## **KNIGHTLY NEWS**

## **[UPCOMING EVENTS:](http://pms.hcpss.org/calendar)**

**9/27**: School Picture Day

**10/15:** School Closed for students

**10/18**: Flu Clinic - more information coming

**11/4:** School Closed for students

**11/12:** Picture Make-up day

**11/17:** PTA Meeting, 7PM

Refer to the [Patapsco Calendar](http://pms.hcpss.org/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!*

**Picture Day is Monday!**

It is time to order that perfect annual picture of your student. Lifetouch will be at Patapsco on Monday, September 27th to take your child’s school portrait. Packages can be ordered [online](https://nam10.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Ftrack.spe.schoolmessenger.com%2Ff%2Fa%2Fw5L0UG4G1QijWS9vmcc0uQ~~%2FAAAAAQA~%2FRgRjIIFJP0QnaHR0cHM6Ly9teS5saWZldG91Y2guY29tL215bGlmZXRvdWNoLyMvVwdzY2hvb2xtQgphOMlNP2HJveDuUhdzYW5kcmFfbmVkemVsQGhjcHNzLm9yZ1gEAAAAAQ~~&data=04%7C01%7Csandra_nedzel%40hcpss.org%7C405dc398dd6f4e26397008d976b7dfdc%7C96a9ac4c477e4dada2b28ad3fc46790b%7C1%7C0%7C637671354371937200%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=4WwvuGa5RqdwqCmskfMuF86WSBY0Pnckxx4FBcjfTL0%3D&reserved=0). Picture Day ID: **EVTKGGDP9.** Every student should have their picture taken even if they don’t order a package.

For more information see flier

## **Lost and Found**

Lost and Found is located outside of the Media Center. We will clean out forgotten items at the end of every month. Please emphasize to your student that it is their responsibility to keep track of their belongings, and to check the Lost and Found if they are missing something.

**BSAP Saturday Math Academy**

The HCPSS Black Student Achievement Program Saturday Math Academy Fall Session is approaching! This year, the BSAP Saturday Math Academy will offer a virtual enrichment program for Howard County Public School System students in all levels of math for grades 3-12. Registration will take place online September 25 from 9:00 a.m.- until capacity is reached. Class space is limited. Families can register by accessing the [HCPSS Connect Website](https://www.hcpss.org/connect/). For more information, please visit:<https://news.hcpss.org/news-posts/2021/09/bsap-saturday-math-academy-virtual-fall-2021-program/>

* [BSAP SMA Fall 2021 Flyer (English)](https://nam10.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fdrive.google.com%2Ffile%2Fd%2F1LOjimNLXB6gzNygOJ946qqQlL1FikNDo%2Fview%3Fusp%3Dsharing&data=04%7C01%7CSandra_Nedzel%40hcpss.org%7Ca6add8f95c164b2ffa6d08d97c3efc9c%7C96a9ac4c477e4dada2b28ad3fc46790b%7C1%7C0%7C637677432224378337%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=J9QWdesz8uDQT9i4cYMYK0nFu0dvbKdIMt4xVa9Tl2k%3D&reserved=0)
* [BSAP SMA Fall 2021 Flyer (Spanish)](https://nam10.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fdrive.google.com%2Ffile%2Fd%2F10Wh0nSt7PsaAKJl0fqSRna024r416Uup%2Fview%3Fusp%3Dsharing&data=04%7C01%7CSandra_Nedzel%40hcpss.org%7Ca6add8f95c164b2ffa6d08d97c3efc9c%7C96a9ac4c477e4dada2b28ad3fc46790b%7C1%7C0%7C637677432224388298%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=asHioSvI6vGZAUsgk%2BQWxjOZ8kljTqGLuhvc2LiOe8Q%3D&reserved=0)

**The Office of World Languages**

The Office of World Languages will be testing our Heritage Speakers of Spanish to establish high school placement on October 27, 2021. Attached is a [flyer in Spanish](https://nam10.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fdocs.google.com%2Fdocument%2Fd%2F1oiHtpOgwBbKaCnOhJfxhFK1Gb0XeX5X_BWzBCTAEJDs%2Fedit%3Fusp%3Dsharing&data=04%7C01%7CSandra_Nedzel%40hcpss.org%7Ca6add8f95c164b2ffa6d08d97c3efc9c%7C96a9ac4c477e4dada2b28ad3fc46790b%7C1%7C0%7C637677432224388298%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=MNvtTM5oYoctGCm%2B8mdUc6oVj5nzRIeH0pVFx3qtuRI%3D&reserved=0) with more information about the assessment.

**Listen and Learn**

HCASC (Howard County Association of Student Councils) welcomes ALL middle or high school students in the HCPSS Area 3 cluster (see list of schools on the RSVP form[**Student RSVP Area 3**](https://nam10.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fdocs.google.com%2Fforms%2Fd%2Fe%2F1FAIpQLSdUa_tzzdY1OC5tO9jZ8hOhU80a3tw01T14NPfoXfY8duB39w%2Fviewform&data=04%7C01%7CSandra_Nedzel%40hcpss.org%7C5406206520cb491684c308d97d003d77%7C96a9ac4c477e4dada2b28ad3fc46790b%7C1%7C0%7C637678262262881171%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=HmOYKu%2B6uYetcLod1qbTQ4I9M0JZ650sOuKkx3PrAe4%3D&reserved=0)) to this virtual event. Share your ideas and provide constructive feedback with HCPSS education leaders and decision makers!  **Flier**

Students will receive a Zoom link and details on how to join the virtual event once they RSVP with their HCPSS email account!

**Chromebook Verification**

On Wednesday, September 29, our school will be conducting a Chromebook inventory. **It is important that students bring it to school so that it can be verified**. As it is every day, it is important that students bring their devices to school fully charged and report any concerns or issues.

**HCPSS STARTALK Chinese Language After-School Program (Virtual)**

This [shareable document](https://nam10.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fdrive.google.com%2Ffile%2Fd%2F1BbRORlUHzCWgiTZB78Bna6WUUmgOdLEL%2Fview%3Fusp%3Ddrivesdk&data=04%7C01%7CSandra_Nedzel%40hcpss.org%7C35b0254588424644806e08d97e940dac%7C96a9ac4c477e4dada2b28ad3fc46790b%7C1%7C0%7C637679996604053951%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=QKK1g1cw1iis54s0UYrtEVHdmhQbnLyN24LGQYsP4jw%3D&reserved=0) provides information regarding the free Fall 2021 HCPSS STARTALK Chinese Language After-School Program (virtual) for current HCPSS Grade 7 and Grade 8 students.Parents/Guardians may complete enrollment requests via HCPSS Connect between Monday, September 27, 2021 at 8:00 am and Saturday, October 2, 2021 at 8:00 am.

## **Forgotten Items**

## We are happy to accept lunches, instruments, homework, school projects, keys, or other items as long as they are brought to school before 10:30. Each day, we do one “all-call” announcement for any students who have items that have been left at the office or front desk by family members. Lunches that are brought in after that time are brought to the cafeteria and a general announcement is made.

## We cannot accept items for delivery to students after this time period, with the exception of emergency situations, as we are committed to minimizing classroom interruptions throughout the school day. We know homework, projects and instruments are important to our students, so we ask for your help in assisting students prepare for the day the night before, or the morning of, to ensure they have everything they need.

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## **Early Dismissal**

### There will be no early dismissal after **2:30 PM** daily. There is simply not enough time to process everything before Patapsco staff must begin the regular dismissal process.

**HCPSS Educational Partnerships**

The HCPSS Educational Partnerships 2020-2021 Annual Report has just been released. Each school’s partners are listed, as well as system wide (at-large), curricular and program office partnerships. The report demonstrates how partners work to make Howard County a thriving community that cares for all of its members.

## **Chromebook Responsibilities and Obligations**

## Chromebook Obligations

## Beginning Monday, September 13, HCPSS will charge families for lost, stolen, or damaged devices per the following parameters.

## Families will be charged for any devices that are lost, stolen or damaged while in their care.

## If devices are lost, stolen or damaged during school hours and in the school building, school administrators will conduct an investigation to determine if the incident was the result of neglect on the part of the assigned student.

## [Please read detailed information about Chromebook responsibilities.](https://nam10.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Ftrack.spe.schoolmessenger.com%2Ff%2Fa%2FG7C5E0xercfFggr6LqKN0A~~%2FAAAAAQA~%2FRgRjHguCP0Q6aHR0cHM6Ly93d3cuaGNwc3Mub3JnL2RldmljZXMvY2hyb21lYm9vay1yZXNwb25zaWJpbGl0aWVzL1cHc2Nob29sbUIKYTgC2Dxh5csk1FIXc2FuZHJhX25lZHplbEBoY3Bzcy5vcmdYBAAAAAE~&data=04%7C01%7Csandra_nedzel%40hcpss.org%7Cc325beb5de174ec68d9708d975407ef7%7C96a9ac4c477e4dada2b28ad3fc46790b%7C1%7C0%7C637669742146385377%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=iGSCgRuIZwX7phKej2ktbRUL8D9L68LzHzpyecmqbzg%3D&reserved=0)

## 

**Intramural Programs- check these out!!**

Intramurals are incredible extracurricular opportunities to extend knowledge, exercise the mind and body, and develop social skills. Please browse the following intramural offerings and know there may be more coming especially in the second semester. Most intramurals are after school however there are a few in the morning. Transportation is not provided and we appreciate your promptness when dropping off or picking up your student. Carpooling is always a great idea!

\* As part of our Three R's, we encourage interested students to take the **Responsibility** and contact the program sponsor themselves.**\*** Please email sponsors with any questions.

[Click here](http://pms.hcpss.org/about/intramural-programs) to explore our intramural programs! *We will add more intramurals throughout the year.*

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**Glee Club**

* Open to 6th-8th Grade Singers
* Max of 40 students
* Tuesday & Thursday from 3:15-4:15 in D10
* Come perform popular music from today, yesterday, and decades ago! This group focuses on performing music that has been popular or that is currently popular in a choral format. Ever heard of Pentatonix? This is the same thing just bigger 🙂

Please email Mr. Rainbow if you have any questions.

**Sponsored by Mr. Rainbow** [**Michael\_Rainbow@hcpss.org**](mailto:Michael_Rainbow@hcpss.org)

**Student Leadership Intramural**

Welcome to Leadership! This intramural is designed to provide students an opportunity to explore what leadership is and develop individual student leadership skills.

Each and every day is an opportunity for new ideas and those ideas are developed and driven by individuals who see a need and then lead the way to change. During this intramural, students will explore the importance of communication, research, teamwork, and vision as they develop their own leadership projects. We hope you can join us,

**Permission slip due October 18th. The form can be located** [**here**](https://nam10.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fdocs.google.com%2Fforms%2Fd%2Fe%2F1FAIpQLScc5QkfAI4Gohe8_H2ugFDCRxI_SPFzKx4gn-Bq7dX6QweGMg%2Fviewform&data=04%7C01%7CSherry_Brengle%40hcpss.org%7Cbaeb8c27810e44054f6908d97c4526b9%7C96a9ac4c477e4dada2b28ad3fc46790b%7C1%7C0%7C637677458701256743%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=iYyAl%2FzFkPpCW5zbTTZHE%2Fj1L7fggO5jyP%2B0JywKRW8%3D&reserved=0)**.**

**Sponsored by Ms. Castelbaum samantha\_castelbaum@hcpss.org and Ms. Lee** [**kendra\_lee@hcpss.org**](mailto:kendra_lee@hcpss.org)

## **MESA**

MESA students are able to see the real world applications of what they are learning in school, develop the STEM skills they will need in the future, and begin to see themselves in STEM careers. Held Monday and Wednesday. November - March. For more information email [Danielle\_stephenson@hcpss.org](mailto:Danielle_stephenson@hcpss.org)

**Sponsored by Ms. Stephenson**

**WEngineer**

Hello! We are WEngineer, a Maryland non-profit organization that strives to inspire younger students to take part in Engineering/STEM fields. We run after school programs here at Patapsco Middle School, where we deliver interactive lessons on various fields of engineering in a hands-on and educational fashion.

For the past year and a half, we have been conducting our academies virtually. Now, as the world gradually reopens, we are excited to begin conducting our sessions in-person again!

This October, our first academy of the school year will be *Digital Devs*! The academy will feature six after-school sessions over the course of three weeks. Students will explore the world of Digital Electronics, Computer Engineering, and Computer Logic, participating in hands-on projects along the way. The *Digital Devs* after-school academy takes place on October 19th, 21th, 26th, 28th, November 3rd, and 5th from 3:00 - 4:10pm after school. More details will be published over the coming weeks!

See flyer for more information

**Instructional Seminar Sign-Up! Starting Soon**

Seminars are a great way to expand your knowledge and skills around a topic of interest in a non-graded environment. Each seminar offers a unique focus. However, all seminars have four universal components. They all (1) develop critical and creative thinking skills, (2) involve conducting research, (3) involve working collaboratively to produce an authentic product or creative production, and (4) utilize technology to create and communicate. **Due date is September 30th.**

Use the link below to sign up, or scan the QR code. Please make sure you are logged in with student HCPSS credentials.

[https://forms.gle/fuSpUZaJbMPXjuYM9](https://nam10.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fforms.gle%2FfuSpUZaJbMPXjuYM9&data=04%7C01%7CSandra_Nedzel%40hcpss.org%7Cc3ac9d2e01ff48d381ca08d97456abaf%7C96a9ac4c477e4dada2b28ad3fc46790b%7C1%7C0%7C637668737864069017%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=tvniTJ9dLjm54vD6jA4KZ88hsoXFmIumkjmbFCzqXa4%3D&reserved=0)



**Join the PTA!** [https://patapscomiddle.memberhub.com/store](https://nam10.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fpatapscomiddle.memberhub.com%2Fstore%3Ffbclid%3DIwAR1kTodq0P0udceG_xk8n8b8eJpNu6XhXf6_22hDCowoxRzih3umLMDfdA0&data=04%7C01%7CSherry_Brengle%40hcpss.org%7Cf0183719e06448f172e708d967ce3042%7C96a9ac4c477e4dada2b28ad3fc46790b%7C1%7C0%7C637654957551982787%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=SWGwoDEsB1hpm9Xes8vLHBWAyDO8FXDdNj2mPVTwpiM%3D&reserved=0)#

**Quarantining Procedures**

The [close contact and quarantining procedures](https://nam10.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Ftrack.spe.schoolmessenger.com%2Ff%2Fa%2FVFotQxfAMtP8sWS6QwSdwQ~~%2FAAAAAQA~%2FRgRi998oP0QyaHR0cHM6Ly9oZWxwLmhjcHNzLm9yZy9oZWFsdGgtc2FmZXR5L2Nsb3NlLWNvbnRhY3RXB3NjaG9vbG1CCmEVqKsWYSqK07lSFm1pY2hhZWxfYmFiZUBoY3Bzcy5vcmdYBAAAAAE~&data=04%7C01%7Cmichael_babe%40hcpss.org%7C32e74ca161594945451b08d95e7fb8ae%7C96a9ac4c477e4dada2b28ad3fc46790b%7C1%7C0%7C637644724918771535%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=zkBZaf%2FzL%2BfaAsuwe7%2F%2FAGvMdjWMlH6ILXJaDf41UTk%3D&reserved=0) 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](https://nam10.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Ftrack.spe.schoolmessenger.com%2Ff%2Fa%2F4Eekbez8i8QZSioTPX36gg~~%2FAAAAAQA~%2FRgRi998oP0RCaHR0cHM6Ly9oZWxwLmhjcHNzLm9yZy9oZWFsdGgtc2FmZXR5L2luc3RydWN0aW9uLWR1cmluZy1xdWFyYW50aW5lVwdzY2hvb2xtQgphFairFmEqitO5UhZtaWNoYWVsX2JhYmVAaGNwc3Mub3JnWAQAAAAB&data=04%7C01%7Cmichael_babe%40hcpss.org%7C32e74ca161594945451b08d95e7fb8ae%7C96a9ac4c477e4dada2b28ad3fc46790b%7C1%7C0%7C637644724918771535%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=fa1njf%2F7IIfEHKS4uisLaZc%2BR5pD6K0xGrYFotmh7EU%3D&reserved=0) are in place for students who must quarantine. Students will be able to see when their teachers are available through their canvas page.

**COVID-19 Self-Screening Symptoms Self Check**

Parents/guardians should keep their children home if they are experiencing symptom(s) associated with any communicable disease, including COVID-19. In addition, parents/guardians are to perform the following COVID-19 health check every day before the student leaves home.

**Do not send your child to school with any of the following symptoms:**

* COUGH
* FEVER
* HEADACHE
* SORE THROAT
* DIARRHEA OR VOMITING
* NEW LOSS OF TASTE OR SMELL
* DIFFICULTY BREATHING

IF YOUR CHILD COMES TO SCHOOL WITH ANY OF THESE SYMPTOMS THEY WILL BE SENT HOME TO QUARANTINE. UNVACCINATED siblings of children who are exhibiting symptoms need to stay home also. 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

Please visit the [HCPSS website](https://www.hcpss.org/health/covid-19-self-screening/) for additional information on self screening, contact tracing and quarantining procedures. Additionally, visit the [HCPSS website](https://help.hcpss.org/health-safety) for more information on the 2021-2022 school year and answers to frequently asked questions.

**Cell Phones & Electronic Devices**

[Policy 8080 – Responsible Use of Technology, Digital Tools, and Social Media](https://nam10.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Ftrack.spe.schoolmessenger.com%2Ff%2Fa%2FO4ug0LZQTu02kxAxxz37KA~~%2FAAAAAQA~%2FRgRjE2d5P0QjaHR0cHM6Ly9wb2xpY3kuaGNwc3Mub3JnLzgwMDAvODA4MC9XB3NjaG9vbG1CCmEw-TMyYenWRb9SFm1pY2hhZWxfYmFiZUBoY3Bzcy5vcmdYBAAAAAE~&data=04%7C01%7CSandra_Nedzel%40hcpss.org%7C3c0ca970d0e4476767c508d96fd23e78%7C96a9ac4c477e4dada2b28ad3fc46790b%7C1%7C0%7C637663771066344096%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=htiXC1BqJylTchWriDNfblGqE1UQQkchXClQb8slSUs%3D&reserved=0)

Middle Schools – Students:

Students will not use personal technology devices during non-instructional time, to include but not limited to transition between classes, lunch, recess, or in bathrooms.

**All cell phones must be put away upon entering the building. Students may carry their phone, but it must be silent and it may not be used during the day.**

[**Knightly Newsletters**](https://pms.hcpss.org/news)

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](https://community-programs.hcpss.org/) 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](mailto:publicinfo@hcpss.org).