

Dear HSES Families,

Please enjoy this week's edition of the Hollifield Herald. Be safe and well! Important topics include:

- Important dates
- Links to virtual office and welcome back letter (including arrival/dismissal, transportation, etc)
- School Meal Information
- Related Arts Color Schedule
- School Supplies
- Family File - IMPORTANT
- Howard County information on free SmartPhones
- PTA News

## Important Dates

<b>8/24/22</b>	6:30 - 7:30 p.m. Kindergarten Back to School Night Parent Orientation - Parents ONLY meeting. Meet the teachers and administration, learn what will happen in the classroom. Have your questions answered. Find out what you need to make the first day and weeks of school a success!
<b>8/26/22</b>	<p>Open House is an opportunity to see your student's classroom, meet the teacher and drop off supplies for the new year. Our New Family Orientation is for all families new to HSES. It provides a brief overview of HSES</p> <p>10:00 - 11:00 a.m. Kindergarten Open House</p> <p>11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. 1st and 2nd Grade Open House</p> <p>12:00 - 12:30 p.m. New Family Orientation</p> <p>1:00 - 2:00 p.m. 3rd - 5th Open House</p>
<b>8/29/22</b>	<p>First day of school for students.</p> <p>Doors open at 8:30 am.</p> <p>Late Bell is 8:45 am.</p>

	Dismissal is at 3:15
<b>9/12/22</b>	<p>6:30 - 7:30 p.m. 1st and 2nd Grade Back to School Night</p> <p>Back to School Night is a night for families in which teachers share more specific details to families about the curriculum, classroom expectations and schedule.</p>
<b>9/14/22</b>	<p>6:00 - 6:30 p.m. Gifted and Talented presentation</p> <p>GT teachers share information about their program.</p> <p>Back to School Night is a night for families in which teachers share more specific details to families about the curriculum, classroom expectations and schedule.</p>
<b>9/19/22 - 9/30/22</b>	PTA Read-A-Thon begins (more information to come)
<b>October 2022</b>	Night of Belonging (more information to come)

**Link to Community Virtual Office:**

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1PvKpL4YijXFNNIAzOcc6a4OMkELBVo4sywl822pgGqk/edit?usp=sharing>

**Link to Welcome Back Letter with detailed information:**

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1rupONfimy9HqO2sywo7OCv3NiHhGndDI9NV\\_MtOsaoM/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1rupONfimy9HqO2sywo7OCv3NiHhGndDI9NV_MtOsaoM/edit?usp=sharing)

## School Lunch Changes/FARMS Application

We hope that all of our families are having a wonderful and relaxing summer.

Families are reminded that the federal government **has NOT extended waivers** allowing free meals for all students. Consequently, for the 2022-2023 school year, students whose families do not qualify for free or reduced lunch will be required to pay the [daily meal price](#).

- Student Breakfast - \$2.00 or Free

- Student Lunch - \$2.80

Many HCPSS families are eligible to participate in the [Free and Reduced Price Meals \(FARMS\) program](#), which provides children with a wide range of benefits including free or discounted college tuition, testing and application fees, academic and athletic program fees and many others in addition to free or discounted meals.

Families are urged to check their eligibility and complete a FARMS application as soon as possible. Families must submit a new application every school year. [Details on the Free and Reduced Meals program](#) are available online. Use the link below to apply.

### **FARMS Online Application Link**

<https://www.myschoolapps.com/Application>

### **Did You Know??**

Participation in the Free and Reduced-Price Meal program qualifies students for the following opportunities:

- [Access to HCPSS Pre-K](#) program.
- [Free registration fees for SAT and SAT I](#) subject tests
- [Free registration for ACT](#) tests
- [Reduced AP exam registration](#) fees.
- Up to four [free college applications](#)
- [Reduced tuition for HCPSS Summer Programs](#) (High School, G/T Summer Institute, CTE, Summer Institute)
- [Reduced tuition for HCPSS Innovative Pathways Program](#) which offers an evening and summer program
- [Reduced tuition for HCPSS Digital Education Program](#) which promotes anywhere, anytime learning
- [Free or reduced JumpStart tuition](#) offered through our dual enrollment partnership with Howard Community College
- Free access to participate in the Outdoor Education Program for 6th graders. Contact the sixth-grade team leader at your child's school for more information.
- [Free registration for the NCAA Clearinghouse](#) for DI or DII athletics
- [Discounted internet](#) through Comcast Internet Essentials program

### **Students may be eligible for these additional opportunities:**

- [Reduced health insurance coverage](#) through Maryland Children's Health Programs

- [Reduced Columbia Association \(CA\) membership](#) fees and access to the CA Youth and Teen Center
- [Tuition-based scholarship](#) at Columbia Center for Theatrical Arts
- [Reduced Howard County Rec and Park Program fees](#) (applies to before- and after-care; after-school clubs; sports leagues)
- [Reduced YMCA fees](#) (applies to before- and after- school enrichment; preschool; summer camp)
- [Free Head Start classes or Pre-K](#) through the Community Action Council (CAC) of Howard County
- [Access to Child Care Subsidy](#) program through the Maryland State Department of Education
- Access to [Bridges to Housing Stability](#)
- Access to [CAC Housing Assistance](#) and [CAC Energy Assistance](#)
- Disability resources, food supplement applications, and medical assistance applications through the [Maryland Department of Human Resources](#)

Please contact the front office if you have any questions or need assistance with applying for the Free and Reduced Meal Program.

## Related Arts Color Schedule Calendar

### School Supply List

Please find our school supply list [here](#). If you need assistance with school supplies, please reach out to Lauren Honza, school counselor at [lauren\\_honza@hcpss.org](mailto:lauren_honza@hcpss.org). We encourage families to recycle unused or slightly used supplies from last year as a way to reduce costs for school supplies.

### Family File

We are including this information again as an important reminder that we need all Family Files completed prior to the school year beginning. This has information that we use for dismissal, emergencies and more! We need all of this information for the very first day of school. 52% of our families have completed their Family File. **We need 42% completed.** Please take time to complete it today.

Video Guide: <https://youtu.be/t4wmGcTUNDo>

Link to HCPSS Connect: <https://www.hcpss.org/connect/>

## FREE Smartphones

**Unlimited talk, Unlimited texts, Unlimited data  
Every Month at NO Cost**

Eligible Food Stamp and Medicaid recipients may qualify for a free phone.

To be eligible you need:

- Proof of MD residence (photo ID, mail with name and address). Must be at least 18 years of age.

**and ONE** of the following:

- Medicaid insurance card
- Award letter for: Food stamps, SSI, VA, or Housing Choice Voucher Program (Sec. 8) within the last 12 months or with expiration date



To apply for your free smartphone click on the QR code or visit <https://bit.ly/36jG46U>



**THE HEALTH  
DEPARTMENT AND  
YOU**

For questions or more information, contact us at 410-313-0618 or 410-313-5845 or by email: [sbraxton@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:sbraxton@howardcountymd.gov)

410.313.6300 | [hchealth.org](http://hchealth.org)



## PTA News

### Read-A-Thon

Read A Thon will be 9/19 through 9/20. More information will be coming. Get ready for some fun!

## **Spanish Interpreter**

Are you fluent in Spanish and English and have a student at Hollifield Station Elementary this year? If so, the PTA needs YOUR help! We are seeking a bilingual parent volunteer to help us to translate important PTA announcements in order to help all families participate in all of the fun this year! Please contact [hsesptacommunications@gmail.com](mailto:hsesptacommunications@gmail.com) if you are able to help us out. Thank you!