

Week of 11/8/21



Hollifield Station Elementary School

Dear HSES Families,

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

- Important Dates
- Book Fair Reminders
- Report Cards
- Parent-Teacher Conferences
- Attendance Policy and Student Work/Teacher Expectations
- Outdoor Lunch Preference
- Additional Half Days
- PTA News (Updated information, Yearbook requests and Spirit Wear!)

Important Dates

11/3	November 3rd- End of 1st Marking Period
11/4	School Closed Professional Learning
11/8 - 11/18	Parent -Teacher Conference Scheduling Window
11/10	Fall Pictures Make-ups
11/10	Report Cards Issued (information below)
11/13	9:00 a.m. Girls on the Run - held at HSES

11/16	7:00 p.m. PTA Meeting (Virtual)
11/17-11/22	Scholastic Book Fair (information below)
11/22 & 11/23	Parent/Teacher Conferences (Virtual)
11/24	Schools Closed - Parent/Teacher Conferences
11/25 & 26	School Closed - Thanksgiving Holiday
12/15	School closes - 3 Hours Early
1/19/22	Vision and Hearing Screening for K, 1 and New Students

Our Book Fair for 2021 Reminders:

- **November 17-23, 2021** in our Library Media Center, with strict Covid Guidelines.
- No shopping will occur during the student day.
- Masks are required for everyone during our Special Family Nights:
 - Friday, November 19, 2021 from 3:30-6:30pm
 - Monday, November 22, 2021 from 12:30pm-7:00pm
- Our Book Fair offers **eWallet**, a safe and secure alternative to cash. Simply create a free account to add funds and/or invite family and friends to contribute so your child can select their own books through a wish list delivered to the library media center each morning November 17-23, 2021. Any unused funds can be spent at The Scholastic Store Online, make purchases for classroom libraries for staff, support our "All for Books Campaign", or to fund a future eWallet. Of course, cash, checks made payable to Hollifield Station, and credit card purchases by adults are also accepted. A book fair newspaper and wish list will come home with students after a preview in Library Media class the week of November 8-12.
- If you can't make it to the Fair, then **shop online at our school's Virtual Book Fair**. All orders ship directly to your home, and shipping is free for book orders over \$25. Your online orders will also benefit our school's library media center.
- Visit our Book Fair homepage to learn more and get started with eWallet and online shopping: <https://www.scholastic.com/bf/hollifieldstation>

Report Cards

Access Beginning 11/10

Parents/guardians will have access to view report cards after 5 PM on 11/10. You can Parents/guardians may view/download report cards by taking the following steps:

1. [Log in to HCPSS Connect Synergy](#) using parent/guardian credentials
2. Select More Options from the left panel
3. Select Report Cards from the middle
4. Select the report card you wish to access

Understanding Your Child's Elementary School Report Card

- [Please click here](#) to access the latest HCPSS Understanding Your Child's Elementary School Report Card support document.
- [Please click here](#) to learn more about grading and testing.

Parent - Teacher Conferences

Parent/Teacher conference scheduling will open on Monday, November 8 at 8:30 a.m. HCPSS will continue to use your HCPSS Connect/Family File account to schedule Parent Teacher Conferences. Teachers will be holding virtual conferences on Monday, November 22nd, and Tuesday, November 23rd, following early dismissal for students. There may be some teachers not offering evening conferences but will be offering conferences on Wednesday, November 24th.

Beginning Monday, November 8th and continuing through Thursday, November 18th, you can log on to HCPSS Connect at www.hcpss.org/connect to access Synergy Conference Management. You can then choose your desired conference time from the teacher's availability. *Please note, you are signing up with your child's homeroom teacher with a focus on Language Arts. Our GT teachers will communicate with 4th grade families about GT conferences for Fall (5th grade will have conferences with GT math in Winter).* [Click here for directions](#) to schedule your conference. Parents needing assistance should contact our front office staff at 410-313-2550.

Tips For Accessing HCPSS Connect

- It is recommended that you use a personal computer or child's Chromebook (not a mobile phone or tablet) and either the Google Chrome or Firefox web browser.
- If using a shared, family computer, confirm that you are NOT logged in as your student.

Related Arts

During conference time, Monday November 22nd and Tuesday November 23rd, the Related Arts team will be offering Office Hours from 1:30-3:30 and from 5:00-7:00 both days. No appointment is necessary but please know that the office hours are for general questions about related arts at HSES.

Should you have specific questions about your child in a certain related arts class, please contact the related arts teacher(s) individually.

To join the Related Arts Office Hours video meeting, click this link:

<https://meet.google.com/gnn-zewv-ptd>

Otherwise, to join by phone, dial +1 470-771-2891 and enter this PIN: 271 434 658#

Monday November 22nd

TIME	Related Arts Staff
1:30 - 2:00	Marcy Spence
2:00 - 2:30	Molly Park
2:30-3:00	David Murphy
3:00 - 3:30	Aimee Winner
5:00 - 5:30	Jamila Denkeli; Cassandra Murray
5:30 - 6:00	Margie Eisenstien
6:00 - 6:30	Judy Fulmer
6:30 - 7:00	Heidi Shorter

Tuesday November 23rd

TIME	Related Arts Staff
1:30 - 2:00	Jamila Denkeli; Cassandra Murray
2:00 - 2:30	Margie Eisenstien
2:30-3:00	Judy Fulmer
3:00 - 3:30	Heidi Shorter

5:00 - 5:30	David Murphy
5:30 - 6:00	Aimee Winner
6:00 - 6:30	Tammy Szczepanski
6:30 - 7:00	Molly Park

Attendance Policy and Student Work/Teacher Expectations

We have various requests from families who are taking an emergency trip, vacation and/or other absences. While we support you in your need/ decision to take your child out of school, please know that the Attendance Policy does not require teachers to provide work/resources for unexcused/unlawful absences. More information regarding excused/ lawful and unexcused/ unlawful absences is in the policy link below. Staff are not expected to provide work **ahead** of time for any absence. For **EXCUSED** absences, we have shared highlights from the Attendance Policy below. For more detailed information on attendance and procedures connected to excused/unexcused absences, please see the link to the Attendance Policy [HERE](#).

- A student may make up work missed due to lawful absence and receive a recorded grade in accordance with Policies 8010 Grading and Reporting: Prekindergarten through Grade 5 and 8020 Grading and Reporting: Middle and High School.
- The school must receive notification from the parent or physician explaining the absence/tardiness of a student within five school days of the student's return or the absence/tardiness will be unlawful/unexcused.
- Teachers may assist students with make-up work when a student has an unlawful absence, however, students will not receive credit for such assignments.
- Students with unlawful absences of 10 consecutive school days or more will be withdrawn from school and may be allowed to re-enroll, provided they meet enrollment requirements, upon their return. Upon expiration of the 10-day window, the student will be withdrawn and the date of the exit will be the first day after the last day of attendance. Teachers will not be required to provide make-up work during this time of absence. For these absences to be considered as lawful, parents will need to exercise the option outlined in Section III. of these procedures.

Outdoor Lunch Preference

As we move into the colder weather, our outdoor lunch option will follow the same guidelines for implementation as we follow for recess. If you would like to change your request to move your child from eating outside to eating inside starting November 15th, please fill out this form. If we do not hear from you, we will continue have your child eat outside. <https://forms.gle/jr9WS99nigfD33du8>

Guidelines for Outdoor Recess/Lunch:

The following factors are considered in determining if recess is to be held outside:

- 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/lunch when the temperature combined with the wind chill is not less than 20 degrees Fahrenheit or the heat index reading is less than 95.

Additional Half Days Added to the HCPSS Calendar

On Nov. 2nd, the Board of Education approved a modification to the academic calendar creating six 3-hour early dismissal days during the remainder of the 2021-2022 school year. Please take note of the dates below. Hollifield Station will dismiss at 12:15pm on these days:

- Wednesday, Dec. 15, 2021
- Wednesday, Jan. 19, 2022
- Wednesday, Feb. 16, 2022
- Wednesday, March 16, 2022
- Wednesday, April 27, 2022
- Wednesday, May 18, 2022

Read more here:

<https://news.hcpss.org/news-posts/2021/11/2021-2022-academic-calendar-updates-nov-3-2021/>



PTA Updates:

Save the date: Next COMMUNITY PTA meeting will be held on November 16 at 7 pm! Zoom link to follow.

SPIRIT WEAR: We are excited to announce that our NEW spirit wear store is OPEN! This year, we've partnered with 1st Place Spiritwear, and we are excited to share all of the new Husky items and designs! In a change from previous years, our online store will be open year-round, so there is no worrying that you have missed the window to order! We hope you are as excited as we are to show your Husky pride!

<https://1stplacespiritwear.com/schools/MD/Ellicott%20City/Hollifield+Station+Elementary+School>

****REFLECTIONS** Deadline extended to Nov 15th** The school PTA is excited to launch the 'Reflections' art program at Hollifield Station this school year. Reflections is a nationwide arts recognition and achievement program sponsored by the PTA. There is an annual theme/topic and students have the opportunity to submit their completed works of art in one or all of these arts categories: Dance Choreography, Film Production, Literature, Music Composition, Photography, Visual Arts. This year's topic is: *I Will Change the World By...* Entry forms and guidelines will be sent home with students. Completed Entry Forms and project can be placed in the Reflections box in the school's lobby. Last day to drop off is Friday, November 15th. For questions please email: reflection.hses@gmail.com.

Soliciting a Family Fun/School Assemblies Chair for HSES PTA:

School Assemblies: We are planning to resume holding in-person PTA programming in 2022, including school assemblies. This is a great opportunity to help our kids get back to normal. We're seeking volunteers to help plan one or more school assemblies this spring. We anticipate this will be a 2-5 hour commitment. Please reach out if you might be interested or have any questions.

Family Fun: We are planning to resume holding in-person PTA programming in 2022, including family fun activities. We have tentative plans to hold an international night and a blacktop carnival. This is a great opportunity to help our kids get back to normal. We're seeking volunteers to help plan these events with a minimum commitment of 5 hours. Please reach out if you might be interested or have any questions.