

# Hollifield Herald

*Weekly News - 22nd Edition - 2/24/20*



## Hollifield Station Elementary School

### Calendar Events

#### February

- 2/28 - Grade 1-5 MAP testing window closes
- 2/28 - Change Matters donations for GrassRoots kicks off during lunches

#### March

- **March 2-March 6:** Employee Appreciation Week
- 3/2 - Read Across America Day (See information below)
- 3/2 - 3/6 - Change Matters Campaign
- 3/6 - Interims Issued
- **March 9-March 13:** Kindergarten and New First Grader Registration
- 3/3 - Restaurant Fund Raiser- Manor Hill Tavern (See information below)
- 3/20 - Spirit Day - Sports Theme - Wear something that celebrates your favorite sport
- 3/23 - 3/25 - 5th Grade MISA testing
- 3/30 - 4th grade Art Museum field trip
- 3/31 - 5th Grade field trip to Mt. Vernon
- 3/31 - 6:30 p.m. PTA Meeting - HSES Media Center

#### April 3rd

- 4/3 - 3 hour early closing - End of Marking Period
- 4/6 - 4/13 - Spring Break - Schools & Offices Closed
- 4/24 - Spirit Day - Culture Day - Wear or bring something that represents your culture

**Celebrations: February - Black History Month/ Martin Luther King Jr.**

**Walking Wednesday**

**No Walking Wednesdays on the following dates due to staff meetings:  
March 11, April 29, May 20.**

**HSES Website:** <http://hses.hcpss.org/>

**PTA Website:** What is a PTA? "The main role of the local PTA is to build strong working relationships among parents, teachers and schools, in support of students. This can include recruiting and coordinating volunteers, providing special recognition in awards ceremonies or through other activities, organizing parent education events, planning teacher appreciation activities and much more."

<https://hsespta.org/>

**Curriculum for coming weeks ([Click Here](#)):**

As the school year gets underway, we will provide the standards that each grade level is focusing on for that week. For deeper understanding of the standards, please visit HCPSS.org for links to the curriculum - <https://www.hcpss.org/academics/english-language-arts/curriculum/>

**This Quarter's Curriculum Corner** is attached below.



HSES Curriculum Corner Qtr. 2.pdf

[Download](#)  
1.2 MB

## HSES Information & Reminders

### **Budget Process - Next Steps - See the end for important questions!**

The BOE will now submit its budget requests to Howard County Executive Calvin Ball early next month. Dr. Ball is scheduled in April to submit his proposed budget to the County Council, which will then adopt the Howard County budget in May. Either the County Executive or the County Council may not fully fund the request made by the Board of Education.

If you would like to share your opinions about the HCPSS 2020-21 budget, such as maintaining class size, ongoing support for all academic and operational areas or continuing instructional programs at current levels, please contact the County Executive and the County Council.

Please consider testifying before the County Executive to share your opinions about the HCPSS budget. Registration opens February 27; details linked below. If you can't attend the hearing, you can submit written testimony. A reminder that the County does not fund specific programs (music, G/T,

etc) so it's important that any testimony relates to County's overall funding of the Board of Education's requested budget, not support for specific programs.

COUNTY EXECUTIVE: Save the date to come to the County Executive public hearing on the budget. March 12 at the George Howard Building 6pm. Online sign ups available February 27th.

<https://www.howardcountymd.gov/Departments/County-Administration/Budget/Give-Budget-Testimony?fbclid=IwAR2ERhWii-mJON1s7f4r6shOkuhnbs7-VfzI5X3kMlx1HfvmjohmF4cCxmU>

COUNTY COUNCIL: The first public hearing on the operating budget will take place on April 22. More details on registration will be available soon.

**Some questions to consider:**

How can we increase our revenue to support our schools?

How are the developers in Howard County contributing to the sustainability of our school system?

What laws are in place or could be in place that increases the developers' support of our school system?

How are developers influencing our elected officials? (campaign donations, lobbying efforts, etc.)

## **First Day of School Next Year is August 25, 2020**

The school calendar for the 2020-2021 school year is approved. [Click here to view it](#). Please note the first day of school will be Tuesday, August 25th. Please plan your summer vacations with this date in mind.

## **Previously Shared Information**

### **Elementary Reminder for Personal Devices**

Dear Parents,

As a reminder, at the elementary level, students are not allowed to use persona/devices such as phones, ipads or other electronic devices during the school day. We understand that some students may need to bring their phones to school as a means to communicate before or after the school day for safety reasons. However, these devices should remain in the student's backpack turned off during school hours. Unfortunately, we are seeing evidence that students are using their devices in ways that are not permitted during school hours (ex. TikTok videos taken during indoor recess in the school bathroom). The school will provide any devices needed for instructional purposes.

As a parent of an elementary school student, I would also highly recommend some online review sites for some of the apps that students are seen using, such as TikTok. There is strong reasoning against students at this age having access to these apps due to the ability to access adult content. One that I like to use for input is <https://www.commonsensemedia.org/>. This site has led me to personally prohibit access to my daughter on the TikTok app. I am not recommending one way or another, but wanted to share my experience. Each family decision is very personal, but I know I appreciate hearing from other parents when it comes to new apps or new technology.

We appreciate your support of our elementary policy in regards to personal devices. Again, students can certainly bring their devices to help with safety before or after school, but their devices should remain in their backpacks and on silent or off during the school day.

Thank you in advance for your support!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Wadsworth  
Principal, HSES

## **G/T Placement Process**

Dear Fifth Grade Parents,

On Friday, February 21st, the CogAT(Cognitive Abilities Test) results and middle school placement recommendations will be mailed to your home address. A committee of educators met to conduct the G/T Placement Process. The placement process enables the school staff and parents to work together to provide the student with the most appropriate educational placement. This placement should provide a pace of learning and level of challenge commensurate with the student's achievement levels and abilities.

If your child is not recommended for placement in a particular G/T class, you may appeal the decision. Enclosed you will find the Course Placement Review Form in which will you can place your child in the requested classes for the upcoming school year. Before completing the Course Placement Review Form, you are encouraged to speak with your child's G/T Resource Teacher, classroom teacher, and/or administrator in order to understand the rationale behind the professional recommendation. All Placement Review Forms are due by March 10, 2020. Please place the form in an envelope addressed to Mrs. Speelman or Mr. Bayne. If you did not receive your child's letter within a week, please call the front office and check to see if your current address is on file with the school.

## **Read Across America Day**

Read Across America Day will be celebrated on March 2, 2020. HSES is excited to bring you Read Across America Day to help motivate kids to read, bring the joys of reading to students of all ages, and make all children feel valued and welcome. The National Education Association, along with schools and organizations around the country, celebrate the joy and importance of reading with Read Across America.

At school, students will participate in a variety of activities with a reading focus including READ YOUR SHIRT DAY on Monday, March 2, 2020. Students will wear clothing with words written on them. Teams will post on canvas additional ways they will celebrate Read Across America Day.

At home, please promote the importance of reading by visiting the library, reading aloud to your child, encouraging time spent reading daily and modeling reading for your child.

The National Center for Education Statistics reports that reading 15 minutes a day seems to be the "magic number" at which students start seeing substantial positive gains in reading achievement. Students who read just over a half-hour to an hour per day see the greatest gains of all.

## **PERFECT JOB FOR PARENTS at HSES!**

Are you looking for a job where you can still be home for your children during the Holidays, Summer vacation and when they come home from school? Also receive health benefits (if needed)

Well, Hollifield Station Elementary Cafeteria needs a Food Service Assistant. This is a high pace job, great exercise, serving our students nutritious meals. Hours are from 9:30-3:00 or 9:45-3:15.

Stop in to see Ms Judi in the kitchen for more information. Or go to the [hcpss.org](http://hcpss.org) website under "Employment" to fill out an application. "Food & Nutrition Service Assistant 1"

After submitting your application please notify Ms. Judi so she can let Food & Nutrition be on the lookout for it.

## **In Search of Media Volunteers:**

The media center is in search of volunteers for both Thursday and Friday morning. On the job training to help us shelve the books students return. If you have an hour or so to share we would love to have you email us.

[tammy\\_szczepanski@hcpss.org](mailto:tammy_szczepanski@hcpss.org)

[marcy\\_spence@hcpss.org](mailto:marcy_spence@hcpss.org)

Tammy Royo Szczepanski and Marcy Spence  
School Librarians HSES

## **Screening for Students at Risk for Reading Difficulties**

In accordance with Maryland's Ready to Read Act (2019), all HCPSS kindergarten students\* will be administered a screener assessment that includes a battery of four one-minute reading measures (DIBELS 8th Edition) to examine their letter naming, decoding, and word reading skills. The assessments will occur throughout winter, 2020. Parents and guardians will be notified if assessment results indicate that your child would benefit from an intervention.

\*This includes kindergarten students who do not have a current Individualized Education Plan (IEP) or Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) with reading foundational skills goals.

## **Cub Scout - Recycling Program**

Looking for a safe way to get rid of your old lithium and/or rechargeable batteries? These batteries should not be thrown out in the trash due to the amount of metals in them. Cub Scout Pack 2005 is collecting used rechargeable batteries to bring them to the Recycling Center. These batteries will be labelled such as Lithium Battery (Li-ion), Nickel-Cadmium (Ni-Cad), Nickel Metal Hydride (Ni-MH), etc, and include coin cell batteries in watches, cell phone batteries, computers, RC cars. You do not need to include regular alkaline batteries that can be thrown away. Bins will be available outside the Fifth Grade classrooms and in Mrs. Speelman's classroom. Batteries will be collected until March 7th.



## Concert Schedule for SY 19-20

### **Tuesday, May 5, 7pm**

Spring Orchestra Concert for  
Beginning, Intermediate, and  
Advanced Orchestras  
Station Singers

### **Thursday, May 14, 7pm**

Spring Concert for Beginning,  
Advanced and Jazz Bands

### **Friday, May 15 12:00-6:00pm (approx.)**

Howard County Elementary Jazz Festival  
JAZZ BAND

### **Thursday, May 21 6:30-8:00pm**

Enrichment Fair  
JAZZ BAND (performs at 7:30)

## PTA Information

## Year Book Pictures!

Remember if you have pictures from a school event please upload them to the Dropbox links below (you don't need to have an account). This is the best way to make sure your child is featured in the book!

These folders are for grade-specific school events (field trips, classroom photos, lunch, related arts, recess, etc.) These folders will be available until the yearbook deadline on 2/28!:

Kindergarten:

<https://www.dropbox.com/request/Z6c8YaWT5bqTt2OKPPpU>

1st Grade:

<https://www.dropbox.com/request/nCzxqNvbz xu60EhhWjEp>

2nd Grade:

<https://www.dropbox.com/request/dZo6cdnblk5qaF8IM3Xe>

3rd Grade:

<https://www.dropbox.com/request/obxuKmgeksjhCIASb94c>

4th Grade:

<https://www.dropbox.com/request/2RMK9ltkxkzwdfB2keky>

5th Grade:

<https://www.dropbox.com/request/8oABk35bTEgN8x7PAWRv>



**Want Spirit Wear? Click Here or See attached brochure!**



HSES Spirit Wear Flyer Feb 2020-1.pdf

**Download**  
966.8 KB

## **PTA Sponsored - 2019- 2020 Assemblies**

April 2

Grades: K-5

Author Visit: Chris Barton

Time: All day 3 shows.

Location: GYM

Description: Chris Barton is the author of picture books including bestseller Shark Vs. Train, Sibert Honor-winning The Day-Glo Brothers, and Whoosh!: Lonnie Johnson's Super-Soaking Stream of Inventions, included on 19 state reading lists. His newest books include Dazzle Ships, the Mighty Truck early-reader series, and What Do You Do with a Voice Like That? The Story of Extraordinary Congresswoman Barbara Jordan. Chris and his wife, YA/middle-grade novelist Jennifer Ziegler, live in Austin, Texas, where Chris has advocated for greater diversity in children's literature by cofounding the Modern First Library program with BookPeople. For more information about him, please visit <https://www.chrisbarton.info>

## **Restaurant Night**

Please bring your family and friends out to the HSES PTA's Restaurant Night on Tuesday, March 3, at Manor Hill Tavern in Old Ellicott City! This Restaurant Night is being held to support the newly-founded Husky Heroes program. Our goal is to raise enough money to buy a starter round custom t-shirts for our Husky Hero volunteers. **Please make sure you bring the attached flyer with you to the restaurant** - otherwise, your purchase will not be counted towards the fundraiser. A copy of the flyer will be sent home with your student the week before the event.

### Details

**Where:** Manor Hill Tavern (<https://manorhilltavern.com/>)

3733 Old Columbia Pike

Ellicott City, MD 21043

**When:** Tuesday, March 3, 2020

11:00 a.m. until midnight!

**What:** HSES PTA Fundraiser in support of the Husky Heroes Program

**Who:** We must have a minimum of 30 tables for the fundraiser, so please bring anyone and everyone! The event runs from open until close, and all purchases (in the restaurant and the bar) count towards the fundraiser. Make sure to bring the attached flyer!



## Community News (Click Here)

**Reminder - Distribution of community flyers in schools:** Community organizations wishing to distribute flyers must have an approval letter from the Public Information Office prior to distribution. Electronic announcements must also be pre-approved, and will be posted on the Community News and Programs webpage. Please include the following statement in your school newsletter rather than individual community announcements: Please visit the Community News and Programs webpage (<http://www.hcpss.org/community-news-and-programs/>) for all announcements of upcoming events and programs sponsored by non-profit organizations. Schools should refer any organization requesting distribution to Public Information at 410-313-6682 or [publicinfo@hcpss.org](mailto:publicinfo@hcpss.org).

## Summer Art Camp with Howard County Art Teacher

Looking for a fun art making experience for your daughter and/or son? Come out and enjoy a week of **Art Camp** with Howard County art teacher Mrs. Wasilewski. These camps are designed to enhance the skill levels of each individual. Explore and learn about different mediums and techniques. Camp is open to anyone ages 8-13. Each camp offers unique art projects. Return campers will be delighted with all new experiences. Please email [alisa\\_wasilewski@hcpss.org](mailto:alisa_wasilewski@hcpss.org)

River Hill High School: July 6-10, 9am-12pm

Register at <https://riverhill.membershiptoolkit.com/summer-camps>

Reservoir High School: July 13-17, 9am-12pm

Register at <http://www.rhsboosters.com/camp/>



## Hollifield Station Elementary School



@hcpss\_hses

Vision - Our vision is to create and support a safe, diverse and nurturing learning community where staff, students and families are valued and respected.



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