

KNIGHTLY NEWS

2-4-2022

UPCOMING EVENTS:

2/9: School Store

2/8: Course Registration Window Opens

2/16: 3 hr. Early Dismissal, 11:50 AM and Club Day

2/17: Music Boosters, 7PM (virtual)

2/22: Course Registration Window Closes

2/23: School Store

2:23: Spirit Day - Wear Your Patapsco Gear or Grade's Color (6- silver/gray, 7-white, 8-blue)

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!*

Course Registration Info

Attention current 6th and 7th grade parents!

Course registration for the 2022-2023 school year will be available online during the window of **February 8, 2022 - February 22, 2022**. Please [click here for more information](#)

Black Lives Matter at School Week of Action

On Thursday, January 27, 2022, the Howard County Board of Education approved a resolution on Black Lives Matter at School Week of Action (BLMWA) for January 31- February 4, 2022. Black Lives Matter at School Week of Action emphasizes that schools should be places for the practice of equity, for the building of understanding, and for the active engagement of all in creating pathways to freedom and justice for all people. It intends to highlight, uplift, and affirm the rich history and contributions of the Black community and cultivates in Black students a sense of pride, self-worth, and self-love. Our Patapsco students and staff will engage in a variety of activities throughout this week and month.

2nd Annual Black History Month Essay Contest

The Baltimore Ravens are proud to announce the 2nd Annual Black History Month Essay Contest, which is open to all middle and high school students in Baltimore and its surrounding areas. The theme for this year's essay is "Celebrate, Motivate, Inspire" and students are encouraged to submit an essay between 250-500 words describing an African American in history, in your life or community, who is making or has made a positive impact on history and how they have inspired you personally.

Essays must be the author's original, unpublished work. The goal is to celebrate the contributions of African Americans in history and those who are making a difference in the Baltimore community today.

All entries are due on February 18, 2022 and four winners (two grand prize, two runner-ups) will be identified by February 25, 2022.

To enter and learn more, visit: [Baltimore Ravens Essay Contest](#)

We look forward to reading the amazing essays written by your students!

The Baltimore Ravens Community Relations Team

2021-2022 ACADEMIC CALENDAR UPDATES

To date, HCPSS has used four of five days allocated in this year's calendar as inclement weather make-up days. In anticipation of possible future inclement weather days, and in response to the declaration of June 19 as a federal holiday, at its Jan. 27 meeting, the Howard County Board of Education approved several modifications to the 2021-2022 current school year academic calendar:

- **Monday, Feb. 21, previously closed for Presidents Day, now will be a full school day,** with both schools and offices being open. Earlier this week Maryland State Superintendent of Schools Mohammed Choudhury announced that districts may request permission and use the state-mandated closure on Presidents Day for an inclement weather make-up.
- **Monday, June 20, all HCPSS schools and offices will be closed** in observance of the Juneteenth holiday. A bill signed by President Biden declared June 19 as Juneteenth National Independence Day, a US federal holiday commemorating the emancipation of African American slaves.
- **Wednesday, June 22 was added as an additional inclement weather day,** if needed.

As in previous years, the last day of school will be communicated once winter weather is over and inclement weather days have been used. The [HCPSS calendar is updated online](#).

Fall 2021 Assessment Home Reports

Students in grades 6- 8 who participated in the fall 2021 Maryland Comprehensive Assessment Program (MCAP) will be bringing home score reports on Friday, February 4th or Monday, February 7th.

The reports show prior grade level understanding in math and English language arts. Sixth graders' reports also show prior grade level understanding for science. These assessments are just one measure of your child's performance and provide you with insight into your child's level of proficiency. Federal accountability requires that students assess annually in grades 3-8 and once in high school. The assessments delivered in early fall of 2021 were the postponed assessments from the 2020-2021 school year. Reports reflect proficiency in the previous year's grade level or course. These results never stand alone in assessing student growth, and will be used in combination with other assessments and class work to gauge overall student performance.

For more information, please visit the [early fall HCPSS FAQ](#).

Vaccine - in Partnership with Soleil Pharmacy

Wednesday, February 9, 3 -6 PM

Long Reach High School

6101 Old Dobbin Road, Columbia

Pfizer (12+) first or second dose vaccine, or booster [Schedule an appointment and complete the online consent \(Feb. 9\)](#)

[Long Reach High School Pfizer Clinic flyer](#)

[Long Reach High School Pfizer Clinic Spanish flyer](#)

Box Tops for Music Boosters

Instead of cutting out and turning in little bits of cardboard to earn money for your school, you can scan your receipts for boxtops and support Patapsco Music! It's as simple as taking a picture!

To start earning for our school:

1. Download the [Box Tops app](#).
2. Link your account to Patapsco Middle School (School ID: 574178).
3. Shop as you normally would.
4. Use the app to take pictures of your store receipt within 14 days of purchase.

The app will automatically calculate earnings for our school!

Get your neighbors and friends to collect box tops too!



General Music

Learn or hone your piano, guitar, ukulele, and drumming skills while also learning how to write and produce your own music using software such as Soundtrap.

Check out this video about General Music!

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1NliiUgC_y3fReJY1C21FgNcPqxIGa8Fg/view?usp=sharing

Band

Join Band! We have a room full of woodwind, brass and percussion instruments ready to be played and friendly students ready to help and perform with you! Contact Mr. Drake for details on which class is best for you! No prior band experience necessary! Come join the fun!

Check out this video about Band!

https://drive.google.com/file/d/158_oT6VldDmpIHIZI1UV8BSM2WrT6PjT/view?usp=sharing

Orchestra

Interested in learning how to play a string instrument? We have students who play violin, viola, cello, and string bass. Some students have been playing a long time, and some just started this school year. We'd love to have you as a part of our orchestra program!. Contact Mrs. Haight if you have any questions.

Check out this video about Orchestra!

https://drive.google.com/file/d/12AEI5EJK6wIByD2tSIC0hKE50E_3HcZx/view?usp=sharing

Patapsco Vocals

"Love to sing? Love to be a part of a group of students that works hard to represent Patapsco Middle School? Then the Patapsco Vocal Music Program is a great place for you to get involved, make friends, enjoy making music every day, and find something to be proud to say you are a part of! If you are interested in joining its simple- request Chorus when you make your course selections for next year in Synergy.. We look forward to adding more of our amazing students in the 2022-23 school year and keeping the tradition of great vocal music alive here at PMS! You are also welcomed to reach out directly to Mr. Rainbow at Michael_Rainbow@hcpss.org.

[See flyer for more information](#)

LOST AND FOUND

We have an assortment of items in our Lost and Found—coats, lunch boxes, water bottles, umbrellas, etc. If your child has lost something, please ask them to check the Lost and Found outside of the Media Center. Any unclaimed items will be donated at the **end of January**.

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.

Unmatched Athlete FREE LGBTQIA+ Climbing Days at Movement Columbia Gym

[For more information see flyer](#)

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.

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](#)

Quarantining Procedures

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.

Knighly 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.

