

WLMS Weekly Notes for September 20, 2019

We are now finishing the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of school, our students have mastered their schedules, locker combinations, and are settling into a productive learning routine. We encourage you to make sure homework routines are established and study skills are practiced to ensure success. Interim reports are not being issued, so please check your child's grades routinely and please contact your student's teacher at any time to discuss areas of concern that arise.

Many of our students still need to have their Family File Emergency Card updated for the 2019-2020 school year. **Students will not be able to participate in field trips or after school activities if this is not updated. Parents, please take care of this as soon as possible. Here is the link [www.hcpss.org/connect](http://www.hcpss.org/connect)** If you need any assistance with your Family Emergency File Card, please contact our front office or guidance at 410-313-6960, and they will be happy to assist you.

Student scores for the MCAP (Maryland Comprehensive Assessment Program) for both ELA and Math will be coming home with your student on Monday September 22nd. These scores are from the Spring 2019 test taken last school year. In addition, student scores for MCAP Science test will also be coming home for our current 6<sup>th</sup> graders only. This test was taken last year in 5<sup>th</sup> grade. If you have any questions about the assessment please access the website listed on the handout.

**Upcoming important dates:**

- Sept. 26 – 7:00 pm PTSA Meeting
- Sept. 26 – Dental Clinic
- Sept. 27 – Student Fall Pictures
- Oct. 7 – MOD Pizza fundraiser – supports 6<sup>th</sup> grade Outdoor Ed
- Oct. 9 – Schools and Offices Closed
- Oct. 15 – Fall Band Concert 7:00pm @ WLHS
- Oct. 18 – Professional Work Day – Schools Closed for Students
- Oct. 21 – Chick-fil-A fundraiser (Dobbin Road) – supports 6<sup>th</sup> grade Outdoor Ed

**PTSA NEWS:**

Hi WLMS Community,  
Our first PTSA meeting of the school year is this next week. Please join us on Thursday, September 26th at 7PM in the Media Center. We will be serving light refreshments and appetizers. We need your help to make this a successful year, below is a link to a volunteer form with information on the types of events that we would love to accomplish this school year.

<http://bit.ly/WLMSPTSAvolunteer>

We look forward to seeing you next Thursday! #ittakesavillage

Like us on FB <https://www.facebook.com/WLMSPTSA/>  
Add WLMSPTSA to your Amazon Smile

Thank you

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**ATTENTION 6<sup>th</sup> grade Parents/Guardians:**

**OUTDOOR ED ANNOUNCEMENT - PAPERWORK DUE 9/27:**

All completed Outdoor Ed paperwork (except the optional medication paperwork that requires a doctor's signature) is due to the front office by Friday, 9/27. (Money is not due until 10/11.) In the beginning of October, ONLY students who have turned in all paperwork by 9/27 will have the opportunity to choose 1-2 friends with whom they want to share a cabin.

Paperwork should be turned in to Mrs. Godwin in the front office. Please get the forms in as soon as possible so we can arrange for transportation and chaperones. If you have any questions, please email [Karen\\_gagern@hcpss.org](mailto:Karen_gagern@hcpss.org) Thank you!

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WLMS is sponsoring a **Yankee Candle Fundraiser** to support our staff and student activities. If you need another order form, please stop by the front office or ask your child to pick up one from the office. The sale runs for another two weeks, so please get your order in. See the attached flyer.

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**Credit Bearing High School Courses Taken in Middle School :**

Attached, please find a memo detailing the policy for high school credit-bearing courses taken in middle school. In the past, students taking such courses have not been aware of the October 1 deadline to withdraw from such a course without a "W" appearing on their high school transcript. We just want to make sure all our students and families are aware of the policy and the coming deadline. Please see the attached memo for more information.

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**Best Buddies**

Best Buddies is a school-based program dedicated to creating a more inclusive culture in which students with intellectual and developmental disabilities develop friendships with other students. Students who are interested in joining Best Buddies for the 2019-2020 school year will be invited to an information session during the school day at the end of September. Contact Catherine Pimentel ([catherine\\_pimentel@hcpss.org](mailto:catherine_pimentel@hcpss.org)) or Jessica Weldon ([jessica\\_weldon@hcpss.org](mailto:jessica_weldon@hcpss.org)) if your student would like to learn more about the program.

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**In Case you missed it:**

**Reminder to Complete or Renew Your FARMS Application**

HCPSS participates in the Free and Reduced-price Meals (FARMS) program. [Qualification](#) is based on family size and income, and enrollment is confidential.

Participation in FARMS qualifies students for a wide range of opportunities and resources beyond breakfast and lunch, including free college applications, free or reduced JumpStart tuition, discounted internet through the Comcast Internet Essentials program, and more.

**Families must submit a new application every school year.** During the first 30 school days, students with FARMs eligibility from the prior school year will continue to receive benefits. Any student whose family has not filled out an application by the 30th school day will have their status changed to full pay until a new application is received.

Parents/guardians are highly encouraged to fill out the applications as soon as possible. It is very important that applications are filled out accurately and completely.

- [Apply online](#)
- **Apply by mail:** Paper applications are sent home with students on the first day of school. Paper applications can also be picked up in the Food and Nutrition Service Office (5451 Beaverkill Rd, Columbia, MD 21044). Applications can be returned to your child's school or mailed to: HCPSS Food & Nutrition Service Office, 10910 Clarksville Pike, Ellicott City, MD 21042.

If you have questions regarding the program, please visit [www.hcpss.org/FARMs](http://www.hcpss.org/FARMs) or call Food and Nutrition Services at 410-313-6743. Keywords: FARMs, meals, application

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## Community News:

The **BSAP Saturday Math Academy** will begin again on October 5. The sessions will be held at OMHS from 9-12. Registration for this program will be Saturday, September 21<sup>st</sup>. Please see the attached flyer for more information.

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### **Grades 6-11 | 4:5:30pm | Roger Carter Community Center | 2nd Friday of the month | Free**

Join a diverse group of teens to represent the youth of Howard County as you promote programs and events at community centers across the county.

- Brainstorm new ideas and help develop activities for teens.
- Monthly meetings focus on leadership, social networking and marketing skills.
- Earn service-learning hours at the meetings and events.
- Attend four or more meetings to receive a free center membership.

Registration: 410-313-7275 (voice/relay), [www.howardcountymd.gov/rap](http://www.howardcountymd.gov/rap) or 7120 Oakland Mills Road Columbia, MD 21046

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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.

