

TIGER SHARK TIMES

W L M S N E W S L E T T E R

RESPECTFUL

RESPONSIBLE

READY

SAFE

A NOTE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Family and Friends of Wilde Lake Middle School,

It has been an outstanding week here at WLMS. Staff has been working hard to get to know all of their students, and students have been working hard to get to know all of their teachers. The WLMS community is in full swing, and we are excited about how our students have come in this week demonstrating the Wilde Lake Way of being respectful, responsible, ready and safe.

If you have not done so already, it is critically important for you to update your student's emergency information. Parents/guardians are able to complete the Emergency Procedure Card online. A form must be completed for each student. You must have a valid HCPSS family portal user name and password to access the new [Emergency Procedure Card](#). Please note that you will need to type the following in your browser's address bar, <https://epstudentinfo.hcpss.org>. Please complete this Emergency Procedure Card ASAP!!! If you need assistance with this process, please feel free to contact the school.

Don't forget, there are so many different ways to stay connected to WLMS. I highly encourage all families to subscribe to HCPSSNews (visit www.hcpss.org to sign up). Also, regularly visit our website at wlms.hcpss.org. In addition, WLMS has a Twitter account; be sure to follow us on Twitter at @hcpss_wlms ! Please be sure to pass the word to all of our new families about how to stay connected with us throughout the year.

Sincerely,
Lisa R. Smithson
Principal
Wilde Lake Middle School



Tips for School Success:

Reach out to your students teachers. Attend orientation, Back To School Night, or other welcome events, but don't stop there. Make a point of introducing yourself and learn about class activities and expectations for the year. Find out how each teacher prefers to communicate.

(For more tips visit: <http://www.ed.gov/parents/countdown-success>)

MORE INFORMATION

BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT:

Back to School Night will be on Wednesday, September 10th. We will begin with a GT Orientation at 6:30, for any parent who is new to the GT program. The general Back To School Night will begin at 7:00 in the cafeteria. We encourage all parents to attend to have the opportunity to learn information about WLMS, meet teachers, and learn what your students will be doing in each of their classes throughout the 2014-2015 school year.

NEW VISITOR MANAGEMENT SYSTEM:

WLMS has received a new visitor management system. When a visitor comes to the school, they will need to come directly to our front office to sign in with this new electronic device. Visitors should bring a driver's license in order to use the system, and a badge with their picture will be printed.

ONLINE SCHOOL PAYMENT:

HCPSS has a new online system in which families can make payments for certain items online, using a credit card. Currently WLMS families have the ability to purchase WLMS P.E. uniforms using this service. Log onto our website at wlms.hcpss.org to access this new service.

AFTER SCHOOL @ THE LAKE:

Session I of After School at the Lake (Bridges) will run from September 23rd through December 11th. This year, our first session will be by invite only. Invitations will be given to students who met a specific criteria as outlined by the Bridges grant that funds the program. We hope to open Sessions 2 and 3 to all students, but we will keep you informed as those sessions approach. Student applications to invited students will be sent home on Tuesday, September 2nd. If you have any questions about the program, please feel free to contact Danielle Healey or Marion Carter.

PTSA NEWS:

Please consider joining the PTA, your membership assists with all of our students participating in a number of wonderful activities throughout the school year. In addition, an excellent way to be part of the school community is to volunteer your time or skills. Please be sure to visit us at <http://wlmsptsa.weebly.com/join-us.html>. Our first PTA meeting will be Tuesday, September 9, 2014 @ 7:00 p.m. in the media center. Our Annual Budget Meeting will take place during Back to School Night on September 10th.

IMPORTANT DATES:

September 1st-

Labor Day, Schools Closed

September 2nd @ 7:00-

Back To Band Night

September 4th-

Vision and Hearing Screening

September 9th @ 7:00-

PTSA Meeting

September 10th @ 6:30-

GT Parent Orientation

September 10th @ 7:00-

Back To School Night

September 11th-

Vision and Hearing Re-Screening

September 12th-

Schools Closed for Students

September 16th-

Student Fall Pictures

September 16th @ 7:00-

Boosters Meeting

September 25th-

Rosh Hashanah, Schools Closed

October 2nd-

Quarter 1 Progress Reports Issued

MORE INFORMATION

THE HOWARD COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF STUDENT COUNCIL

The HCASC Meeting is open to all middle and high school students interested in leadership. The meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 10th from 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m at the Board of Education.

The focus of September's meeting will be "Starting Strong". HCASC officers will kick-off the new school year and lead discussion about school start times.

The Howard County Association of Student Councils brings together middle and high school students from all over the county on the second Wednesday of every month to:

- Develop leadership skills.
- Network with student leaders from across the county.
- Learn how to work with adult leaders.
- Find out about opportunities to serve on school system committees and county boards.

For more information, go to the [HCASC website](#).

