



HMS Bulletin 1.5.2025

From Hammond Middle School <no-reply@hcpss.org>

Date Sun 1/5/2025 5:22 PM

To Kristen H. Adkins <Kristen_Adkins@hcpss.org>

HMS Bulletin

January 5, 2025



ALERT: An important message from the Howard County Public School System

All Howard County public schools and offices will be closed Monday, Jan. 6, 2025, due to impending inclement weather.

All evening activities involving HCPSS students and staff are canceled. In addition, all community-sponsored programs in HCPSS buildings are canceled.



Dear HMS Parents and Guardians,

Please replenish school supplies so that students are prepared to learn in the new year. Pencils, spiral notebooks, folders, tissues, and hand sanitizers are needed by the students. Additionally, please remind your student to bring a fully charged Chromebook each day.

Thank you,

Ms. Smith & Ms. Thompson

IMPORTANT DATES

January 7: Atholton High School's parent night, 6-8pm

January 7: Reservoir Scheduling Night (*formerly known as New Information Parent Night*), 5:30-7:15pm

January 8: Hammond High School's parent night, 5:30pm

January 10: PTA dance @ HMS, 6:30pm - 8:30pm

January 14: High School 2025-2026 Course Registration **closes at 4:00 PM**

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 7: Professional Learning Day Schools closed for students

February 17: Presidents Day Schools and offices closed

NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS

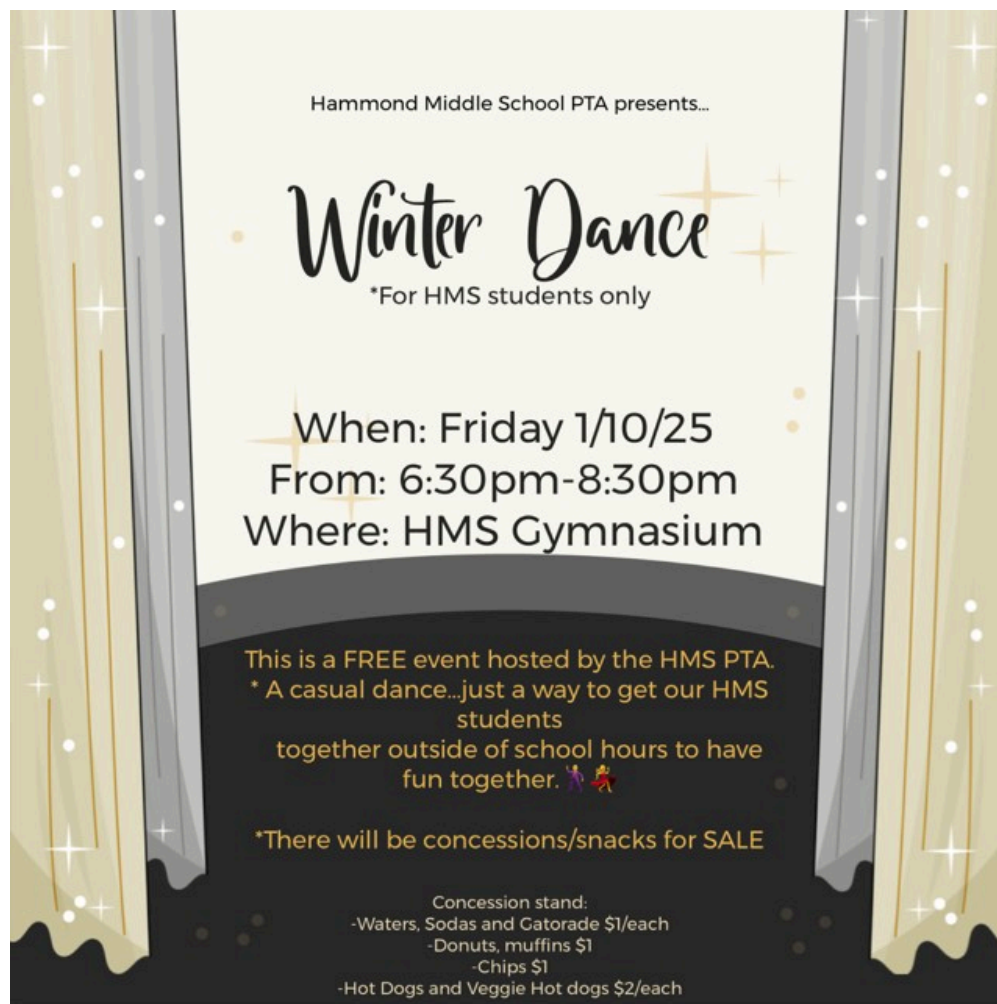
HMS PTA is hosting a **Winter Dance** next Friday (1/10) 6:30pm-8:30pm in the HMS gym (for HMS students only). This is a FREE event so no tickets needed. We will be selling concessions to help support our 8th Grade Committee so please check out the links below for donation requests. Chaperones are also still needed so please consider signing up if you're available. Any and all help is much appreciated!

Donations:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090E48AAA923A3F58-54195874-donations>

Chaperones:

<https://m.signupgenius.com/?#!/showSignUp/4090E48ABA82CAFF2-54137212-hmswinter>

**Reminder! HCPSS Emergency Notification Procedures**

With winter weather possible throughout the next few days, HCPSS is closely monitoring the forecast. In addition, families are reminded of the following:

HCPSS school operating status options are:

- Schools open as scheduled
- Schools open on a two-hour delay
- Schools dismiss early
- Schools closed

In emergency situations (including inclement weather), information will be shared with the community through the HCPSS website, email and text, Twitter and the HCPSS hotline. These are the ONLY approved sources for emergency

notifications. HCPSS does not utilize local media outlets or other platforms other than those listed below.

- [HCPSS status website](#)
- [HCPSS homepage](#)
- HCPSS Information Hotline – 410-313-6666
- [HCPSS News](#) email and text message alerts
- X / Twitter – [@hcpss](#)

Parents/guardians are automatically enrolled for email notification; however all users must opt in one time to receive text messages. **To opt in or confirm that you are signed up to receive text messages, text the word “yes” to 67587** from the mobile number listed in your Family File. If you are not receiving HCPSS or school emails/texts, please contact your school’s front office.

All parent/guardian contact information comes directly from Family File. Additional family and community members, and students may [subscribe manually](#).

Decisions regarding closings due to inclement weather will be made no later than 5:30 a.m. Two-hour delays will be called by 5:30 a.m. and reevaluated for closure no later than 7:30 a.m. Follow-up messaging will only be issued if there is a change in operating status. If inclement weather conditions develop during the school day, a decision to close schools early is generally made no later than 10:30 a.m.

[Schedules for pre-K/RECC](#) planned and emergency late arrivals are available online.

Complete information on [HCPSS emergency/weather closings](#) can be found online.

Attention Rising 9th Graders

High School 2025-2026 Course Registration, Dec. 16, 2024 - Jan. 14, 2025

High school course selection for the 2025-2026 academic year will open Monday, Dec. 16, 2024 8:00 AM, and run through Tuesday, Jan. 14, 2025 4:00 PM, for current 8-11 grade students.

Beginning Dec. 16, students and their parents/guardians may view teachers’ course recommendations and submit course requests and alternate requests by [logging into HCPSS Connect Synergy](#), selecting Course Request from the left panel, and [following the directions online](#).

Please note:

- [Guides on how to complete Course Requests](#) are available online.
- Students and their parents/guardians should use the [Catalog of Approved High School Courses](#) to review course selections, taking careful note of descriptions and prerequisites.
- Students and their parents/guardians can adjust a teacher course recommendation by using the dropdown to select the preferred course level.
- Students and their parents/guardians will add electives to ensure they have seven credits of primary requests and three alternates. Alternate selections should be added in priority order.

- If you want to change a course and there is not an option available in the drop down menu, parents/guardians should download and complete the High School Course Change Request Form and submit a paper copy to their child's school counselor. Forms received during the course registration period will receive priority during scheduling. Requests received after this time will be accommodated if space is available.

Important Dates:

- Dec. 16, 2024: Course registration opens at 8:00 AM.
- Jan. 14, 2025: Course registration closes at 4:00 PM.
- Jan. 15 - Feb. 19, 2025:
 - Current 8th graders will meet with their middle school counselors to review student course requests through scheduled counselor/student appointments.
 - Current 9th-11th graders will review individual requests and progress toward graduation requirements through scheduled counselor/student appointments.
- Spring 2025: Students and parents/guardians will have access to their list of registered courses by the end of the current school year.
- August 2025: Final 2025-2026 student schedules will be available prior to the start of the school year.

Reservoir High School Scheduling Night & SNOW DATE

Just a reminder about the RHS Scheduling Night for new and returning families, Tuesday, Jan 7th from 5:30 - 7:15 PM in the RHS Auditorium.

We've added a **SNOW DATE** of Jan 14th, 5:30 -7:15 PM.

We are using two agendas this year — one for rising 9th graders and one for rising 10th - 12th graders. These agendas can be found linked below:

[Rising 9th Agenda, RHS Scheduling Night](#)

[Rising 10th - 12th Agenda, RHS Scheduling Night](#)

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](#)

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Howard County Public Schools would like to continue connecting with you via email. If you prefer to be removed from our list, please contact Howard County Public Schools directly. To stop receiving all email messages distributed through our SchoolMessenger service, follow this link and confirm: [Unsubscribe](#)

SchoolMessenger is a notification service used by the nation's leading school systems to connect with parents, students and staff through voice, SMS text, email, and social media.