

September 18, 2015

Greetings WLMS Families!

We certainly have been fortunate to have blue skies and summer like temperatures this week. With warm weather still upon us, some students have needed reminders to check their clothing choices against HCPSS & WLMS Dress Code Guidelines. Please support your students in dressing appropriately each morning to keep the focus on learning . . .

Dress for Success Highlights at WLMS . . **All shorts and skirts must be finger-tip length, Clothing exposing belly buttons, tank tops, crop tops, halter tops, single arm tops, spaghetti straps and muscle shirts should not be worn. 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.**

We appreciate your support!

Thank you to our **“WLMS Mathematics Team”** for planning and coordinating an informative and fun **“Family Math Night”** last evening. Staff, students, parents, and family friends solved real world problems, figured out mathematics puzzles, explored PARCC Testing resources, learned about a cool website called “Learn Zillion, and received more guidance on how to access their student’s Canvas courses using their student’s access code. Thank you to our PTA for supplying pizza, cookies, and drinks for the occasion! A special “Shout-Out” to PTSA Parent, Mark McCormick, for partnering with the math team to bring some very interesting challenges to our young WLMS Mathematicians!

As a reminder, all HCPSS middle schools are administering the Measures of Academic Progress (MAP®) assessment to provide information on student instructional skill levels and growth over time. In order to gauge progress, MAP will be administered at WLMS to students in the Fall, Winter, and Spring.

The Fall administration schedule is as follows:

All 6th, 7th, & 8th grade students will take the ELA MAP on 9/21 & 9/22 in their social studies classperiods.

All 6th, 7th, & 8th grade students will take the Mathematics MAP on 9/24 & 9/25 in their science class periods.

We ask that you try not to schedule appointments during your child’s test time to avoid he/she having to miss classes to make up the assessment. Also, please make sure your son or daughter gets a good night’s rest, eats breakfast, and is encouraged to do their best on the day of testing! Thank you for your cooperation.

Have a great weekend! Anne Swartz, Pete Gaylord, Lexi Couch, Tiffanie Nunley

Important Upcoming Dates:

September 21 & 22 – MAP testing
September 23 – Schools & Offices Closed – Yom Kippur
September 24 & 25 – MAP testing
September 25 – Yankee Candle Sale ends
September 29 – PTSA sponsored Chick-fil-A night
October 2 – Professional Learning Day – no School for Students
October 7 – Interim reports issued

Other News

Yankee Candle Fundraiser

It's not too late to get your order in for the Yankee Candle fundraiser. Proceeds from the fundraiser will go towards PBIS (Positive Behavior and Support Program). Packets are available in the front office or you can go on-line and place an order and have it delivered right to your door. Go to www.yankeecandlefundraising.com and enter WLMS group code # 990004853.

PTSA – Chick-fil-a Night

The PTSA is sponsoring their first Restaurant Night fundraiser at Chick-fil-A in Columbia Mall on Tuesday, September 29th from 5-8pm. Hope to see all Tiger Shark's there ☺

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

Annual ADHD Awareness Evening

The Howard County Public Schools (HCPSS) will be holding its 9th Annual ADHD Awareness Evening on October 8, 2015 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. in the Centennial High School auditorium. Our guest speaker will be Dr. George McCloskey a professor in the Psychology Department at the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine. Dr. McCloskey's presentation "*Executive Functions and the Gap between Knowing and Doing*" will provide participants with information regarding executive functions and strategies to improve them. This event is free to the public and there is no registration required. For more information, please contact Sally Dorman at 410-313-1252 or e-mail sally_dorman@hcpss.org.

Community Announcements

Howard County Job Fair

The 2nd Annual Howard County NAACP Job Fair is taking place on Tuesday, September 22, 2015 from 10am-2pm at the Savage Fire Station Community Center located at 8521 Corridor Road, Savage, MD 20763. This event is free and open to the public. This promises to be a very worthwhile event if you or others are seeking employment opportunities.

Downtown Columbia Partnership and Howard County Library System

Discover Downtown Columbia Running Event on Sun., Sept. 27. This exciting run winds through many iconic landmarks of Downtown Columbia, both old and new. Runners tackling the 5k will take off from the Plaza at The Mall in Columbia at 9:07 a.m., following our Fun Run younglings at 9 a.m. The finish line will be at the People Tree on the downtown lakefront and post-race festivities are in the works for a fun and festive celebration. For more information please visit – <http://discoverdowntown5k.com>

6th grade Opportunity – Become a Howard County Library System Time Capsule Guardian

On Saturday, October 24, HCLS' 75th Diamond Anniversary year concludes with Celebrate 75! This community-wide celebration will be held at the Miller Branch from 10 am to 2 pm. Festivities will begin with an opening ceremony unveiling the HCLS Chapters-of-Our-Lives Time Capsule. Filled with a treasure trove of items representative of HCLS and the year 2015, this Time Capsule is a collection of three containers, all part of a 75-year plan.

To help champion this ambitious undertaking, **HCLS is looking for 75 sixth grade students who will pledge to be Guardians** of the first chapter of HCLS' legacy for the next 25 years.

Do you have what it takes to be a Guardian? We hope so! **To qualify, Guardians must:**

- Live or attend school in Howard County,
- Be in the sixth grade (public, private, or home school),
- Provide written answers to three questions to be placed in the Time Capsule,
- Agree to take the Chapters of Our Lives pledge (see application), and
- Attend the Time Capsule Ceremony from 10 to 11 am, as part of the Celebrate 75 event on Saturday, October 24, 2015.

Complete and submit an application by September 28, 2015:

- [online application](#)
- [print application](#)

email completed application to hcls.guardian@hclibrary.org

deliver/mail to Carol Murray at HCLS Administrative Branch, 9411 Frederick Road in Ellicott City 21042

Questions? Call 410.313.7796.

Howard County Police Department

Survey on Community Policing in Howard County

The Howard County Council has asked the Citizens' Advisory Council of the Howard County Police Department to research a number of topics on the effectiveness of Community Policing in Howard County. Much research is underway and part of their work is to get feedback from you, Howard County citizens. Would you please take a moment and complete this short survey?

You can find it here www.tinyurl.com/HoCoCitizenSurvey ;

www.tinyurl.com/HoCoCitizenSurveyEspanol www.tinyurl.com/HoCoCitizenSurveyKorean

Robinson Nature Center

Sky-Scanning, Sat., **Sept. 19**, 7-9 p.m., Alpha Ridge Park, 11685 Old Frederick Rd, Marriottsville, MD. \$6 per person or \$18 per family. Preregistration required. Contact: 410-313-0400

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