



## Lake Elkhorn Middle School

### NEWSLETTER

J A N U A R Y 2 0 , 2 0 1 7



#### Save the Date!

- Jan. 27 Schools closed for students
- Jan. 30-May 11 - Bridges LEMS Scholars After School Program (Monday-Thursday 2:45-5pm)
- Feb. 1 Heart Month Activities
- Feb. 1 School Store (during lunch)
- Feb. 1 PTSA Meeting @ 6:30 pm
- Feb. 3 Report cards issued
- Feb. 6 Mocha with Marty @ 9 am
- Feb. 14 6th Grade Author Visit
- Feb. 16 Field Trip: Film Workshop (See Mr. Bond for more info)
- Feb. 20 President's Day - Schools closed for students/staff
- Feb. 21 Professional Learning Day - Schools closed for Students
- Feb. 22 School Store (during lunch)
- Feb. 22 Cradlerock ES Family Fit Night @ 6 pm

Note: Please note the above has been corrected in which January 26<sup>th</sup> was inadvertently noted as an early release day.

#### Message from the Principal

Greetings, Lake Elkhorn families:

Today in the media center, we held National History Day. Students showed off the hard work they have invested into a wide variety of projects. It was a pleasure to view the evidence of learning on display. Thank you to Ms. Miller for organizing the event!

As students complete their MAP (Measure of Academic Progress) testing, they are writing in their latest score on two slips of paper attached to their agenda books (one for reading and one for math). Please to check the agenda books for these scores. We will also be sending home a MAP report in the coming weeks. Meanwhile, as you look at the agenda book, please check to see if your student is writing down homework daily.

Finally, Please join me in thanking our Band, under the direction of Ms. Bilal, and our Chorus, under the direction of Mr. Rea, for participating in the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Commission Celebration last Sunday. The students performed during an hour-long reception and opened the main program with "Lift Every Voice and Sing". Our County Executive, Allan Kittleman and others in attendance were very impressed with our students.

With Eagle PRIDE,

*Martin Vandenberg*  
Principal



#### No Name Calling Week

LEMS celebrated No Name Calling Week this week along with many other elementary, middle, and high schools across the country. No Name Calling Week is designed to bring awareness to the prevalence and negative impact of bullying and harassment in schools, and encourages students to embrace the power of kindness. Each day, students presented on the morning and afternoon announcements.

Each day brought a "daily challenge", which encouraged students to try to break out of their social comfort zones and spread kindness to others. It was a very uplifting, positive experience for students and staff alike!

#### LEMS Scholars After School Program

The LEMS Scholar program will resume on January 30, 2017 and students already in the program will receive a reminder the week prior to the start. Packets were distributed on January 17<sup>th</sup> and are available in the front office. The last day to register will be January 27, 2017.



#### Winter Weather

The winter weather is making its way and students should dress warmly for the colder weather. Please be sure to help the students remember their coats, a hat, pants, thermals, and some gloves as well as boots. This makes their time outside so much more enjoyable! Please note students are not able to wear coats in class but may wear light jackets and sweaters.

For more details on weather guidelines and recess procedures, please refer to page 33 in the HCPSS Student and Parent Handbook.





### History Day

On January 20<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade GT Students showcased their history projects in the Media Center. LEMS Staff and students were able to attend the fair during their Social Studies class period where they were able to present to visitors, staff, and students. We asked all those that viewed the showcase for their input and judge one or two projects, anonymously.

The projects showcased were as follows:

- Exhibit boards
- Student created "WEB PAGES"
- Documentaries on computer
- Essay/Paper
- one performance

### Pledge Camp

Howard County Police will offer a weeklong Pledge Camp. The purpose of the camp is to teach leadership, communication, teamwork, and decision-making skills, as they are essential for students in general and those entering high school. Camp enrollment and start dates are to be determined.

For more information, please contact the Howard County Department of Police, School Resource Officer Section at 410-313-6088 or Youth Section at 410-313-2613.



### Mocha with Marty

The next meeting is scheduled for **February 6, 2017** at **9 am in the Media Center**. See you there!!

### Bright Minds and Comcast

Parents, The Bright Minds Foundation and Comcast have partnered together to offer affordable Internet services.

Please see details in the attachment on how to apply for the Internet Essentials package. For more details visit <http://lems.hcps.org/news/2016/12/brightminds-and-comcast>.



### School Store Donations Wanted

The school store at LEMS occurs every three weeks and gives students the opportunity to spend their eagle bucks, which are earned for following the school rules and displaying our P.R.I.D.E. (Perseverance, Respect, Integrity, Dependability, and Excellence) values. The school store is run solely on donations. If you would like to donate anything to the school store please provide the items to the Front Office and let them know that the item(s) are for the school store. Some items we would gladly accept are books, electronics, electronic accessories, games, toys, school supplies, and pretty much anything middle schoolers would like except food. If you have any questions please email





#### **Early Dismissals**

Parents must report to the Front Office prior to proceeding to the Guidance Office to have student(s) called for early dismissal. A photo ID must be presented for you or the person picking up the student. Please note this procedure is mandatory for the safety and courtesy of our school staff and students. For more details, please refer to page 4 in the [HCPSS Student and Parent Handbook 2016-17](http://www.hcpss.org/aboutus/student-handbook/student-handbook.pdf) (<http://www.hcpss.org/aboutus/student-handbook/student-handbook.pdf>) as well as pages 24 in the LEMS Student Agenda/Handbook.

#### **Emergency Cards**

Please stop by or contact the Guidance Office at 410-313-7635 to update your Emergency Card Information, today!

#### **Student Absences and Attendance**

To report a student absence, please email [lemsabsence@hcpss.org](mailto:lemsabsence@hcpss.org) or call Mrs. O'Connor in the Guidance Office at 410-313-7635. All notes must be submitted in person. All absences will be recorded and will be communicated via our school messenger system. For more details, please refer to page 4 in the [HCPSS Student and Parent Handbook 2016-17](http://www.hcpss.org/aboutus/student-handbook/student-handbook.pdf) as well as pages 24 in the LEMS Student Agenda/Handbook. Please note that due to the privacy and safety of your child and staff we are not able to verify attendance over the phone.

**NOTE: Parents may receive notifications on their child's attendance for (absentees and tardies) by subscribing to HCPSS Connect and select attendance notifications.**

#### **Software Updates**

Please note HCPSS has fully migrated to using HCPSS Connect and Canvas early last school year. If you have any questions or need assistance with accessing your account, please contact Mrs. Woolls in the Guidance Office at 410-313-7635.

#### **Mocha with Marty**

Every month, Principal Vandenberg sets aside time where parents/guardians have the opportunity to discuss various topics. We encourage your attendance and look forward to seeing you at the next scheduled time.

#### **School Menu**

HCPSS students and their families can now view menus and nutrition and allergen information for meals served in all HCPSS schools through Nutrislice, a website and free smartphone app (Visit <http://hcpss.nutrislice.com/> for school lunch menu and <https://www.myschoolbucks.com> to reload student lunch accounts).

#### **Online Payment for School Activities**

HCPSS has contracted with [Online School Payments, Inc. \(OSP\)](http://www.osp.com) (<http://lems.hcpss.org/messages/online-school-purchases-osp-student-activities>) in order to afford parents/guardians the ability to pay online for school activities that would otherwise have required payment by cash or check. OSP accepts credit and debit cards (Visa or MasterCard) through a secure web browser at

attendance  
**MATTERS**

hcpss  
**connect**

**Synergy**  
Education Platform



## COMMUNITY NEWS

For more updates, please visit <http://www.hcpss.org/community-news-and-programs/>  
Winter 2017 edition of the Parent Pages – Howard County Government

A newsletter designed for parents and families raising children in Howard County. Published by the Department's Office of Children and Families, the Winter issue contains articles about #OneHoward, activities to help your child become ready for kindergarten, behavior techniques for children and preparing your teens for life after high school. For more information please contact Lisa Rhodes, Family Engagement Specialist, 410-313-1440, or email [children@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:children@howardcountymd.gov).

[www.howardcountymd.gov/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=KrtapYwwX0%3d&portalid=0](http://www.howardcountymd.gov/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=KrtapYwwX0%3d&portalid=0)

#### **Rock School – Drums, Keyboard/Vocals, Bass/Guitar – Howard County Government**

Are you ready to rock? Beginners and up, learn from professional working rock musicians while enhancing memory, self-expression, creativity and self-confidence. Instrumental sessions focus on instrument play, music theory and technique. Vocals class includes warm-up/warm-down exercises, proper breathing techniques. Bring your guitar/bass. Drums are available for use during class. (No class 2/17.) Schedule subject to change, visit [www.therockshopmd.com](http://www.therockshopmd.com). Info: William Banks, 410-313-4609 or [wbanks@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:wbanks@howardcountymd.gov).

#### **Nail Art Design – Howard County Government**

Learn an exciting new way to brighten up everyday appearances or embellish a special occasion outfit using nail art. Nail art is the practice of painting decorative designs on your fingernails. In this exciting new class, create your own nail designs using media such as rhinestones, pearls, striping tape, studs and more. Info: William Banks, 410-313-4609 or [wbanks@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:wbanks@howardcountymd.gov).

#### **Intro to Acting-Howard County Government**

Move towards building and heightening responsiveness to action and the development of an actor's skills. Students create, stage, and perform their own scenes. Last class features a short performance highlighting each actor. Info: Holly Harden, 410-313-4625 or [harden@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:harden@howardcountymd.gov).

#### **Jewelry Design – Howard County Government**

Design your own jewelry using professional tools and supplies. Classes include bead stringing, crimping, wire wrapping, bead weaving and bead making. Beads and tools provided. Materials fee of \$10.00 is due at first class. Info: William Banks, 410-313-4609 or [wbanks@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:wbanks@howardcountymd.gov).

#### **Troop 649 – Boy Scouts of America**

Troop 649 meets at Wilde Lake Interfaith Center on Tuesdays from 7:30-9 p.m., for boys ages 11-18. New scouts are welcome. Come hit the trail with us. [Troop649Columbia.weebly.com](http://Troop649Columbia.weebly.com).

#### **Music Lessons – Johns Hopkins University**

The Peabody Preparatory's spring semester begins Jan. 23. It's not too late sign up for music or dance classes and lessons. Music lessons are offered on all instruments including classical, jazz, and rock styles. Dance classes include ballet, contemporary and Spanish Dance. For complete information please check out [www.peabody.jhu.edu/pep](http://www.peabody.jhu.edu/pep) or by contacting [prep@peabody.jhu.edu](mailto:prep@peabody.jhu.edu) (667) 208-6640.

#### **School's Out Holiday Clinics – Soccer Association of Columbia**

Clinics are scheduled for days that Howard County Public Schools are closed during the months of January through May. Both full and half-day sessions are offered. Go to [sackick.com](http://sackick.com) to register.

**Volunteers – National Institute of Mental Health**

Currently seeking healthy volunteers, 5-25 years old to participate in the study. Brain Imaging of Childhood Onset Psychiatric Disorders, Endocrine Disorders and Healthy Volunteers. Compensation is provided. More information: contact Jonathan Blumenthal, MA at [jb364e@nih.gov](mailto:jb364e@nih.gov) or 301-435-4516. Read about the study at <https://www.nimh.nih.gov/labs-at-nimh/join-a-study/trials/healthy-volunteers-89-m-0006.shtml>

**CA's Sister Cities International Summer Exchange 2017 – Columbia Association**

There are now four opportunities to travel abroad this summer for students, grades 10-12, interested in participating in a cultural immersion program with students from Cergy-Pontoise, France, Tres Cantos, Spain or Tema, Ghana. Program fee: \$700 for Columbia residents, \$850 non-Columbia residents, plus airfare. For more information on any of the programs, contact, Laura Smit (410)715-3162 or [International@ColumbiaAssociation.org](mailto:International@ColumbiaAssociation.org)

**HoCo FilmFest – Howard County Drug Free**

HC DrugFree is partnering with the student-run HoCo Film Festival and looking for film-savvy teens to create Public Service Announcements (PSAs) focusing on alcohol/drug free alternatives to dealing with stress. PSAs will be shared across Howard County. The 2017 HoCo Film Festival will be held on Fri., Mar. 10, 7 p.m. at the Charles E. Miller Library in Ellicott City. The deadline for films will be 11:59 p.m. on Feb. 18. For additional guidelines and information, contact [Admin@hcdrugfree.org](mailto:Admin@hcdrugfree.org) or visit HC DrugFree's website at <http://www.hcdrugfree.org/hoco-filmfest/>

**Hip Hop Dance – Howard County Government**

Roger Carter Community Center, Jan 21, 5-6 p.m.

During this fast-paced, high-energy class, focus on choreography, perfect your skills and learn hip-hop, popping and break dancing techniques. Wear comfortable clothes; jazz shoes or sneakers required. Info: William Banks, 410-313-4609 or [wbanks@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:wbanks@howardcountymd.gov).

**Spanish Brass – Smith Theatre**

Sat., Jan 21 at 8 pm, Smith Theatre, Horowitz Center. The First Place winners of the Narbonne International Brass Quintet Competition (France) will perform all but two works from memory – a unique feat for a chamber ensemble.

More information, including program, bio and video: [www.candlelightconcerts.org](http://www.candlelightconcerts.org)

**Brass, Brass, Brass with Spanish Brass – Smith Theatre**

Sunday, Jan 22 at 2 or 4 p.m., Smith Theatre, Horowitz Center

Bursting with virtuosity and captivating choreography, "Brass, Brass, Brass!" shows the range of everything a brass quintet can do in an engaging one hour performance for the whole family. Recommended for ages 4 and up.

More information, including program, bio and video: [www.candlelightconcerts.org](http://www.candlelightconcerts.org)

**Howard Community College**

**Beginning Sewing-Small Projects:** Learn or practice basic stitches, sewn finishes and care of your machine. Complete two projects that can be replicated later for you or as gifts. Offered Tuesdays, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Jan. 24-Mar. 14, Wilde Lake High School. For more information, visit [HCC's website](http://HCC's website) or contact Rosemary Muir at 443-518-4404.

**Howard Community College – SCUBA**

Head to your next beach vacation with a new skill. Successful completion of classroom instruction, closed water practice and an exam will allow you to take final open water dives locally or at your destination and enjoy the sport of SCUBA diving. Offered Thursdays, 6:30-9:30 p.m., Jan., 26-Mar. 2, HCC Aquatic and Fitness Center. For more information, visit [HCC's website](http://HCC's website) or contact Rosemary Muir at 443-518-4404.

**Drawing Techniques-Howard County Government**

Jan 28, 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m., Laurel Community Center, Strengthen your drawing skills as you focus on different media including graphite, charcoal, colored pencils, pastels, and watercolor pencils.

Techniques include modeling, color transitions, gesture style, blending, and wet-on-dry. Materials are provided but you are encouraged to bring a sketchbook. Info: William Banks, 410-313-4609 or [wbanks@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:wbanks@howardcountymd.gov).

**Pancake Supper-St. Andrew Church**

Pancake Supper at St Andrew's Glenwood Episcopal Church, Rt. 97, Glenwood MD, Feb. 28, 6-8 p.m. 410-489-4035.

**Preschool/Child Care Information Fair – Howard County Government**

Resources and Services will host its annual Preschool/Child Care Information Fair, "Children On Board," on Sunday, Jan. 29 from 1-4 p.m., Ten Oaks Ballroom, 5000 Signal Bell Lane in Clarksville. Admission is free; however, attendees are asked to bring a nonperishable food item or unopened pack of diapers to donate to the Howard County Food/Diaper Bank. The new 2017 Parent's Guide to Howard County will be distributed at the event free of charge. For more information about the Fair, contact the Office of Children and Families at either 410-313-1940 (voice/relay) or email [children@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:children@howardcountymd.gov).

**Study Skills Classes – Healing Dimensions Foundation, Stressless Test**

Now is the time to register for the Healing Dimensions Foundation's Stressless Tests, Study Skills classes. The combined Middle School and High School classes start Jan. 31 meeting for four Tuesday evenings at Burleigh Manor Middle School from 6:30-8:30 p.m. The next class starts Mar. 7 at the same time and place. The basic fee is just \$165.00 including the textbook. A payment plan is available at no extra cost. To register or read more information, you can email Betty at [Bcaidwell202@gmail.com](mailto:Bcaidwell202@gmail.com) or go to <http://www.stresslesstests.org/>

**Leadership U Class of 2017, Information Session-Leadership Howard County**

Leadership U is an exciting leadership, teambuilding, and community service opportunity for current high school sophomores. Come to learn more and speak to some of our grads at one of our information sessions: Jan. 24 and Mar. 2 at the Miller Library or Feb. 13 at Central Library. All sessions are from 7-8 p.m. Parents and students are encouraged to attend. Additional information is available at [www.leadershipphc.org](http://www.leadershipphc.org) or email Meg Ignacio [mignacio@leadershipphc.org](mailto:mignacio@leadershipphc.org). Applications are due Mar. 16, 2017.

**Praxis® Math, Reading & Writing Test Prep – Howard Community College**

Are you a student teacher or a conditional teacher? Or are you looking to take the next step in your teaching career? Prepare for the Praxis math exam or the Praxis reading & writing exam for just over one hour per week at HCC's main campus in central Columbia. Praxis Core Review: Math Tests will be held on Mondays, Jan.30-Mar 20, 6 p.m.-7:20 p.m. Praxis Core Review: Reading & Writing Tests will be held on Wednesdays, Feb. 1-March 22, 6 p.m.-7:20 p.m. For more information, visit [HCC's website](http://HCC's website) or contact Kim Bohnet at 443-518-4982.

**Intro to Piano/Piano II – Howard County Government**

Feb. 4, 12-1 p.m. and, 2-3 p.m., River Hill HS. Learn to play the piano in this introductory class. Play a variety of musical styles to gain confidence and develop musical skills. Learn and practice on your own keyboard. Must have access to a keyboard to practice on outside class. (No class 2/18.) Info: William Banks, 410-313-4609 or [wbanks@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:wbanks@howardcountymd.gov).

**Dvorak and Ravel – The Columbia Orchestra**

Sat., Feb. 4,-7:30 p.m., Jim Rouse Theatre, Columbia

The Bohemian flair and tuneful spirit of Dvořák are on full display in his sunny Eighth Symphony. Ravel's Concerto with

**Summer Journalism Program – Princeton University**

An all-expenses-paid journalism and college preparation program, Princeton University for high school juniors from low-income backgrounds. In this program, students learn reporting skills from celebrated journalists, report and write their own newspaper, and are paired with a counselor who oversees their college admissions process. SJP alumni have gone on to jobs and internships at The New York Times, The New Yorker, NPR, and many other news outlets. Our application process for the 2017 summer is now open. The application can be found at [www.princeton.edu/sjp](http://www.princeton.edu/sjp) and is due at 11:59 p.m. EST on Fri., Feb. 24, 2017.

**Women in Engineering Dream Conference – University of Maryland**

Registration is open for students, adults, and volunteers for the 9th annual Women in Engineering (WIE) DREAM Conference. Sat., Feb. 25, 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m., Adele H. Stamp Student Union, University of Maryland, College Park. For more information and to REGISTER, please visit <http://www.wie.umd.edu/k12/dream-conference>

**Spring Break Camp – Soccer Association of Columbia**

Spring Break Camp scheduled for the week of April 10-14. Both full and half-day sessions are offered. SAC also offers extended care from 4-6 p.m. for an additional fee. Contact [asksac@sac-hc.org](mailto:asksac@sac-hc.org)

**SAC Juniors Program – Soccer Association of Columbia**

Fun-filled introduction to Soccer, SAC offers six, one-hour weekday or weekend sessions for ages 3-4 throughout the year in Howard County. Players receive an Under Armour jersey. Topics include body awareness, agility, balance and ball control. Contact [asksac@sac-hc.org](mailto:asksac@sac-hc.org)

**Spring 2017 Soccer Programs – Soccer Association of Columbia**

Spring 2017 season for the Clinic, Recreational and Recreational High School programs. Leagues are open to players with birth years from 1998 to 2012. Gender based teams meet for eight weeks beginning in April. Go to [sackick.com](http://sackick.com) to register.