

Important Dates

September 15-17 - MAP ELA Testing

September 18- Jersey Jams

September 21 – Schools and Offices Closed

September 25 – 6th Grade Mash Up

September 29 - Last day to withdraw from a full year high school credited course without penalty

September 30 – 3 Hour Early Dismissal (12:15pm dismissal time)

MAP Testing Information

Our first round of ELA MAP testing will take place this week during your child's ELA class on Tuesday, September 15 through Thursday, September 17, 2026.

To help them do their best, please ensure your child arrives at school on time, fully rested, and with a charged device.

School Spirit Day

This Friday, September 18, is our very first Spirit Day: Jersey Jams!

Students and staff are invited to wear jerseys representing their favorite players or teams. We hope everyone joins in on the fun!

Clothing to Cash

Is it time to clean out your closets? If you have clothing or shoes that you would like to donate, please consider leaving them in our "Clothing to Cash" textile recycling bin.

How Clothing to Cash Works

- **What they accept:** Clothes in any condition (even torn or stained), shoes, backpacks, sheets, towels, and stuffed animals.
- **How to donate:** Bag your items tightly and drop them into the designated white collection bin located at the south end of our parking loop.
- **The payout:** Patapsco earns cash based on the total weight of the recycled textiles.

From the PTA

Bruh. It's time for Brusters!

Invite friends and neighbors to meet up at Bruster's Real Ice Cream Ellicott City (on Rte 40) on September 25! Bruster's is hosting a restaurant night for us, where the PTA receives a portion of the proceeds. Enjoy a yummy treat between 6 and close and tell them you're with Patapsco.

Show the world we are Patapsco proud!

The PTA facilitates the [Patapsco Middle spirit wear store](#). Always online and available, lots of great things to choose from. Adult styles and sizes too, so you catch the spirit too. [Click here to access the store](#)

We are looking for an 8th Grade Activities Coordinator!

Do you have an 8th grader and want to be a part of this exciting, special year? We are in need of an activities coordinator(s) for the 8th graders - the main part is coordinating with the t-shirt vendor for the traditional shirt and pulling together a group to plan the 8th grade dance. We offer lots of support for the endeavors and are happy to support two people if they want to split the coordinator role. Best of all, it's fun! Email patapscopta@gmail.com if interested!

PTA Membership - Join the quest!

If you were at Back-to-School night, hopefully you enjoyed The Adventures of Sir Knight. Sir Knight is on a PatapscoOmega Quest for the #1 PTA Royale! The quest will need 335 knights at the Round Table. Sir Knight has 108 so far - but more knights are needed! Please [JOIN](#) the PTA today and help Sir Knight and your fellow knights on to victory!

Angel Tree 2026

The Salvation Army's Angel Tree Program is accepting applications from September 14-September 18. The program provides holiday assistance for families who qualify. For more information, see their flyers in [English](#) and [Spanish](#).

[Previously Shared](#)

Sixth Grade Mash-up

We will hold our 6th grade Mash-up Friday, September 25, 2025. Students will spend the afternoon participating in team-building activities to help them grow as a community. Volunteers are needed to help this day go smoothly. Please complete [this Google Form](#) if you are available and interested.

When students arrive at school, they will go to their morning classes as usual. Students will visit lockers as usual before lunch to gather lunch boxes. They will eat lunch as usual in the cafeteria. Students who buy lunch will still be able to buy. After lunch, they will leave all materials except their water bottles in their lockers for the rest of the day. Students will be given an ice pop as a special treat at the end of the day.

To prepare for the day, students should wear...

- Closed-toe shoes and socks
- Comfortable clothes in which they can move freely
- Layers in case it is cold in the morning and warmer in the afternoon
- A hat and sunglasses
- Sunscreen (apply before arriving at school)

Students should bring...

- A water bottle labeled with their first and last name
- Lunch as usual

Students will not have regular classes for Periods 4-7. They will have reflection time at the end of the day in which they may need paper and pencils. All materials other than water bottles will remain in lockers throughout most of the day while students are outside participating in activities.

Thank you! We're looking forward to a fun afternoon!

The 6th Grade Team

Lunch and Recess Monitors Needed

Patapsco is seeking monitors to support our students during lunch and recess for the 2026-2027 school year.

Lunch & Recess Monitors work collaboratively with HCPSS staff during lunch and recess to provide necessary assistance to students while they eat lunch and engage in recess. Below, please find details regarding the position of Lunch & Recess monitor:

Lunch & Recess Monitors are considered temporary HCPSS employees

Hours are 11:00 a.m.-1:45 p.m.

Compensation is \$16.00 per hour

Communication, initiative, flexibility and enjoyment working with children are important attributes for those interested in the Lunch & Recess Monitor position. It is also a great

opportunity for a parent who is looking to support the school and earn compensation while their child(ren) is at school. Interested applicants can apply: [Application for Lunch and Recess Monitor](#).

Please email Mrs. Barber-Wehrman at theresa_barber-wehrman@hcpss.org with any questions and to express interest in the position.

Welcome

This year, Patapsco Middle School was selected as one of the few middle schools to be awarded a School Culture & Safety Assistant. We are proud to announce that Michael “Mr. G” Guizzotti has been assigned to Patapsco to fill this role.

Free Food Distribution on September 28

There will be a free food and fresh produce distribution from 12-2 on Monday, September 28th. Sponsored by The Salvation Army, it will be held at 3267 Pine Orchard Lane, Ellicott City, MD, 21042. There is a drive-through option and attendees should bring an ID.

[September Food Distribution - Spanish.pdf](#)

[September Food Distribution - English.pdf](#)

Update Your Family File

Thank you to the families of the 572 students who have already completed your Family File. Leading all grades is 7th grade with 90.6% of their Family Files completed! If you have not already done so, please assist us by completing your Family File ASAP at hcpss.org/connect. Parents/guardians can [access and complete Family File](#) by logging in to HCPSS Connect, selecting the Online Registration/Family File at the top right of the page and then selecting Family File Verification.

Cell Phones

All phones and personal communication devices must be silenced and in backpacks or lockers from the beginning bell until the dismissal bell. Violation of this policy will lead to confiscation of the device. First-time offenders may pick their device up in the office at the end of the day. Further violations will require a parent or guardian to collect the device.

Free and Reduced Meals (FARMSs)

Many HCPSS families are eligible to participate in the [Free and Reduced Price Meals \(FARMs\)](#) program, which provides children with a wide range of benefits including free or discounted college tuition, testing and application fees, academic and athletic program fees and many others in addition to free or discounted meals. Families are urged to check their eligibility and complete a [FARMs application](#) as soon as possible. Families must submit a new application every school year. [Details on the Free and Reduced Meals program](#), including a link to apply, are available online.

2026-2027 HCPSS School Calendar

For your planning needs, please see the link below to access the HCPSS School Calendar which details dates/holidays for this coming school year, including Winter break, Spring break, and professional learning days.

[2026-2027 HCPSS School Calendar](#)

Medication Information

If your child needs medication at school this year, please visit the link below for all required forms, including EpiPen, diabetes, and general medication orders. Learn more information [here](#).