

# Hammond Elementary School



## Tiger Tales

January 19, 2022



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

- Important Reminders
- End of 2nd Quarter Celebration
- Young Author's Contest
- Rising 6th graders
- Winter MAP Assessments
- Counselors' Corner
- Family READ THE RAINBOW
- The Road to Kindergarten
- A Note from the Healthroom
- After School Classes by HO CO RECS & PARKS
- PTA News
- Important Dates
- Continuing Announcements
- Community News

### IMPORTANT REMINDERS

- **There is no school this Monday, January 23** as it is a Professional Day for staff.
- School day starts promptly at 9:00am. Doors open at 8:45am. Set your children up for success by getting them to school on time each day! Parents must accompany late arrivals to sign them in on the sheet in the vestibule.
- Check your children's school supplies as it might be time to re-stock.
- When dropping off or picking up children please use the HES staffed drop-off line or park in a regulation parking space. This is for the safety of all!
- Our Lost & Found grows daily but it does not need to. Please label all coats, jackets, lunch boxes, water bottles etc. with your child's name. Otherwise these items may be donated.

### END OF 2ND QUARTER CELEBRATION

Friday, January 27 we will be celebrating the end of a successful 2nd quarter! Wear your pj's and enjoy a movie during lunchtime! [End of 2nd Quarter Celebration flier.](#)

## YOUNG AUTHORS' CONTEST

Congratulations to our students who won the schoolwide Young Authors' Contest! We wish the winners good luck as they move on to the county judging!

### For the poetry category, our winners are:

Grade 1 and Grade 2 - no poetry entries

Grade 3 – "I am a Pink Tulip" by **Zoya Memon**

Grade 4 - no poetry entries

Grade 5 - "I am Terrible at Poems" by **Chris S. Uk**

### In the short story category, our winners are:

Grade 1 - no short story entries

Grade 2 – "Jimbo Goes to Space" by **Arna Kalaria**

Grade 3 – "The Golden Nightingale" by **Gloria Teng**

Grade 4 – "Time is Ticking" by **Oluwateniayo (Teni) Onijala**

Grade 5 - "The Legend of Suvi and Blanca" by **Danielle Broadwater**

Thank you to all who participated!!

## RISING 6TH GRADERS

HMS invites all parents/guardians of 5th grade students who will be attending Hammond Middle School for the 2023-2024 school year to join us for our **Rising 6th Grade Welcome and Information Night on Tuesday, January 24th** at 6:00 pm. We will meet in the HMS Cafeteria.

During the presentation, we will provide information on the transition to middle school and an overview of the course registration process

## WINTER MAP ASSESSMENTS

Students in grades 1-5 will take the Measured Academic Progress (MAP) assessment during the month of January or February. The data from the MAP assessment will help schools and teachers measure your student's academic progress in the areas of Reading and Math. The MAP test does not affect grades and the difficulty adjusts depending on how your child responds. It is normal for students to only answer about half the questions correctly. To learn more about the MAP assessment, please visit: <https://www.nwea.org/the-map-suite/common-questions-families/>

Teachers in grades 1-5 will administer the assessment on the dates listed below. If your child is absent, makeup testing will be offered when they return to school. Teachers will share specific dates or changes to dates with you via Canvas announcements. If you have any questions regarding MAP testing, please reach out to Mrs. Mapson, Assistant Principal and Testing Coordinator or your child's teacher.

- Grade 1: January 30th (Reading) and January 31st (Math)
- Grade 2: January 26th (Reading) and January 27th (Math)
- Grade 3: January 24th (Reading) and January 31st (Math)
- Grade 4: February 7th (Math) and February 14th (Reading)
- Grade 5: February 2nd (Reading) and February 7th (Math)

## **COUNSELORS' CORNER**

\* You will soon have the responsibility of entering your student's Fine Arts requests for their 6<sup>th</sup> grade year. Directions for doing this will be sent out on your child's 5<sup>th</sup> grade Canvas page.

We understand not all parents are technically gifted, so if you have trouble managing this online task, please contact our office for assistance! We are here to support!

[Margaret\\_Kennedy@hcpss.org](mailto:Margaret_Kennedy@hcpss.org) or [Ryann\\_Plotkin@hcpss.org](mailto:Ryann_Plotkin@hcpss.org)

**\*Is your family eligible for free/reduced internet? Click the link below to see!**

[https://www.whitehouse.gov/getinternet/?utm\\_source=getinternet.gov](https://www.whitehouse.gov/getinternet/?utm_source=getinternet.gov)

\* **Columbia Community Care Essential Resources Day Survey** Life Insurance & Navigating the Healthcare System. Health, Wellness, Liberation, and Renewal. Small Business/Entrepreneurship.

\* **The Howard County Network of Care**

[The Network of Care for Behavioral Health](#) is a resource for individuals, families and agencies concerned with behavioral health. It provides information about behavioral health services, laws, and related news, as well as communication tools and other features. Regardless of where you begin your search for assistance with behavioral health issues, the Network of Care helps you find what you need - it helps ensure that there is "No Wrong Door" for those who need services. This Web site can greatly assist in our efforts to protect our greatest human asset - our beautiful minds.

## **FAMILY READ THE RAINBOW: LOVE WITHOUT BOUNDS**

This is a FREE LGBTQIA+ inclusive book club and open to ALL (students, parents, educators, and community members).

## **THE ROAD TO KINDERGARTEN**

The Road to Kindergarten information sessions will be held for families of children who will begin kindergarten in Fall 2023. Children must be 5 years old by September 1 in order to enroll in kindergarten.

Sessions are 6:30-7:30 and are offered on the following dates:

- Thursday, January 19 (Centennial High School)
- Tuesday, January 24 (Wilde Lake High School)
- Thursday, January 26 (Oakland Mills High School)
- SNOW DATE: Thursday, February 2 (Oakland Mills High School)

## **A NOTE FROM THE HEALTHROOM**

If you are cleaning out your children's closets and have any sweatpants, leggings, jeans or ANY pants that your kids have outgrown, the Health Room would greatly take the donations. The Health Room often provides students with clothes after falling at recess, spilling their lunch on themselves or having an accident throughout the day.

## **AFTER SCHOOL CLASSES by HOWARD COUNTY RECS & PARKS**

Click for [After School Classes](#) offered at HES by Howard County Recreation & Parks. These classes provide fun, structured, educational and enriching activities for Hammond ES students, benefitting both the child(ren) and parents!

## **PTA NEWS**

### **Talent Show!**

Come watch the Talent Show and cheer on all the HES students participating! The Talent Show will be held January 25 at 6:30pm in the HES Gym. No tickets are needed for admittance.

### **Get to Know the HES Staff Members**

Can you guess who the Marvel fans are or who loves their sports team? Who needs coffee everyday? Get to know our wonderful HES staff members a little better and find out more about their [favorite things here](#).

### **Spring Carnival Planning Committee**

Do you enjoy planning exciting, fun-filled, family events? The PTA is figuring out details for the Spring Carnival, and we'd love your input! We are looking for volunteers for the planning committee. If you are interested, please email [president@hespta.org](mailto:president@hespta.org).

**Support the PTA while you shop!**

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

## IMPORTANT DATES

January 23	No School - Professional Day
January 25	Talent Show in HES gym 6:30pm
January 27	End of 2nd Quarter Celebration
January 31	Report Cards issued
February 9	Early Dismissal - School closed 3-hours early for Parent-Teacher Conferences
February 10	Early Dismissal - School closed 3-hours early for Parent-Teacher Conferences
February 20	No School

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

## CONTINUING ANNOUNCEMENTS

### HCPSS Inclement Weather Instruction Plan

The Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) now allows local school systems to repurpose inclement weather days as asynchronous school days. At the discretion of the superintendent, HCPSS will use up to three inclement weather asynchronous days during the 2022-2023 school year. For all the details, please go to the [HCPSS Inclement Weather Instruction Plan](#).

### Outdoor Recess Policy

As temperatures begin to get colder, please remember the guidelines we follow for going outside for recess, PE classes, and students waiting outside for arrival and dismissal. Below is the HCPSS Weather Guidelines/Recess. In short, if the feels like temperature in our area is less than 20 degrees, we will have indoor recess. At this time the "feels like temperature" is 18 degrees. We'll keep an eye on it prior to the start of Kindergarten's recess.

The decision to go outside or stay inside for recess, outdoor eating, P.E., or any other outdoor activity is the decision of the administrator at individual schools and based on the following criteria:

- Temperature and humidity

- Wind chill
- Heat index and air quality
- Age of students
- Length of time outdoors
- Adequacy of the children's clothing
- Condition of the playground
- Falling precipitation (more than a sprinkle or mist)
- Thunder and lightning

Generally, it is assumed that students will be outside for recess, outdoor eating, P.E., or any other outdoor activity when the temperature combined with the wind chill is not less than 20 degrees Fahrenheit or the heat index reading is less than 95.

## 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.

