

HMS Bulletin

November 17, 2023



IMPORTANT DATES

November 20 & 21: Schools close 3 hours early. Parent/Teacher Conferences

November 22: Schools closed for students. Parent/Teacher Conferences

November 23 & 24: Schools & Offices closed - Thanksgiving Holiday

November 27: (Rescreen) HMS Hearing/Vision Clinic for all 8th graders and 6th and 7th graders new to the state of Maryland

November 27 - December 1: Book Fair

November 28: *New Date!* Family Engagement Night - Topic SEL (*Social Emotional Learning and Wellness*) 5:30pm - 7:30pm

November 29: HMS Orchestra Concert, 7pm @ Hammond HS

December 5: HMS Band Concert, 7pm @ Hammond HS

December 12: Family engagement Night #4 - Math night

December 13: Professional Work and Wellness Day - Schools close 3 hours early

December 19: HMS Chorus Concert, 7pm @ Atholton HS

December 25: Schools and Offices Closed

December 26-31: Winter Break - Schools Closed

January 1: Schools and Offices Closed

NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONGRATULATIONS to Hammond Leaders of the Month!

Theo Lewis, India Woodward, Kendall Kaba, Laaibah Wahidi, Sushruthan Harisudhan, Isabella Monti, Roxana Batista-Patino, Sydney Campbell, Hannah Lamb



Hammond Leaders of the Month of November

TRUST

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

FROM THE ART DEPARTMENT



Laela Collins, 8th Grade



Autumn Lee, 7th Grade



Mel Sellei, 8th Grade



Mustafa Zaki, 7th Grade



Elise Bender, 7th Grade



Nathan Thomas, 7th Grade

**Exhibiti
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When:
Novemb
er 16 -
January
26,
2024

Gallery

Hours: Mon-Fri 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Students participating from Hammond:

Laela Collilns - Autumn Lee - Mel Sellei - Mustafa Zaki - Elise Bender - Nathan Thomas

Students were assigned the task of creating personalized renditions of Giuseppe Arcimboldo's surreal portraits. They utilized the digital medium by crafting their artworks using the online platform, Adobe Express!

Great job!

FROM THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT

Hammond's winter music concerts are coming up!



November 29 - HMS Orchestra Concert, 7pm @ Hammond HS

December 5 - HMS Band Concert, 7pm @ Hammond HS

December 19 - HMS Chorus Concert, 7pm @ Atholton HS

Nine HMS Band Students Selected for HCPSS GT Bands!

CONGRATULATIONS to the following HMS students who were selected for the HCPSS Middle School Gifted & Talented Bands! Over 360 students from across HCPSS auditioned for these prestigious bands.

- **Wyatt Bohn, Trombone - MSGT Wind Ensemble**
- **Joshua King, Euphonium - MSGT Symphonic Band**
- **Anne Numata, Clarinet - MSGT Symphonic Band**
- **Erin Han, Flute - MSGT Symphonic Band**
- **Kaitlyn Peplowski, Trombone - MSGT Symphonic Band**
- **Nathan Hyun, Horn - MSGT Honor Band**
- **Asarel Adetoye, Tuba - MSGT Honor Band**
- **Samuel Greene, Tuba - MSGT Honor Band**
- **Chandler Ren, Tuba - MSGT Honor Band**

This is the highest representation that HMS has had in the MS GT Bands in almost a decade! The MSGT Bands will perform in concert on Saturday, January 6th at 7pm at Marriotts Ridge High School, and Sunday, January 7th at 3pm at Mount Hebron High School.

We are so proud of the hard work of ALL of the HMS students who learned the music and prepared for the audition. We work better when we work together!

Family Engagement Night - Topic SEL (Social Emotional Learning) **- November 28th @ 5:30pm**

We have so enjoyed getting to know our families during our Family Engagement Nights. If you missed our October event "Data and Dinner," where we engaged in data conversations around our school's most recent MAP scores, you can find more information [here](#).

For this month's focus, we would like to highlight our Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) initiatives, including mindfulness. We would like to invite you and your student or students to join us together in some mindfulness activities. Mindfulness is an evidence-based therapeutic technique that has been identified as a tool to assist middle-school-aged students with relationships, academics, and self-esteem

Please [RSVP](#) so we can prepare materials and refreshments for our November SEL, Tea and Dessert Family Engagement Night!

[From the Media Center](#)

The Book Fair has made it to the building!

We will be open to the Hammond Community on Monday Nov. 20 from 1pm-7:30pm during our in-person conference time.

The following week 11/27-12/1 Students will visit during their ELA class at the start to week to explore, and will return later in the week to buy. During their first visit they will receive a preview flyer, a wish list form and directions for the ewallet.

As a reminder again- **we are cashless**. Students can use the ewallet or other digital payment apps like applepay, credit cards, check etc.

You may also shop online! Use the Scholastic website to set up your ewallet. Feel free to email lora_koehler@hcpss.org if you have any questions.

<https://bookfairs.scholastic.com/bf/hammondmiddleschool1>

[A MEMO FROM THE HMS PTA](#)

Event: Staff Meal during Conferences

We are once again looking for your support and generosity as we plan a meal for the HMS Staff during conferences. The meal will mostly be catered so we are asking for both monetary donations <https://hammondms.memberhub.com/store/items/893493> via the PTA givebacks link as well as dessert and drink donations. <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0845A5AA2CA20-46104662-hmsstaff>

All items must be dropped off to the HMS front office by 10:30am on Monday, 11/20.

Thank you for your support!

[REMINDERS](#)

Student Meal Payments

Families are reminded that HCPSS now uses the [LINQ Connect](#) portal for student meal payments; monitoring their child's meal account; scheduling automatic recurring payments; setting up low balance alerts; submitting a Free and Reduced Meals program application; and more. MySchoolBucks meal

balances were automatically transferred to LINQ Connect this summer. [Additional information](#) about student meals is available online.

Picking Up Your Child Early

If you are picking up your student early, please be prepared with your photo ID. This is necessary to verify that you are in our Synergy system and have permission to pick the student up from HMS. If there are any neighbors, friends, or relatives that may pick up your child in an emergency, please add them through [HCPSS Connect](#) and ensure that they have permission to pick up your child. Anyone that is not listed in Synergy will not be able to pick up the child.

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

High School Advanced Research Program Information Night

Monday, Dec. 11, 7-7:45 p.m., virtual event

Parents/guardians of and students in grades 8-11 are invited to attend a virtual information session on the HCPSS Advanced Research Program, which includes the high school Gifted and Talented Independent Research and Intern/Mentor courses. [Register in advance](#) online.

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

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