

October 23, 2015

Greetings WLMS!

What an amazing autumn week! Aren't the leaves beautiful?

We'd like to thank our Sixth Grade Team & the PTSA for coordinating the Zombie Run last week! This event raised over \$1,500 towards the sixth graders' outdoor education field trip in May. It was great to see students of all ages having fun & exercising together on the Zombie Run course. Participants also enjoyed "Glow Light" dancing in the gymnasium and pizza in the cafeteria afterwards. Thank you to everyone who came out to support our students and community!

We want to be sure that everyone is aware of the following information that was sent to parents from HCPSS regarding the new Canvas Learning System . . .

The Howard County Public School System is launching several updates for HCPSS Connect. As part of this update, parents will be given access to the Canvas Learning System on Friday, October 23, 2015.

Within Canvas, parents will be able to view their student's assignments, assignment scores, course material, and current course averages in real time. This access will allow parents to better engage with their student's academic experience.

Synergy will remain the primary system for recording interim and final grades. Final grades will appear in Synergy as they appear on interim reports and on report cards at the end of each quarter.

Accessing Canvas will occur by continuing to log in at [HCPSS Connect](#) and clicking on the Canvas tab on the left side of the screen.

HCPSS is also introducing four new support tools for the HCPSS Connect System to enhance the user experience for parents and guardians, including HCPSS Connect guides, FAQs, a help form and a feedback form.

Please do not hesitate to call your child's teacher(s) if you have questions about Canvas & Synergy.

Anne Swartz, Peter Gaylord, Lexi Couch, Tiffanie Nunley

Important Dates

October 30 – End of First Marking Period

October 30 – 3 Hour Early Dismissal

November 3 – School Pictures Retake Day 1:00pm

November 6 – Activity Day

November 9 – Report Cards Issued

Parent Teacher Conferences will take place on November 23rd, 24th, & 25th.

Beginning fall 2015, HCPSS will be using the Synergy Conference Management to schedule parent–teacher conferences. Synergy Conference Management provides a simple user interface and easy navigation. Starting Tuesday, Nov. 10th at 8:00 a.m. and continuing through Friday, Nov. 20th at 12:00 noon, parents can log into HCPSS Connect to view and select from the time slots provided by the teacher for the conference. Please mark your calendars!

For information regarding the Flu-mist clinic and the Performing Arts Boosters Scrip Card Fundraiser please see the PDF attachments.