



A Message from Administration

Dear HES families,

We are hoping to see many of you at our Popsicles on the Playground event tomorrow beginning at 5:30. Due to the construction on our blacktop area, we invite you to join us at **Hammond Park**, a nearby public park. Many of our teachers and staff will also be there!

Thank you to all of the parents, staff and community members who participated in Coffee with Administration last week. What a treat to see so many friendly faces on a summer morning. It was a productive morning discussing many important topics.

Reminder, HES has a new start time this year. Our school day will begin promptly at 9:25am with the doors opening at 9:10am.

Please see below for updates to staffing, important Family File updates, reminders for upcoming school events, and more.

Warmly,

Heather Moraff, Principal

Nykia Mapson, Assistant Principal

Staff Changes

Since the end of the school year, we have had some staffing changes. Please see below for new adventures and opportunities as well as new members to the HES family!

Good Luck on new adventures:

Sarah Taylor
Anna Keith
Kelci Veney
Caroline Haavik
Velicia James
Niki McGuigan
Esther Berman
James Kelly

Julie Feldman
Laura Duggan
Trevor Smith
Lori Keith
Christopher Rose
Adrianna Billings
Lauren Reed
Caitlin Brawner
Jennifer DeHaan

Please warmly welcome...

Office Staff

Melissa Verna, Teacher's Secretary

Teachers

Jenna Hirsch, Kindergarten Teacher
Dara Glenn, 1st Grade Teacher
Leslie Conner, 1st Grade Teacher
Katie Swanson, 2nd Grade Teacher
Maria Rocco, 2nd Grade Teacher
Carolanne Mueller, 2nd Grade Teacher
Juliana Zeller, 4th Grade Teacher
Arthur Milton, 4th Grade Teacher
Nicholas Serkes, 5th Grade Teacher
Jeremy McKinney, Special Education Teacher

Related Arts Staff

Reuben Burrows, Vocal Music
Shannon Davis, Media Specialist
Sarah Sterner, Media Specialist (.5) & Technology Teacher (.5)

Specialists/Service Providers

Felisbertyn Kim, .4 ESOL Teacher
Alisa Berzon, .8 Speech Language Pathologist

Student Services

Krista Barron, .5 Counselor
Donielle Chase-Mercer, PPW

Support Staff

Courtney Harris, Paraeducator

Sara Guevara, Paraeducator

Congratulations on new roles at HES:

Jodi DiStefano, Special Education Paraeducator

Matthew Moon, Student Assistant

Next year’s grade level teams:

*ITL = Instructional Team Leader

Kindergarten	1st Grade	2nd Grade
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Mrs. Frere ● Ms. Gordon ● Ms. Strine (ITL) ● Ms. Hirsch ● Mrs. Wethington 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Mrs. Breedlove ● Ms. Swanson ● Mrs. Glenn ● Ms. Lisle (ITL) ● Mrs. Meyer ● Ms. Conner 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ms. Allen ● Ms. Narron (ITL) ● Mrs. Pisca ● Mrs. Rodgers ● Ms. Mueller ● Mrs. Rocco
3rd Grade	4th Grade	5th Grade
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ms. Blackwell ● Mrs. Edwards (ITL) ● Mrs. Glassman ● Mrs. Pearman ● Mrs. Zepeda 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Mr. Hector (ITL) ● Mrs. McWilliams ● Mrs. Sands-Montgomery ● Mr. Milton ● Ms. Zeller 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Mrs. Baird ● Mrs. Canterbury ● Mrs. McDerment ● Mrs. Monti (ITL) ● Mr. Serkes

Get Connected!

Set up the Family File via <https://www.hcpss.org/connect/>. Connect is used for parent access to student information, classwork, and communications from the teacher. Connect is where you will see your child’s report card.

Want to know what is happening in your child’s class? Login to Connect!

Beginning today, August 5, 2024, all families, new and returning, will have access to Connect. The first time you login, enter your email address (the parent’s, not the student’s). You will then be guided to create a password. The Family

File can now be accessed and updated. If you ever forget your password, call the front office to reset.

The Family File needs to be updated by **every family, every year**. The Family File collects emergency information and other preferences from parents. This information is transferred into Synergy for staff access as appropriate. For example, if the nurse cannot reach you when your child is sick, there will be a back-up person for the nurse to contact that you have already set in place.

Detailed instructions on setting up the Family File can be found at this link: [Family File](#).

Class Assignments

Your children's class assignments will be announced via Connect on Wednesday, August 21 at 8am. Another great reason to make sure your account is set up!

Mark Your Calendars

Popsicles with Principals



at Hammond Park

Tuesday, August 6

5:30 PM - 7:00 PM

Tuesday, August 20 - Back-to-School Night for Parents Grades K-2 - 6:30-7:30 pm *

Wednesday, August 21 - Back-to-School Night for Gifted & Talented *

For parents seeking information about the GT program.

5:30-5:50pm - Overview of Schoolwide G/T Enrichment Program: Primary Talent Development (K-2nd), Instructional Seminars, and Curriculum Extension Units

5:50-6:20pm - Overview of the 4th and 5th grade G/T Mathematics Program


Wednesday, August 21 - Back-to-School Night for Parents Grades 3-5 - 6:30-7:30 pm *

** All Back-to-School Nights for Parents are geared towards an adult audience. We hope you are able to find suitable childcare but, if not, we would rather you attend with your child than miss the invaluable information provided at these events.*

Friday, August 23 - Back-to-School Open House (Check times below)

Students will meet their teachers, see their classroom, find their cubbies and desks.

- **Back-to-School Open House for Kindergarteners ONLY** from 10-11:00am. *Do not bring other students at this time.* Other grades' classrooms will not be open until later in the afternoon, nor will teachers in grades 1-5 be available.
- **New student orientation** (Gr 1-5) will be from 1-1:45pm. This special Open House is strictly for our students who are brand new to HES in grades 1-5. They deserve a quieter welcome to see their new school, classrooms and to meet their teachers.
- **Back-to-School Open House for Returning Students Grades 1-5.** Students returning to HES in grades 1-5 are welcome to attend the Open House as follows. Please respect the allotted times to allow for less crowding during this exciting event.
1:45-2:30 (Last Name A-M & New Families)
2:30-3:15 (Last Name N-Z)



First day of school is
Monday, August 26

NEW START TIME

9:25 am

Doors open at 9:10

Dismissal 3:55pm



Hammond Gear

Selfie Station

Back to School Supplies

COMMUNITY KICK-OFF FAIR

Students, families, and community members, please join us for a fun event where you can meet fellow Golden Bears and kick off the new school year. All ages welcome!

Live performances

THURSDAY, AUGUST 22
11:30-12:30
RAIN OR SHINE

Hammond Football Stadium
8800 Guilford Rd.
Columbia, MD

HoCo Health Department will be available for Back-to-School Vaccines

IMPORTANT Non-Transportation Area Boundary Change for 24-25 SY

The Howard County Police Department will be providing a crossing guard at the intersection of Leishear Road and Aurora Way near the school. This safety improvement will allow additional students to be able to walk to school. These students will no longer be provided bus service.

The following streets will no longer be eligible for transportation service:

- Aurora Way (all addresses)
- Tranquility Road (all addresses)
- Primrose Lane (all addresses)
- Isabella Road (all addresses)
- Quail Rise Lane (all addresses)
- Berman Road (all addresses)
- Declan Road (all addresses)
- Olive Branch Lane (all addresses)
- Genevieve Boulevard (all addresses)
- Volpe Court (all addresses)
- Blackbriar Way (all addresses)
- Cultivator Road (all addresses)
- Asher Court (all addresses)
- Hudson Court (all addresses)
- Zoe Lane (all addresses)

A new map depicting this change will be reflected on the HCPSS school information website and the school and bus locator application will be updated soon.

School Supply List for '24-'25 School Year

Please see the [school supply list](#) for the 2024-2025 school year. Students are welcome to bring supplies to the Back-to-School Open House on Friday, August, 23 or during the first week of school.

**SCHOOL BASED
MENTAL HEALTH
(SBMH)
DOES YOUR STUDENT
NEED MENTAL HEALTH
SUPPORT?**



School-Based Mental Health Services (SBMH) are therapy services provided at school buildings during the instructional day. Eligibility for SBMHS is determined by Student Support Teams (SST), which exist at each school and may consist of a school administrator, Pupil Personnel Worker (PPW), school counselor, school psychologist, school nurse, achievement liaisons, teachers, school social worker and other student services personnel. For more information about mental health warning signs visit:

<https://www.hcpss.org/supports/mental-health-wellness/warning-signs/>

Some of the reasons students are referred to SBMH include, if the student is currently experiencing or has experienced:

- Barriers to accessing care outside of school
- Trauma
- Behavioral challenges
- Emotional challenges, including anxiety or more worries than other students
- Decline in school performance or grades

If SBMH is something you are interested in for your student, please complete the link to the interest form. If your student does not meet eligibility requirements, Mrs. Ganoë can help connect to other supports.



For in School services, the minimum requirement is having state insurance, however, please still reach out to Mrs. Ganoë/complete the interest form below if you do not meet this requirement for alternative supports.

QUESTIONS?



443-774-87603



amanda_ganoë@hcpss.org

For more information, SCAN QR code or complete google form in the link below
<https://forms.gle/DVQLJrC5C5XpGoi88>

