

# HMS Bulletin

January 12, 2024



Monday school is closed to honor Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Consider celebrating Dr. King with a day of service. It is a great time to volunteer in your community.

## IMPORTANT DATES

**January 15:** Martin Luther King Jr. Day - Schools & Offices Closed

**January 16:** High School Registration Closes

**January 17:** Professional Work & Wellness Day - Schools Close 3 hours early

**January 18:** (*snow date*) HMS Spelling Bee Competition

**January 19:** End of the Second Marking Period

**January 22:** Professional Work Day - School Closed for Students

**January 23 & 25:** MAP testing

**January 25:** New Student & Rising 6th grade Parent Orientation/Information Night  
6pm-7pm

**January 30:** Report cards will be available for students/families to view @ 4:00 pm

**February 9:** Countywide PL Day - School Closed for Students

## NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS

## **Drop Off Reminders**

Students should not be dropped off prior to 8:10am. School staff do not report for duty until then. Therefore, there is no adult supervision.

Thank you for your support and cooperation

## **Car Pool Drop off and Pick-up**

The end of the HMS/HES upper parking lot requires merging. Please be mindful and courteous to alternate cars to form a single line when exiting to prevent an accident.

Thank you in advance for your attention to this matter.

## **2024-2025 High School Course Registration**

Through Jan. 16, current 8-11th grade students may view their teachers' course recommendations and submit course placement requests for the 2024-2025 school year. [Details about high school course registration are available online.](#)

## **Spelling Bee**

A yellow-themed graphic for a spelling bee. At the top left, the words "SPELLING BEE" are written in a large, brown, hand-drawn font. Below the text is a cartoon bee with blue wings and a yellow body. In the center, there is a photograph of a student, Olive Yu, holding a certificate that says "Olive Yu". To the left of this photo is another photo of three students standing together. At the bottom right, there is another cartoon bee. The background features a pattern of yellow hexagons.

**Winner: Olive Yu**

**1st Runner Up: Aidan Daniel**  
**2nd Runner Up: Patrick Qiu**

Please congratulate the following students on their success...

**Winner: Olive Yu**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Runner Up: Aidan Daniel
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Runner Up: Patrick Qiu

Olive will represent Hammond Middle School at the HCLS Spelling Bee on March 15 at Hammond HS.

Join us for...

### Hammond Middle School Line Dancing Intramural



Each week you'll learn and practice multiple line dances, like the Wobble, Cupid Shuffle, Cha Cha Slide, and many more. Get ready to move to the beat and have some fun dancing with friends. All skill levels welcome!

Have your folks complete and return the form below before our first meeting. Return the form to the front office or Ms. Haley by 2/1/24.

This activity will be open to the first 20 students who return permission forms.

Intramural Permission Slip: [Line Dancing Permission Slip 2024.pdf](#)



**Best of luck to the HMS Robotics Team!** They will compete in the regional qualifier this Saturday at the Rockville Science Center!

## **HCPSS Emergency Notification Procedures**

As we head into winter weather, [families are reminded](#) that in emergency situations (including inclement weather), information will be shared with the community only through the HCPSS website, email and text, Twitter and the HCPSS weather hotline. [Be sure your Family File is up to date](#) and that you have [opted into texts](#) to receive emergency messages.

### **For students attending Atholton High School in the 2024-2025 school year:**

Any students with prior dance experience and NOT currently enrolled in dance in middle school who would like to be considered for an upper-level dance class (Dance II or higher) in 9<sup>th</sup> grade should reach out to the Atholton Dance Director, Mrs. Stutman at [paige\\_petroziello-stutman@hcpss.org](mailto:paige_petroziello-stutman@hcpss.org) for audition information.

### **For students attending Hammond High School in the 2024-2025 school year:**

# Hammond HS Dance

**Hammond Dance Director - Kerry Johnson Email - [kerry\\_johnson1@hcpss.org](mailto:kerry_johnson1@hcpss.org)**

**Register for a dance class and come join the Hammond Dance Family!**

\*Make sure you sign up for the appropriate dance class - anyone who has not been in a dance class at Hammond HS will need to sign-up for Dance 1.

\*We encourage you to come out to our auditions in March if you have experience and are interested in being in a high level or in a company level

\*Please come out and support us at our upcoming concerts

\*Below is some more information about our program!

## Dance Courses offered at Hammond High School

The following classes focus on ballet, modern, and jazz technique as well as composition and performance:

- **Dance 1** - no prerequisite
- **Dance 2** - prerequisite Dance 1 or audition
- **Dance 3** - prerequisite Dance 2 or audition
- **Dance 4** - prerequisite Dance 3 or audition

The following advanced-level classes focus on a variety of repertoire, technique, composition, performance, and portfolio building.

\*Placement in these courses require an annual audition\*:

- **Junior Dance Company GT\*\*** - grades 9-12
- **Dance Company GT \*\***- grades 10-12



## Hammond HS Dance Important Dates:

### Winter Dance Concert

- Thursday, January 11th @7pm
- Friday, January 12th @7pm

### Placement Auditions (2024-25) Times TBD

- Wednesday, March 13th - Learning Session
- Thursday, March 14th- Auditions



### Spring Dance Concert

- Thursday, May 1st @7pm
- Friday, May 2nd @7pm
- Saturday, May 3rd @7pm



**FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM**

@hahs\_dance



## REMINDERS

### Reporting your child's absence

Need to report an absence? Please email your absence notes/questions to:

[HMSabsence@hcpss.org](mailto: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**

**HCPSS and The Council of Elders (TCOE) Community Academy - Processes for Parent Empowerment:** Please share this information with your students, staff, and community.

*HCPSS and The Council of Elders (TCOE) Community Academy - Processes for Parent Empowerment: The next HCPSS and The Council of Elders (TCOE) Community Academy will take place on January 27 from 9:00 – 10:30 a.m. Parents and families are invited to attend a virtual session regarding parent advocacy topics include: Bullying, Parent Concerns, Special Education, Advanced Placement. Representatives from HCPSS will provide resources. This session is for families of students at the elementary, middle, or high school levels and will be held virtually. To register, please complete the registration form linked [here](#) [Links to an external site.](#) More information can be found in the [TCOE Processes for Parent Empowerment Flyer](#) [Links to an external site.](#) If you have any questions, please contact Sheree Tilley at [sheree\\_tilley@hcpss.org](mailto:sheree_tilley@hcpss.org).*

**National Pan-Hellenic Council of Howard County Black History Expo 2024:** Please share the following information with your students, staff, and community.

*National Pan-Hellenic Council of Howard County Black History Expo 2024: The annual Black History Expo sponsored by the National Panhellenic Council of Howard County and the Howard County Public School System will be held on February 17 at Long Reach HS from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The theme of this year's event is "African Americans and the Arts."*

*HCPSS student organizations are invited to participate with exhibits that speak to the theme "African Americans and the Arts" (exhibit fee is waived), as assistants in various areas, or provide program performances. Students can receive community service hours for their participation. Registration forms for exhibitors, vendors and program performances are included in the [Black History Expo packet](#). The deadline to register to participate is January 20,*

*For more information please contact Muriel G. Mitchell, Black History Expo Coordinator at (410) 461-4717 or [blackhistoryexpo@gmail.com](mailto:blackhistoryexpo@gmail.com).*

*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](https://hms.hcpss.org)







