

March 15, 2019

Greetings WLMS!

It has been a full and rewarding week! Congratulations to both the Symphonic & Concert Bands who proudly performed at county adjudications this week!

Our 2nd annual S.T.E.A.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Mathematics) Night was another HUGE success! We had a great turn out with 143 people in attendance! It was wonderful to see so many staff members engaging our students, families, and community members in Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics-themed stations! Thank you so much to our incredibly talented WLMS community that gave their time and expertise to make this event such a success. Special thanks to the always supportive WLMS PTSA who advertised the event, supplied and served the pizza, waters, and Rice Krispie treats!

At publishing time of this newsletter, we are busy preparing for all students to enjoy a cultural arts performance today titled **Violin Redefined: From Bach to Beyonce and Beyond** from **The Chelsey Green Project**. Thank you to the WLMS Boosters for planning and sponsoring this event and to our PTSA for supplying refreshments for the performers.

All parents and WLMS community members are invited to attend our 3rd quarter School Improvement Team (SIT) Meeting next Wednesday March 20th from 3:05-4:00 in Room 205.

We find it necessary to reach out and ask your support in helping your child use their cell phone and technology responsibly inside and outside of school. Please be vigilante in monitoring your child's use of social media. During the winter months, we have witnessed an increase in students' inappropriate communication (profane language, disparaging remarks) through social media. While most of this communication is occurring while students are at home or outside of school, remarks are triggering unsafe feelings and a disruption to our school learning environment. Just because your child does not have his/her own cell phone does not mean that they are not accessing chat sites through their friends' phones or computers. In addition, students can use aliases or proxy web browsers to access restricted sites. Please make it your job to educate yourselves as parents on the different sites on which your child might already have an account (Kik, Snapchat, Instagram, etc.). Read the "Terms of Use". Most sites require students to be at least 13 years old to use the service. Take the time to read the comments and language being used by other teenagers on the site. Make time this weekend to have a conversation with your child about your expectations for technology use and take the necessary actions. According to the HCPSS Code of Conduct, Cyberbullying and School Disruption (including behavior that originates off campus with technology) can result in a range of consequences from a student conference to parent contact to suspension from school, and expulsion from school. We are committed to making Wilde Lake Middle School a safe and productive learning environment. Therefore, the administration has no tolerance

for cyber-bullying and any derogatory comments made towards others. The HCPSS Code of Conduct will continue to be enforced to protect all students and our learning environment. Parents, your monitoring at home will make the difference in partnering with us to create both a positive school and community environment for our students.

In addition, if your student brings a cell phone to school, they are expected to follow the WLMS Student Cell Phone Expectations:

- **Students are expected to put their cell phones in their locker during class time.** *(There may be a few exceptions when teachers invite students on occasions to bring their cell phones to class for a specific learning activity and/or a personal cell phone is part of a student's specific learning plan.)*
- Students may use their cell phones and electronic devices during lunch and recess, but use is not permitted in hallways at any time.
- Students may listen to music using one earbud during lunch and recess (but not in the hallways); only one earbud/headphone (not two) is permitted during lunch/recess for safety reasons.
- Students are not allowed at any time to videotape, audiotape or take photographs during the school day, including during the bus ride to and from school.
- **Students who fail to adhere to this policy may have their property confiscated. Such property will not be returned to students, and will only be returned to a parent or guardian during regular office hours.**
- Wilde Lake is not responsible for lost, stolen, or broken property.

Thank you for your support and please do not hesitate to reach out to us if you have any concerns or questions.

Anne Swartz, James McVey, Nan Brown

Important Dates

Mar. 18 – 6th grade Presentation – Ji-Li Jiang
Mar. 18 – PTSA Restaurant Night – Panera's Restaurant
Mar. 21 – Chorus Assessment – RHHS
Mar. 26 – 8th grade Fieldtrip – AHS – Shrek
Mar. 28 – Spring Pictures
Mar. 29 – Spirit Day – College Day
Mar. 29 – Hat Day Fundraiser
Mar. 29 – GOTCHA Store
Apr. 5 – 3 Hour Early Dismissal – End of 3rd Quarter
Apr. 8 – 8th grade ELA classes to visit RBES
Apr. 11, 12, 13 – 7:00 pm Spring Cabaret Production

Attend a Free Screening of “Angst” and Discussion Around Anxiety in Youth, April 2, 4, 9, 10, 2019

Tuesday, April 2, 6:30 p.m. – Howard High School, 8700 Old Annapolis Rd., Ellicott City
Thursday, April 4, 6:30 p.m. – Hammond High School, 8800 Guilford Rd., Columbia

Tuesday, April 9, 6:30 p.m. – Glenelg High School, 14025 Burntwoods Rd., Glenelg

Wednesday, April 10, 6:30 p.m. – Mt. Hebron High School, 9440 Old Frederick Rd., Ellicott City

Anxiety, stress and pressure interfere with happiness, well-being and achievement for growing numbers of children and teens. Parents and guardians are invited to a free documentary screening and panel discussion around anxiety in youth. Middle and high school students are invited to attend with a parent or guardian.

“[Angst](#)” is a powerful, 55-minute documentary that explores the causes, symptoms and effects of anxiety and stress, and encourages youth and their families to seek help. The film features interviews with children, teens and parents, as well as educators and subject experts.

Following the screening, a panel of local experts—representing HCPSS, Horizon Foundation, Grassroots Crisis Intervention Center, clinicians and students—will share information and answer questions.

Participants will gain a better understanding of the early indicators and symptoms of anxiety, and take home a packet of information about supports available through school and community agencies.

[Register to attend](#) this free event. [Watch the “Angst” trailer and learn more](#) online.

Sponsored by the Horizon Foundation in partnership with the Howard County Public School System.

2019 Summer Sports Camps - Atholton High School Athletic Boosters

Have fun, get active and get some practice in for fall tryouts this summer at one of our many AHS Athletic Booster Sports Camps. **NEW this year is a co-ed, full day basketball camp offering before care and after care options for an extra fee. Ages 10 thru incoming freshmen are eligible for these camps.** Tuition cost for camp is \$145/half day and \$300/full day. Tuition includes a Raider t-shirt, individual skills testing and specialized instruction from Atholton’s Coaches. For more information please contact:

Tracy Boule at tracyboule@verizon.net or 443-812-2559. **Camp Schedule, Information and Online Registration** <http://atholtonboosters.org/athletics/summercamps/>