
Important Dates

May 14 - Full School Day for Students; Spring Picture Day (new date)

May 15 - Wear Green for Mental Health Awareness

May 18-21 - Math MCAP Testing

May 20 - The Brightest Knight, 6-7:30pm

May 25 - Schools and Offices Closed

May 27 - Schools and Offices Closed

May 28 - Spring Band Concert, 7pm, Mount Hebron HS

May 29 - Spring Chorus Concert, 7pm, Mount Hebron HS

June 2 - Dance Showcase, 6pm, Patapsco MS

June 3 - General Music Showcase and Jazz Band, 7pm, Patapsco MS

Spring Picture Day

Spring Picture Day is tomorrow, Thursday, May 14. For information and to place orders (there are exclusive discounts available with online orders), please visit mylifetouch.com and use code EVT2882QR. **Only students who pre-pay online or bring payment with them on May 14 will have their pictures taken.**

“Wear Green” Day

Show your support for Mental Health Awareness Month by wearing green on May 15th! Let's fill our school with a wave of green to show we care!

Patapsco Middle School's Enrichment Fair - The Brightest Knight

Join us for [Patapsco's Enrichment Fair](#) - The Brightest Knight - on Wednesday, May 20th from 6:00–7:30 PM! This community event will showcase and celebrate the

incredible projects, performances, activities, and achievements of our students this school year.

ALL are welcome and encouraged to explore student showcases of work, while enjoying interactive activities/ workshops and live performances, all led by students and staff. Plus, two food trucks, Antojitos Express and Amazonian Berry Açaí, will be on site with delicious food available for purchase! We hope you'll join us as we celebrate our Bright Knights!

If your student is interested in participating in the Fair, see the [Enrichment Fair Student Interest form](#), or reach out to Ms. Ruly (grace_ruly@hcpss.org, Canvas Inbox, or Rm E8).

Save the Date for 8th Grade Events

Friday, June 12 - 8th Grade Dance sponsored by the PTA, 7-9pm at Patapsco Middle School. For current 8th grade Patapsco students only.

Wednesday, June 17 - 8th Grade Promotion Ceremony, 2pm at Mount Hebron High School. Ticket required.

Stay tuned for additional information regarding tickets, permissions slips, and attire for each event, and for volunteer opportunities!

From the PTA

Ready! Set! Salsa!

The PTA's next restaurant night is June 2 from 4pm-8pm at the Ellicott City Chipotle. If ordering in the store, let the cashier know you are with the Patapsco fundraiser or show them [this flyer](#). If ordering online or on the app, input our online fundraiser code 36DG9VL in the "Enter a Promo Code" section. Don't forget to click "Apply."

Please consider supporting our work and enjoying some delicious food!

Thank you Teachers!

The PTA honored our teachers throughout Teacher Appreciation Week with goodies and treats! We thank them for instructing, involving, and inspiring our kids every day. Also thanks to our creative and dedicated Hospitality Team and all our PTA members and supporters for helping us make this special recognition event happen!

Election Season

We are still accepting nominations for anyone interested in serving as the PTA treasurer. It's a great opportunity to work with our school and to support the kids, teachers, and staff. Email patapscopta@gmail.com for more information or to nominate someone/yourself.

Family Read the Rainbow

Greetings all! Our next FAMILY Read the Rainbow (sponsored by CARY) will be held on Wednesday, June 3rd at 6:00PM, virtually. The first 50 families with children in grades 5 and under will receive a free copy of the book, *My Shadow is Pink* by Scott Stuart. See the [flyer](#) for more information and registration link.

PREVIOUSLY SHARED

Yearbook Orders

Have you ordered your Patapsco 2025-2026 yearbook?! It's not too late! To guarantee your yearbook, order soon at jostensyearbooks.com. Yearbooks will be distributed during the last week of school. If you would like to check if you have already ordered, please look in your email for a receipt from Jostens, or email kalina_salsman@hcpss.org.

Morning Drop-off

Parents of car riders are reminded that students should not be dropped off before 8:15am which is the same time that students exit the buses. This gives our staff time to post at their morning duty station and be ready to receive and supervise our students.

Also, the car loop procedures exist to get students out of cars and into the building as quickly and safely as possible. Safety is our top priority so we kindly ask that you not "cut" around the line, and always be mindful of students walking to the curb. We also ask that you provide a little grace to students taking a little longer to get out of the car. For everyone's safety, please be patient. If a student needs additional support, a staff member will assist.

Early Dismissal

If you need to pick up your student before the end of the school day, please be sure to come to the front office with your identification **prior to 2:55 pm**. After that, you may not

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enter our parking lot due to the arrival of our buses. If you arrive later than 2:55, you must join the car loop line to pick up your child after dismissal at 3:15.

Executive Functioning 101: Middle School Edition

Date: Tuesday, May 19th

Time: 6-7pm

Join us for a **virtual workshop** where you can learn practical, easy to use strategies to support homework routines, improve organization, and build independence in your rising or current middle schooler.

Register: tinyurl.com/execfun101.

For more information, please contact carrie_mcmahon@hcpss.org

Health Room Info

As we approach the end of the school year, we are also sending out some information looking forward to next year as well!

Information has been sent home regarding required vaccinations for next school year, in accordance with Maryland state requirements. If your student received a letter and you have any questions, please feel free to contact the health room.

Additionally, letters were sent regarding medications currently stored in the health room. If you know you have medications here in the health room and did not receive a letter, please ask your student. Feel free to reach out if you have any questions or need clarification.

For your convenience, all required health forms are available online, including medication administration forms, health care provider authorization forms, and other important school health documents. You can access them here:

hcpss.org/health/

Thank you for your continued support. Let's finish the school year safe and healthy!

Tiffany Ailstock & Tonya Barksdale
HCPSS Cluster Nurse & Health Assistant
Patapsco Middle School
410-313-2574

Aaah-Choo!

Allergy season is in full swing, and all of the itchy eyes and runny noses are depleting our supply of tissues! If you are able to donate a box or two to the front office (tissues *without* lotion, please), it would be greatly appreciated.

23rd Annual Mount Hebron Lacrosse Golf Outing

Come out for a fun day at the [Mount Hebron Lacrosse Golf Outing](#) to support Mt. Hebron's girls and boys lacrosse programs! Whether you have a future Viking lacrosse player, just love golf, or have a business that would be interested in a sponsorship, we'd love to have your support!

For more information, go to vikingbackers.org/shop/ols/categories/golf-tournament

Student Service Learning 6th Grade Project Begins!

The state of Maryland requires that 75 hours of Student Service Learning (SSL) be completed, as a requirement to obtain a high school diploma. This year, 25 service learning hours are being offered to our 6th grade students through Science classes. SSL hours are awarded by participation in meeting course objectives, by completing the Weather and Climate Unit and attending a field trip to the Howard County Conservancy. Service Learning is a teaching method that combines meaningful service to the community within curriculum-based learning. Through SSL students apply specific academic skills to "real world" problems to gain a greater understanding of community needs. Additionally, students reflect upon how their service directly impacts others. Student Service Learning is not group organized volunteerism, independent volunteerism, or internships. It is a curriculum presented within the student's school day. All service learning hours are completed as course work offered through projects developed for each grade level. Each year, 25 service learning hours will be offered to students and awarded by participation in meeting course objectives and completion of the grade level project. In this way, students will obtain their required 75 hours of service by the end of their 8th grade year. Please look for SSL updates in the Patapsco Knight to be informed about special achievements, deadlines and activities. If you have questions about this program, contact our school SSL Coordinator, Sherri Ross, email: sherri_ross@hcpss.org.

Mathematics Policy Family Information Sessions

MSDE will host virtual Math Policy Family Information Sessions in June 2026 to support family understanding of upcoming mathematics initiatives and updates for the 2026–2027 school year. Participants must [register in advance](#) to receive session links. [Click here](#) for details and dates/times.

Maryland Vaccine Program for Adults

The Maryland Vaccine Program provides FREE vaccines to eligible adults. It is open to anyone who is 19 years of age or older and is uninsured or underinsured. To schedule an appointment, call 410-313-7500. For more information, see this [flier](#).

Student Led Initiative - Dot Drop

This year we will be doing something a little extra to help our school and our community. We are doing a menstrual products drive! It's called the Dot Drive and we need you to help us by donating unopened products in their original packaging. We will be accepting pads, tampons, panty liners, and period underwear. Your children can donate by putting donations in the Dot Drop boxes that are located in their ELA classes and the health room. Proceeds will be going to our school stash to be accessed in the healthroom, as well as the Baltimore Hunger Project Period Pantry and the WGC's Break the Cycle drive. We encourage you to donate to this important cause and thank you for your support!

Make Your Voice Heard! Your Opinion Matters!

Parents and guardians of children receiving special education and related services were mailed the Maryland Special Education Parent Involvement Survey from the Maryland State Department of Education, Division of Special Education/Early Intervention Services. Parents are asked to complete the survey and return it in the postage paid envelope by Friday, June 5, 2026. [The survey can also be completed online](#). Your feedback will help guide efforts to improve special education and related services in HCPSS. Your voice can make a real difference for your child and many other children across the state of Maryland.

Maryland Benefits Programs and Services Portal

There is a new(ish) one-stop shop for state benefits, the Maryland Benefits Programs and Services portal, allowing parents/caregivers to see if they are eligible for, and apply for, Medicaid, SNAP, TCA, WIC, and energy assistance from the state. You can find the link at <https://benefits.maryland.gov/home/#/>.

Expanded Online Tutoring Help

Brainfuse HelpNow is now available 24/7 for all library users, expanding access beyond the previous 2 p.m.–midnight live tutoring hours. This means students and caregivers can connect with live online tutoring and academic support anytime that fits their schedule. Brainfuse HelpNow is available on the [HCLS website](#), and video and written instructions on how to use the resource are available [here](#). First-time users will need to create a username and password.

PTA and Music Boosters

Please consider joining our PTA and Music Boosters. Each parent-led organization does so much for our school. We appreciate your membership and donations as they directly support the students and staff at Patapsco Middle School. Please consider joining the [PTA](#) and/or [Music Boosters](#) as we could not do a lot of the exciting initiatives for our kids without these organizations!

Cell Phones

Cell phones should not be seen or heard during the school day. Reminders about the [HCPSS Policy 8080-Student Personal Device Use in Schools](#) were shared with students on the first day of school.

Forgotten Items

We are happy to accept lunches, instruments, homework, school projects, keys, or other items as long as they are brought to school before 10:30. All items can be put on the table in the foyer and labeled with student's name and grade. Lunches that are brought in late are taken to the cafeteria and a general announcement is made.

We cannot accept items for delivery to students after this time period, with the exception of emergency situations, as we are committed to minimizing classroom interruptions throughout the school day. We know homework, projects and instruments are important to our students, so we ask for your help in assisting students prepare for the day the night before, or the morning of, to ensure they have everything they need.

Community News and Programs

Howard County Public School System provides a [list](#) of community programs and events that may be of interest to members of the Patapsco community. These notices are neither sponsored nor endorsed by the Howard County Public School System. Programs include academic enrichment, child care, afterschool and camp programs; art, music, sports, and recreation programs, and volunteer opportunities.