

September 2, 2016

Greetings Tiger Sharks!

Our first opening of the school year has been successful! (The second opening will be in January 2017 when we move into our beautiful new building. YES, we are still on schedule with this move!)

Our students are learning their new schedules, new locker combinations, and new learning routines. Kudos to our sixth graders and all new students! Way to go! **Please note that some changes may need to be made in students' schedules during the first few weeks of school as we balance class sizes and ensure the best instructional matches for students.**

This week, the administration facilitated a "Town Hall Meeting" with 7th and 8th graders to review important policies and expectations. Our Town Hall Meeting with 6th grade will be on Tuesday. Here are a few of the topics of covered . . .

- **Expected hallway behaviors** (Reasonable voice, moving safely, right side of the hallway, hands to self)
- **We "Dress for Success" at WLMS** – All shorts and skirts must be finger-tip length , Clothing exposing belly buttons, tank tops, crop tops, halter tops, single arm tops and muscle shirts should not be worn, deodorant use is appreciated. We recommend that students wear closed-toe shoes or sandals. Headwear, hats, bandannas, sweatbands and sunglasses should be left at home. Bra straps and undergarments should not be exposed.
- **Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) Guidelines** – Students may opt to bring their own technology devices to school. This is NOT at all a requirement. They assume full responsibility for their own technology devices. Devices may not be used in locker rooms or bathrooms at **any time**. Upon entering the classroom, personal communication devices should be on silent mode or off and put away, unless invited to use them by the teacher. If students do not follow the BYOD Guidelines (p. 14 of their agenda book), they may lose their BYOD privilege.
- **HCPSS Weapons Policy** – There are no dangerous items, sharp items, or weapons of any kind allowed at school.

We thank our parents for doing their homework this week and signing the many forms sent home (i.e., code of conduct and course expectations). If you are behind the curve with this, please ask your child to share these forms with you from their first day folder and promptly send them back to school signed on Tuesday. **On a similar note, we have made a small adjustment this year with the way we are sending home "School, PTSA, and Community" notices in paper form. Students**

have been asked to bring back their white “First Day Folder” (the one with the advertisements). Students will use this folder as their “Thursday folder” to take home school notices on Thursdays & then return any pertinent forms to their homeroom teacher on Fridays. The reason for this change is to facilitate home school communication & organization. (We have learned that it can be difficult on students & families to remember to return school forms after a weekend break.) *For the most part, you can look for information to come home on Thursdays. Of course, there will be times when information needs to come home on a different day of the week.* **The electronic weekly newsletter will continue to be sent out on Fridays throughout the year.**

Have a safe & enjoyable Labor Day Weekend!

Anne Swartz, Lexi Couch, Denise Young, James McVey

IMPORTANT DATES

Monday, Sept. 5 – Labor Day – Schools & Offices Closed

Tuesday, Sept. 6 – PTSA Meeting 7:00

Thursday, Sept. 8 – Student Fall Pictures

Monday, Sept 12 – Professional Learning Day – Schools closed for students

Tuesday, Sept. 13 – Yankee Candle Sale Begins

Wednesday, Sept. 14 – 6th grade Outdoor Ed Information 5:30

Wednesday, Sept. 14 – GT Back to School Information 6:00pm

Wednesday, Sept. 14 – Back to School Night - 6:30pm

Student School Pictures:

School Picture Day will be on Thursday, September 8th. You can go on-line and pre-order at <http://www.schoolpix.com> and enter the code YL3E99HS.

News from the health room:

The Vision and Hearing Screening will take place on September 27, 2016 and rescreening is scheduled for October 4, 2016. This is a State Mandated Program performed at school. The screening is performed by the Howard County Health Department. All 8th graders will be screened. A parent note **MUST** be received, if you wish to decline the service. Your 8th grader received the notice in their first day folder.

We are in need of **VOLUNTEERS!!!** If you are interested, please contact, Heather Godwin, at 410-313-6957 or heather_godwin@hcpss.org.

Yankee Candle Sale Fundraiser:

Our annual Yankee Candle Sale begins on Tuesday, September 13 and will end on Friday, September 30. The proceeds from the sale will benefit the PBIS (Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports) program. Information and brochures will be coming home soon. Thank you in advance for supporting our fundraiser.

Drama Auditions:

Auditions for the 2016 WLMS Musical No Strings Attached will be September 13th-15th. The Audition workshop will be September 13th from 2:45-4:00 and the Audition days will be September 14th and 15th. **Audition forms are available from Ms. Motaung, September 2nd and are due September 9th.** For questions please contact:

April Motaung, Gifted & Talented Resource Teacher, Wilde Lake Middle School, 410 313-6957 april.motaung@hcpss.org

PTSA News:

Please see the attached **Welcome Letter from our PTSA President, Sharon Barnes**. The first PTSA meeting is September 6th at 7:00pm. Please consider joining the PTSA.

Basketball:

The Wilde Lake Middle School Varsity & Junior Varsity Basketball Teams will be hosting tryouts on September 21-22 6:00 pm – 8:30 pm at Harper's Choice Middle School Gymnasium

- Register at www.hdfsbasketballcamps.com
- o Click community page at top of page
- o Click registration and completed form
- o Click submit
- Players will be required to register with HCYP middle school basketball league once team selections have been announced
- Team Selection Will Be Announced on September 26, 2016
- Please contact Coach Worthington if you have any questions concerning basketball tryouts.

Contact Information: Tel [\(443\) 564-0956](tel:4435640956) Email rworthington@hdfsbasketballcamps.com