

# KNIGHTLY NEWS

# 12-9-2021

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

**12/9:** Patapsco Band Winter Concert @ MHHS, 7PM

**12/10:** Patapsco Chorus Winter Concert @ MHHS, 7PM

**12/15:** 3 hr. Early Dismissal

**12/22:** School Store

**12/23 -12-31:** Schools Closed - Winter Break

**1/6:** 8th Grade Family Information Night, 6PM @ Mt. Hebron High

**1/18:** Vision and Hearing

Refer to the [Patapsco Calendar](#) to stay up-to-date with all the events at Patapsco Middle School.

## **Important Phone Numbers**

School Office: 410-313-2848

Student Services: 410-313-2850

Health Room: 410-313-2574



*Patapsco- a place where **everyone** is valued and important!*

## **Community Academy**

The Council of Elders of the Black Community in Howard County (TCOE) in collaboration with the Howard County Public School System will host a TCOE Community Academy on Social Emotional Well-Being on **December 11 from 9-10:30 a.m.** The session will identify behaviors that affect a child's social emotional well-being and strategies to openly discuss suicide prevention and mental health awareness. Please share this information with your school communities. Registration is required at: <https://tinyurl.com/52kyt6d3>. Flyer are located [here](#). Please contact Ashley Armstead with questions.

## **Listen and Learn Sessions for Quarter 2**

All middle and high school students are welcome to join Community Superintendents, administrators, and HCPSS Leaders who want to hear directly from students about their experiences in HCPSS.

**Area 3 Wednesday 12/14 7:00pm-8:00pm [Student RSVP Area 3 \(Links to an external site.\)](#)**

**Meetings are virtual and students will receive a link once they RSVP.**

## **Help Celebrate the Staff at Patapsco!**

Do you have time to help spread some holiday cheer? Mr. Babe would like to deliver treats to the PMS staff on Monday 12/20. You can help by sending in items for the staff to enjoy. Please see signup genius to help!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0d45acaa2ca31-treats>

## **Car loop reminders**

We thank all of our families for their patience and support during the car loop each morning and afternoon. We do want to highlight some areas of concern that we need to remind families. Students are to not walk up the driveway towards the end of the property to be picked up by families. Students must be picked up in the car loop along the curb. This is for each and every person's safety. We have buses, cars, students, staff all in an area and we need to make sure everyone is safe.

In addition, some drivers have turned into the side parking lot by the portables which is adding another safety concern as cars are now coming in multiple directions. Please follow the traffic pattern for the car loop. We know that everyone is busy and has places to go each day but we need to make safety a priority. Thank you everyone for their support and patience as we have a large group of car riders.

## **IMPORTANT CHROMEBOOK REMINDERS**

Please remind your child to bring their fully charged HCPSS Chromebook and Charger to school daily. We have a limited number of Chromebooks to lend to students. If you are experiencing any Chromebook issues, please visit the [Technology Support Center](#).

## 8th Grade Family Information Night

Thursday, January 6, 2022 at 6PM. [See flyer for more information](#)

## 8th Grade Shirt Order

Patapsco 8th Grade Signature Shirt Order Form is ready. The PTA has had long standing tradition of offering and ordering 8th grade graduation shirts. The back will have the numbers "22" which will be signed by all 8th graders, but the front will feature an original student design. The contest is currently running for students to submit their artwork. Shirt color will be Navy Blue only. **There is no cost for the first T-shirt.** The cost is being covered by the PTA through its general fundraising activities and a generous donation received by one of Patapsco's very own rock star science teacher. To place your order, visit <https://patapscomiddle.memberhub.com/store>. When you visit the site, there will be four options you can select from; free t-shirt, additional t-shirt for \$10; long sleeve shirt for \$18 and sweatshirt for \$28. All 8th grade parents must complete the free option and any additional option you may like to purchase. Signature Shirts are neither exchangeable nor returnable and there will be no extras ordered so get your order in by **December 20, 2021**. A form will need to be completed for each 8th Grader you have at Patapsco. For questions, please reach out to Melissa Singleton at [mschnaar@hotmail.com](mailto:mschnaar@hotmail.com)

## Parents/Guardians of current 8th grader students - Upcoming News!

December and January are busy months for our 8th grade students! In preparation for their transition to high school Ms Lee and Ms Kempthorn will have a lot of information to share with students and families. Please keep an eye out for our Canvas Announcements for regular updates of important dates and information. As always if you have specific questions please reach out to your child's school counselor!

## Nominate a Principal or Teacher

Nominations are now open for the annual HCPSS Principal and Teacher of the Year awards, and are due no later than 4:30 p.m., Friday, Jan. 7, 2022. [Submission information and full details](#) can be found online.

## 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.

## Canned Food Drive

Mount Hebron's annual Canned Food Drive is underway. The High School is running this drive until December 22nd. They are collecting cans, money, and other canned food donations which go towards feeding those who struggle during the harsh winter months. Their goal is to help support our community, to ultimately collect over 75,000 cans county-wide!

Patapsco Middle will be collecting canned goods for MHHS to help with their goal this year. A box is located outside the office if you would like to donate.

The collection is being conducted by classes assigned to various regions of Howard County. For more information about the canned food drive, please email Jasmine Sonpar at [jasmiesonpar@gmail.com](mailto:jasmiesonpar@gmail.com), and to learn more about neighborhood collection please email Mr. Tittsworth at [Michael.Tittsworth@hcpss.org](mailto:Michael.Tittsworth@hcpss.org).

The OSP link for digital donations:

<https://osp.osmsinc.com/HowardMD/BVModules/ProductTemplates/Bvc2013/Product.aspx?productid=DA010-VAR47>

Feel free to write "Leadership Period 3" in the description box for the transaction to attribute the donations towards our class's efforts!

## Impact Aid Forms Due Dec. 31

Parents/guardians who work on a federal property in Maryland and/or are a member of a uniformed service can qualify HCPSS to receive additional federal funding by [completing an Impact Aid form](#) by Dec. 31. Impact Aid supplements the HCPSS operating budget to enhance the teaching and learning that takes place in Howard County classrooms.

## Join Mt. Hebron Choir!

Dear Rising Mt. Hebron Freshman,

It's that time of year... time to start thinking about course registration for next school year!

### Thinking about joining the Mt. Hebron Choir Program?

We are a diverse, welcoming community that is rigorous, rewarding, and, above all, fun! We explore the world around us through song, learn foundations of proper vocal technique, and get to know and celebrate each other. In no time at all, your choral colleagues are bound to become some of your very best friends. ALL we welcome; there is no audition required! Simply register for MU-510-1 to reserve your spot in our amazing choir program.

### Want to audition for GT Chamber Choir?

For those interested in joining our advanced choir, Chamber Choir, there is an audition required. This year, we are making the audition process even more streamlined. All you have to do is record yourself singing a 30-second video of a song that shows off you voice and then send it to Mr. Dogas. If you pass the first round, you will be invited to live Callbacks after school on January 20th. All of the details can be found on our website linked below.

For more information, please visit our website: [www.mthebronmusic.org/choir](http://www.mthebronmusic.org/choir). There, you will see tons more information, as well as a welcome video that shows off some of the fun we have on a daily basis.

As always, email Mr. Dogas ([nicholas\\_dogas@hcpss.org](mailto:nicholas_dogas@hcpss.org)) with any questions you may have. We look forward to welcoming you into our Choir Family!

Thanks,  
Mr. Dogas  
Choir Director, Mt. Hebron High School

## Student Absences, Late Arrivals and Early Dismissal

A reminder to all families that **if your student arrives late to school, please send them in with a parent note or doctor's note that indicates the reason for their late arrival** so that their attendance may be appropriately adjusted. You can also email [pmsabsence@hcpss.org](mailto:pmsabsence@hcpss.org) with a late arrival or absence note. If we are not provided a parent or doctor's note for lawful late arrivals or absences, your child will be marked unexcused. [Click here](#) for more attendance information.

## COVID-19 Self-Screening Symptoms Self Check

All parents/guardians are to perform a [COVID-19 health check](#) every day before your student leaves home. Students are not to come to school if they are experiencing any [symptom\(s\) associated with COVID-19 or other communicable disease](#).

Please contact the health room if your student is being tested for COVID or has a household member who is COVID positive or exhibiting symptoms.

It is very important that we are able to make contact with parents. Please make sure that your contact numbers and emergency contacts are up to date in family file. Students are expected to be picked up as soon as possible, and within the hour.

Please contact the nurse if you have any questions 410-313-2574 or [Megan\\_Blouse@hcpss.org](mailto:Megan_Blouse@hcpss.org)

For COVID-19 testing information, please visit the [Howard County Health Department's website](#).

The Howard County Health Department also has information regarding COVID-19 [vaccination](#).

Please visit the [HCPSS website](#) for additional information on self screening, contact tracing and quarantining procedures. Additionally, visit the [HCPSS website](#) for more information on the 2021-2022 school year and answers to frequently asked questions.

## **[Quarantining Procedures](#)**

The [close contact and quarantining procedures](#) that were put into place last year will remain this fall. Only unvaccinated students and adults who are identified as close contacts must quarantine. ***Vaccinated students and staff will not be required to quarantine*** unless they receive a positive test or are displaying symptoms, but are expected to monitor their symptoms closely for the 14 days. [Instructional supports](#) are in place for students who must quarantine. Students will be able to see when their teachers are available through their canvas page.

## **[Knightly Newsletters](#)**

All previous newsletters are posted under News at <http://pms.hcpss.org/>

## **[Community Notices:](#)**

### **New HCPSS Community News and Programs Site:**

In response to community requests for resources, HCPSS' new [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](http://community-programs.hcpss.org) for more information. Questions should be directed to the Public Information Office at [publicinfo@hcpss.org](mailto:publicinfo@hcpss.org).