

With mixed emotion, we look forward to celebrating the successful conclusion of the middle school experience with our eighth-grade class. As we prepare for the **Promotion Ceremony planned for Friday, June 9** in the Mt. Hebron High School Auditorium, there is some information we'd like to share with you in regard to dress, attendance, and procedures.

Permission slips (for the Ceremony AND for the June 6 Visitation Day) will be sent home on Thursday May 18, and are due by Monday, June 5 to Mrs. Salsman or the student's homeroom teacher. Two tickets and a program will be sent home with your student on *Thursday, June 8*. Please be sure to check their backpack for these documents. Tickets are numbered and Ms. Anderson will be on hand to help if you lose or do not receive yours. Seating is very limited in the auditorium so if you are aware that your family will not be using both of your tickets, please let us know as soon as you are able. There are some families with special circumstances who could benefit from your ability to share. Please contact Mrs. Salsman ASAP if you will not be using all of your tickets or if you are in need of additional tickets. Each family will receive one printed program.

As you prepare for the final stretch of middle school for your 8th grader, please keep in mind the celebratory activities we have planned. On Friday, June 9, following the Promotion Ceremony (not a graduation), there will be outdoor activities (weather permitting) during the school day. In addition, there will be an evening dance hosted by the PTA between 7 and 9 PM (chaperone/volunteer permitting). If we are able to hold the dance in the evening, students will also need a separate permission slip with parent/guardian contact information in order to attend. This will be sent home once the decision is made.

In order to ensure a smooth day for students, parents, and staff, there are a few things to keep in mind:

- All of these are school events and school appropriate attire is expected.
- Typically, what is worn to the Promotion Ceremony could also be appropriate for the Dance.
- The Promotion Ceremony will be held at Mt. Hebron High School auditorium. As explained above, seating at the facility is limited. Therefore, each family will receive two tickets. If you have concerns about the number of adults, we are able to accommodate per student, please contact Kalina_Salsman@hcpss.org
- Please consider [chaperoning/volunteering](#) for the dance as we NEED parent involvement for the dance to occur. We will also need games/activities for the kids to play after the ceremony- more information forthcoming.

POLICIES AND GUIDELINES

ATTIRE:

Attire should be school appropriate and an example could be: 'dressy casual.' Although these are social activities, we still regard them as teaching and learning experiences. We want our students to recognize the following: fashions that are 'in' may not always be appropriate. Students may choose to bring a change of clothes if they would like for outdoor activities hosted by the PTA...please consider wearing your PTA provided 8th grade tee shirt for after the ceremony. Please understand that the HCPSS Dress Code is enforced at all school events.

If you have questions about appropriate attire, please feel free to contact Ms. Salsman kalina_salsman@hcpss.org

ATTENDANCE:

The following policy applies to all events during and after school hours.

1. HCPSS policy 9010 defines absences as:

A student is counted present for a full day if the student is in attendance for more than 50% of the school day. A student is counted present for a partial day of attendance if a student attends for 10% to 50% of the school day, but less than four hours.

2. Students should be in the building and accounted for by 8:05 AM in order to participate in the event unless they are excused late: for example, doctors appointments.

3. The Celebration Ceremony is considered a field-trip. As such, students must attend school/Homeroom, and ride the bus to and from Mt. Hebron in order to participate in the ceremony. Students may **not** ride to and from the ceremony with parents.

4. Students should come to school dressed appropriately for the event.

Please note that these guidelines will be enforced during all end of year activities for the 8th grade.

PARKING

All parents who are attending the 8th grade promotion on June 9 must park in the parking lot that is the far lot (student parking). There will be plenty of space since the seniors have graduated Mount Hebron. Please DO NOT park in the bus loop as the High School has ARL students coming and going during our promotion ceremony time.

Michael Babe
Principal
Patapsco Middle School
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