

HMS Bulletin

January 17, 2025



Dear HMS Parents & Guardians,

Restocking school supplies will ensure that students are ready to learn. Please provide or donate the necessary supplies for students, such as pencils, spiral notebooks, folders, tissues, and hand sanitizers. Out of all of the school supplies, **pencils** seem to be the high demand item. Any donations can be dropped off at the front office. Additionally, kindly remind your student to bring a Chromebook that is fully charged every day.

Thank you

IMPORTANT DATES

January 20: Martin Luther King Jr. Day - Schools & Offices closed

January 21: New Parent Information Night @ 6-7pm

January 23: Professional Work & Wellness Day Schools close 3 hours early. End of 2nd marking period

January 29: Professional Work Day - Schools closed for students

February 1: First Day of Black History Month

February 2: Groundhog Day

February 3 & 4: Winter MAP Testing

February 4: Report Cards Issued, *electronically*

February 7: Professional Learning Day Schools closed for students

February 17: Presidents Day Schools & Offices closed

February 28: Ramadan Begins (Evening of Fri, Feb 28, 2025 – Sat, Mar 29, 2025)

NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS



A huge thank you to the HMS PTA for organizing the Winter Dance last Friday! We are grateful to the community and HMS PTA for their support and snack donations! The winter dance was a huge success, and the students had a terrific time!

Student Grades

***Please don't forget to periodically check your students' progress in Canvas.**

Where do I find my child's grades?

Ongoing quarterly averages (grades 3-12) and individual assignment scores (K-12) can be accessed from Canvas. [Quarterly report cards](#) can be accessed from Synergy.

Canvas Features that Support Families:

<https://news.hcpss.org/news-posts/2024/09/canvas-features-that-support-families-2/>

How can I access my child's report cards online?

2024-2025 Quarter 2 Report Cards will be available at/after 4 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 4.

Español

Parents/guardians may view/download report cards by taking the following steps:

1. [Log in to HCPSS Connect Synergy](#) using parent/guardian **credentials**
2. Select More Options from the left panel
3. Select Report Cards from the middle
4. Select the report card you wish to access

A Memo from the HMS PTA

Please join the Hammond Middle School PTA at the next general meeting!

- **Date:** Wednesday, January 22nd
- **Time:** 7:00pm – 8:00pm
- **Location:** Virtual - To join the video meeting, click this link: <https://meet.google.com/usd-xpwd-rcn>

To join by phone, Dial-in: (US) +1 727-202-2474, PIN: 129 226 752#

Meeting agenda and minutes from previous meeting (11/20/24) can be found here:

<https://hammondms.givebacks.com/public/uploads/dbad8e5c-5d12-4f62-9b91-47667a8950be>

REMINDERS

*****Health Room News*****

Please perform daily health checks and keep sick children at home:

- Temperature of 100 degrees or higher
- Headache
- Chills
- Sore Throat
- Body Aches
- Abdominal Cramps
- Diarrhea
- Nausea/Vomiting

If your child requires medication (prescription or over the counter) during the 2024-2025 school year, your child's health care provider must complete a [medication form](#) and/or an [Epi-Pen Care](#) form. All prescribed medications must be in properly labeled containers that include the following information:

- Student name
- Medication name
- Dose to be given
- Time & Frequency of medication
- Prescriber's name & signature
- Date of medication order

Pharmacy labels will usually contain this information. Over-the-counter medications should be in new, unopened containers labeled with the student's name.

Feel free to contact our health team with any questions: christina_toler@hcpss.org karisma_rencher@hcpss.org

Reporting your child's absence

Need to report an absence? Please email your absence notes/questions to: HMSabsence@hcpss.org or send in a signed

parent/guardian note. The email should include the student's name, the parent's name, the date(s) or period(s) (if absence is a partial day) of the absence, and the reason for the absence. The email must be received within 5 days of the absence. Requests for changes to attendance submitted after the 5 day deadline may not be honored. Please Note: Absences are unexcused until an email or note is received.

STAY CONNECTED

Families may find it useful to bookmark the following web-pages where information will be continually updated and posted:

- [HMS Website](#)
 - [HMS Twitter](#)
 - [HMS Instagram](#)
 - [HCPSS Website](#)
 - [HCPSS News site](#)
 - [HCPSS Help site](#)
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COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

2025 Summer Programs Registration

Online enrollment requests for [2025 Summer Programs](#) will be open in HCPSS Connect Synergy Feb. 3-17. Requests for registration-based programs can be made by a parent, guardian, school counselor or achievement liaison.

2025 Student Essay and Poster Contest

The Howard County Women's Commission is holding a student essay and poster contest to celebrate Women's History Month. Prizes will be rewarded.

Moving Foward Together!

Women Educating and Inspiring Generations

This year's theme celebrates the collective strength and influence of women who have dedicated their lives to education, mentorship and leadership.

Through their efforts, they have served as an inspiration for all generations - both past and present.

Link to contest info: <https://www.howardcountymd.gov/sites/default/files/2025-01/CFW2025ContestEntryPacket.pdf>

Free Life Skills Classes for HoCo Middle/High School Students

- Classes will be taught by HoCo college students with high school student assistants and adult supervision. Botvin's Evidence Based Curriculum promotes positive health and personal development for students in grades 6 to 9. (Slightly younger students will be considered especially if joining an older sibling, and students older than 9th grade may be invited to join our high school team to earn Community Service Hours while learning.) If parents/guardians have questions about the appropriateness for students, register the students and HC DrugFree's team will contact you. **Siblings and friends are encouraged to take these classes together.**
- Class dates: **February 24, March 3, 10, 17, 31, April 7, 28, and May 5 from 5:00-6:30 p.m. on Zoom.** Visit HC DrugFree's website for more information and register students at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Spring2025LifeSkills>
- **HoCo High School Student Leadership Opportunity to Earn Community Service Hours:** Join HC DrugFree's instructional team to assist college students teaching online Life Skills classes – all while serving as a role model and mentor to younger HoCo students. This leadership experience looks good on resumes and college applications. For more information and to register to volunteer, go to <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/AssistLS2025spring>

Free Parenting/Grandparenting Classes

- Free! On Zoom and open to parents, guardians and grandparents residing in HoCo or with school-age children/grandchildren residing in HoCo. This evidence-based, interactive prevention program provides families with the skills and knowledge to reduce the risk

that their children will use drugs including alcohol or engage in other dangerous behaviors. The curriculum was written for families with children 9-14 years olds, but we believe it is appropriate for K-12 families. Class dates: **March 18, 21, 25, 28 and April 1 from Noon to 1:30 p.m. on Zoom.** Visit HC DrugFree's website for more information and register at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Spring2025GGC>



DENTAL CLEANINGS
NO INSURANCE NECESSARY

Treatment included:

- Oral cancer screening
- Routine cleaning & polishing
- Fluoride
- X-rays if necessary
- Examination by licensed dentist

Pricing:

- Children under 14: \$10
- Adults & children over 14: \$20
- Seniors 62+: \$10
- X-rays: \$5-\$25
- Students & Alumni: \$10

Contact me through messenger

Location & Availability
CCBC Dental Hygiene Clinic
7200 Sollers Point Road
Baltimore, MD 21222
Mondays: 8am Wednesdays: 1pm Fridays: 8am

Please visit the [Community News and Programs](#) page on the HCPSS website for announcements of upcoming events and programs sponsored by non-profit organizations.

Hammond Middle School | 8100 Aladdin Drive, Laurel, MD 20723 | (410) 880-5830 | hms.hcpss.org

