

January 31, 2020

February is right around the corner, and it proves to be a busy month. Please check out the important dates listed below.

MAP testing will begin next week: Your child will be participating in Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) on the following dates:
ELA (English Language Arts) – February 3,5,6,7;
Math – February 11, 12, 13, 14.

Important information about the 2020-2021 Fine Arts/Elective Course registration process for Current 6th and 7th Graders will be coming home with report cards on Monday. Additional information will be placed on our website as it becomes available.

Reminder – Tuesday, February 4th schools and offices will be closed for the special congressional election. The A/B day rotation of classes will be as posted in the beginning of the year; February 3 will be an “A” day and February 5 will also be an “A” day. The county does not switch A/B days for school closures after the calendar has been set.

Important Dates:

- Feb. 3 – Report Cards Issued
- Feb. 4 – Schools & Offices Closed – Congressional Election Day
- Feb. 3-7 – Black Lives Matter at School Week
- Feb. 3, 5, 6, 7 – ELA MAP Testing
- Feb. 10 – Activity Day Program
- Feb. 11, 12, 13, 14 – Math MAP Testing
- Feb. 13 - 21 – On-line Elective Course Registration 20/21 school year for 6th & 7th graders
- Feb. 17 – Schools & Offices Closed – Presidents’ Day
- Feb. 21 – Taste of Soul – 6:00 pm

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Summer School Programs

If you are interested in requesting your child participate in a summer program, please click the link below for information on HCPSS Summer School Programs.

<https://www.hcpss.org/summer-programs/>

[Summer School Programs – HCPSS](#)

Gifted and Talented (G/T) Summer Institutes for Talent Development (Grades 1-8) The G/T Summer Institutes program provides students entering Grades 1-8 with advanced-level instruction and enrichment experiences not regularly available during the academic school year.

www.hcpss.org

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WLMS PTSA Spiritware Sale: PTSA has new spirit wear commemorating WLMS 50th Anniversary!!! We have hoodies, short sleeve t-shirts, and ragland t-shirt for sale. Details on in attached flier.

Online sale site is <http://www.epiapparel.com/wil170.html> Items are to be shipped to the school and distributed in late February.

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Calling all Models:

Howard County Recreation and Parks is looking for young men and women to model in the annual RCCC Fashion Show. See the attached flier for more details.

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WLMS Health Room News

The flu season is upon us once again and this year there are concerns not only about Influenza but also Coronavirus which has been in the news in recent days. Preventing transmission of these illnesses is vitally important. Please review the following “Best Practices” to follow at home and at school:

- Teach your children to wash their hands often and for at least 20 seconds with soap and water or an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if hand washing is not possible.
- Teach your children not to share personal items like drinks, food or unwashed utensils, and to cover their coughs and sneezes with tissues or the elbow, arm or sleeve instead of the hand, when a tissue is unavailable.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
- Get a flu vaccine. To help prevent flu and reduce its impact, everyone 6 months of age and older should get vaccinated every year.
- Know the signs and symptoms of the flu. **Symptoms include fever (100 °F or greater), cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, body aches, headache, and feeling very tired.** Some people may also vomit or have diarrhea.
- **Do not send children to school if they are sick.** A child who is determined to be sick while at school will be sent home. Please be mindful that some students and staff could have weakened immune systems due to chronic health conditions and are more vulnerable to illnesses such as the flu and other viruses
- **Keep sick children at home for at least 24 hours** after they no longer have a fever or do not have signs of fever, without using fever-reducing drugs like acetaminophen (Tylenol) or ibuprofen (Motrin/Advil). Keeping children with a fever at home will reduce the number of people who may get infected.

If your student is diagnosed with influenza please inform the school and provide the following information if possible:

- Type of influenza (if swabbed)
- Treatment with Tamiflu?
- Any complications?

And as always, if your student is absent for any reason, please send a note into school when they return. Thank you for your cooperation and stay well!

Additional resources:

<https://news.hcpss.org/news-posts/2020/01/health-guidelines-help-prevent-flu/>

<https://www.howardcountymd.gov/Departments/Health>

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/index.html>

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February is National Children’s Dental Health Month – Free Exams and Cleanings by Appointment at the Dental Hygiene Center, Howard Community College. See the attached flyer for more information.

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Please visit the **Community News and Programs** page at

<https://www.hcpss.org/community-news-and-programs/> for announcements of upcoming events and programs sponsored by non-profit organizations.