

9/9/24



## Hollifield Station Elementary School

### School Hours

9:05 a.m. Bell Rings

9:20 a.m. Late Bell - Instruction begins

3:50 p.m. Dismissal begins

Dear HSES Families,

Please enjoy this week's edition of the Hollifield Herald.

Warmly,

*Amanda Wadsworth, Principal*

*Aaron Tark, Assistant Principal*

&

*Laurie Poquette, Administrative Intern*

Important information included:

- Important dates
- Family File needed for Field Trips!
- Policy 9400
- Parent Academy Kick-Off
- Strategic Plan Stakeholder Meetings
- Parent Notification of Screener
- Health Services
- Gifted and Talented Information

## Important Dates

<b>September 11th</b>	<b>Back to School Night - GT and 3rd-5th</b> 6:00 - 6:30 PM - GT Information sessions 6:30 - 7:30 PM - 3rd - 5th Grade
<b>September 12th</b>	<b>Back to School Night - 1st &amp; 2nd</b> 6:30 - 7:30 PM - 1st and 2nd Grade
<b>September 18th</b>	<b>3 hour early dismissal</b>
<b>September 19th</b>	<b>PTA - Welcome Back Party on the back blacktop</b> 5:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. (9/20 rain date)

September 27th	Patapsco Day of Service 5th graders
October 3rd	Schools and Offices Closed
October 18th	Schools and Offices Closed

Virtual Office [Link](#)

## Related Arts Color Days Schedule for the Upcoming Week

8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	blue	red	orange	yellow	green	

## Family File - Did you know....

**If your family file isn't filled out, your student cannot go on a field trip.  
Only 56% of families Family File Emergency Cards are completed!**

Thank you to all families who have already completed their family file emergency card. If you haven't done so, please complete/update your family file today and help us get 100% completion. To update your Family File, go to <https://www.hcpss.org/connect/>. Please read these [Family File directions](#) to begin. For additional details Parents who may have forgotten their log-in credentials can request assistance using the help link in the HCPSS Connect page. If you need help, click [here](#). Please revise and/or complete your family contact information as soon as possible.

## Policy 9400 Information

The Howard County Public School System (HCPSS) is committed to providing a safe, engaging, and supportive school environment that fosters the social and emotional safety, dignity, and well-being of all students. HCPSS acknowledges the need for employees

1. to use an array of research-based positive behavior interventions, strategies, and supports to address student behaviors and keep students safe
2. to minimize the practice of exclusion from the classroom environment
3. to minimize the practice of physical restraint (which may only be used when necessary to protect a student or other person from imminent, serious, physical harm and only after other less intrusive, nonphysical interventions have failed or been determined inappropriate).

It is an expectation that HCPSS employees will be responsive to all incidents of exclusion or physical restraint and appropriately case manage impacted students to minimize unsafe behaviors and maximize instructional engagement.

Additional information can be found at [HCPSS Policy 9400 - Student Behavior Intervention](#). If you have any questions regarding this policy or its implementation, please contact a school administrator.

## 2024-2025 Parent Academy KickOff, Sept. 25, 2024

HCPSS parents, guardians and family members are invited to join HCPSS Superintendent William J. Barnes, school system leaders and community organizations for this valuable information night to prepare for a successful academic year. The event will also feature various workshop topics which provide access to resources and support.

The 2024-2025 Parent Academy Kick-Off will be held Wednesday, Sept. 25 from 6-8:30 p.m at Wilde Lake High School, 5460 Trumpeter Road, Columbia. Dinner will be provided from 5:15-6 p.m. [Registration is encouraged](#).

Workshop topics include:

- College and Career Readiness/Career Exploration
- Maryland's Blueprint for the Future
- Navigating the School System for Student Success
- Mental Health
- Advanced Programs K-12
- Social Media Safety & Security
- Elementary ELA, Reading, and the Library
- Math Programs
- Financial Literacy
- Immigration Law
- Early Childhood Programs

## Strategic Plan Stakeholder Input Meetings

*Community members are invited to attend one of these meetings to help inform the system's new strategic plan by providing their input about stakeholder values during this virtual, hour-long opportunity facilitated by HCPSS staff. No registration is required.*

- **September 9, 2024 - 5:00-6:00 pm - [Google Meet link](#)**
- **September 10, 2024 - 7:00-8:00 pm - [Google Meet link](#)**
- **September 17, 2024 - 5:00-6:00 pm - [Google Meet link](#)**

**As part of the HCPSS strategic planning process**, 5th grade students, staff and families are being asked to provide input about their values for our school system.

Parents/Guardians: Starting September 4th, please complete this HCPSS Strategic Planning Input [Survey](#) by 9/20/2024 and share the student [version](#) with your Grade 5-12 student(s). This survey is anonymous and available in multiple languages. If you have students at more than one school,

please complete the survey one time, and indicate each school your students attend.

If your student needs assistance completing the survey, please contact our front office for assistance.

## Parent Notification of Screener

In accordance with Maryland's Ready to Read Act (2019) and COMAR (2021), all Howard County Public School System kindergarten students will be screened to identify potential reading difficulties using the Amplify mClass with DIBELS 8 th Edition assessment. Please click below to read the full notification.

[Parent Notification of Screener](#)

## Health Services

[Health Services](#) information can be found online and will be continually updated. All families, students, staff and visitors should conduct daily health checks prior to entering any HCPSS building and/or school bus. [Details, including infection control protocols for communicable diseases like COVID-19](#), are available online.

Please note that health and safety protocols are subject to change, pending guidance and recommendations from federal, state and local health officials, among other sources.

## HSES Gifted and Talented News

All parents are welcome to attend the Gifted and Talented Program Overview on Wednesday, September 11, 2024 from 6:00 - 6:30 pm in the cafeteria or Google Meet at [meet.google.com/umt-qzxa-yie](https://meet.google.com/umt-qzxa-yie)

The Gifted and Talented Program provides accelerated and enriched services for advanced-level learners, as well as talent development opportunities, at the elementary, middle and high school levels. In this session, you will learn about the G/T Math program in grades 4 and 5, Curriculum Extension Units, Instructional Seminars, and primary talent development.

### Instructional Seminars

Instructional seminars are designed to extend student interests beyond general exploratory experiences. G/T Resource Teachers provide advanced-level instruction and schedule these opportunities for interested students. Skill development might include written, oral, and visual communication skills, critical and creative thinking skills, research skills, technology skills, and skills in visual and performing arts. Seminar topics may include consultation with professionals involved in the field of study who provide students with additional instruction and guidance as they engage

in product development. Teachers, students, or parents may nominate students to participate in an instructional seminar. All students in grades 2-5 are welcome to attend instructional seminars. They will take place during recess.

#### Instructional Seminars (Grades 2-5)

- Designed to develop advanced-level skills in an area of interest for students
- Offerings vary based on the needs and interests of students
- Open to all students regardless of instructional level
- Students self-select based on their interest in the topic
- Students will meet during their recess time one day a week
- Work is often required outside the classroom

#### 2024 Fall Instructional Seminar Course Offerings by the G/T Resource Teacher

##### Grade 2 - Coming Soon in November

##### Grade 3 Flying Paper Machines

Do you like to build paper airplanes to see which one goes farthest? If so, join us for an adventure in Flying Paper Machines! Test your knowledge of engineering, aerodynamics, origami, and creativity by constructing paper airplanes that will be flight tested. Come fly with us! Which paper airplane will go the farthest? All interest forms are due by Monday, September 2, 2024. [Flying Paper Machines Seminar Interest form Link](#)

##### Grade 4 Origami Club

Are you interested in learning more about origami? Do you like to try to fold paper and turn it into different shapes? If so, the origami club is the right place for you! In this seminar the students will learn about the history of origami, different ways to fold paper, and create different origami shapes each week. All interest forms are due by Monday, September 2, 2024. [Origami Club Seminar Interest Form](#)

##### Grade 5 Young Inventors

The Young Inventors Seminar will use EquiPHQ resources from the U.S. Patent Office to engage students actively in the joy of discovery learning, and invention. Students will research inventors, learn about patents, trademarks, copyrights, and trade secrets by taking a turn at inventing and creating their own trademark designs.

All interest forms are due by Friday, September 20, 2024. [Interest Form Link](#) Information will also be available on the Fifth Grade Team Home Page under Modules. Click Module titled, Seminars with Ms. Speelman.

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