

Parents/Guardians,

Thank you to all of the families that came out to Back to School Night. If you were unable to attend the presentation will be posted on the LEMS website and teachers have course information on Canvas for parents to review.

Tuesday, September 18 is “Picture Day” please see the attached flyer for additional information. [Picture.Flyer-2018-09-18.pdf](#)

[Order form](#)

Lynnette Moore and the Administrative Team

## SCHOOL NEWS

### Family File/Emergency Procedure Card Updates

*We are making progress but only have **52%** of our Student Emergency Contact Information Complete. If you have a conversation with your neighbor who has a HCPSS student please remind them to update their Family File account.*

We are asking ALL families to log into HCPSS Connect to check that all of your information is correct – Contact Information, Emergency Information, etc. The biggest reason for this request is that Lake Elkhorn Middle School and HCPSS will use **ONLY** the information located here to send announcements, notices, mail, contact parents/guardians in case of an emergency, etc. If the information is not correct, all of the before mentioned items will go unreceived/unnoticed.

*Please make sure to enter current phone numbers and an e-mail that is checked frequently.*

HCPSS Connect provides access to a variety of student information and classroom instructional tools offering personalized communication and timely, relevant and easily accessible information relating to your student. Families that update and complete their Family File will be able to view teacher placements last Thursday, August 30th.

HCPSS uses Family File for parents/guardians to complete emergency information. Parents/guardians must verify and/or update information for each child, and can do so by logging in [HCPSS Connect](#) and selecting the Family File tab and then clicking on Family File.

Once logged in, parents/guardians will be asked to provide or **update** the following information:

- Student information
- Parent/guardian contact
- Emergency contacts
- Medical information

- Arrival/dismissal procedures
- Media release (photo approval)
- Data confidentiality
- PTA/PTSA directory

Changes of address may not be made through Family File. If you have recently moved, please contact our LEMS office at 410-313-7635 as soon as possible.

Parents who have forgotten their login credentials for Family File may click the “Forgot Password” link on the sign in page. If you need additional assistance, please fill out this [Help form](#).

To reset your password, click the "Account Activation and Forgot Password" link on the login page. Additional resources to help with this process can be found by clicking on the links below:

[Help form](#)

[Guides and Support Video](#)

**Communications:** Please take time to explore our website [www.lems.org](http://www.lems.org) to seek important information about the start of the school year. We will utilize our website, especially the calendar, and our E-News as our primary sources of communication for upcoming events and important dates – so you will want to come here often. **NOTE: E-News distribution is based on the e-mail address as it is entered in each students Family File, as well as through requests made using HCPSS SchoolMessenger.** The Howard County Public School System website [www.hcpss.org](http://www.hcpss.org) is another great source of information. Visit the system’s website for bus information, HCPSS Connect help/guides, how to prepay for lunches, etc.

Please note the following important dates:

- Back-To-School Night, Thursday, September 13
- 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Outdoor Education Parent Information Night, Wednesday, September 26 @ 6:30pm

We recommend that you subscribe to the LEMS community calendar for important dates.

[https://calendar.google.com/calendar/ical/hcpss.org\\_8dv41ohm9jt9qurh4rqtfsh24%40group.calendar.google.com/public/basic.ics](https://calendar.google.com/calendar/ical/hcpss.org_8dv41ohm9jt9qurh4rqtfsh24%40group.calendar.google.com/public/basic.ics)

**School Meals:** Breakfast and lunch are available to all students each day. Breakfast is free for all students and is served in the classrooms starting at 8:00am. Lunch is \$3.25. Parents are encouraged to pre-pay for lunch online. Additional information about the meal programs is on the [HCPSS Website](#).

HCPSS participates in the Free and Reduced Meals (FARMS) program. Students (PreK-12) who meet the federal income guidelines are eligible to receive free or reduced-price meals. Applications are available on-line or in paper forms. **A new application needs to be submitted each year.** Please complete the application (Spanish and

English) as soon as possible to avoid delays in your student receiving a meal. Go to <http://www.hcpss.org/food-services/farms/>

**Parent Volunteers:** We welcome volunteers at Lake Elkhorn Middle School. Before you volunteer, according to HCPSS Board Policy, all parent volunteers must complete a Confidentiality Training Course about protecting the privacy of our students, staff, and school. The online course will take about 5 minutes. After completing the course, please bring your completion certificate to Ms. Ovide in the front office. Please [click this link](#) to access the course.

**PARCC Test Results:** Please look for the PARCC test scores came home Friday with your student. Parents and guardians do not have to wait for the paper home reports. Digital access to PARCC and other standardized test scores is available now online. To view a running record of your child's raw standardized assessment scores:

- Go to <http://www.hcpss.org/connect/>
- Login and click on "Academic Information" on the left menu
- Select Standardized Test Scores

**HCPSS Policy Refresher:** Student Assault and/or Battery on Staff (Policy 9270)

A reminder that the full-text of policies can be found at <http://www.hcpss.org>

The Board of Education recognizes the need for a school environment that is safe, secure, and nurturing. This environment must allow staff to be free from any assault and/or battery by students. Therefore, any assault and/or battery by a student directed towards a staff member or service provider is strictly forbidden.

**SCIENCE NEWS: Attention Grades 7 and 8**



## **Attention Parents!**

I am very excited to be able to offer an educational trip to Florida

Invites have been sent home with your student with trip details.

Please join us for a **30-minute informational meeting** on

**Thursday, September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at 6:00 pm**  
**In my classroom**

Feel free to bring your child with you. We plan to cover all of the program basics, including the itinerary, price, and how to register for the trip. We will also learn more about WorldStrides, the educational travel company that is helping us organize the trip and the financial aid and fundraising tools that they provide.

**We would like every student to join us!**

**If you have any questions leading up to the meeting, please contact Stephanie Noonan, [stephanie\\_noonan@hcpss.org](mailto:stephanie_noonan@hcpss.org)**

**We look forward to seeing you there!**



### **6 GRADE NEWS:**

Every year LEMS sixth graders go on the Outdoor Education field trip to North Bay Adventures located in North East, Maryland. This is a three-day trip that provides students with meaningful educational and character-building experiences outside the classroom environment. The curriculum at North Bay encourages students to focus on their

actions and understand how their actions affect their futures, communities, and the environment. See the attached information letter for more information <http://lems.hcpss.org/sites/default/files/library/Outdoor.ed.18.19.pdf> All Outdoor Ed forms are due by the end of the school day on Friday, October 12. No late forms will be accepted. If you are waiting for a doctor to complete a medication form, please turn in all other forms with a note that the medication form is forthcoming. If financial assistance is needed, please turn in the forms and contact the front office to discuss payment options.

### **LEMS IMPORTANT DATES:**

Please use the following link to access important dates and information for LEMS. <http://lems.hcpss.org/calendar>

**PTSA NEWS:** Please join us for the 1<sup>st</sup> PTSA meeting of the 2018/19 school year Tuesday, September 25 in the LEMS Media Center at 6:30pm. [PTSA Membership Form](#)

### **COMMUNITY NEWS:**

Please visit the Community News and Programs page (<http://www.hcpss.org/community-news-and-programs/>) on the HCPSS website for announcements of upcoming events and programs sponsored by non-profit organizations.

#### **Howard County Parents/Guardians of 9-14 Year Olds**

Attend a FREE evidence-based program for parents/guardians of 9 to 14 year olds to gain skills and knowledge to reduce the risk that their children will use drugs. This is a 4 week program on Tuesday evenings from October 9 to October 30 at the Elkridge Branch of the Howard County Library from 5:30 to 8:00 p.m. Parents will receive a workbook so hurry to register at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/GGCOct2018> or contact HC DrugFree at [Admin@hcdrugfree.org](mailto:Admin@hcdrugfree.org) or 443-325-0040 for more information. Program presented by HC DrugFree and the Howard County State's Attorney's Office in partnership with the Health Department.

Electronic Newsletter for Parents: Sign up for HC DrugFree's free electronic newsletter to learn about local drug/alcohol overdoses, issues facing your children, free educational programs/resources for adults and youth, and local data. Gain access to a Q & A where parents (or youth) ask anonymous questions and local experts provide answers. Sign up online at [www.hcdrugfree.org](http://www.hcdrugfree.org) and click on "join our mailing list" on the homepage or forward your email address to [Admin@hcdrugfree.org](mailto:Admin@hcdrugfree.org).

Teen Advisory Council (High School Students Only): HC DrugFree's Teen Advisory Council (TAC) meets one Monday evening a month from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. at The Barn/Teen Center in the Oakland Mills Village Center and is open to all Howard County high school students. Community service hours are available for all meetings and events. TAC's first 2018-19 meetings will be held on Monday, September 17 and October 22. To register, please visit [www.hcdrugfree.org](http://www.hcdrugfree.org) and go to the Teen Advisory Council page. Refreshments provided at meetings so must RSVP to [Admin@hcdrugfree.org](mailto:Admin@hcdrugfree.org) or call 443-325-0040.

**African-American Community Roundtable Forum:** Please consider attending the African-American Community Roundtable Forum scheduled for September 24<sup>th</sup> at Wilde Lake High School. More information is attached: [AACR Education Forum Sept 24 \(1\).pdf](#)