

November 6, 2020

Happy Friday WLMS community!

I can't believe that today marks the end of the first quarter of the 20-21 school year. September 8<sup>th</sup> seems like just a few weeks ago when we were all adapting to the virtual learning schedule. From what meeting code to use, to how to handle stubborn laptop glitches and Wi-Fi failures, we have adapted and grown our capacity to ensure our students are set up for success. Thank you to the amazing staff at the Lake who have adapted on demand and adjusted their teaching practices to engage our students in the most creative ways. Thank you to the parent community for your patience and support as we all worked through the early kinks. Finally, thank you and congratulations to our students who have adapted their learning practices and are helping us find ways to stay connected and support their peers. It truly takes a village and I couldn't be prouder of our WLMS team for all it has done this first quarter to ensure we are MAKING GREAT THINGS HAPPEN for our students, staff, and community.

Speaking of community, as we approach the holiday season, we recognize some families may need support with winter clothing, food, and varying needs. If you know of a neighbor who could use a helping hand, please encourage them to reach out to our Student Services or Administrative staff. We have multiple community programs that have offered assistance and we don't want to miss anyone we can positively impact.

Below you will find reminders about important dates and information about an upcoming Mental Health community support evening plus Parent Conference sign ups.

Thank you for all you do to support our students and have a great weekend.

Mr. Rattay

### **Important Dates:**

Monday, November 9 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Begins

Friday, November 13 – Families can begin to schedule Parent/Teacher conferences in HCPSS Connect

Wednesday, November 16 – Parent Night – Your Child and their Mental Health & Wellness

Monday & Tuesday, November 23-24 – 3 hour Early Dismissal Schedule for Conferences

Wednesday, November 25 – Parent/Teacher Conferences

Thursday & Friday, November 26-27 – Thanksgiving Holiday – Schools & Offices closed

### **WLMS News**

Please join us for a virtual evening event the night of November 16<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 – 7:00pm. as WLMS Student Services Staff in Partnership with NAMI of Howard County host a Virtual Parent Night focusing on Your Child and their Mental Health and Wellness Please see the attached flier for more details.

Join with Google Meet: [meet.google.com/rbj-iedf-vii](https://meet.google.com/rbj-iedf-vii) or by phone 318-434-5101 (Pin: 208374170)

## HCPSS News

**HCPSS Invites Stakeholder Input on the School Resource Officer Program:** The Howard County Public School System invites students, parents and guardians, staff members and community stakeholders to share their input about the School Resource Officer (SRO) Program in HCPSS schools. Feedback about the program may be provided by emailing [SROinput@hcpss.org](mailto:SROinput@hcpss.org). All messages will be reviewed; however, due to the anticipated volume, individual responses should not be expected. The feedback provided will inform HCPSS' ongoing review of the roles, purpose and outcomes of SROs in Howard County schools. An update was presented at the October 22, 2020 Board meeting.

**Stakeholder Input on Spring Semester Instructional Model:** Parents/guardians, students, staff and other stakeholders may provide input and feedback to the Board of Education regarding the spring semester instructional model by emailing [spring-input@hcpss.org](mailto:spring-input@hcpss.org). The Board will review all emails; however, due to the anticipated volume, individual responses should not be expected.

## Community Events

**A Taste of Howard County** – A group of HCPSS high school students through the organization **Leadership U**, has created a cookbook from over 150 area residents. Proceeds from this sale will be donated to the Starlight Foundation. Order deadline is November 9<sup>th</sup>. See the attached flier for more information.