

KNIGHTLY NEWS - 2/25/2025

UPCOMING EVENTS

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|------------------|---|
| 2/28-3/29 | Ramadan |
| 3/3 | New HCPSS Cell Phone Policy Begins |
| 3/4 | Orchestra Assessment @ River Hill HS |
| 3/7 | Spring Picture Day |
| 3/9 | Spring Forward! Daylight Saving Time Begins |
| 3/11 | PTA Meeting |
| 3/12 | Wind Ensemble Assessment @Guilford Park HS |
| 3/14 | 3-Hour Early Dismissal Patapsco Day of Belonging |
| 3/31 | Schools Closed for Students |

Yearbook

Have you ordered your 24-25 yearbook yet? There is still time! Scan the QR code on the [attached flyer](#), or visit: jostensyearbooks.com

Order by 2/21 to guarantee a yearbook! Yearbooks will be distributed at the end of the school year. If you are unsure whether or not you have purchased a yearbook, please check your email for a receipt from Jostens from this school year, or reach out to Ms. Salsman: kalina_salsman@hcpss.org

Spring Picture Day is Coming!

It is time to order that perfect spring picture of your student. Lifetouch will be at Patapsco on Friday, March 7, 2025 to take your child's portrait. Packages can be ordered [online](#) using event code EVTNHX7QJ. Flyers were sent home this week from Homeroom.

Spelling Bee

Congratulations to Spelling Bee winner Troy Lee and runner-up Sebastian Batres! Thanks to everyone who participated in this year's Spelling Bee.

Ramadan

Happy Ramadan to our families that celebrate! If you have a student that will be fasting and/or praying during the school day, please reach out to your student's counselor so that we can make arrangements for them to engage in an alternative activity and/or an alternative location.

Book Signing - Navigating the Margins

There will be an [event](#) to celebrate the students from the Navigating the Margins program on Tuesday, March 11th from 7-8:30PM at Backwater Books in Old Ellicott City. At the event you'll hear from the student authors themselves. Books will be available for purchase and signing. Please register [here](#).

SPRING CLEANING? Clothing to Cash- easy donation!

Please donate to our Clothing to Cash fundraising program! [Clothing to Cash](#) is a textile recycling program that donates money to the school for every pound of donated items. Look for the white donation bin in the parking lot. Clothing to Cash will accept items in ALL conditions: new with tags, or torn, stained, worn-out knees, shoes with holes or only one shoe, backpacks, old sheets, towels, blankets, stuffed animals and more. What a great way to help the school and clean out your closets! All donations must be bagged and put in the collection bin.

Back to the Basics

On 2/27/25 the Ellicott Mills Student Services Team is hosting an event called "Back to the Basics." Join us for a night of resources and information on mental health, balancing technology, behavior management, high school transition, and much more! We have some amazing guest speakers as well as numerous community organizations who will be in attendance at our Resource Fair. Check out the attached [flier](#). Click [here](#) to register.

Calling All Future Vikings! Mt Hebron High School - PTSA Mulch Sale

Each year, the Mt Hebron HS PTSA runs a mulch sale to raise money for our After-Prom Program. After Prom is a fun alcohol-free/chemical-free party held at the YMCA. Students enjoy great food, Casino night, Dodge Ball tournament, Henna Tattoo and Caricature Artists just to name a few of the fun activities provided by dedicated parent volunteers. Last year over 650 students attended! Get involved now by supporting our fundraiser, to help ensure that After Prom is available to your Future Viking!

We sell both Brown and Black mulch in 2 cubic foot bags. Orders under 20 bags must be picked up and you receive a 10% discount at time of order (use PICKUP code). Orders over have the option to request delivery.

Use the QR code below or click here to access our online store. Mulch Day is March 15, 2025 from 7:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Details are in the online store.



Don't feel like spreading your mulch - Call Mt. Hebron alums Ashton D'Alonzo and Jackson Williams, proud owners of AJ's Lawn & Landscape, at 443-520-5258 and receive a discount for purchasing your mulch from us!

DON'T NEED MULCH? Consider making a monetary donation instead. Every dollar donated helps to reduce out-of-pocket cost to attend, and allows us to gift tickets to students who might otherwise not be able to attend.

Thank you very MULCH!
Your parent volunteer MHHS Mulch Sale Committee

MulchSale@MtHebronPTSA.com

HCPSS Special Education Resource Fair

Saturday, March 15, 2024, 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Cedar Lane School, 11630 Scaggsville Road, Fulton, MD

The HCPSS Special Education Resource Fair provides families with information available from the community and HCPSS to support their students receiving special education and related services (those who have an IEP or IFSP).

Get connected to:

Recreational Activities

HCPSS Speech, OT, PT, Vision, and Adapted PE

Camps

Community Groups

Service Providers

Transition to Adulthood Information

Assistive Technology

Behavioral Health

Howard County Government Resources

And Much More!

For information, please contact FSRC@hcpss.org. Registration is not required. The event will be cancelled if HCPSS has an inclement weather closure. This event is part of the HCPSS Parent Empowerment Series including training sessions related to special education and events for families of students with an IEP or IFSP. Free

NEWS WORTH REPEATING

Youth Football Camp

The head football coach of the Mt Hebron Vikings, Shawn Frederick, will be hosting a youth football camp this summer at Mt. Hebron HS from June 23-27th, 9a-3pm for 1st-9th grade students (SY 2025-26). If interested, please fill out this form:

<https://forms.gle/v1bdySFVffLUdkfw9>. For questions, please contact Coach Fred at shawn_frederick@hcpss.org.

Free Life Skills Classes for HoCo Middle/High School Students

Classes will be taught by HoCo college students with high school student assistants and adult supervision. Botvin's Evidence Based Curriculum promotes positive health and personal development for students in grades 6 to 9. (Slightly younger students will be considered especially if joining an older sibling, and students older than 9th grade may be invited to join our high school team to earn Community Service Hours while learning.) If parents/guardians have questions about the appropriateness for students, register the students and HC DrugFree's team will contact you. **Siblings and friends are encouraged to take these classes together.**

Class dates: **February 24, March 3, 10, 17, 31, April 7, 28, and May 5 from 5:00-6:30 p.m. on Zoom.** Visit HC DrugFree's website for more information and register students at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Spring2025LifeSkills>

Free Parenting/Grandparenting Classes

Free! On Zoom and open to parents, guardians and grandparents residing in HoCo or with school-age children/grandchildren residing in HoCo. This evidence-based, interactive prevention program provides families with the skills and knowledge to reduce the risk that their children will use drugs including alcohol or engage in other dangerous behaviors. The curriculum was written for families with children 9-14 years olds, but we believe it is appropriate for K-12 families. Class dates: **March 18, 21, 25, 28 and April 1 from Noon to 1:30 p.m. on Zoom.** Visit HC DrugFree's website for more information and register at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Spring2025GGC>

HCPSS Emergency Notifications

[Families are reminded](#) that in emergency situations (including inclement weather), information will be shared with the community only through the HCPSS website, email and text, Twitter/X and the HCPSS weather hotline. Be sure your Family File is up to date and that you have [opted into texts](#) to receive emergency messages.

Cold Weather Attire

As the colder weather settles in, please remind your students to dress appropriately for

their time outside (waiting at the bus stop, recess, PE). If they are missing a coat, please encourage them to check the lost and found.

PTA News

Recess Equipment Amazon Wish List - The list is still open! The PE Department has asked for contributions to replace some of the equipment that has been worn out or ventured on a permanent safari in the back woods. You can purchase equipment through the [Amazon Wish List by clicking here!](#) In addition, the PE Department is accepting donations of gently used sports balls (basketballs, soccer balls, volleyballs) and/or equipment bags. You can bring these items to the school or let us know if you have other questions! patapscopta@gmail.com

Membership - As always, it's not too late to join the PTA and/or make a donation to our grant program! Find out how by accessing our website - <https://patapscomiddle.givebacks.com/>

Flu Prevention

The Health Department encourages people of all ages to get a seasonal flu shot from a healthcare provider, local pharmacy, retailer or big box store. Flu vaccination can reduce flu illnesses, doctors' visits, and missed work and school (even virtual school) due to flu, as well as prevent flu-related hospitalizations and deaths. The Howard County Health Department provides a [list](#) of community immunization clinics.

Community Notices

HCPSS' [Community News and Programs](#) website makes it easy for families to find educational and recreational resources, events and after-school programs beyond the school day by non-profit organizations."

Community organizations requesting their announcements be shared in school newsletters should visit community-programs.hcpss.org for more information. Questions should be directed to the Public Information Office at publicinfo@hcpss.org

Resources

[Patapsco Calendar](#)

[Quick Guide to Online Resources](#)

[Secondary Student & Parent Handbook](#)
[Student Code of Conduct](#)

Stay Connected

School Office: 410-313-2848

Student Services: 410-313-2850

Health Room: 410-313-2574

Follow us on X: [@hcpss_PMS](#) and Instagram: PatapscoMS

[Patapsco Middle School Website](#)