

HMS Bulletin

November 8, 2024



Dear HMS Parents/Guardians,

Thank you for sending your students prepared to use their lockers on November 1st. Students are adjusting positively to the new system of storing their backpacks in lockers and they've kicked off the second quarter with enthusiasm! Positive changes like these can really help create a more organized and focused learning environment.

Thank you for your partnership in making this transition go so smoothly.

Ms. L. Smith & Ms. Thompson

IMPORTANT DATES

November 8: Report Cards Issued 4pm electronically

November 13: HMS Hearing/Vision Screening (*Note: All 8th grade students and students who are new to Maryland will be screened*)

November 21: HMS Hearing/Vision Clinic Rescreen

November 25: Parent Teacher Conferences (*in-person*)

November 26-27: Parent Teacher Conferences (*virtual*)

November 28-29: Schools & Offices closed

December 4: The Council of Elders Celebrations of Academic Achievement
(via Zoom)

December 17: HMS Spelling Bee 5pm - HMS Media Center

December 20: Federal Impact Aid Forms Due

December 23 - January 1: Winter Break

NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONGRATULATIONS to Hammond Leaders of the Month!

Laine Battle, Graydn Betz, James Hill, Oreoluwa Olusi, Ava Adger, Keefer Garthoff, Jenna Seifert, Emmanuel Temesgen, Zykale Childs, Hunter Morris, Victoria Mulira, Nylah Washington! We are so proud of you!

Hammond Leaders of the Month of October

TRUST



Trust is cultivated through genuine and honest interactions, because there is a commitment to mutual respect and restoration.



CONGRATULATIONS to the following HMS band students who were selected for the HCPSS Middle School Gifted & Talented Bands! Over 370 students from across HCPSS auditioned for these prestigious bands.

- Samuel G., 8th Grade Tuba - MSGT Wind Ensemble
- Justin D., 8th Grade Euphonium - MSGT Symphonic Band
- Erin H., 7th Grade Flute - MSGT Symphonic Band
- Kaitlyn P., 7th Grade Trombone - MSGT Symphonic Band
- Chandler R., 7th Grade Tuba - MSGT Symphonic Band
- Janine C., 7th Grade Clarinet - MSGT Symphonic Band
- Camden K., 8th Grade Bassoon - MSGT Symphonic Band
- Ava P., 8th Grade Bassoon - MSGT Symphonic Band
- Asarel A., 8th Grade Tuba - MSGT Symphonic Band
- Ian F., 8th Grade Trumpet - MSGT Honor Band
- Olive Y., 8th Grade Clarinet - MSGT Honor Band
- David S., 6th Grade Clarinet - MSGT Honor Band
- Kevin Z., 6th Grade Tenor Sax - MSGT Honor Band
- Deyo O., 6th Grade Trombone - MSGT Honor Band

This is the highest representation that Hammond MS has had in the MS GT Bands in over a decade! The MS GT Bands will perform in concert on Saturday, January 11th at 7pm at Marriotts Ridge High School, and Sunday, January 12th at 3pm at Mount Hebron High School.

We are so proud of the hard work of ALL the HMS students who learned the music and prepared for the audition. Our students are awesome!

American Education Week

We are inviting families into the classrooms to experience what the day is like for your students.

- **6th Grade: Tuesday, November 19**
- **7th Grade: Wednesday, November 20**
- **8th Grade: Thursday, November 21**

Parents/ Guardians are invited to join their student for a few classes or their entire schedule.

Things you should know:

If attending any classes, please arrive after 8:35 am. This gives us a chance to transition students into their first period of the day.

You will need to sign in with the front office and wear a visitor sticker at all times while you are in the school building.

No cell phones or picture-taking can occur during the school day as this will be a distraction for our students and a violation of students' privacy.

We are not able to accommodate small children for the visit.

Due to capacity limitations, we are unable to accommodate parents/guardians during our lunch shifts inside the cafeteria.

HMS Vision and Hearing Screening- November 13, 2024

HMS will be hosting the state mandated Vision and Hearing screening provided by the Howard County Health Department on Wednesday, November 13th.

This screening is for **ALL 8th graders and any new student to Maryland.**

Please have your student(s) wear/bring their glasses or contacts to school on

November 13th for the screening. Any student who was absent or is in need of a rescreen will be seen on November 21st. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the health room at 410-880-5836 or email the school nurse at christina_toler@hcpss.org

TCOE Celebrations of Academic Achievement

The Council of Elders Celebrations of Academic Achievement will honor approximately 3,000 scholars via Zoom celebrations on December 4, 2024.

Register in advance for this meeting:

https://hcpss.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJYkf-6prjwpHdOsgqqZpl0IPIADNrOE_ZR5

Impact Aid Forms Due Dec. 20

Parents/guardians who work on a federal property in Maryland and/or are a member of a uniformed service can qualify HCPSS to receive federal funding by [completing the Impact Aid form](#) online by Dec. 20. Impact Aid supplements the HCPSS operating budget to enhance the teaching and learning that takes place in Howard County classrooms.

HMS Music Department Fundraiser

- 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

