

HMS Bulletin

March 8, 2024



Hammond Middle School is proud to offer a parent information session on keeping young people safe online. Parents are invited to HMS on **March 13 from 5-7pm** to hear a presentation from the Maryland State Police Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force (ICAC) in the gymnasium.

The presentation will explain the origin and mission of the ICAC Task Force, discuss the many ways our children can find themselves in trouble on the internet, such as, loss of privacy, exposure to graphic content both from imagery and online games. We will touch on the subject of our children creating and sharing inappropriate pictures which can be identified as CSAM (Child Sexual Abuse Material, also referred to as child pornography) and how this can create a lifelong problem for our children. We will also talk about the dangers of Online Predators and how a child's need to feel they belong, puts them at risk.

Our speaker is Joe Dugan, an Internet Safety Specialist with the Maryland State Police. Mr. Dugan has 37 years of Law Enforcement Experience. He has worked as a Homicide Detective in Baltimore City and as a member of the HIDTA Task Force. The last seven years of his career was as a Child Abuse/ICAC Detective at the Harford County Sheriff's Office, Harford County Child Advocacy Center.

In order to ensure there is space, please complete the Google Form below to RSVP.

<https://forms.gle/U5mLvKKNsPwQTK7y6>

IMPORTANT DATES

March 3-9: School Social Work Week

March 10: Daylight Saving Time starts

March 11: HMS PTA Fundraiser @ Red Robin (all day) 8640 Snowden River Parkway Columbia, MD 21045

March 11-15: 8th Grade Science MISA

March 13: Family Engagement Night #7 - Double Click for Safety

March 13: Professional Work & Wellness Day - Schools Close 3 Hours Early

March 14: Pi Day

March 20: ESSA Survey

March 25-28: Spring Break, School Closed

March 29 - April 1: Spring Break, Schools & Offices Closed

April 9: End of Third Marking Period

April 10: Professional Work Day - Schools closed for students

April 17: Report Cards Issued (*electronically*)

May 14: Primary Election Day - Schools & Offices closed

May 17: Articulation Day - 3 hour early dismissal

May 27: Memorial Day - Schools & Offices closed

May 30: 5th graders visit Middle Schools

June 4: 8th graders visit High Schools

NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS



From everyone at the Carson Scholars Fund and Hammond Middle School, it is our pleasure to CONGRATULATE, **Jude Lidinsky**, on being named a 2024 Recognized Carson Scholar!



National Social Work Month

Thank you to **Ms. Ganoë & Ms. Pariso** for all that you do at HMS! You both take on many roles and are always in demand. Thank you for providing services to our students, adults and families.

Reminder for Families Who Pick Up and/or Drop Off Children at HES/HMS

Hammond Families,

Please be respectful of our residential neighbors. We ask that you do not park in reserved parking spaces in the neighboring parking lots of the school. These spaces are only for residents living in the neighborhood. If you are dropping off or picking up your students, we ask that you access the car loop or find parking spaces in our school parking lot.

Thank you for your cooperation,

HES/HMS Administration

Ramadan Information

This year, Ramadan is projected to begin on March 11th. As always, we provide an alternative location during lunch time for those students who will be fasting for Ramadan. Students will go to the Media Center and will be able to read a book or do their homework/finish unfinished work. If your child will need to spend their lunch time fasting during Ramadan, please send an email to Ms. Smith, at lisa_smith@hcpss.org and we will ensure that they spend that time in the Media Center or with staff that have volunteered to provide a safe space for students during this time. If your child will be fasting, but they would prefer to continue to go to the cafeteria during lunch that is fine too.



The Reservoir High School Cheerleading program is looking to add NEW talent to our 2024-2025 JV and Varsity TEAMS.

[Click here 24-25 RHS Cheerleading Interest](#)

Hammond High School Dance Auditions

Hammond Dance

PLACEMENT & COMPANY AUDITIONS



WHEN:

Wednesday, March 13th
12:30 to 3:30 pm

AND

Thursday, March 14th
3:30 to 6:30 pm



WHERE:

Hammond High School
Dance Studio



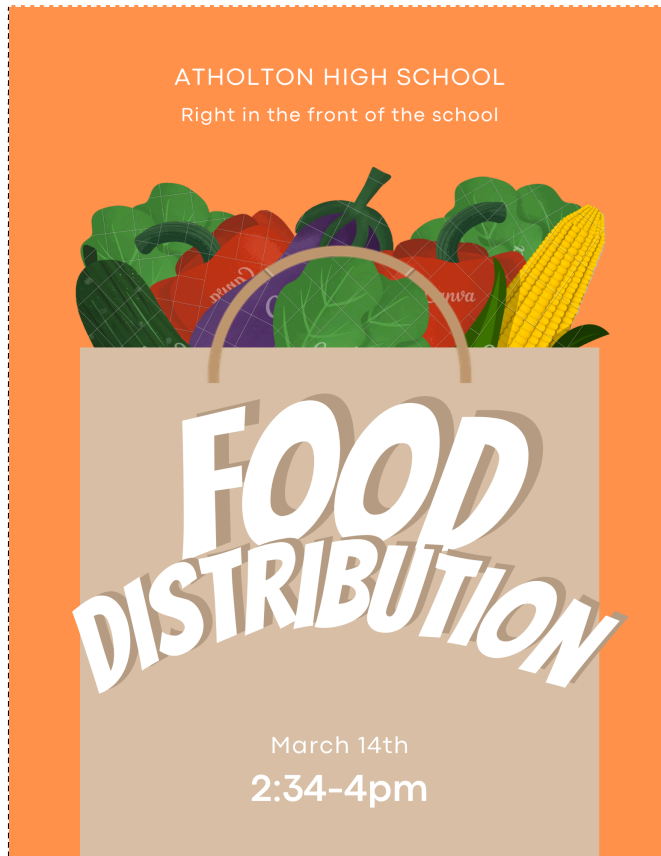
Scan QR Code for more info on the audition process and requirements!



**Audition Application due
Friday, March 8th**



Food Distribution at Atholton High School on March 14th from 2:30 - 4pm



Pesticide Application @ Hammond Elementary.

This notification is hereby made that an application of the pesticide(s) was made at HES to control ants.

Please click on the link for more information. [Letter - Pesticide Ant Advion Hammond ES.pdf](#)

New Lightspeed Parent Portal

Parents/guardians now may select to receive Lightspeed weekly emails summarizing their student's HCPSS Chromebook internet usage. The same email contains an option to sign up for the Lightspeed Parent Portal, which provides near real-time information on a student's HCPSS Chromebook internet activity, and offers the ability to pause web browsing and block social media sites when not on the HCPSS network. Learn more about [Lightspeed for parents/guardians](#) online.

A message from the HMS PTA

Red Robin Fundraiser for Hammond Middle School PTA in Columbia. 20% of eligible dine-in and to-go sales will go to us!

Fundraiser date: March 11, 2024 (ALL day)

Restaurant location: 8640 Snowden River Parkway Columbia, MD 21045

REMINDERS

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.

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

The Council of Elders Community Academy: Healthy and Unhealthy Relationships

The Council of Elders Community Academy on Healthy vs. Unhealthy Relationships on **March 9**. The virtual session will be held from 9-10:30 a.m. The session will explore the dynamics of healthy vs. unhealthy relationships and how to start conversations with children. In this interactive session, participants will:

- Learn how to help their child manage peer conflict.
- Learn how to identify abuse in teen relationships.
- Gain skills and strategies to intervene, if needed.
- Please register for this virtual session [hereLinks to an external site.](#). Additional information can be found [hereLinks to an external site.](#). Contact Sheree Tilley with questions.

2024 STEM Fair

Sign up Form: <https://forms.gle/F83Quc4RGxDZGfXM7>

Date: April 6th, 2024

Time: 12 pm - 3 pm

Location: Howard High School (8700 Old Annapolis Rd, Ellicott City, MD 21043)

Who? 3rd to 8th graders in Howard County (*parents will need to stay at the event*)

THERE WILL BE PRIZES AND CERTIFICATES FOR ALL WHO COMPETE

About the Fair

This STEM fair is a platform designed to inspire and showcase the creativity and talent of young students from grades 3 - 8. This event invites participants to present their projects across various STEM categories, with the opportunity to win exciting prizes! The purpose of this event is to encourage a passion for learning and exploration, allowing children to express their unique ideas. Judges will score each project, provide constructive feedback, and give out medals at the end of the event but all participants will nevertheless receive certificates.

Parents/Guardians must stay during the entire event.

PLEASE READ ALL THE GUIDELINES HERE:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1mlbzNFQOPlateiW2pUyp_b4gA6IbhJkxpPGcDULSxfk/edit?usp=sharing

Contact Information:

Email - hohs.stemroots@gmail.com

Coffee and Conversation with the Board

Thursday, March 14, 7:30 p.m., Elkridge Elementary School

Community members are invited to meet informally with Board of Education members on Thursday, March 14 at 7:30 p.m. at Elkridge Elementary School. Register by emailing [boardoffice@hcpss.org]boardoffice@hcpss.org. Space is limited.

LGBTeaQi&A

Saturday, March 9, 2024

2:00PM - 3:30PM

ARL Media Center

10920 Clarksville Pike
Ellicott City, MD 21042



This program is an opportunity for parents to meet, connect, and learn.

In this second LGBTeaQi&A, we'll be joined by Millisa Bell, an HCPSS graduate, and her mom, Dr. Keisha Bell, to speak with parents about their personal advocacy journey both in and out of HCPSS.

Students currently enrolled in HCPSS are also welcome to attend.

A special activity has been planned for attending students to connect with each other as well as learn effective communication skills to engage with peers and adults.

Space is limited.

Please RSVP using the link/QR code below.

<https://forms.gle/3F1mzsTKu2XzxwWTA>



Dr. Keisha Bell



Millisa Bell

To register click here: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScgPcdJ2rl-vPKUz0Jf__rb7B9MuyBncXoiFlqBkRb8ii5WmQ/viewform

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

