

Week of 11/12/21



# Hollifield Station Elementary School

Dear HSES Families,

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

- Important Dates
- Concert Schedule
- Impact Aid Forms
- Status of outdoor dining tents during winter months
- Reminder: Visitor/Volunteers
- Community Academy
- Celebrations of Achievement
- PTA News

**\* Don't forget to recognize a teacher with a special message - Howl Out Link:**  
<https://forms.gle/zdK5a9RTai2VS47q6> \*

## Important Dates

12/6-12/10	Inclusive Schools Week
12/15	School closes - 3 Hours Early
12/21	7 PM Concert advanced ensembles (Fifth grade band, Fifth-grade strings, Fourth grade strings and fifth grade chorus -- Schedule below)

<b>12/23 - 1/2</b>	Winter Break - Schools closed
<b>1/17</b>	Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday - Schools closed
<b>1/19</b>	School closes - 3 Hours Early
<b>1/19</b>	Vision and Hearing Screening for K, 1 and New Students
<b>1/22</b>	End of 2nd Quarter
<b>1/24</b>	Professional Work Day - School closed for students

## Concert Schedule

6:15PM 5th Grade Chorus students and parents arrive.

Parents enter the cafeteria with student belongings. Students, please report to Ms. Winner's classroom.

6:30PM 5th Grade Chorus Performs

6:45PM 5th Grade Chorus and Parents exit the cafeteria and building.

6:55PM 5th Grade Band, 5th Grade Orchestra, and 4th Grade Orchestra students and parents arrive. Parents enter the cafeteria with students' belongings.

Students report with instrument and music to the following rooms:

5th Grade Band: Mr. Velsey's Room

5th Grade Orchestra: Gym

4th Grade Orchestra: ESOL Room

7:15PM: 5th Grade Band Performs

7:25PM: 5th Grade Band students and parents exit the cafeteria and building

7:35PM: 5th Grade Orchestra performs

7:45PM: 5th Grade Orchestra students and parents exit the cafeteria and building

7:55PM: 4th Grade Orchestra performs

8:05PM: Concert concludes. All 4th grade students and parents exit the cafeteria and building.

## **Impact Aid Forms**

Parents/guardians who work on a federal property in Maryland and/or are a member of a uniformed service can qualify to receive additional federal funding by [completing an Impact Aid form](#) by Dec. 31. Impact Aid supplements the HCPSS operating budget to enhance the teaching and learning that takes place in Howard County classrooms.

## **Status of outdoor dining tents during winter months**

This fall many students have elected to eat school meals in the outdoor dining tent that was put in place at each HCPSS elementary school as an additional health safeguard during the pandemic. Now that winter is on our doorstep, and we expect to have much colder temperatures and precipitation, the tents will soon be removed for the winter months, December through February. This is necessary to ensure the safety of our students and staff, because the tents are not designed to sustain heavy snow, wind or ice accumulation; they cannot be safely heated, and lowering the sides that are currently left open would not allow adequate outdoor air ventilation to occur.

HCPSS plans to reinstall the tents outside all elementary schools at the beginning of March 2022, with the specific timing dependent on weather conditions.

We will continue to designate outdoor spaces at our school throughout the winter months where students may choose to eat their meals as weather conditions allow. As a reminder, please send your child to school dressed appropriately for weather conditions, especially if they plan to eat lunch outdoors.

Thank you for your support and collaboration in ensuring a safe and healthy learning environment for all students. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

## **Reminder: Visitor/Volunteers**

The following groups are required to show proof of full vaccination at least five school days in advance:

- Volunteers and chaperones who interact with students
- Parents/guardians who conduct classroom observations
- Professional individuals or groups who come into the school during the school day to provide enhancements and support to instruction such as musical performers and guest speakers.

[Details on volunteer/observer vaccine requirements](#) are available online.

## **Community Academy**

The Council of Elders of the Black Community in Howard County (TCOE) in collaboration with the Howard County Public School System will host a TCOE Community Academy on Social Emotional Well-Being on December 11 from 9-10:30 a.m. The session will identify behaviors that affect a child's social emotional well-being and strategies to openly discuss suicide prevention and mental health awareness. Registration is required at: <https://tinyurl.com/52kyt6d3> (Links to an external site.) Flyers are located [here](#) (Links to an external site.)

## Celebrations of Achievement

The Council of Elders Celebrations of Academic Achievement will honor approximately 3,651 students via Zoom celebrations held from January 11-26, 2022. Students who qualify for the TCOE Celebration of Academic Achievement who are currently enrolled in the Digital Education Center or Home Instruction will be recognized and celebrated with their home school.

\*Reminder, all previous Hollifield Herald Newsletters can be found on our website.  
<https://hses.hcpss.org/>



## PTA Updates:

### Rrooar:

The Hollifield Station Elementary School PTA has partnered with Rrooar for the 2022 Original Oratory Competition. By signing up for this competition, students will receive two one-hour sessions educating them how to write an original speech and how to deliver a speech. The mode of training will be over Zoom, which will be scheduled at a later date, with the final competition being scheduled in February. The cost of entry is \$25, but \$5 of that will be coming back to our PTA. If you are interested, **before 12/3** please sign up for the program here: <https://www.rrooar.com/programs-1/compofall21> . If you have any questions, please email [hses.pta.prez@gmail.com](mailto:hses.pta.prez@gmail.com).

**SPIRIT WEAR:** We are excited to announce that our NEW spirit wear store is OPEN! This year, we've partnered with 1<sup>st</sup> 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>

### **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.