

KNIGHTLY NEWS

12-15-23

UPCOMING EVENTS:

12/18: Flannel Day

12/19: Crazy Sweater Day

12/20: Random Acts of Kindness Day

12/21: Treat Cart for Staff

12/22: Pajama Day

12/25-1/1: No School - Winter Break

1/2: School Reopens

1/9: Rising Freshman Family Information Night @ 6:30 pm @ Mt Hebron HS

1/15: No School - Martin Luther King Jr. Day

1/17: 3-hour Early Dismissal

1/18: Incoming 6th Graders Parent Night @ 6pm

Refer to the [Patapsco Calendar](#) to stay up to date with all the events at Patapsco Middle School.

Follow us on Twitter: [@hcpss_PMS](#) and Instagram: [PatapscoMS](#)

[Patapsco Middle School Website](#)

Important Phone Numbers

School Office: 410-313-2848

Student Services: 410-313-2850

Health Room: 410-313-2574

HCPSS Emergency Notifications

As we head into winter weather, [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 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.

Rising 9th Graders Information

Parents of our current 8th graders, rising 9th graders, please see the attached [flier](#) and mark your calendars to attend this event.

MHHS Food Drive

Please consider donating to the 49th annual Mount Hebron High School food drive that directly helps our students and families. Here is a [link](#) to a flier with a QR link to directly donate.

Staff Holiday Treat Cart

Do you have time to help spread some holiday cheer? Ms. Hearn and Ms. Dinicola would like

to continue the Holly Trolley tradition of delivering treats to the PMS staff on Thursday, 12/21. You can help by sending in items for the staff to enjoy. Sign up to provide a treat [HERE](#)

You can drop off items to the school on Thursday 12/21 by 7:30 a.m. OR you can message our Hospitality Chair, Jess S, at 443-468-9531 to coordinate a time to drop them off at her home on Wednesday 12/20 and she will deliver to the school the next morning.

Online Book Fair

Just a final reminder that our Scholastic online book fair runs through December 17th and supports our school. Please see the attached [flier](#).

PTA Reflections

We are excited to announce that for our first year launch of the Reflections Program, Patapsco PTA got 8 entries: Visual Arts (2), Photography (2), Music composition (2) and Literature (2). This year's theme was " We are Hopeful..." It is with great pleasure that all of the entries have been judged and are moving on to the county level.

Congratulations : *Anista Ganta, Kate Min, Maizen Sorial and Kriti Jethwani* as your work moves to the county level!

Registration for BSAP Saturday Math Academy

The HCPSS Black Student Achievement Program Saturday Math Academy Spring Session is approaching! This year, the BSAP Saturday Math Academy will offer an in-person enrichment program for Howard County Public School System students in all levels of math for grades 3-12 based on course availability. Registration will take place online Saturday, January 6, 2024 from 9:00 a.m.- until capacity is reached. Class space is limited. Families can register by accessing the [HCPSS Connect Website](#)

For more information, please visit:

<https://news.hcpss.org/news-posts/2023/12/black-student-achievement-program-bsap-saturday-math-academy-spring-2024-program/>

Previously Shared Information

CELL PHONES - MIDDLE SCHOOL

This is a friendly reminder to our community that per HCPSS Policy 8080, middle school 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." Please remind your students that their cell phones should be off and away during the school day. Students are always welcome to use an office phone to reach out to a parent during the school day. If you need to get a message to your child, please call the front office at 410-313-2848.

Yearbook

Are you interested in helping to plan and design this year's yearbook?! Join the Yearbook Team! We will meet on Thursdays beginning 11/30 in TR4. See Ms. Salsman (TR4) for more

information! Or [download a permission slip here!](#) (This club is for current Patapsco MS students.)

Opportunity X

Do you enjoy creating science projects? Are you interested in learning in-depth STEM topics? Do you enjoy hands-on learning? Join our STEM research club! Wednesdays beginning 12/6 in Room F8. Space is limited so sign up soon. [Sign up here!](#) (This club is for current Patapsco MS students.)

Apply for JROTC by Jan. 5, 2024

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. [To apply for participation for the 2024-2025 school year](#), students must contact a JROTC official between **Nov. 13, 2023, and Jan. 5, 2024, to schedule an interview.** Only students who are interviewed during this designated period will be considered for enrollment.

To learn more about the program, visit the HCPSS JROTC website-
<https://www.hcpss.org/academy/jrotc/>

Update Your Family File!

We need every family to update this every year. Please [click here](#) if you have not updated the family file.

Volunteer Information

Are you interested in volunteering at Patapsco Middle this school year - maybe chaperone a field trip or help in a classroom? We value our volunteers and the contributions they make to our students and school. According to Howard County Board of Education Policy, all volunteers must complete a Confidentiality Training Course about protecting the privacy of our students, staff, and schools and must complete the Child Abuse and Neglect Training for Parents. Please complete this course and training before registering to volunteer at your child's school. The course takes about 5 minutes to complete. Please turn both of your completion certificates into the front office at the school when you are finished. Course and training can be found [HERE](#)

2023-2024 Attendance Information and Resources

Click [here](#) for the 2023-2024 Attendance Information and Resources.

Transportation

Patapsco Middle School has experienced great improvements in our bus arrival and departure times. If you have any transportation related questions or concerns that cannot be addressed by Patapsco staff, please use the link below to contact the HCPSS Office of Student Transportation.

[HCPSS Office of Student Transportation Contact Form](#)

[HCPSS Office of Student Transportation Contact Form - Spanish](#)

HCPSS Mental Health and Wellness

If you have an immediate need for help with depression, suicidal thoughts, or other serious mental health issues, please contact:



Grassroots Crisis Intervention: Call 988 or 410-531-6677

The Maryland Crisis Hotline: Call 988 or 211 and then choose option 1

The Crisis Text Line: Text 988 or 74174 and a trained counselor will respond

The National Suicide Prevention Hotline: Call 988 or 1-800-273-8255

For additional information, visit the [HCPSS Mental Health and Wellness webpage](#)

[Knightly Newsletters](#)

All previous newsletters are posted under News at <http://pms.hcpss.org/>

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