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A Message from Admin

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 **Friday, Nov. 8th at 8:00 am**. Please see information [here](#) about the conference window.

Gratefully,

Heather Moraff, Principal

Nykia Mapson, Assistant Principal

Report Cards Friday, November 8

Report cards will be available in Synergy this Friday, November 8th at 4pm. This is an important opportunity for us to collaborate to support your child's learning and growth. This year changes have been made to the report card format for students in grades 3 to 5. To help you understand these changes, please refer to this resource, "[Understanding Your Child's Report Card](#)" This guide contains information on how to interpret your child's report card.

Parent-Teacher Conferences

November 25-27 are designated for Parent Teacher Conferences this year. We will be holding 15-minute conferences. All conferences will be held with your child's ELA teacher. Below are the details about how they will be held based on the date of the conference:

- ~Monday, November 25th - All Conferences In-Person at HES
- ~Tuesday, November 26th - All Conferences Virtual - link will be sent
- ~Wednesday, November 27th - All Conferences Virtual - link will be sent

If you choose a virtual conference, the Google Meet code will be sent to you with your confirmation email.

Beginning Friday, November 8th at 8:00 am, you can log into [HCPSS Connect](#) to view and select from the time slots provided by the teacher for the conference. Step-by-step directions are below. If you do not have access to HCPSS Connect, please call the school for assistance at 410-880-5890.

Directions to Select a Conference Time:

Login to hcpss.org/connect

Select Conference from the left-side choices

Select Parent Scheduled Conferences at the top right.

Select a time slot for your conference.

You will have access through Thursday, November 21st at 4:00pm to schedule your child's conference by logging into HCPSS Connect.

Veterans Day

We are celebrating Veterans Day on Monday, November, 11th, and are looking forward to thanking those who served our country! We will read information about Veterans Day on the morning announcements and students will have the opportunity to share with their classmates about the Veterans in their family. **We are also welcoming our HES family Veterans to lunch with their student(s)!** We will have special tables reserved for our honored guests and their students. Due to space, we are asking that only our HES Veterans join us for lunch on this day. You must [pre-register here](#) so we can ensure we are ready with a light lunch for the honored Veteran. Students should bring their own lunch or eat the cafeteria lunch as usual.

If your child would like to share information about the Veterans in their family with their classmates, please help them to create a mini-poster (8x10 or 11 x17). Students can do this electronically on a Google slide to be shared with their homeroom teacher via email or on paper/poster. Please note that these will be on display and may not be returned, so please do not use original photos or anything of sentimental value.



Upcoming Hearing and Vision Screening at HES

The Howard County Health Department and HCPSS School Health Services support your student's academic success by providing Vision and Hearing screenings at your child's school. These screenings are required by Maryland State Law for all students in Kindergarten, 1st grade, 8th grade and students that are new to the state of Maryland and do not have a record of being screened.

Vision and Hearing screenings at HES will be held on **Thursday, November 14th**

The rescreening date is scheduled for **Thursday, November 21st**.

*****IF YOUR CHILD WEARS GLASSES, PLEASE MAKE SURE THEY WEAR THEM TO SCHOOL FOR THE SCREENINGS (NOV 14TH AND NOV 21ST)**

[Hearing and Vision Screening letter](#)

[Carta de exámenes de audición y visión en español](#)

Stand Up to Bullying Spirit Week November 11-15

HAMMOND ELEMENTARY SPIRIT WEEK NOV 11-15

Stand up to BULLYING



MONDAY - SUPERHERO DAY

Dress like a superhero! Superheroes are powered by kindness and confidence.



TUESDAY - WACKY TACKY DAY

Mix it up and talk to someone new today while wearing your favorite wacky tacky wear.



WEDNESDAY - UNIQUE HAIR&HAT DAY

Put a lid on bullying by wearing your favorite hat or unique hair style.



THURSDAY - TWIN DAY

Dress like a friend or match with Mrs. Moraff because there is always someone there for you.

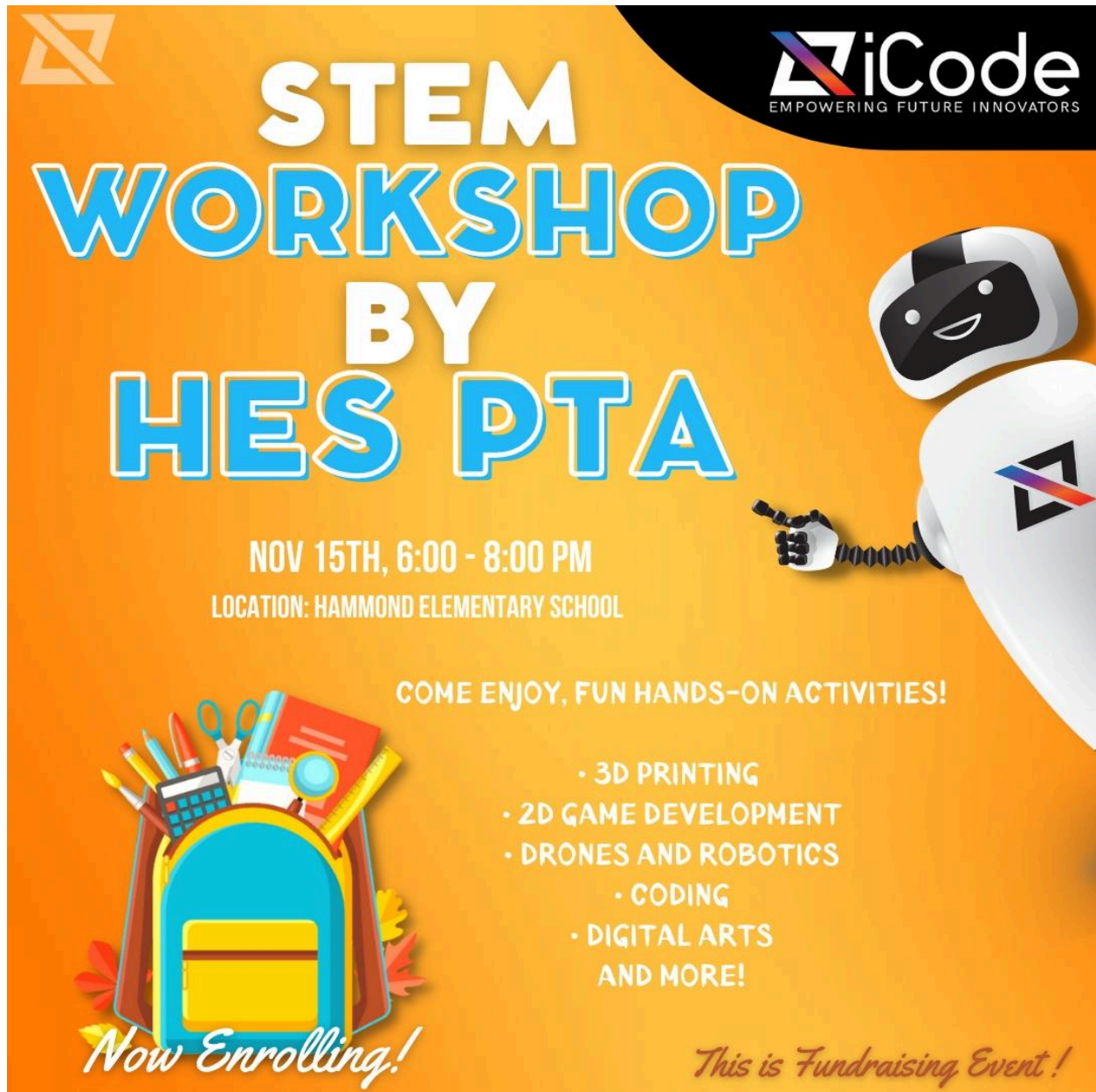


FRIDAY - HES SPIRIT

Team up against bullying. Show your school spirit by wearing HES colors (green and yellow).



PTA Fundraiser STEM Education Opportunity



The poster features a bright orange background. At the top left is a stylized 'Z' logo. At the top right is the 'ZiCode' logo with the tagline 'EMPOWERING FUTURE INNOVATORS'. The main title 'STEM WORKSHOP BY HES PTA' is written in large, bold, blue-outlined letters. Below the title, the date and time 'NOV 15TH, 6:00 - 8:00 PM' and the location 'LOCATION: HAMMOND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL' are listed. On the right side, a white robot with a black head and a 'Z' logo on its chest is pointing towards the text. In the bottom left, there is an illustration of a yellow backpack filled with school supplies like pens, pencils, a calculator, and a notebook. Below the backpack, the text 'Now Enrolling!' is written in a cursive font. In the bottom right, the text 'This is Fundraising Event!' is written in a cursive font. A list of activities is provided in the center-right area.

STEM WORKSHOP BY HES PTA

NOV 15TH, 6:00 - 8:00 PM
LOCATION: HAMMOND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

COME ENJOY, FUN HANDS-ON ACTIVITIES!

- 3D PRINTING
- 2D GAME DEVELOPMENT
- DRONES AND ROBOTICS
- CODING
- DIGITAL ARTS
AND MORE!

Now Enrolling!

This is Fundraising Event!

American Education Week November 18 - 22

American Education Week is the one week parents can drop in throughout the week to visit the classrooms without an appointment. Visitors must sign in prior to visiting the classrooms. **Visitors are not allowed to attend recess due to previously determined safety risks.** More information will be provided.

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.

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 - DATE CHANGE

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. Obrugewitch (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.

Hammond's Talent Show Is Back!

The deadline to register to be in the talent show is **December 19th**. Please read below for the details, rules, and guidelines. **Please note that we are not having in person act reviews this year, and only video submissions.** Register here at this link: <https://bit.ly/HESStalent>

HAMMOND ELEMENTARY



Do you have a special talent, passion, or skill that you would like to share with others?

Need some ideas?

You can juggle, dance, sing, play your favorite instrument, act, fashion design, gymnastics, dramatic reading, martial arts, or magic! If in doubt...register or reach out. *(email below)*

KEY DATES

Registration Deadline: **DECEMBER 19**

Video Submissions (via email below)
for Act Review due: **JANUARY 31**

Dress Rehearsal: **FEBRUARY 26** (5:00-8:00)

Talent Show: **FEBRUARY 27** (6:30)

REGISTER TODAY



Fill out the registration form by December 19th to book your spot in the spotlight! Scan the image or visit the link below.

<https://bit.ly/HESStalent>

GUIDELINES

- Act review provides the students the opportunity to showcase their talent. Act review and dress rehearsal are both mandatory for you to take part in the show
- Any student K-5 interested in performing is welcome!
- Students may be in no more than one act
- All acts must be at least 1 minute and no longer than 2 minutes in length
- Acts with music should submit a link in the sign-up form or email me the .mp3 file if it isn't online or on Spotify
- Group acts are also welcome! All students in a group must be registered separately. They should list the same date/time range for their act review and add the names of the other performers when registering
- Questions? contact us at ryan.n.watkins15@gmail.com

Attention 5th Grade: Carson Scholarship Fund

The Carson Scholars Fund awards \$1,000 college scholarships to students in grades 4 through 11 who excel academically and are dedicated to serving their communities. Students must attend an accredited K-12 school in the United States.

Hammond Elementary School would like to nominate a 5th grade student. Please see the linked information: [Carson Scholars Program Nomination Information](#).

The Carson Scholars Fund is looking for students in grades 4th - 11th with a minimum of a 3.75 GPA and display humanitarianism through community service.

If your child would like to be considered, he or she should write a brief essay about the importance of academics and how he/she is involved in community service organizations and/or projects. Essays are due Tuesday, December 3, 2024. Essays can be submitted to Mrs. Monti electronically via Google Documents or in person (handwritten or typed).

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.



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).

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

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>

Thanksgiving Holiday Support



Happy Thanksgiving

2024 DCRS Thanksgiving Food Support

Monday, November 25 • 4:30 to 6:00 p.m.

- Only **ONE** basket per household so we may serve as many families as possible.
- Each basket must be **picked up in person**, and you must be prepared to transport it.
- Baskets available only while supplies last.

FIRST COME. FIRST SERVED.

▼ CHOOSE **ONE** LOCATION ▼

<p>North Laurel Community Center 9411 Whiskey Bottom Road Laurel 20723</p> <p>POINT OF CONTACT Valerie Mathis 410-313-0220 (VOICE/RELAY) OR vmathis@howardcountymd.gov</p>	<p>Elkridge Volunteer Fire Station 5700 Rowanberry Drive Elkridge 21075</p> <p>POINT OF CONTACT Triston Cooper 410-313-6549 (VOICE/RELAY) OR tcooper@howardcountymd.gov</p>
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An initiative of the
Howard County
Community Resources and Services
Office of the Local Children's Board
and the MultiService Center

If you need this information in an alternate format, or need accommodations to participate, contact Triston Cooper at tcooper@howardcountymd.gov or 410-313-6549 (VOICE/RELAY).



Feliz Acción de Gracias

Apoyo alimentario para el Día de Acción de Gracias de DCRS 2024

Lunes 25 de noviembre • 4:30 a 6:00 p.m.

- Solo UNA canasta por hogar para que podamos servir a tantas familias como sea posible.
- Cada cesta debe recogerse en persona y debe estar preparado para transportarla.
- Canastas disponibles solo hasta agotar existencias.

POR ORDEN DE LLEGADA. PRIMERO SERVIDO.

▼ SELECCIONE UNA UBICACIÓN. ▼

North Laurel Community Center

9411 Whiskey Bottom Road
Laurel 20723

PUNTO DE CONTACTO

Valerie Mathis

410-313-0220 (VOICE/RELAY) OR
vmathis@howardcountymd.gov

Elkridge Volunteer Fire Station

5700 Rowanberry Drive
Elkridge 21075

PUNTO DE CONTACTO

Triston Cooper

410-313-6549 (VOICE/RELAY) OR
tcooper@howardcountymd.gov

An initiative of the
Howard County
Community Resources and Services
Office of the Local Children's Board
and the MultiService Center

Si necesita esta información en un formato alternativo, o necesita adaptaciones para participar, contacta a Triston Cooper en tcooper@howardcountymd.gov o 410-313-6549 (voz/retransmisión).



Behavioral Therapy (DBT) & Mindfulness Training

Dialectical Behavioral Therapy (DBT) & Mindfulness Training



Join us for a healing journey towards emotional balance and resilience.

When: Tuesday, November 19, 2024 Time: 5:00 - 7:30PM

Where : Howard County Dept. of Community Resources
and Services, 9830 Patuxent Woods Drive, Columbia,
Maryland, Conference room 337

No Cost to participants Dinner provided

A DBT-certified and LSCW-led skills class for caretakers, parents and guardians of youth, and any other individuals, to address emotional regulation issues that are associated with increased risk of future substance use disorder and other maladaptive behaviors. DBT has shown to be particularly helpful to address issues of family conflict, emotional regulation, substance use disorder, and post-traumatic stress syndrome (PTSD).

Please register in advance.

[Sign up by clicking here](#)



OPIOID COMMUNITY COLLABORATIVE COUNCIL
HOWARD COUNTY STATE'S ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
TIDES OF CHANGE WELLNESS
Made possible through funding from Howard
County Government.



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!



Mt. Hebron High School “Alice in Wonderland” with a Mad Hatter Tea Party*!

Join us for “Alice in Wonderland” and an exclusive tea party before the show at Mt. Hebron High School on Sunday, November 24. Meet the characters, enjoy delicious snacks, and create fun crafts from 12:00pm-1:30pm. After the tea party in the cafeteria, you will be escorted to your VIP seats in the auditorium for the 2pm show. Tickets for the tea party and show are \$20 for children and \$16 for adults (all children must be accompanied by an adult). Tickets are limited and you can purchase tickets [here!](#)



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

1/13 Orchestra and Band Winter Concerts at HMS gym