



Lake Elkhorn Middle School

Message from the Principal

It is wonderful to see our students shine both inside and outside of the classroom. Recently, our students have gotten to perform in many ways. Our Actor's Guild, led by Ms. Smart and Mr. Bond, acted out a play that they wrote themselves at the Shakespeare Festival on May 17. Our MESA team, coached by Mr. Gatz, competed at the state level competition and placed third in computer programming! Finally, many different groups of students who participate in Mr. Bond's enrichment seminars had the opportunity to show off their accomplishments at the Enrichment Fair on May 18.

Thank you to Ms. Riley and the LEMS Wellness Committee for holding Wellness Day on May 18. Students enjoyed the wide variety of activities! Thank you also to our Student Council, who sponsored the Spring Fling dance on May 5. The event was very well organized and students had a great time! Ms. Valentine has been leading the group all year and is very pleased with their work ethic and positivity.

As you can see in this newsletter, we still have many more events upcoming in the final seventeen days of school. Finish strong!

NEWSLETTER

M A Y 1 9 , 2 0 1 7

SAVE THE DATE

- May 19 - Schools Closed for professional learning for staff
- May 23 - 5th graders visit LEMS
- May 23 - Community Town Hall Event. 7-8:30PM at Howard High School
- May 24 - Ladies First Closing Ceremony 7pm (Mrs. O'Connor)
- May 25 - 7th Grade Field Trip Baysox STEM Day (Mrs. Cunningham)
- May 26 - 6th Grade End of Year Field Trip (Mrs. Bailey)
- May 26 - YFS Field Trip, Trout Release (Mr. Bond)
- May 29 - Schools Closed for Memorial Day
- June 2 - GT Expo Field Trip (Mr. Bond)
- June 5 - 8th Grade Closing Ceremony at Hammond High School 6:30pm (Mr. Farmer)
- June 6 - 8th Grade Field Trip Six Flags (Mr. Farmer)
- June 6 - PTSA Meeting 6pm
- June 7 - 8th Grade Trip to visit high schools (Ms. Faggio)
- June 8 - 6th Grade Assembly (Ms. Bailey)
- June 8 - LEMS faculty recital. 7-8:30PM at Owen Brown Interfaith Center - Sanctuary A. (Mr. Rea, Ms. Bilal and Ms. Retterer)
- June 9 - 6th Grade Field Fun Day, 8:00am - 1:00pm (Ms. Bailey)
- June 9 - 7th Grade Field Fun Day, 10:40am - 2:45pm (Ms. Robinson)
- June 12-14th - Pick up child's remaining medication by 11:00am. Any medication not picked up will be destroyed.
- June 12 - Early Dismissal 3 hours early
- June 13 - Early Dismissal 3 hours early
- June 14 - Last day of school early dismissal 3 hours early.
- June 15 - Enjoy your Summer
- **August 31 - New Student Orientation 8am, Cafeteria**
- **September 5 - First day of school for students.**
- **September 14 - Back To School Night at 5:30pm, Cafeteria**



SAVE THE DATE: 8TH Grade

WHEN: June 5, 2017

6:30 PM

WHERE: Hammond High School

WHAT: 8th Grade End-of Year Ceremony

CONGRATULATIONS MS. BAILEY AND THE 6TH GRADE TEAM!!

They were able to donate \$86.00, dog bones and toys to Howard County Animal Control. The contributions are used to directly help thousands of animals that depend on HCAC services each year. On behalf of HCAC Deborah Baracco, Animal Control Administrator sent a thank you letter expressing their sincere gratitude for the gift. GREAT JOB 6TH GRADE!




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.





THE BRIGHT MINDS FOUNDATION



Dear Parents / Guardians:

We know that many students and their families depend on the Internet, whether at school, or at home, so they can do homework, search for jobs, access financial or government services and much more. The Bright Minds Foundation is teaming with Comcast to make affordable Internet service available to students and their families through a low cost home Internet service called Internet Essentials.

Features of Internet Essentials include:

- \$9.95 per month + applicable taxes with no term contract or credit checks
- No activation or equipment fees
- Wifi router included
- Access to an affordable desktop or laptop computer for just \$149.99
- Free in-person and online web classes

Now for the really good news: It's even easier and faster for your family to connect to Internet Essentials because your child's school has been pre-approved for a streamlined enrollment process. Any family with a child attending a school with 40% or more of students enrolled in FARMs is automatically pre-approved for Internet Essentials*. Families can call 1-888-972-5982 or apply online at InternetEssentials.com. You'll need to provide your contact information and school name. That's it. No other paperwork is necessary, and if you meet the program's eligibility, you will be pre-approved and could have home Internet within five (5) days.

We want all of our students to have the opportunity to do their homework at home, and we are excited to share information with you about programs like Internet Essentials from Comcast that may be helpful to your family.

For more details please visit brightmindsfoundation.org.

Sincerely,

The Bright Minds Foundation & Comcast

* To qualify for Internet Essentials, your household must be located where Comcast offers Internet service, have not subscribed to Comcast Internet service within the last 90 days and does not have an overdue Comcast bill or unreturned equipment in the past year. Pre-approval for the program is limited to families of students whose schools have a 40% or higher number of students who are eligible to participate in the National School Lunch Program. Internet Essentials from Comcast is a program to provide home Internet service for families. It is not a school or foundation program and is not required by your school. Your school is not responsible for Internet Essentials accounts. No school funds were used for this notice.

The contents of this letter are neither sponsored nor endorsed by HCPSS.



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/f/aboutus/student-handbook/student-handbook.pdf) (<http://www.hcpss.org/f/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 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/f/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. 10/2 at 8:30, 11/6 at 9:30, 12/4 at 9:00, 2/5 at 8:30, 3/5 at 9:00 and 5/7 at 9:30.

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://lems.hcpss.org/messages/online-school-purchases-osp-student-activities) (<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 your convenience, 24 hours a day. You can even use your iPhone or tablet!



Health Room News

Attention 6th Grade Parents

New Vaccines Needed

Parents of Students Entering 7th Grade Next Year (2017-2018 school year) Will Need the Following Immunizations:

MCV4 (Meningococcal {**meningitis**} vaccine

Tdap vaccine (Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis {**whooping cough**})
(Bring a copy of your child's immunization record to your appointment)

These vaccines are needed in addition to current school vaccination requirements.

**** Please check with your child's doctor to see if they have already received them, and take a copy of the record to their school.****

If your child needs these vaccines, they can get them from his or her doctor or the Howard County Health Department

Contact the Howard County Health Department for Free Immunization (with a scheduled appointment).

For more information call, Beth Amstad, RN, at the Howard County Health Department, **410-313-7592** or, visit: www.hchealth.org

Failure to provide proof of updated immunizations on the first day of school, or proof of an appointment to receive the vaccinations will result in your student being excluded from school.

On 5-8-17, Letters with this information were given to the students who are missing these vaccinations needed for next year. Please ask your student for this form if you have not received this form yet.

The parent/guardian by 11:00 am on June 12, 13, or 14 should pick up medication remaining in the health room. Any medication not picked up will be destroyed.

Medications For Next Year

If your child will take medication during the coming school year, your doctor or nurse practitioner must complete a medication form. Please be sure that all portions of the form are completed in full. Orders for each new school year must be dated on or after July 1. All medications must be in containers properly labeled with the following information:

- Student name
- Medication name
- Dosage to be given
- Time and frequency of medication
- Date of medication order
- Prescriber's name
- Expiration date of medication

Pharmacy bottles will usually contain all of this information. Over-the-counter medications such as cold, allergy, and headache medications should be labeled with the student's name in black marker and brought to the health room in new, unopened containers.

Medications should be delivered to school by a parent/guardian to assure safe arrival. Students should not transport medications.





SUMMER MEALS for KIDS & TEENS

Being Served in your Community

OPEN to ALL children, 18 and younger.

NO Application, NO Enrollment, NO Cost!

Open Sites:

Talbott Springs Elementary School

9550 Basket Ring Rd, Columbia, MD 21045

June 27 – July 29, 2016

(12:45 Pm – 2:15 pm)

Laurel Woods Elementary School

9250 N Laurel Rd, Laurel, MD 20723

June 27 – July 29, 2016

(12:30 Pm – 2:00 Pm)

Phelps Luck Elementary School

5370 Old Stone Ct., Columbia, MD 21045

June 27 – July 29, 2016

(12:30 Pm – 2:00 Pm)

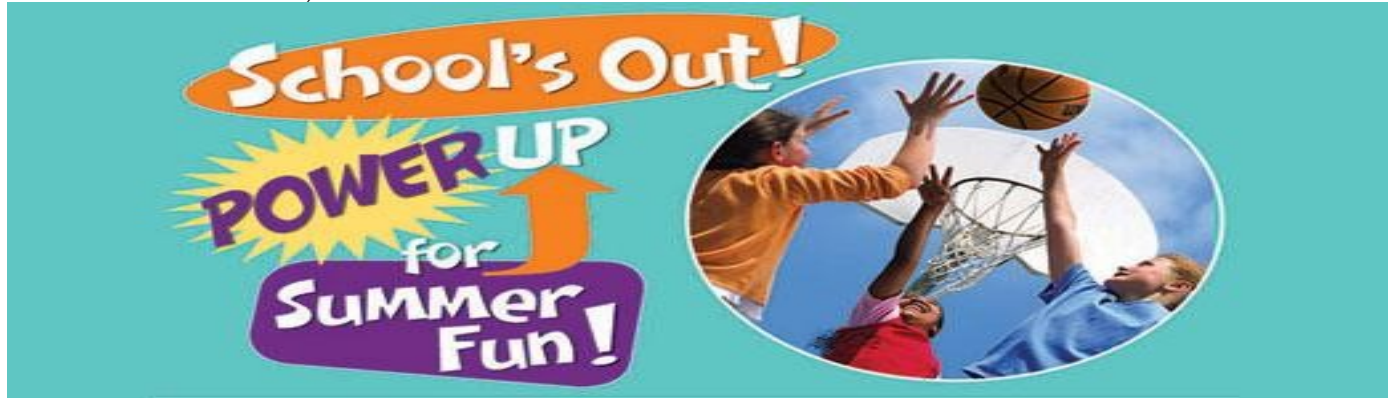
Long Reach High School

6101 Old Dobbin Ln, Columbia, MD 21045

June 27 – July 29, 2016

(12:30 Pm – 2:00 pm)





It's Summer, Kids Eat Free!

During the school year a large number of children in the United States receive meals through their school lunch programs. However, when the school year ends food insecurity becomes prevalent amongst school aged children. The Summer Food Service Program helps alleviate the nutritional gap and makes meals accessible to all children less than 18 years of age. The Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) is a federally funded, state-administered program that reimburses providers who serve healthy meals to children and teens in area eligible areas at no charge primarily during the summer months when school is not in session.

HELP

**Spread the word about HCPSS free summer meals for Howard County youths.
Be a part of making a difference.**

The U.S Department of Agriculture prohibits discrimination against its customers, employees, and applicants for employment on the bases of race, color, national origin, age, disability, sex, gender identity, religion, reprisal, and where applicable, political beliefs, marital status, familial or parental status, sexual orientation, or all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program, or protected genetic information in employment or in any program or activity conducted or funded by the Department. (Not all prohibited bases will apply to all programs and/or employment activities.)

If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at program.intake@usda.gov.

Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339 or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Community Town Hall event on Tuesday, May 23, from 7:00-8:30 p.m.

Dr. Martirano will be participating in a Community Town Hall event on Tuesday, May 23, from 7:00-8:30 p.m. at Howard High School. The event is being organized by Bonnie Bricker, Howard County resident, who is active in several community groups and serves occasionally as an HCPSS consultant.

OUTSTANDING MEAL CHARGES

As the 2016-2017 school year winds down, HCPSS Food & Nutrition Services need to ensure that all school lunch accounts are paid in full through the last day of school on June 14, 2017. **All outstanding meal charges need to be paid in full by, May 22, 2017.** Payments can be made either in the cafeteria with cash or at www.myschoolbucks.com.
Department of Food and Nutrition Services

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 Michelle_Dugan@hcpss.org.



This summer, a mobile rec center is coming to your neighborhood!

Sony PS4
XBox 360
Board Games



Basketball
Baseball
Flag Football

Drop in for fun from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

MONDAYS TALBOTT SPRINGS POOL

with free swim from 12:00-3:30 p.m.

TUESDAYS NORTH LAUREL COMMUNITY CENTER

FRIDAYS MEADOWBROOK ATHLETIC COMPLEX

The CAP will operate June 26 - Aug. 4.

410-313-2620 www.hcpd.org

A Howard County Police Youth Division program
funded by a grant from the U.S. Attorney's Office.



FACULTY RECITAL

**PLEASE JOIN MR. REA, MS. BILAL AND MS. RETTERER AS WE
PERFORM SOME OF OUR FAVORITE MUSIC FOR YOU!**



THURSDAY, JUNE 8TH

7:00 PM - 8:30 PM

**AT THE OWEN BROWN INTERFAITH CENTER – SANCTUARY
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The LEMS Music Department is proud to announce that all three ensembles, Band, Chorus and Orchestra, swept first place in our division at the Music in Parks competition we attended on May 12. We wish to give special thanks to all the students, staff and parent volunteers who worked hard to make the event a success.



We are pleased to announce... our partnership with the Howard County Multiservice Center! Check out the details in HCPPS news.
<http://www.hcpss.org/news-posts/2017/04/multiservice-center-partnership/>

