

KNIGHTLY NEWS

3-4-2022

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 PJ and stuffed animal Spirit Day 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

4/01: 3 hr. Early Dismissal, 11:50 AM (End of 3rd quarter)

4/07: Music Boosters (Virtual), 7PM

4/08: 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

Dear Patapsco families and community:

I am excited to be back at Patapsco after being on medical leave the past two weeks. I have missed our students, staff, and community so much. It was nice to receive all the well-wishes from our Patapsco community. I want to thank all of the staff who continue to support our students and each other. In addition, I want to thank Ms. Elaine Reid for serving as an Administrative Sub in my absence along with our Assistant Principal, Ms. Dinicola.

I am looking forward to finishing the year strong and in good health with our students, staff, and families. There is so much going on from the canned food drive, clubs, performing arts concerts, the musical, field trips, etc. Patapsco is truly a remarkable place because of the PEOPLE. Our incredible students, dedicated and talented staff, and supportive families. I am honored to serve as the principal of Patapsco Middle School.

Thank you for being part of our #OnePatapsco community and always supporting our students, staff, and school.

I hope you have a relaxing weekend,
Mike Babe



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

Spring Picture Day is Coming!

It is time to order that perfect spring picture of your student. Lifetouch will be at Patapsco on Tuesday, March 22, 2022 to take your child's portrait. Packages can be ordered [online](#).
Picture Day ID: **EVT2CB4BR**

[See flyer for information](#)

National History Day

We are proud of our six finalists chosen to compete in the Howard County National History Day Competition. The competition will be held virtually, and judging will take place in the next two weeks. The competing students have submitted exhibits, websites, and papers covering a wide variety of topics including the Congress of Vienna, Vietnam War Protests, McCarthyism and the Second Red Scare, the Jallianwala Bagh Massacre, the Trial of Susan B. Anthony, and censorship of tobacco advertisements in the United States.

Congratulations to our six finalists:

Amitha S.
Akshaini P.
Keshav P.
Krithi B.
Nihara E.
Tanvi M.

As we wish them luck, we also celebrate the academic achievements of our many 7th and 8th grade students who have completed their own research projects. These skills in academic research will help for years to come.

HCASC MEETING

All middle and high school students are invited to participate in the Howard County Association of Student Councils March General Assembly meeting on Wednesday, March 9 from 7:00-8:00 p.m. at Homewood Center. Students may attend the meeting in-person or virtually by logging in with their HCPSS account. [Details](#) are available online.

HCPSS/The Council of Elders (TCOE) 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 Substance Abuse on March 12 from 9:00 - 10:30 a.m. The session will provide information regarding substance abuse prevention and behavioral health within the Howard County community. Representatives from HC Drug Free will provide resources and education on prevention, risk factors, warning signs, and treatment. This session will be held virtually. Registration is required at: <http://tinyurl.com/2p9dnz8f>. Flyer located [here](#).

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.

Yearbook

Time is running out! Have you purchased your 2022 Yearbook?! To order online, please visit: www.jostensyearbooks.com

If you need to purchase by cash or check, please email Kalina_salsman@hcpss.org for a form.

Summer Camp at Mt. Hebron High School

[See attached flyer for more information](#)

HC DrugFree Updates

- 1. FREE Parenting Classes:** HC DrugFree will present another series of parenting class for Howard County parents, guardians, and grandparents starting March 30. This program will meet via Zoom for 5 classes (March 30, April 6, 27, & May 4, 11) from 10:30 a.m. to noon. Adults should plan to attend all 5 sessions. Topics include How to Prevent Drug Use in Your Family, How to Develop Healthy Beliefs and Clear Standards, Avoiding Trouble: How to Say No to Drugs, Managing Conflict: How to Control and Express Your Anger Constructively, and How to Strengthening Family Bonds. The class is free, but space is limited. Registrations will be accepted until the class is full or March 22, 2022:
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ParentingClassReg> For more information: Email Parenting@HCDrugFree.org, visit www.hcdrugfree.org or view [downloadable flier](#)
- 2. FREE Life Skills Classes for Students:** HC DrugFree is providing a highly interactive skills-based program designed to promote positive health and personal development for youth in grades 6-9. For slightly younger or older students, please register and we will consider each request. We encourage siblings and friends to take these classes together! These skills have been shown to help students resist substance use, violence, and other high-risk behaviors. Our instructional team consists of dedicated adults and older students sharing situations they may face in high school, college, and beyond. The next series of classes will be held via Zoom Tuesdays and Thursdays May 10, 12, 17, 19, 24, 26, 31 and June 2 from 4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Registration is required. Please [sign-up](#) ASAP as space is extremely limited! For more information: Email LifeSkills@hcdrugfree.org, visit www.hcdrugfree.org or view [downloadable flier](#)
- 3. Parents:** If you are interested in learning more about what is happening in Howard County, the many free resources HC DrugFree and other organizations offer, or how your student can volunteer as they learn skills and receive more community service hours, then sign up for our free newsletter to get updates on events as well as information to keep your family safe and informed. Go to the bottom of our homepage at www.hcdrugfree.org

4. **Medication and Sharps Drive-thru Collection:** HC DrugFree's next drive-thru prescription and over-the-counter medication and sharps (needles, syringes and EpiPens) collection will be held on Saturday, April 30 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Wilde Lake Village Center parking lot in Columbia. Medication will be guarded and transported by the Howard County Police and the DEA. For more information visit www.hcdrugfree.org or email Admin@hcdrugfree.org or view [downloadable flier](#) **Adults, teens, youth groups, and medically-trained adults may volunteer at www.hcdrugfree.org/drug-take-back-day-1/**

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.

Congratulations to one of our students!

Vishva R. has been selected to participate in Mathcount competition at the Maryland State level. He participated at the County level and stood 6th within the county. Congratulations and good luck to Vishva.

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.

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.

Vaccines Available

3/8/22 5-7pm Central Branch Library 10375 Little Patuxent Pkwy, Columbia, MD 21044
<https://www.marylandvax.org/appointment/en/reg/1972911605>

3/9/22 4-6pm Savage Library 9525 Durness Lane, Laurel, MD 20723
<https://www.marylandvax.org/appointment/en/reg/2012859169>

3/15/22 4-6pm Elkridge Library 6540 Washington Blvd, Elkridge, MD 21075
<https://www.marylandvax.org/appointment/en/reg/3012759169>

3/16/22 4-6pm Miller Library 9421 Frederick Rd, Ellicott City, MD 21042
<https://www.marylandvax.org/appointment/en/reg/9216901685>

3/22/22 4-6pm Miller Library 9421 Frederick Rd, Ellicott City, MD 21042
<https://www.marylandvax.org/appointment/en/reg/8512609179>

3/23/22 4-6pm Savage Library 9525 Durness Lane, Laurel, MD 20723
<https://www.marylandvax.org/appointment/en/reg/1982910605>

3/29/22 4-6pm Glenwood Library 2350 State Route 97, Cooksville, MD 21723
<https://www.marylandvax.org/appointment/en/reg/2619581109>

3/30/22 4-6pm Central Branch Library 10375 Little Patuxent Pkwy, Columbia, MD 21044
<https://www.marylandvax.org/appointment/en/reg/1615729059>

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.