

Hammond Elementary School



Tiger Tales

March 23, 2023



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

- Congratulations Are In Order
- A Note from Orchestra
- National Reading Month
- Literacy Night
- Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
- 5th Grade Simulated Congressional Hearings
- Kindergarten Registration
- Thank You to our PTA
- PTA News
- Important Dates
- Continuing Announcements
- Community News

CONGRATULATIONS ARE IN ORDER!

Congratulations to all our 5th grade students who participated in the Unheard Perspectives Showcase Instructional Seminar this year. This seminar allowed students the opportunity to delve deeper into American History by studying the often-unheard perspectives of an innovator. These seminar students include:

Danielle Broadwater
Janine Chen
Sydney Coleman
Rex Fosnacht
Keefer Garthoff
Olivia Grosso
Ryan Hanley

Samantha Jasinski
Alenna Pennini
Shriya Shivakumar
Caleb Silverstein
Patrick Qiu
Chandler Ren
Anthony Wheelock

Three of our teams represented HES at the county showcase at Hammond Middle School on Saturday, February 25th. HES teams walked away with two gold and one silver medal for their Unheard Perspectives presentations. We are so proud of their hard work and dedication to learning.

Way to go Hammond Tigers!

MORE TO CELEBRATE!

Please join us in congratulating **Danielle Broadwater** on her award-winning short story, *Suvi and Blanca*! Not only did she win the Howard County Young Authors' competition for her 5th grade short story, but she also placed second at the state level!! This competition is sponsored by the State of Maryland Literacy Association. (SoMLA) She is pictured here reading her winning entry at Barnes & Noble on March 19, 2023.



A NOTE FROM ORCHESTRA

Congratulations to 5th Grade students James Heine (string bass) and Isabella Mesa (viola) on their performances at the Elementary School Honors Orchestra concert on Saturday, March 4 at Howard High School! We are so proud of your hard work and accomplishments!

NATIONAL READING MONTH

Catch the spirit and join in the fun of our Reading Spirit Week in honor of National Reading Month!

**HES is Out of this World
Spirit Week!**

MARCH 27-31

MONDAY, MARCH 27
HATS OFF TO READING!
WEAR YOUR FAVORITE HAT!

TUESDAY, MARCH 28
WE ARE WILD ABOUT BOOKS!
WEAR YOUR FAVORITE ANIMAL PRINT!

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29
READ AROUND HAMMOND DAY!
WEAR A SHIRT THAT SOMEONE ELSE CAN READ!

THURSDAY, MARCH 30
READING TAKES US OUT OF THIS WORLD!
DRESS LIKE YOUR FAVORITE SUPERHERO!

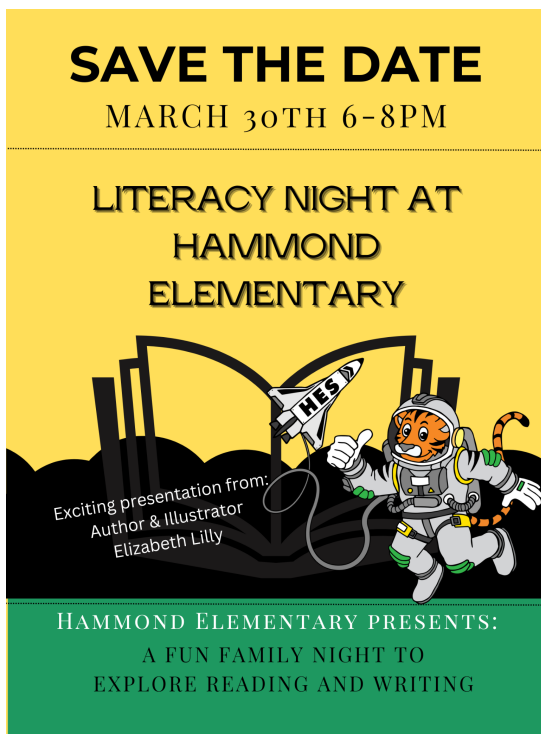
FRIDAY, MARCH 31
READING GIVES US A BRIGHT FUTURE!
WEAR A COLLEGE SHIRT OR DRESS AS YOUR FAVORITE PROFESSION!

LITERACY NIGHT

Join us on March 30 for an event for the whole family! Please use this [invitation](#) to let us know you will be attending.

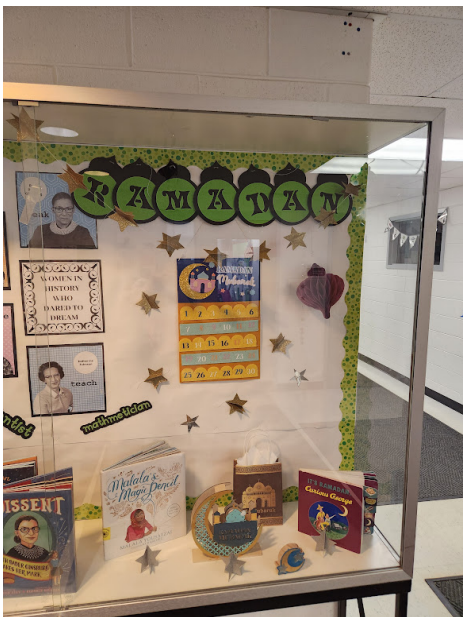
WANTED: GENTLY USED BOOKS

Do you have books in your home that your children no longer use? Are they still in great condition and you don't know what to do with them? Well, we have a solution! Send them in and we will "recycle" them during our Literacy Night Event on March 30. Families will have the opportunity to choose books to take home and enjoy. If you have books to donate, please either send them in with your child or drop them off in the front office, Attn: Mrs. Frere. Please only send in books appropriate for grades K-5. Thank you, in advance, for being such a generous community!



DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION

March 22nd marks the beginning of the Muslim Ramadan season and will end on April 21st. The celebration of Eid-Al-Fitr occurs at the end of the season. Thank you to Ms. Aysha Alburaki for taking the time to decorate our school entrance to recognize one of our many diverse cultures at Hammond



5th GRADE SIMULATED CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS

5th grade is starting to prepare for their Simulated Congressional Hearing (SCH) that will occur on May 16th. The SCH is an authentic, performance-based assessment where students demonstrate their understanding of the U.S. Constitution. Students display their expertise on topics ranging from colonial life and government to the contemporary rights and responsibilities of citizens in our country. The students present prepared oral statements before a panel of simulated congressional committee members (“judges”). Following the formal presentations, students respond to follow-up questions from the panel. For more information about this program, visit: sch.hcps.org

To start the planning process, judges need to be coordinated for the event. To register to judge, please go to: <http://tinyurl.com/2023-SCH-RSVP>. After you register, look for a confirmation email from Member Solutions. You will also receive an email 2 weeks prior to the hearings with additional details and judging materials.

If you have any questions, please contact Kimberly_Eggborn@hcps.org or 410-313-5678.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Kindergarten enrollment for the 2023-2024 school year is underway! Children must be 5 years old by September 1 in order to enroll in kindergarten. Every child who is 5 years old by September 1 must be enrolled in a kindergarten program or have an approved waiver. HCPSS kindergarten is a full day program.

To register a new student, click [here](#) to start the online registration process and to view all of the necessary documents. Do not attempt to register online using a cell phone. It is recommended that you work on a laptop or desktop to complete registration. Packets are available in the front office as well.

THANK YOU TO OUR PTA

Thank you to our generous PTA for the beautiful lighted showcase to proudly display our talented students' artwork.



PTA NEWS

PTA Board Elections

We are pleased to announce we have nominees for President (Melissa Zawadzki) and Membership VP (Korin Sharp), but we are still in need of a nominee for Secretary. Per our bylaws, we need to announce candidates the week of April 23, 2023.

The **SECRETARY**

- Takes meeting minutes and prepares them for posting on the PTA website
- Attends general and executive board meetings (totaling 1 meeting a month)
- This position has a 2-year term. The time commitment is 2 hours or less per month + a monthly meeting, so it's a great way to be involved with a minimal time commitment!

If you have any questions, would like to be considered for a position, or have a recommendation, please contact one of the members of the Nominations Committee:

Kristina Kunkle, president@hespta.org

Opeyemi Awolesi, secretary@hespta.org

Kathleen Denny, membership@hespta.org

Student Support

Please see a current wish list of requested items to help support some of our students' sensory needs. Thank you in advance for your ongoing support and generosity! (Please use the registry address.)

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2LE55UGJ8JZ4Z?ref=wl_share

Please Relink Your Harris Teeter VIC Cards

Have you relinked your Harris Teeter VIC card for this school year? It just takes a few seconds! Go to www.harristeeter.com/together-in-education and select the HES PTA. Thank you for your support!

Save the Date! Spring Carnival on April 29

Rain or shine, the Spring Carnival will be held on Saturday, April 29 at HES from 3-6pm. More details to come! In the meantime...

Please consider helping! There are small tasks that we'd love help with before the event, and we'll need plenty of volunteers the day of the carnival to help with setup, activities during the event, and clean up. Email carnival@hespta.org if you are interested.

Carnival Poster Contest Help the PTA prepare for the Spring Carnival by making a poster! All participants receive 5 Spring Carnival tickets. The winner in each grade receives an additional 10 tickets! Place posters in the collection box at the front of the school from April 11 until April 20. Winners will be announced on April 24. Email Maria_Rocco@hcpss.org with any questions.

Posters must include the following:

Event: Hammond Elementary School PTA Spring Carnival

Date: April 29, 2023

Time: 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm

On the back, please include your name, grade and teacher

Reminders and Tips:

- Please do not use any food on your poster
- Size: No larger than 22" x 28"

IMPORTANT DATES

March 27-31 Reading Spirit Week (see above)

March 30 Literacy Night 6-8pm

March 31 Schools Close 3 Hours Early

April 3 - 7 Spring Break. Schools and offices closed

April 10 Schools and offices closed

April 13-14 MCAP ELA Testing Grade 5

April 14	HES Pride Day! Wear HES apparel or school colors
April 17-18	MCAP ELA Testing Grade 5
April 19-20	MCAP ELA Testing Grade 4
April 21	Schools closed for students
April 24	Advanced Spring Concert
April 25-26	MCAP ELA Testing Grade 4
April 29	Spring Carnival, rain or shine
April 21	Schools closed for students
April 24	Advanced Spring Concert
May 1-2	MCAP ELA Testing Grade 3
May 2-3	MCAP Math Testing Grade 5
May 3	STEM Night
May 4-5	MCAP ELA Testing Grade 3
May 5	HES Pride Day! Wear HES apparel or school colors
May 8	Teacher Appreciation Week begins
May 9	PTA Meeting, 7:15pm via Zoom (elections will be held)
May 9-10	MCAP Math Testing Grade 4
May 11-12	MCAP Math Testing Grade 3
May 15	Beginning Band & Orchestra Spring Concert
May 15-16	MCAP Math Testing Grade 3
May 16	5th Grade Simulated Congressional Hearings
May 19	Schools closed for students
May 29	Memorial Day – Schools and offices closed
June 5	Enrichment Fair
June 6	PTA Meeting, 7:15pm via Zoom (previously scheduled as hybrid but will be via Zoom only)
June 7	Schools close 3 hours early.

June 9	Schools close 3 hours early.
June 12	Schools close 3 hours early.
June 13	Last School Day – Schools close 3 hours early.
June 14–16	May be used as 5 inclement weather makeup days
June 20-21	May be used as 5 inclement weather makeup days
June 19	Juneteenth National Independence Day – Schools and offices closed

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

CONTINUING ANNOUNCEMENTS

Student Birthdays

- Food, candy, desserts of any kind cannot be brought into school for sharing.
- Birthday party invitations cannot be distributed at school.
- We welcome you to enjoy lunch with your birthday child in the cafeteria. Please visit the front office to sign in.

Lost & Found

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. We invite you to stop into the front office to check the bin for missing items.

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 the county.

COMMUNITY NEWS

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

