signed by the student author's parent.

[View the flier](#) for more information and be sure to include the [contest coversheet](#).

Quarter 1 Report Cards

Your child's Quarter 1 Report Card is now accessible via HCPSS Connect Synergy. Parents/guardians may view/download report cards by taking the following steps:

1. Log in to [HCPSS Connect Synergy](#)
2. Select More Options from the left panel
3. Select Report Cards from the middle
4. Select the report card you wish to access

MAP Score Access

Thank you for supporting your child during MAP testing. To access your child's MAP score, you will need to log in to HCPSS connect as a parent. Please see below for directions.

How Can I Access my Child's MAP Test Results?

1. Log in to HCPSS Connect
2. Select More Options from the left panel
3. Select Standardized Test Scores from the middle

<https://help.hcpss.org/grades-testing/fall-2020-MAP-scores>

If you have any questions about MAP testing, please contact our assistant principal, Nykia Mapson, at nykia_mapson@hcpss.org.

Family Support and Resource Center

Do you have a child with an IFSP or IEP? The HCPSS Family Support and Resource Center (FSRC) offers a weekly email just for you! FSRC communications include helpful workshops, resources and community information specifically geared to supporting your journey. As a parent of a child with an IFSP/IEP, you should already be receiving the email, but if not, let us know so we can include your contact information in our database. You can also email specific questions to FSRC@hcpss.org.

Family and Student Supports

[Child Care Support Financial Assistance](#) (Links to an external site.) - JustLiving Advocacy wants to provide child care support financial assistance to low-income families in need of this support. These COVID-19 child care support relief funds are to help families during these challenging times.

[Eye Exams](#) (Links to an external site.) - Pediatric Eye Exams and one year follow-up care for uninsured/under-insured children - Includes children who have lost their health insurance due to COVID-19

IMPORTANT DATES

November 20	Spirit Day-Twin Day!
November 23-24	Schools close 3 hours early (Parent/Teacher Conferences)
November 25	Schools closed for students (Parent/Teacher Conferences)
November 26-27	Schools and offices closed-Thanksgiving

CONTINUING ANNOUNCEMENTS

Kindergarten and First Grade - Enrichment Activities

Kindergarten and First Grade students will have an opportunity to learn creative and analytical thinking strategies through a variety of activities this year. These lessons will be announced in each teacher's Monday Announcement and on the student's ELA Homepage. The lessons are optional but highly recommended! We hope you have fun with these activities. Please contact us with any questions:

Mrs. Miller – Kindergarten Enrichment (belinda_miller@hcpss.org)

Mrs. Calanni – First Grade Enrichment (gwyn_calanni@hcpss.org)

Tips for Rebooting Your Chromebook

Having issues with your Chromebook? [Click here](#) for directions to correct or repair unexpected Chromebook system behavior. Begin with the quick Refresh Procedure. If the issue continues, complete the Reset Procedure.

Update on School Meals

Free school meals previously due to expire at the end of December, have been extended through the end of the 2020-2021 school year. Thus, HCPSS will be able to provide meals at no cost to any HCPSS student, and all children 18 and under, through the entire school year, assuming continued availability of USDA funding.

Google Meet Expectations

To ensure a positive, productive and enjoyable learning experience for all participants, it is important that all students and parents/guardians adhere to these [Google Meet Expectations](#).

Ms. Freitag, School Psychologist Office Hours

Ms. Freitag, School Psychologist, will offer Office Hours on Mondays from 12:00-1:00 p.m. Please use the code **hes-schoolpsych** to join in to ask a quick question or share a concern. As always, Ms. Freitag is available to set up a Google meet at any time by reaching out via email at angela_freitag@hcpss.org.

Mrs. Kennedy, School Counselor

Mrs. Kennedy, our School Counselor, is available to support students and families when adjusting to our virtual learning environment. Please do not hesitate to contact her for additional assistance (mkennedy@hcpss.org). Check out her [Canvas page](#) here.

PTA NEWS

Art Night

On Thursday, November 19 the HES PTA will host Art Night where we can work with friends to make artwork for our Square 1 Art fundraiser! Join us with a piece of plain paper, art supplies, a grown-up, and get ready for fun! From 6:15-7:00 p.m. we will make handprint art! From 7:15-7:45 p.m. we will do a sunset silhouette. Black paper will be helpful if you have some for this artwork. Please RSVP to Leigh String at president@hespta.org to get a zoom link for the event. Please specify which time and artwork you will be making.

Spiritwear

Running out of holiday gift ideas? Looking for an easy way to shop while social distancing? You can find something for anyone in our [spirit wear shop](#) and have it delivered right to your door. Not sure what they'll like? Gift certificates are also available. Holloway Coast Hoodies are 10% off in November (code: NOV20E) - check back here for December's sale item as soon as it is announced (usually the 1st of each month).

Membership

If you have not done so already, please consider joining our PTA. PTAs support improvements through advocacy and play an important role in fundraising for curriculum based programs and social events. The HES PTA is a tremendous asset to our school community and needs your support. Visit hespta.org for more information.

COMMUNITY NEWS

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

Hammond Elementary School

At-A-Glance Resource Sheet

Stay Updated:

- Access hes.hcpss.org for Tiger Tales News, our staff directory, calendar dates & more!
- Access www.hcpss.org for HCPSS information & resources
- Read “Tiger Tales” newsletters and Family Communications
- Listen to HCPSS BOE meetings
- Complete your Family File at www.hcpss.org/connect

Save the Dates:

HCPSS School System Calendar List of Dates:
<https://www.hcpss.org/f/news/calendars/datesonly202021.pdf>

School Office: Due to COVID-19, our school building is only open to HCPSS staff, those registered through Columbia Association child care, and mail and delivery workers.

School Virtual Hours: 9:00 a.m. - 3:50 p.m.

School Phone Number: Our office number is **410-880-5890**, but please note that you may need to leave a message during school hours. If it is an emergency and your call is not answered during school hours, please email either Ms. Ciarapica, Principal at Lisa_Ciarapica@hcpss.org or Mrs. Mapson, Assistant Principal at Nykia_Mapson@hcpss.org.

School Address: 8110 Aladdin Drive, Laurel, MD 20723

School EFax Number: 443-973-5552

To report a school absence: While parents/guardians can continue to email their child’s teacher for absences, we are encouraging parents to use this [GoogleForm for absence reporting](https://www.hes.hcpss.org) available at www.hes.hcpss.org. We hope this makes reporting absences more convenient and efficient for you!

If there is a health issue that you would like the teacher and health office to know about, please email your child’s teacher and our school nurse, [Mrs. Rozgonyi](mailto:Mrs.Rozgonyi). Please email [Ms. Bajwa](mailto:Ms.Bajwa) with any doctor notes for student absences.

<p>Need Grab-and-Go Meal Services?</p> <p>Grab-and-Go meals will be served at HES Monday through Friday from 8:00–9:00 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.–12:45 p.m.</p> <p>Meals can be picked up in the rear of the building, at the doors of our kitchen. When entering the main parking lot, please drive down the access road to the right of Hammond Middle School. Meals will be provided at no cost to all students for the remainder of the school year.</p>	<p>Need Support or Health Services?</p> <p>School Counselor: Mrs. Kennedy Margaret_Kennedy@hcpss.org</p> <p>School Psychologist: Mrs. Downin Laurie_Downin@hcpss.org</p> <p>School Nurse: Mrs. Rozgonyi Melissa_Rozgonyi@hcpss.org</p> <p>Pupil Personnel Worker: Monique Finch Monique_Finch@hcpss.org</p>
<p>Need How-to Tech information?</p> <p>https://hcpss.me/join-chromebook-to-wifi/ for directions to connect your Chromebook to your home WiFi</p> <p>https://hcpss.me/account-self-service/ if you forgot your username and password</p> <p>https://hcpss.instructure.com/courses/77796 for common self-help resources</p> <p>If after reviewing these resources, your family continues to need support, please complete the Student and Family Technology Support Request Form.</p>	<p>Need Language Assistance?</p> <p>Espanol: 410-313-1591</p> <p>Korean: 410-313-1592</p> <p>Chinese: 410-313-5920</p> <p>Chin: 410-313-5968</p> <p>Call and leave a message with your name, contact information and question. A liaison will return your call.</p>
<p>Want to get involved?</p> <p>Visit https://www.hespta.org/ and follow instructions on how to join or renew membership. You can also email membership@hespta.org with additional questions.</p>	<p>Hammond Elementary Fun Facts</p> <p>Mascot: Tuffy the Tiger</p> <p>Colors: Green and Yellow</p> <p>Age: HES is 49 years old this year!</p>

