



MESSAGE FROM ADMINISTRATION

Dear HES families,

November is traditionally a month where we've expressed thanks and reflected on all we have to be thankful for. Mrs. Mapson and I are incredibly grateful for the amazing families we come into contact with daily, who support and partner with us at home. We could not do it without you!

We are so thankful for our students, who greet us with a smile in the morning, stop to give us hugs in the hallways, and teach us something new every day! We love learning alongside our students and there is so much to learn.

Finally, we are incredibly thankful for our staff, who truly act and operate with the best interest of students in mind and in heart each day. Educating students is incredibly challenging (and rewarding) work and our staff truly put their whole heart into this work. We continue to be impressed with the level of professionalism and care that staff show students daily.

Our teachers, paraeducators, student assistants, specialists, custodial staff, cafeteria service staff, office staff, and student services team work together to make each student's school experience an AWESOME one! Please take time to thank a school staff member throughout the month of November. Even a simple email or note is valued and uplifting!

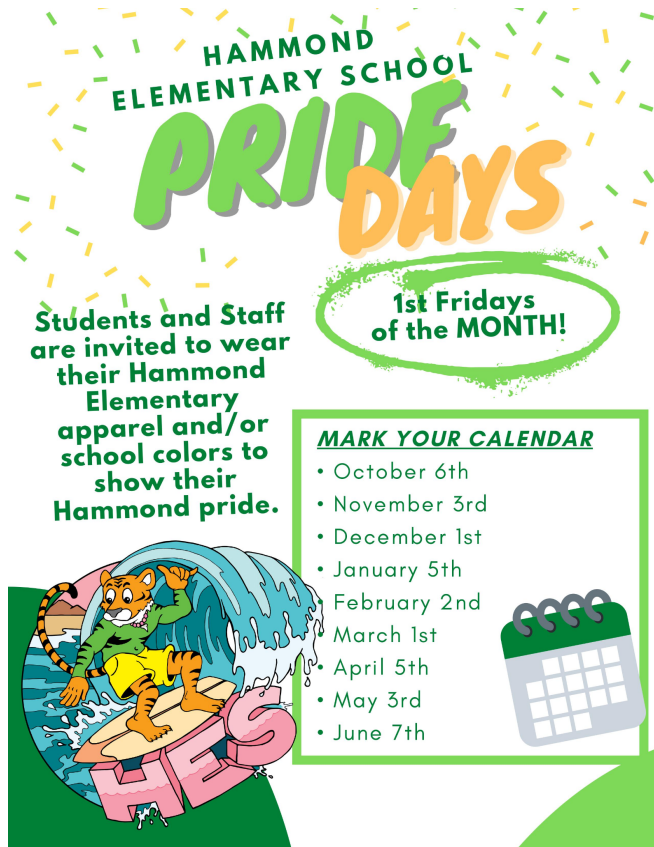
Another opportunity to thank a staff member is in person or virtually during the upcoming November conferences. Conference scheduling will open **Monday, November 6th at 8:00 am**. Please see information [here](#) about the conference window.

Gratefully,

Heather Moraff, Principal

Nykia Mapson, Assistant Principal

HES PRIDE FRIDAYS



The poster features a green and orange color scheme with confetti. At the top, it says 'HAMMOND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL' in green, followed by 'PRIDE DAYS' in large, stylized letters (PRIDE in green, DAYS in orange). Below this, a green oval contains the text '1st Fridays of the MONTH!'. To the left, a green box contains the text: 'Students and Staff are invited to wear their Hammond Elementary apparel and/or school colors to show their Hammond pride.' To the right, another green box titled 'MARK YOUR CALENDAR' lists dates: October 6th, November 3rd, December 1st, January 5th, February 2nd, March 1st, April 5th, May 3rd, and June 7th. A small calendar icon is next to the list. At the bottom left, there is a cartoon illustration of a tiger surfing on a pink wave.

**HAMMOND
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

**PRIDE
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- June 7th

YOUNG AUTHORS' 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 flyer for specific entry instructions and include the coversheet with each entry. All entries should be submitted to Mrs. Klueh or Mrs. Stehle by **Monday, December 11, 2023!** If you have any further questions, please have your child ask his/her homeroom teacher.

[Coversheet](#)

[Young Authors' Contest Guidelines 2023-2024](#)

A NOTE FROM ORCHESTRA

Congratulations to 5th Grade violinist **Joshua Luo** on his acceptance into the Elementary School Gifted and Talented Orchestra (ESGTO), and to 4th Grade violinist **Ivan Liu** on his acceptance into the Elementary School Gifted and Talented Sinfonia

(ESGTS)! We are so proud of your hard work and achievements, and we look forward to celebrating with you at your concerts in December!

DIVERSITY, EQUALITY AND INCLUSION

November is Native American Heritage Month. Please click on the link below to see an exciting learning opportunity this Saturday, November 4th.

[Native American History Celebration](#)



Native American Heritage Month Celebration

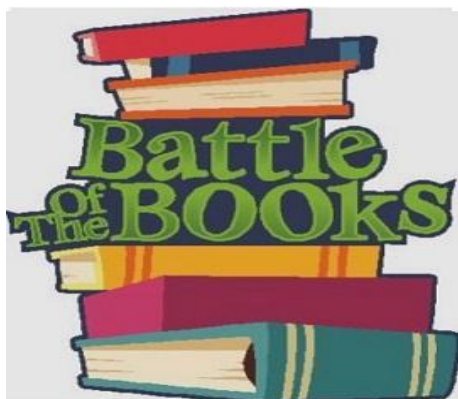
Saturday, November 4 | 11 am – 3 pm
Color Burst
Park 6000 Merriweather Dr., Columbia 2 pm: Author Steven Paul Judd
Performers include: Carly Harvey, Tsalagi and Tuscarora: singer Brett Walking Eagle

chapterchats.org

ATTENTION PARENTS OF 5th GRADE STUDENTS!

BATTLE OF THE BOOKS

This week students are learning about the 2023-2024 Battle of the Books reading competition for 5th grade students of Howard County. Please see the Howard County [Battle of the Books website](#) for more information. Battle of the Book (hclibrary.org) The public library will regularly update this site throughout the year as more plans are finalized. Important dates for now: October 23 to November 11 ONLINE REGISTRATION. Students and parents are responsible for the creation of their own 5 member teams (1 adult coach).



PTA NEWS

Membership

If you have not done so already, please consider joining the HES PTA. PTA advocates for our children, builds community and plays 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! Register here:

<https://hes-pta.memberhub.com/store>

Who's Who on the PTA Board

It's easy to reach the PTA Board with your questions, concerns and great ideas! Simply reach out to us at the email addresses below:

President, Melissa Zawadzki , president@hespta.org

Vice President, Membership, Korin Sharp, membership@hespta.org

Vice President, Communications, Sean Larsen, communications@hespta.org

Treasurer, Karin Armour Popkey , treasurer@hespta.org

Secretary, Emily Griffin, secretary@hespta.org

Catch us on the Socials

Be sure to follow us on Facebook and Instagram so you never miss a thing.

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100057586564529>

<https://www.instagram.com/hammondespta/>

Skate Party

The PTA is hosting a super fun Skate Party for all Hammond students and their families!



- When: Sunday, November 5th from 4:30-6:30pm.
- Where: Laurel Roller Skating Center, 9890 Brewers Ct, Laurel MD 20723
- Pre-Sale Cost: \$9 per skater, rental included*, if you buy online through Friday November 3rd!!

- **Day-Of Cost:** \$15 per skater, **limited spots available** til 5pm, so buy online early to confirm your spot and save! **NO entry after 5pm unless you purchased a pre-sale ticket!**

I'm in! How do I buy? <https://hes-pta.memberhub.com/store/items/939781>

Want to help? We are looking for volunteers to assist with check-in and day of ticket sales. If interested, sign up here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0448ABA929A7FC1-44909786-skate> .

*Note: This is not a drop-off event. Each student must be supervised by a responsible adult at all times. *Cost is the same regardless of whether a skate rental is needed.*

Restaurant Night

Eat more Chik'n! Our next Restaurant Night is coming up on **November 7th** at Chick Fil A, all day, 6 am-10 pm! Be sure to mention HES when ordering - 20% of proceeds benefit the PTA! For mobile orders, please select "support community care event" and enter code HES1.



Yearbook

The yearbook staff is looking for photo submissions for this year's yearbook! Please submit any photos you have at school events and performances if you'd like them considered for the yearbook. We'll be accepting submissions all year so bookmark this link for future events!

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSegY6ILfEAdpU-Umwb5GORy3lmMvRPe-zCwIYNkx7h_mC3Fgg/viewform"

Talent Show

The Talent Show Committee is looking for volunteers for the planning committee and/or folks to help out in January and February with the act reviews, dress rehearsal, and show itself. Please contact Ryan Watkins at ryan.n.watkins15@gmail.com

Deliver Monthly Mojo

Sign up here to bring coffee, treats or other surprises to our hardworking staff so they can keep their mojo going. [https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0448ABA929A7FC1-staff3/55828552#/**We are in need of volunteer\(s\) for December!** Questions? Great ideas for staff appreciation? Reach out to Katie Thorn at \[kathrynthorn@gmail.com\]\(mailto:kathrynthorn@gmail.com\)](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0448ABA929A7FC1-staff3/55828552#/)

Spring Carnival Raffle Donations and Community Sponsorships

The Spring Carnival Committee is seeking donations for its annual raffle as well as sponsorships from local businesses. If you have a donation or are interested in helping out, please reach out to Faith Hudson at carnival@hespta.org.

HOWARD COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION

As we wrap up the September/October session of Before & After School classes, we wanted to make sure families at Hammond ES are aware of the November/December

Before & After school class options. These classes provide fun, structured, educational, and enriching activities for students, benefitting both the child(ren) and parents!

[Hammond ES Class Registration Link](#)

[Hammond ES Class Flier](#)

November/December Classes at Hammond ES:

- Learn Now Music After School - Groovy Guitar
- Learn Now Music After School - Poppin' Piano
- KidzArt After School

*Some classes have met minimum enrollment; other classes are shy of the minimum number of students needed to run the class.

IMPORTANT DATES

Fri. Nov. 3 HES Pride Friday

Sun. Nov. 5 PTA Skate Party

Mon. Nov 6 Window opens for scheduling Parent-Teacher Conferences

Wed. Nov. 8 1st Quarter Report Cards

Tues. Nov. 14 PTA General Meeting

Mon. Nov. 20 Early Dismissal for Students. Parent-Teacher Conferences (in-person)

Tues. Nov. 21 Early Dismissal for Students. Parent-Teacher Conferences (virtual only)

Wed. Nov. 22 School Closed for Students. Parent-Teacher Conferences (virtual only)

Thur. Nov 23 School and Office Closed.

Fri. Nov. 24 School and Office Closed.

Dec. 7-15 Book Fair

Wed. Dec. 13 Early Dismissal for Students

Thurs. Dec. 14 Book Fair evening event

Mon. Dec. 25 Schools & Offices Closed for Winter Break

Tues. Jan. 2 Schools & Offices reopen

