## Hollifield Herald

Week of 4/11/21

#### **Important Dates**

Apr 12 Students selecting hybrid in grades 7, 8, 10 and 11 return to building

Apr 14 End of 3rd Marking Period

Apr 19 -23 Earth Day - Spirit Days

Monday - Waste-Free Lunch/Dine in the Dark

Pack a waste-free or close to a waste-free lunch as possible! If you are at home, try to use as many reusable items as you can. Dine in the dark! Turn off your lights and use natural light as you eat your lunch!

#### Tuesday - Wear an Environmental Shirt (plant or animal) or wear green!

Now is the time to wear that special t-shirt or green to celebrate our Earth! We love the Earth! Our well-being solely depends on this planet. It gives food and water to all living things, so it's our responsibility to take care of it.

#### Thursday - Environmental Scavenger Hunt/Earth Day

Your teachers will post a special announcement for the scavenger hunt. You will be able to do this from a window from your home or go on a walk-in nature to find the items on the list. **Put your special observation glasses on and explore!** 

#### Friday - Hat day ("Hat's off to Mother Earth!")

Let's celebrate by wearing a hat so that we are reminded that each and every day we celebrate our Mother Earth!

Apr 22 Report Cards Issued

May 3 Staff Appreciation Week

May 5 MAP Testing

May 13 School Closed for Students

May 19 MAP Testing

May 31 School Closed, Memorial Day

#### Ramadan

Ramadan begins the evening of April 12th this year. Happy Ramadan to our families celebrating! Any students who are fasting and attending school in-person may request an alternative activity during their lunch period. Please email your homeroom teacher for this request.

# HCPSS 21-22 Digital Education Center: Log In to Express Your Interest by 4/14

The Howard County Public School System is planning for a virtual school option for students entering grades K-12 who wish to learn virtually for the 2021-2022 school year. Once finalized, the Digital Education Center (DEC) program will give students the opportunity to take all classes and earn credits virtually, while receiving support services from the student's designated home school. The DEC is intended to function as an additional, separate K-12 center, which will continue to operate even after fully in-person learning resumes throughout the county. The final DEC scope and options are subject to funding, staffing and final Board of Education approval. If the program is not funded, students who enroll in the DEC instead will access instruction through their designated home school.

The Digital Education Center is scheduled to begin in the 2021-2022 school year. Any student entering grades K-12 during the 2021-2022 school year will have the opportunity to enroll in the Digital Education Center. Students must commit to the DEC for the full school year to participate. Students who want to return to in-person learning at a HCPSS school location during the 2021-2022 school year should not sign up for the DEC. Decisions on the 2021-2022 academic year—in terms of students returning in person, hybrid or virtually—have not yet been determined, and will be communicated as soon as possible.

Via HCPSS Connect Synergy, HCPSS is seeking to understand families' intentions regarding enrolling their children in a virtual school option (if that option becomes available) or having their children attend their traditional HCPSS school. This form is separate from the hybrid survey that families received earlier this school year and is not a commitment for the 2021-2022 school year. Parents/guardians will be asked to commit to enroll their children in the DEC at a later date. Your interest at this time will help facilitate planning.

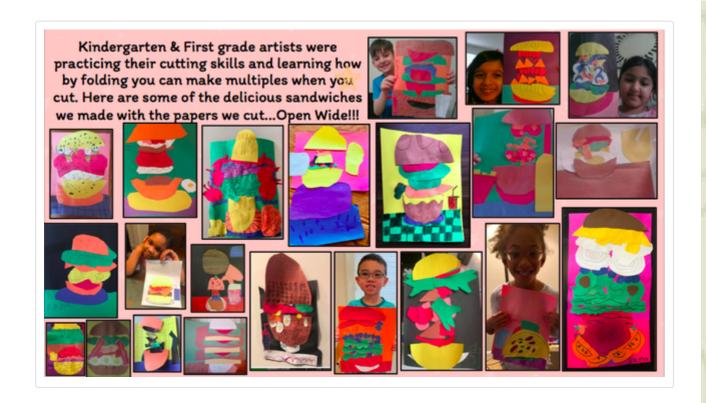
Please complete this form no later than 4 p.m., Wednesday, April 14. Contact your child's school if you require assistance completing the form.

To complete the form:

- 1. Log in to HCPSS Connect Synergy
- 2. Select More Options from the left panel
- 3. Select Digital Education Center Interest Survey from the bottom of the menu
- 4. Complete the question in the form for each child. Families may select different school options for each child.

<u>Details on the Digital Education Center</u> can be found online. Additionally, <u>answers to frequently asked questions regarding the DEC</u> can be found online and are being continually updated as new information becomes available.

HSES Artwork attached below picture!





ART spring (1).pdf



### Staff Appreciation Week May 3rd - 7th

Staff appreciation week is coming up soon! In collaboration with our PTA, we will be planning some special events for our staff. Stay tuned for more information. This is a wonderful time to show our hard-working staff how much we appreciate all that they do!

#### End of 3rd Quarter

Our Third Marking Period comes to a close on Wednesday, 4/14. Related Arts teachers will provide a semester grade at the close of the school year. All unsubmitted work from this marking period should be submitted no later than by 4/14. Report cards will be prepared in alignment with <u>HCPSS Policy 8010 - Grading and Reporting</u>.

# HCPSS/The Council of Elders (TCOE) Financial Education Series Budget Basics Workshop

This virtual workshop session will be on Saturday, April 17 from 9:00-10:30 a.m. Grades 3-12 students and their families are invited to learn about electronic and virtual financial transactions and key financial principles. Topics include financial goal setting, balancing a

bank account, and understanding interest rates. The session information and online registration link can be found <u>here.</u>

#### Canvas Pronouns

Starting on Monday, April 12, 2020, all Canvas users (students, teachers, staff, parents) will be able to select pronouns to be displayed on multiple Canvas pages. Canvas is currently the only technology tool used in HCPSS that allows for pronoun selection.

Each user can select an option any time after April 12. This can be done within Canvas by choosing Account > Settings > Pronoun drop down > Update Settings. Once an option is saved, pronouns will show on most Canvas pages, next to a person's name. The default option will be blank, so if users do not opt for pronouns to show, no action is needed. Users will be able to select between:

- None (will remain blank)
- He/him
- She/her
- They/them
- He/them
- · She/them

Some of the places pronouns will be visible in Canvas are:

- Teacher Course People Screen if teachers are using the groups feature
- Teacher Gradebook
- Discussion posts
- Canvas Assignment Settings
- Inbox messages

### Summer Programs Registration

Online enrollment requests for summer programs will reopen at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 15 for BSAP Summer Institute, Gifted and Talented Summer Institutes for Talent Development, Innovative Pathways High School, and STARTALK Chinese Language Summer Camp. Families can find up-to-date course information and enrollment directions on the Summer Programs web page (<a href="https://www.hcpss.org/summer-programs/">https://www.hcpss.org/summer-programs/</a>).

### Howard County Drug & Alcohol Family Forum

Thursday, April 15 at 7:00 PM: If you care about someone with a drug or alcohol issue, it can be hard to know where to turn for help. Come to this virtual family forum and hear from local organizations about available treatment options, prevention, and how to get support for your loved one and yourself. **Register at:** <a href="https://bit.ly/3f8cNNd">https://bit.ly/3f8cNNd</a>

#### Mobile Testing Sites for COVID-19

- Howard County is dedicated to expanding COVID-19 testing to residents in our community who many not have adequate access. First Call Urgent Care and Centennial Medical Group are implementing four mobile testing units in the following locations:
  - Long Reach Village Center (Monday, 3pm-7pm)
  - North Laurel Community Center (Tuesday, 3pm-7pm)
  - Recreation and Parks Headquarters (Thursday, 3pm-7pm)
  - The Elkridge 50+ Center (Friday, 3pm-7pm)

Rapid testing and PCR testing will be available to residents at no cost.

### **PTA Information**

# 2020-2021 YEARBOOK Special FREE Opportunity for 5th Graders!

In this year's yearbook, the PTA is excited to feature a special dedication section for all of our 2020-21 Hollifield Station 5th graders!

Each 5th grade family is invited to create a 1/8 of a page dedication to include your 5th grader's name, a message, and 1-2 photos.

This dedication is FREE and available only to our 5th grade students (one dedication per student). Even better, YOU get to decide the photos, the message, and how it will look on the page.

To create your 5th grader's dedication, there are a few simple steps:

- 1. Get ready-have 1-2 photos ready and a short message.
- 2. Go to <a href="http://bit.ly/HSESgrade5Yearbook2021">http://bit.ly/HSESgrade5Yearbook2021</a>
- 3. Create an account for yourself in Plicbooks, an online tool from the yearbook publisher.
- 4. Check your email for the Plicbooks verification and verify your account.
- 5. Upload 1-2 photos to celebrate your 5th grader.
- 6. Drag in the 1-2 photos and size and place the photos on the page, exactly how you want them to appear.
- 7. Drag in a text box and type your 5th grader's name, exactly as you want it to appear on the page.
- 8. Drag in another text box and type your message for your 5th grader.
- 9. Double-check your entry--you many only submit 1 dedication per 5th grader. Subsequent submissions will be deleted. The dedication will be placed and printed EXACTLY AS YOU

SUBMIT IT. Remember size matters—all dedications will be sized to 1/8th of the full yearbook page.

10. Once you're sure it's exactly how you want it, submit your dedication, and that's it

Please note that the HSES, the PTA, nor Strawbridge is not responsible for text errors or if the printed image in the yearbook is of low quality; the quality of the printed photo is dependent on the quality and resolution of the photo you submit. Any text submitted will appear exactly as you type and submit it in Plicbooks.

Deadline: 11:59PM ET, Sunday April 25, 2021

What are you waiting for? Submit your 5th grader's dedication today! <a href="http://bit.ly/HSESgrade5Yearbook2021">http://bit.ly/HSESgrade5Yearbook2021</a>

