

Hammond Elementary School



Tiger Tales

March 31, 2022



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Hammond families,

As the spring approaches, we are excited to begin celebrating Hammond Elementary School's 50th Birthday! For those who do not know, the inaugural year of Hammond Elementary was the 1971 - 1972 school year. As a result, the 2021 - 2022 school year marks 50 years of excellence. We are excited to include the celebration as a part of the PTA-Sponsored Carnival on Saturday, May 7th and we look forward to celebrating Tuffy the Tiger's 50th Birthday during Field Day on Thursday, May 19th. For both celebrations to be a success, we rely on the volunteer efforts of our school community. Please be on the lookout for more information about how you can contribute to these exciting upcoming events.

Happy Ramadan to our Muslim families. Ramadan begins the evening of April 2nd this year. Any students who are fasting and attending school in-person may request an alternative activity during their lunch period. Please email our school counselor, Mrs. Kennedy (mkennedy@hcpss.org) if you would like for your child to have an alternative activity while fasting.

As our students continue to enjoy the opportunity to interact and learn with their peers in person, we recognize that our students benefit from daily reminders to demonstrate Tuffy's 3-R's. Each day we remind students to be:

- R**espectful
- R**esponsible
- R**eady to Learn

As a part of normal development, all children are in different stages of learning the important skills associated with being **R**espectful. In our school, being respectful is often demonstrated by using kind words and keeping self-to-self throughout each day. Learning to have successful interactions with peers can be similar to how students gain the skills needed to read or solve math problems. With every skill we teach, we understand that each child moves at their own pace, some requiring more practice, time, and patience. Regardless, we are here to help everyone.

As we move through the spring, our students will continue their development. Along with positive growth, your children will likely face challenges with classmates, including other children they may often consider friends. These challenges are to be expected and provide great opportunities to teach our children how to respond to those occasional difficulties. Learning how to be a good friend, classmate, and citizen is not always easy, but is essential.

To further support these positive interactions at school, we ask our families to regularly review these expectations with their children at home. It is important for our families to remind their children that sometimes activities permitted at home, such as with siblings or in the neighborhood, are not appropriate in school. At times, we have found it difficult for our students to recognize the differences in expectations across the different environments. Those activities not permitted at school, on the school bus, or at the bus stop may include teasing or unwanted physical contact, including terms students will often describe as "joking" or "play-fighting." Very rarely are incidents of physical contact intended to be malicious or hurtful; however, they result in the continued need to learn appropriate school-behaviors. If a student receives unwanted physical contact from another student, we teach our students to respond safely, and not with continued physical contact. First and foremost, students are encouraged to remove themselves from any unsafe situation. Then, they are encouraged to seek the support of adults. Again, we understand that these interactions are often innocent and perhaps playful in nature; however, they do conflict with the environment that best serves our students at school. Another way that our families can support our students with their development is to consider volunteering during recess. For volunteers who have completed the volunteer training, we welcome you to sign in at the front office and lend an extra set of hands during any and all of our recess shifts (10:45 - 1:45) as frequently as you are able. To serve as a volunteer, please follow these simple steps:

1. Child Abuse Training
 - a. [Review PowerPoint Slides](#)
 - b. [Print and sign your certificate of completion.](#)
2. Volunteer Training Course
 - a. [Review PowerPoint Slides](#)
 - b. [Print and sign your certificate of completion.](#)
3. Complete our [HES Google Form](#) to record your training completion.

Bring your completed certificates to school prior to your first day of volunteering.

As we continue along this journey, please don't hesitate to reach out to your child's teacher for guidance in how to best support your child. Our School Counselors, Mrs. Kennedy and Ms. Plotkin, are readily available and work with our students every day to navigate the challenges associated with typical peer conflict. They also serve as a great resource to families.

Spring Break begins on Monday, April 11th and continues through Monday, April 18th. Students and staff will return to school on Tuesday, April 19th. Please enjoy this time with friends and family!

Thank you in advance for enjoying our most recent copy of our Tiger Tales.

Best wishes,

Ms. Ciarapica

Early Dismissal: Tomorrow, Friday, April 1

Hammond Elementary will dismiss tomorrow at 12:25.

FROM SPECIAL EDUCATION: Friday, April 1st is Celebrate Neurodiversity Day!

To kick off disability awareness month, we will be celebrating differences and recognizing all neurotypes as valid, worthy, and equal! Please wear rainbow colors and/or an infinity symbol to celebrate the neurodiversity that makes Hammond Elementary a richer, more vibrant community.

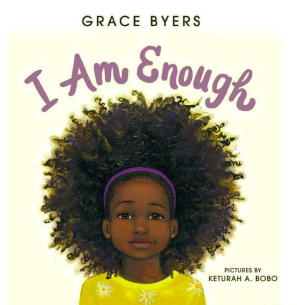
HES Evening Get Togethers: TRIVIA NIGHT

Join our fun-derful School Counselors Ms. Plotkin & Mrs. Kennedy. See how you rate on Hammond trivia! Wednesday, April 6 at 6:30pm Google meet: <http://meet.google.com/dom-dvpo-kbd>

MARCH IS WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH



Women's History Month is an annual declared month that highlights the contributions of women to events in history and contemporary society. Checkout just some of the exciting things going on around HES to honor [Women's History Month](#).



While celebrating Women's History Month, please consider reading the book [I Am Enough](#) by Grace Byers to the girls in your life! An inspiring and affirming book about respecting, loving, and being kind to ourselves and others. Wonderful and inclusive illustrations! A favorite of Mrs. Kennedy!

COUNSELOR'S CORNER

Restaurant Night for COMMUNITY ALLIES OF RAINBOW YOUTH

Wednesday, April 6 from 10:30am to 9:30pm at [Bibibop Asian Grill](#). Ordering online? Use code BIBIFUNDRAISER.

Champions Against Cancer

At Champions Against Cancer, our mission is to provide support to families in Howard County who have been affected by cancer. We provide financial support in two different ways: college scholarships and needs-based grants. There is a simple application process for both.

Here is a link to their website: <https://www.champsagainstcancer.org/>, (Links to an external site.) brochures are available.

Upcoming Assessments

Measure of Academic Performance (MAP) Testing

Students in grades 1-5 will take the Measured Academic Progress (MAP) assessment during the month of March and/or April. To learn more about the MAP assessment, please visit: [HCPSS The Measures of Academic Progress Information](#) page.

***Testing dates will vary. Grade level teams will also communicate specific MAP testing dates for their grade level/class via Canvas.**

Maryland Comprehensive Assessment Program (MCAP)

Students in grades 3-5 will take the Maryland Comprehensive Assessment Program (MCAP) during the month of April and/or May. The MCAP assessments measure student achievement on the Maryland College and Career Ready Standards in English language arts and math. To learn more about MCAP, please visit [HCPSS Maryland Comprehensive Assessment](#) page.

MCAP Testing Dates		
Grade	ELA	Math
5th	4/25, 4/26, 4/28, 4/29	5/10, 5/13
4th	5/3, 5/4, 5/5, 5/9	5/16, 5/17
3rd	5/9, 5/10, 5/12, 5/13	5/23, 5/24

***Makeup testing will take place during the testing window.

2022 VIRTUAL SIMULATED CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS- YOU'RE INVITED TO JUDGE

A Simulated Congressional Hearing (SCH) is a performance assessment that culminates our fifth-graders' year of social studies instruction. The students will serve as experts on issues related to the constitution. You will help simulate the role of a Congressional panel by listening, asking the questions we provide you, and giving positive feedback. To be a great judge, you do not need to be a constitutional scholar. It's the students job to teach you. Hammond's SCH will be held on May 26th, more details about the event will be shared with 5th grade families as the date approaches.

RSVP to Judge: <http://tinyurl.com/2022-Judge-RSVP>

For more information review this [flyer](#) or contact Kim Eggborn: Kimberly_Eggborn@hcpss.org, 410-313-5678, Follow us on Twitter @HCPSSElemSS

NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS AND IMPORTANT REMINDERS

From the Health Room:

If your child tests positive for Covid-19 or is a close contact to a positive case, please email the following information to the Health Room staff (Melissa_Rozgonyi@hcpss.org) and Front Office (Lisa_Castaneda@hcpss.org) regarding your child's absence:

Positive Test:

- Date the symptoms began (if any)
- Vaccination status & date of last vaccination
- Type of Covid test taken (PCR or rapid) **and date**

Close Contact to a Positive Individual if not Vaccinated:

- Date of exposure (if close contact)
- Vaccination status & date of last vaccination
- If your child is a household close contact - can the positive family member be completely isolated from the child?
- Has your child had a confirmed positive Covid-19 test within the last 90 days

Health and Safety Precautions

Please complete a [COVID-19 Self-Screening](#) with your child every morning. Scheduled volunteers should also complete a [COVID-19 Self-Screening](#) prior to entering the building.

For more information about [COVID-19 Health & Safety](#) please visit www.hcpss.org.

HES is Still Hiring!

Temporary Employee (TE)

Description: These individuals provide close adult support to some of our special education students, under the supervision of Hammond staff.

For this special education position, interested candidates would apply through an outside agency that staffs these positions in our schools.

- The position is for 6.5 hour day (6 hours paid with an unpaid ½ hour lunch) from Monday through Friday from 9:00-3:30.
- Contact [R. Tencher](#) and apply through [Social Service Consultants](#)
- The pay rate for this position is \$13.

If you are interested in this position or have any questions, please contact Mrs. Mapson at nykia_mapson@hcpss.org or 410-880-5890 as soon as possible.

Recess/Lunch Monitor Position

Description: These individuals supervise students at recess and outdoor/indoor lunch, under the supervision of Hammond staff.

- Begins as soon as possible
- We prefer 5 days (Monday through Friday) but can discuss part time options
- The hours are 10:45am - 2:15pm
- The pay rate for this position is \$12.50.

[Recess Lunch Monitor Application Link](#) - Please note that this is a long process through HCPSS Human Resources, so please submit your application as soon as possible and contact Mrs. Mapson, Assistant Principal, at nykia_mapson@hcpss.org or 410-880-5890, to let her know you are interested.

Please feel free to share these employment opportunities with friends, family, and neighbors.

2022 SUMMER PROGRAMS

- **Hammond High School - Summer Sports Camps - Registration is OPEN.** Attention parents of 4th-9th graders for the 22-23 school year: Hammond Boosters is once again offering sports camps for baseball, boys basketball, girls basketball, volleyball, field hockey, boys soccer, and dance. Instruction will be given by the Hammond High School Varsity Coaching Staff, along with players. This is a great and affordable way to get better at your chosen sport, meet new friends, and have fun doing it! Find all of the details and registration information [here](#).
- The **2022 Summer Programs Preview**, which contains descriptions of HCPSS' four summer programs and enrollment information, is available to view and download from the Summer Programs web page <https://www.hcpss.org/summer-programs/>
- Come out to **Sports Camp** the week of June 27 and/or July 18 at Reservoir High School. Camp is hosted by Lime Kiln teacher/Reservoir coach Phil Ranker, as well as other certified elementary and middle school teachers in the county and state. The camp is open to current K-8th graders and features many different sports and activities every day. If your child likes PE, they will love camp. Campers are split into age and ability groups to ensure that everyone has a fun, productive time. Full day and half day options available. For more information, please visit <http://rankerssportscamp.weebly.com> or email phillip_ranker@hcpss.org for questions!

OUTDOOR RECESS, OUTDOOR EATING & COLD WEATHER

We will offer outdoor lunch as weather and staff coverage permit. Please have a conversation with your child about where you would like them to eat. If your child is eating outside, please make sure they are dressed appropriately for the weather. If you choose to have your child eat inside, all students have an assigned seat.

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
- Falling precipitation (more than a sprinkle)
- Wind chill
- Heat index and air quality
- Age of students
- Length of time outdoors
- Condition of the playground
- 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. Please be sure children are dressed appropriately for the weather.

PTA NEWS

General Meeting Dates

- 5/10: PTA Meeting: Elections, 7pm (TBD Zoom or in-person)
- 6/7: PTA Meeting, 7pm (TBD Zoom or in-person)

Upcoming PTA Events

4/6 : Restaurant Night at [Nothing Bundt Cakes](#)

Join us Wednesday, April 6 from 9:00am-6:00pm
(10730 Little Patuxent Pkwy, Suite 102, Columbia)

For online ordering, please write "Hammond ES fundraiser" in the Special Instructions section. ALL cakes must be picked up on April 6th.

Guests may order decorated cakes, Bundtinis with toppers and Bundtlet towers. (Retail items are not included in the fundraiser.

4/22: Outdoor Movie Night: The Lorax

Held on the multipurpose field of HES Come as early as 7:00 PM to get your seat, and the movie will start at dusk (around 7:45 PM). Headphones will be provided. **Due**

to licensing restrictions, we are limited to a maximum audience size of 200 people.

Please fill out the form to request free tickets: <https://forms.gle/kqXPqfrJnpAaSpVV9>.

Please note: this is not a drop-off event.

5/7 Spring Carnival - Our Spring Carnival will be on Saturday, May 7 at HES from 3-6pm.

Carnival Sponsorship-

Calling Hammond Elementary Families: Are you a small business owner, or would the company you work for be interested in sponsoring our Spring Carnival? Do you sell Thirty-One, Pampered Chef, Tastefully Simple or other great products? Do you have an Etsy shop or like to make beautiful homemade crafts? Consider donating some of your great merchandise to support the Hammond Elementary School PTA Spring Carnival Raffle. We are currently putting together great prize baskets and need your help. Advertising is included on fliers sent home, via email and at the carnival on the day of the event. For more information, check out the attached [flier](#). Any questions? Please contact Lauren Price at Laprice13@gmail.com.

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 4 until April 19. Winners will be announced on May 3 Email Maria_Rocco@hcpss.org with any questions.

Posters must include the following information:

Event: Hammond Elementary School PTA Spring Carnival

Date: May 7, 2022

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"

Open PTA Positions

We look forward to providing more activities and programs next school year for our students, families, and teachers—but **we can't do any of it without you!** By serving on the PTA, you are supporting your children, their school, and our community. We are seeking volunteers for two open positions for the 2022-2023 school year:

Treasurer:

oversee and report on the PTA's financial transactions; file applicable paperwork

Communications VP:

oversee PTA communications, including email, website and social media

Time commitment is not significant and no prior experience is necessary. If you're looking for a way to stay engaged and contribute to the well-being of the school, then this is the role for you! If you're not able to volunteer at this time, reach out to a friend and encourage them to join or simply [fill out this anonymous nomination form](#). (We will contact nominees directly to either accept or decline a nomination.) Email Kristina at president@hespta.org to express interest or ask any questions.

Support the PTA while you shop!

- **Harris Teeter:** Link your VIC card online each Fall at www.harristeeter.com/together-in-education
- **AmazonSmile:** Go to <https://smile.amazon.com/> and select Hammond Elementary PTA as your charity

IMPORTANT DATES

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|-------------|--|
| April 1 | End of 3rd Quarter - Schools close 3 hours early at 12:25pm |
| April 6 | HES Evening Get Togethers: TRIVIA NIGHT with our fun-derful School Counselors Ms. Frere & Mrs. Kennedy. 6:30pm Google meet:
http://meet.google.com/dom-dvpo-kbd |
| April 11-18 | Spring Break - Schools Closed |

April 27	Students Dismiss 3-Hours Early (12:25 pm) **
May 2	Schools closed for students - Professional Learning Day for staff
May 7	PTA Spring Carnival 3pm-6pm
May 12	5th grade students visit their assigned middle school - schedule is TBD
May 16	Band, Orchestra & Choral Performance (afternoon & evening)
May 18	Students Dismiss 3-Hours Early (12:30 pm) **
May 19	Field Day
May 26	Simulated Congressional Hearing (SCH) for 5th grade
May 30	Schools & Offices Closed - Memorial Day

** denotes new changes to calendar

You may link here to access the [HCPSS Calendar for the 2021 - 2022 School Year](#).

CONTINUING ANNOUNCEMENTS

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 2:45 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.

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.

