

Week of 10/3/21



# Hollifield Station Elementary School

Dear HSES Families,

Please enjoy this week's edition of the Hollifield Herald. Important topics include:

- Important Dates
- Early Dismissal
- Cultural Awareness, Inclusion and Belonging - WE need your help!
- Howard County GT Program Parent Academy
- Fall Parties for Students
- Flu Clinics
- COVID FAQ
- PTA News (Lunch volunteer program)

## Important Dates

10/4	MCAP -Testing Make-ups
10/15	Schools closed for students
10/21	HSES Spirit Day - Wear your spirit wear! Show that Husky pride! (Students will be voting on future spirit days in the weeks to come.)
10/28	For Students - 9:00 a.m. Fall Concert - 4th graders
10/29	Fall-themed Activities/ Parties School-wide

11/3	November 3rd- End of 1st Marking Period
11/4	School Closed Professional Learning
11/16	7:00 p.m. PTA Meeting (Virtual)
11/22 & 11/23	Parent/Teacher Conferences (Virtual)

## Early Dismissal

If you are taking your student out for early dismissal, we request that you arrive no later than 2:30 p.m. Dismissal is a very busy time of day at HSES. In order to safely dismiss all of our students, our front office staff will assist families with early dismissal up to 2:30 p.m. After this time, students will be dismissed as usual.

## Cultural Awareness, Inclusion and Belonging - WE need your help!

As a school, we continue to focus on ensuring we have an inclusive environment that celebrates the diversity of our students and families. We strive to make all our students, staff and families feel a sense of belonging in our community. At Hollifield Station, we engage in social emotional learning everyday in which we discuss what makes us all unique, what we have in common and how can we honor and respect one another. ***We are looking for families who would be willing to share their stories and culture with our students. If you would be interested in developing a PowerPoint, video or discussing your culture with our students and families, please contact the principal, Amanda Wadsworth, at [amanda\\_wadsworth@hcpss.org](mailto:amanda_wadsworth@hcpss.org) or call 410-313-2550.*** Below is our bi-monthly morning announcement video, an example of how our students and staff share and celebrate our cultures and highlight our focus on “Belonging.” These wonderful videos are coordinated by our GT teachers and our intermediate students. You may need to log into your student’s Canvas page to view.

<https://hcpss.instructuremedia.com/embed/56c62574-0084-48f5-a03b-7d6876808b4b>

## Howard County GT Program Parent Academy, October 13 and 14, 2021

HCPSS families interested in the Gifted and Talented (GT) Program are invited to come learn about the advanced-level offerings available and how their students can become involved. The evening will begin with an overview of GT Education Program offerings followed by a question and answer session with Central Office GT Education Program staff. Elementary and Secondary programs will be covered on separate days. Families may attend one or both nights. Registration is required for these events.

*Elementary Focus: Wednesday, October 13, 7 – 8:00 p.m., being held virtually via Microsoft Teams*

*Secondary Focus: Thursday, October 14, 7-8:00 p.m., being held virtually via Microsoft Teams*

For more information and to register, please visit the [HCPSS GT Program Parent Academy announcement](#).

## Fall Parties for Students

Classroom parties will take place on Friday, October 29. Our grade level team leaders will be working directly with their teams and volunteers, as needed, to coordinate games, crafts, and other fun for our students focused on this beautiful time of year.

As we have always done with classroom celebrations, a limited number of volunteers may be needed. Homeroom teachers will reach out to families as needed. All volunteers who support these parties will need to provide proof of vaccination in order to attend.

## Flu Clinics

Flu Clinic for Students is October 26

Flu vaccinations are coming to your child's school. They will be given at NO CHARGE TO YOU. Now, more than ever, it is important to protect your family through vaccinations. The Flu Vaccination Clinic will be **at Hollifield Station on Tuesday, October 19th**.

If you would like your child to be vaccinated, please register BEFORE Friday, October 8:

Fill out the consent form online at: <https://tinyurl.com/HoCPSSFlu2021>

- Type your child's school name in Search by Name then press the blue Search

button.

- Click on the Sign Up for Flu Vaccinations button for your child's school.

OR Fill out a paper consent form:

1. Read the Vaccine Information Statement (VIS) and talk to your health care provider or the school nurse about any questions you have. VIS: <https://tinyurl.com/FluVIS2021-E>
2. Fill out every section of the attached Consent Form.
3. Use your insurance card to fill out your insurance information accurately. Your insurance company will be billed. There is no co-pay or deductible. You will NOT be charged by us or your insurance company.

Influenza, also known as the flu, is a serious illness that affects people of all ages. One of the best ways to prevent the flu is through vaccinations. We are pleased to join with the Maryland Partnership for Prevention (MPP) to offer flu vaccinations at our school.

You may give permission for your child to be vaccinated using (1) an online form at <https://tinyurl.com/HoCPSSFlu2021> or (2) the hard copy form attached to this message.

We urge you to protect your family from the flu. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends that everyone ages 6 months and older get a flu shot. Please visit [www.cdc.gov/flu/index.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/flu/index.htm) for more information about the flu vaccine.

[2021 Howard Co ENGLISH SLIV Consent Form \(2\).pdf](#)

[2021 Howard Co SPANISH SLIV Consent Form \(1\).pdf](#)

**COVID Frequently Asked Questions (For more detailed information, please visit [HCPSS.org](http://HCPSS.org))**

**What are the testing options for students and families?**

- If student presents with symptoms at school, the health room can conduct testing.
- If the student presents with symptoms at home, there are free testing sites throughout the County for children and adults. Visit this website for location/time information: <https://www.howardcountymd.gov/covid-19-testing>

### **How long does it take for testing results to come back?**

48 to 72 hours

Families are notified about their results from the County.

### **If a student has symptoms and is given a COVID test, what is suggested for siblings and a parent volunteer?**

If the student is tested at school due to COVID like symptoms, the student and their sibling(s) will be tested and sent home until they receive their test results. If their test results are negative, the students may return to school. It is recommended that the family gets tested as well. If the student tests positive, the health room will provide guidance on next steps, including return date.



### **Volunteering for Lunch Coordination**

Our wonderful PTA is coordinating support for during our lunch and recess blocks of time. Please see the links below for volunteer information and signing up. We appreciate your help!

### **Volunteering for Lunch Link and Volunteer Training Link :**

- Volunteering Training: Links a) [Confidentiality Agreement Training](#)    b) [Child Abuse training](#) Print the above 2 certificates , date and sign them for Front office school and
- Vaccination Support [HCPSS News letter FAQ Link](#)
- Sign up sheet created for Lunch Volunteering by School: [Enroll here for Lunch Volunteering initiative](#)

### **PTA Membership and Information website**

This year, we are excited to launch the use of MemberHub to streamline communications and PTA membership sign-up. The MemberHub site will eliminate the need for paper membership cards, FaceBook alerts, etc. We, as the HSESPTA, will be able to directly communicate with all of our members once you are signed up.

Through this site we will keep you informed & engaged with what is happening at HSES! Within our MemberHub site, you will find important information such as spirit wear, fundraisers, sign-up sheets, shared calendar events, and much more in one place. Plus, you can upload photos to be used in our school yearbook.

Please visit our e-store to join:

<https://hollifieldstationpta.new.memberhub.store/>

Join our Facebook Group:

Another way to stay in touch with us is by joining our Facebook group here:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/223238027809067> . We will share information there throughout the year, and it's a great place to connect with other parents from our community.

Thank you!

-The Hollifield Elementary School PTA