

August 9, 2019

Happy Friday!

To all of our wonderful parents and students, welcome to the 2019-2020 school year. We hope you have enjoyed your summer. We are excited to know that we will have over 600 smiling faces joining us in just a few weeks. We plan on having a wonderful opening to our school year! Our hard-working staff have spent the summer preparing for our students return. We will be focusing on serving the WHOLE student this year, which means we will be putting an emphasis on academics, behavior, and social/emotional development.

As we prepare for our upcoming year, please make note of the following:

- Update your Family File for the 2019-2020 school year to make sure you stay in the loop. Log in to [HCPSS Connect](#) to update/verify your emergency information.
- 6<sup>th</sup> Grade and NEW Student Orientation on Thursday, August 29 from 1pm to 2pm
- Back to School Bash on Thursday, August 29 from 2pm to 4pm (HMS students)
- Save the date for Back to School Night on Thursday, September 12 at 6pm
- Become a member of the HMS PTA. Please visit <http://www.hammondmiddlepta.org/>
- Reload your student's lunch account at [www.myschoolbucks.com](http://www.myschoolbucks.com).
- Student Picture Day will be held on Tuesday, September 24.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU!

Sincerely,

Dr. Dale  
Principal

Ms. Galbreath (Ms. G.)  
Assistant Principal

### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

#### **BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT**

Our Back to School Night will be held on Thursday, September 12, from 6pm - 8pm. Parents will have the opportunity to meet their child's teachers and tour the school. Parents will report to their child's homeroom. During homeroom you will receive county and school information. At the conclusion of the presentations you will be able to visit your child's other teachers. We look forward to meeting our HMS families and working together for a positive and productive school year!

#### **TIME TO RELOAD LUNCH ACCOUNTS**

Please remember to reload your student's lunch account before school begins through [www.myschoolbucks.com](http://www.myschoolbucks.com).

## **UPDATE YOUR FAMILY FILE**

Thank you to everyone who has already completed the Family File for the 2019-2020 school year! Please visit [HCPSS Connect](#) to verify/update the information, even if it has not changed from last year. After logging into [HCPSS Connect](#), please select the Family File tab and then click on Family File.

Once logged in, parents/guardians will be asked to provide or update the following information:

- Student information
- Parent/guardian contact
- Emergency contacts (This also designates who can pick up the child.)
- Medical information
- Arrival/dismissal procedures
- Media release (photo approval)
- Data confidentiality

Change of address may not be made through Family File. If you have recently moved, please contact our Student Services Office at 410-880-5830.

## **PARENT VOLUNTEERS**

HMS encourages parent volunteers and chaperones. To participate as a volunteer or chaperone you must complete two short [online training courses](#). Please print a completion certificate for each training and return to the front office.

## **ONLINE PAYMENTS FOR SCHOOL EXPENSES**

HCPSS has contracted with Online School Payments, Inc. (OSP) in order to afford parents/guardians the ability to pay online for school activities that would otherwise have required payment by cash or check. OSP accepts credit and debit cards (Visa or MasterCard) through a secure web browser at your convenience, 24 hours a day. You can even use your iPhone or tablet! OSP does charge a small handling fee for this service. HMS may accept online payments for any of the following activities

- Field Trips
- After School Club Fees
- Activities/Events
- Outstanding Student Obligations
- Yearbooks
- Phys Ed uniforms

Access the [OSP website](#) here.

## **UPCOMING DATES**

**08/29/2019 – 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Orientation/New Student Orientation (1 -2 PM)**

**08/29/2019 – All Students Back To School Bash (2 – 4 PM)**

**09/3/2019 – First Day of School**

**09/12/2019 – Back To School Night (6pm To 8pm)**

**09/16/2019 – 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Outdoor Education Night (6:00 - 7:30pm)**

**09/24/2019 – Student Pictures**

**09/30/2019 – SCHOOLS CLOSED**