

KNIGHTLY NEWS - 12/20/2024

UPCOMING EVENTS

12/23-1/1	Schools Closed for Winter Break
1/2	Schools Reopen
1/7	Rising 9th Grade Parents Night @Mt. Hebron HS 6:30pm
1/20	Schools and Offices Closed-MLK, Jr. Holiday
1/21	Incoming 6th Grade Parent Night @Patapsco MS 6pm
1/27	Schools Closed for Students - Professional Work Day

Here's to a wonderful holiday season and peaceful new year for our Patapsco community. Please take time to unplug and unwind over this much needed break. Relax, recharge and revive for **2025!**

Thank You!

The staff of Patapsco Middle School thanks the Patapsco PTA and the greater Patapsco community for the outpouring of so many amazing treats for the Jingle Bell Express Treat Carts! Yes, carts because there were 3!!! Thank you for recognizing our staff for all of their hard work as they educate and support our students every day.

Community Academy: Student Well-Being, Jan. 11

Saturday, Jan. 11, 9-10:30 a.m., virtual session

Attendees at [this virtual session](#) will hear from HCPSS staff about student well-being support, strategies to manage student anxiety, and learn more about community agencies that support families with managing mental health challenges. Register online.

BSAP Saturday Math Academy Spring Program Registration, Jan. 4

The HCPSS Black Student Achievement Program (BSAP) Saturday Math Academy will offer an [in-person enrichment program this spring for any students in grades 3-12](#) in all

levels of math, based on course availability. Registration will take place online Saturday, Jan. 4, 2025, from 9:00 a.m. until capacity is reached. Class space is limited.

8th Grade News

Rising 9th Grade Parent Night at Mt. Hebron HS

On Tuesday, January 7, 2025, Mt. Hebron High School will host their Rising 9th Grade Parent Night. The evening will begin at 6:30pm with a presentation in the Mt. Hebron auditorium followed by an Interest Fair from 7-8pm in the gym. More details can be found in this [flier](#).

Apply for JROTC by Jan. 3

HCPSS' Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps (JROTC) program provides an introduction to career opportunities in the United States Armed Forces and teaches principles of leadership, discipline and civic responsibility. JROTC programs are offered at Atholton (Army), Howard (Army) and Oakland Mills (Air Force) high schools; however students at any school may apply. [Details](#), including how to schedule an interview, are online.

NEWS WORTH REPEATING

Mid-quarter Check-in

Time flies when you are learning and having fun!! Students are halfway through the second quarter and this is a great time for students and parents to do a Canvas check ahead of the winter break. The Canvas check can include completing homework, finishing missing assignments and/or preparing for any upcoming assessments.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PARENTS OF CURRENT 8TH GRADE STUDENTS

Rising 9th Grade Course Registration

From December 16 through January 14, current 8th grade students may view their teachers' course recommendations and submit course placement requests for the 2024-2025 school year. Please use the information linked below to help guide you through the process. Families can reach out to their student's School Counselor for questions or concerns.

Links: [Rising 9th Grade Course Planning Canvas Page](#)
[HCPSS High School Registration Website](#)

Hearing and Vision Screening for 8th Grade Students

The Howard County Health Department and HCPSS School Health Services support your student's academic success by providing vision and hearing screenings at your child's school. These screenings are required by Maryland State Law. Patapsco Middle School's 8th grade students will be screened on January 21, 2025 with re-screening on January 30.

If your child has glasses, please make sure that he or she wears them on the screening day.

For more information, see [here](#). [En Español](#)

HCPSS Emergency Notifications

Families are reminded that in emergency situations (including inclement weather), information will be shared with the community only through the HCPSS website, email and text, Twitter/X and the HCPSS weather hotline. Be sure your Family File is up to date and that you have [opted into texts](#) to receive emergency messages.

Cold Weather Attire

As the colder weather settles in, please remind your students to dress appropriately for their time outside (waiting at the bus stop, recess, PE). If they are missing a coat, jacket or hoodie, please encourage them to check the lost and found.

Lost and Found

Please remind students to check the Lost and Found regularly. We have a large collection of jackets, water bottles, lunchboxes, pencil cases, and other items.

PTA News

Recess Equipment Amazon Wish List - The list is still open! The PE Department has asked for contributions to replace some of the equipment that has been worn out or ventured on a permanent safari in the back woods. You can purchase equipment through the [Amazon Wish List by clicking here!](#) In addition, the PE Department is accepting donations of gently used sports balls (basketballs, soccer balls, volleyballs) and/or equipment bags. You can bring these items to the school or let us know if you have other questions! patapscopta@gmail.com

Membership - As always, it's not too late to join the PTA and/or make a donation to our grant program! Find out how by accessing our website - <https://patapscomiddle.givebacks.com/>

Flu Prevention

The Health Department encourages people of all ages to get a seasonal flu shot from a healthcare provider, local pharmacy, retailer or big box store. Flu vaccination can reduce flu illnesses, doctors' visits, and missed work and school (even virtual school) due to flu, as well as prevent flu-related hospitalizations and deaths. The Howard County Health Department provides a [list](#) of community immunization clinics.

Community Notices

HCPSS' [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

Resources

[Patapsco Calendar](#)

[Quick Guide to Online Resources](#)

[Secondary Student & Parent Handbook](#)

[Student Code of Conduct](#)

Stay Connected

School Office: 410-313-2848

Student Services: 410-313-2850

Health Room: 410-313-2574

Follow us on X: @hcpss_PMS and Instagram: PatapscoMS

[Patapsco Middle School Website](#)