

KNIGHTLY NEWS

2-25-2022

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- 3/08:** Orchestra Assessment (6th, 7th, & 8th), 4PM
- 3/09:** PTA Meeting, 7PM
- 3/13:** Spring Forward (clocks are turned forward 1 hour)
- 3/16:** 3 hr. Early Dismissal, 11:50 AM and Club Day
- 3/18:** Knightime Schedule
- 3/22:** Spring Picture Day
- 3/23:** Chorus Assessment (6th, 7th, & 8th), 6PM
- 3/30:** Band Assessment (6th, 7th, 8th), 4PM
- 4/1:** 3 hr. Early Dismissal, 11:50 AM (End of 3rd quarter)
- 4/7:** Music Boosters (Virtual), 7PM
- 4/8:** Reports Cards posted
- 4/11-4/18:** School Closed - Spring Break

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!*

Canned Food Drive

We will have our Canned Food Drive February 28th through March 15th to collect food for the Howard County Food Bank. Canned, dry, and non-perishable foods will be collected through social studies classes over the two and a half weeks. We will track student donations by grade. In the past we have collected 1,000-3,000 food items. We hope to make a big difference for our community once again this year!

8th Grade MISA Testing

All 8th grade students will be taking the MISA (The Maryland Integrated Science Assessment) on March 14th and 15th. Students will be testing the first two periods of the day. It is important that every effort is made for students to be present and on time on those days. Please reach out to Mrs. Dinicola with any questions.

Yearbooks

Yearbooks are back on! After a year without books, the Yearbook Team will be looking forward to helping us remember this year back in school! Books will be distributed the last week of school, but can be purchased NOW (through March)! To order online, please visit: www.jostensyearbooks.com

Student Lunch or Other Student Materials Drop-Off

Any parent who is dropping off a lunch or other materials for a student, should do so by 10:30 a.m. to ensure that we are able to get the lunch and/or materials to the student prior to their lunch shift. Please write your student's name and grade on the lunch or item to be delivered. As a reminder, breakfast and lunch will be provided at no cost to families for all HCPSS students throughout the 2021-2022 school year.

As all students can eat in the cafeteria free of charge, any student who forgets their lunch will still be able to eat a lunch meal from the cafeteria during their lunch shift. Thank you for your understanding.

Nominate an Outstanding Educator!

The annual HCPSS Educator Recognition Program celebrates educators who demonstrate exemplary commitment to the needs of advanced-level learners and/or the Howard County G/T Education Program.

Now through March 4, families and students have the opportunity to recognize a G/T Resource Teacher, content or classroom teacher, or administrator who has enriched the educational experience of advanced-level learners. ALL educators for whom submissions are received will be recognized.

[Nominate an educator today!](#)

2023 Music Educator Award

Each year, the Recording Academy® and GRAMMY Museum® recognize current educators, kindergarten through college, public and private schools, who have made a significant and lasting contribution to the field of music education. The Music Educator Award winner receives a \$10,000 personal honorarium, a matching school grant of the same amount, and a trip to the 2023 GRAMMY Awards. Honorariums and matching school grants are also available to nine finalists and 15 semifinalists. [Click here](#) to learn more. Nominations can be submitted via [this nomination form](#) by April 30, 2022.

Summer Camp at Mt. Hebron High School

[See attached flyer for more information](#)

Ping Pong Tables For PE

Hello! Do you have a Ping Pong Table sitting in your home collecting dust and/or no longer need? If so, we would love to add another table to our Patapsco PE Department for our upcoming Table Tennis Unit! If you are willing to donate your table to the PE Department, we will happily come and pick it up from your home. Please call the school at 410-313-2848 or email any one of the PE teachers and let us know you have one to donate! Thanks so much!

kristina_debenedetti@hcpss.org

patrick_spliedt@hcpss.org

matthew_capecchi@hcpss.org

The PE Team

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 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.

Upcoming COVID Vaccine Clinics

Through a partnership with the Howard County Health Department and several local pharmacies, HCPSS is providing students and staff opportunities to get vaccinated and/or receive a booster, including at some clinics hosted in HCPSS schools. [Information about upcoming clinics](#), including one Tuesday, March 1 for 5- to 11-year-olds, can be found online and will be updated as new clinics become available.

From the Health Room

If you have not provided the health room with records of your child's COVID vaccines please send a copy to the health room. If your child has received a booster please also forward that information. Fax number 410-313-1741 or email [Megan Blouse@hcpss.org](mailto:Megan_Blouse@hcpss.org).

Students who will be entering 7th grade next year are required to have the MCV4 and Tdap vaccines prior to the first day of school. Any student that does not have the required vaccines will be excluded from school on the first day. Please provide the health room with your child's updated records. If your child has not had these vaccines please contact your health care provider to schedule an appointment. The Health Department provides immunization opportunities for kids who are not up-to-date on school-required vaccinations. Call the Health Department at 410-313-7500 to schedule a vaccination appointment for your child.

COVID-19 Self-Screening Symptoms Self Check

When emailing the school regarding your child's absence due to a positive Covid-19 test result, or close contact to a positive case, please provide the following information.

Positive Test

- Date tested
- Date the symptoms began (if any)
- Vaccination status

Close Contact to a Positive Individual

- Date of exposure (if close contact)
- If your child is a household close contact - can the positive family member be completely isolated from the child.
- Has your child had a confirmed positive Covid-19 test within the last 90 days.

Please contact the health room megan_blouse@hcpss.org if you are being tested or have a

household member or if you are a close contact of someone who tested positive.

More Information: [COVID-19 Self-Screening Symptoms Self Check & Quarantining Procedure](#)

[Instructional Supports for Students in Quarantine](#)

Students who must quarantine have several [opportunities to continue learning and receive supports](#), which will help them easily transition back to instruction once they return to school. At Patapsco Middle, teachers will post their virtual check-in days and times on their Canvas pages. In addition, if you would like to request evening school tutoring, please contact your child's teacher or lindsey_miles@hcpss.org.

[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 for more information. Questions should be directed to the Public Information Office at publicinfo@hcpss.org.