

September 25, 2015

Greetings WLMS!

It is hard to believe that we are approaching the midway mark of first quarter!

We have some updated information to share with you about “Quarter One Interim Reports” from the HCSPP Central Office: *In an effort to support all staff members who are a part of the process for distribution of interims we are increasing the window for interims reviewed prior to distribution.*

*The date for distribution of interim reports has changed from **Oct. 2<sup>nd</sup>** to **Oct. 7<sup>th</sup>**. Please change your calendars.*

WLMS Teachers & Students are working hard to learn the new Canvas Learning System. While it is always challenging to learn a new technology system, we are definitely seeing the learning benefits. Canvas allows our students to see school events and assignments all in one calendar. They can also monitor their own progress, and receive ongoing feedback from teachers online. Parent access is targeted for mid October. You should be receiving some information soon about how you can access Canvas & Synergy to monitor your students’ grades. For now, you can utilize your child’s password to gain access.

We want to share an update we have received from the Howard County Transportation Department regarding our immediate area. The road directly in front of our building will be used as a “**Detour**” **Monday 9/28 & Tuesday 9/29** for Cross Fox Lane as the tower crane used for construction in the village center is taken down. We will mainly be impacted during high school arrival & dismissal times. Please be mindful of this if you are dropping off or picking your students on these days.

#welivebetween2cranes #WLMSconstructionliving

Thank you to all who have supported our Yankee Candle fundraiser. We should receive over \$1,000 in profit to benefit PBIS. We will continue to accept orders until Wednesday, September 30, so if you have been holding on to your order, don’t forget to bring it in early in the week.

Have a super weekend!

Anne Swartz, Peter Gaylord, Lexi Couch, Tiffanie Nunley

## Important Dates:

September 29 – Chick-fil-A night at Columbia Mall 5-8pm – PTSA Sponsor

September 30 – Last day to turn in Yankee Candle orders

October 2 – Professional Learning Day – No school for students

October 7 – Interim Reports Issued

October 9 – GOTCHA Store (sponsored by PBIS)

October 13 – PTSA Meeting

October 13 – Booster Meeting

October 15 – Zombie Run

October 16 – MSEA Convention – Schools closed

## Community Notices

### Coffee and Conversation

The Board of Education regularly holds *Coffee and Conversation* sessions at schools throughout the county. These meetings provide citizens with an opportunity to share a cup of coffee and chat informally with Board members. The meetings are held in various regions of the county; however, interested persons from throughout the county are invited to attend any or all of the meetings. The next *Coffee & Conversation* will be held: Saturday, October 24, 2015, 9:30-11:00am in Deep Run ES Cafeteria, 6925 Old Waterloo Road, Elkridge, MD 21075

### New Home Needed for AFS Exchange Student:

Vincent from Belgium is an athletic, open-minded freshman at Howard Community College for the 2015-16 school year. He is enthusiastic about experiencing all of American life, and especially about being part of a family. AFS provides a stipend to families who host community college students. For more information about hosting Vincent, please contact Christina McGarvey [ckmgarvey@yahoo.com](mailto:ckmgarvey@yahoo.com) or Cindy Clemens [cindy.clemens@verizon.net](mailto:cindy.clemens@verizon.net) 410-730-7411.

### Partnership to Highlight Historical Contributions of African-Americans in Howard County

**Ellicott City, Maryland**—The Howard County Public School System has partnered with the Howard County Center of African American Culture Inc. (HCCAAC) to provide teachers and students with opportunities to learn about the contributions of African-Americans in Howard County and around the world. The partnership will be formalized at an official signing on Tuesday, September 22 at 3 p.m., at the HCCAAC Research Library and Archives on the campus of Howard County Community College.

HCCAAC representatives will support elementary and secondary social studies curricula by informing teachers about traveling workshops and presentations available, including museum artifacts and areas of interest throughout Howard County. HCPSS staff and students are encouraged to research and study at the HCCAAC Research Library and Archives, which features a collection of over 10,000 African-American related books, periodicals, audio and video recordings, and other resources.

Students interested in research, history and other relevant subjects will also be considered for internship opportunities at the center. This partnership is aligned with Vision 2018 strategies by providing professional learning opportunities with subject matter experts to HCPSS staff.

HCPSS Superintendent Renee A. Foose and Deputy Superintendent Linda Wise, and Howard County Board of Education members Bess Altwerger, Ann De Lacy, Sandra French and Ellen Flynn Giles will join HCCAAC board members Everlene G. Cunningham, Anthony J. Cunningham, Tracey L. Williams and Mae A. Beale to sign the formal partnership agreement at the September 22 event.

The [Howard County Center of African American Culture](#) Inc. is an independent, non-profit, educational organization dedicated to the collection, preservation and interpretation of African-American history and culture in Howard County and the surrounding region.

The Howard County Public School System's [Partnerships Office](#) unites businesses and community organizations with schools to enhance the educational experience. Partnerships benefit schools, businesses and the entire community by leveraging the resources of all participants. Partners may commit human or financial resources or other support.

### **NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center**

Greenbelt will be hosting a free open house event on Sat., **Sept. 26**. This will be our first open house since 2011. The event is an opportunity for the public to get up close and learn more about NASA's work. Virtually all of Goddard's biggest projects will have some kind of display, demonstration or tour. One of its primary objectives is to get the next generation of scientists and engineers exposed to possible careers in engineering and space exploration. All guests will have the chance to speak directly to NASA scientists and engineers. [www.nasa.gov/explorenasagoddard](http://www.nasa.gov/explorenasagoddard)