**Upcoming Dates**

**Monday, May 29**  
Schools/Offices Closed – Memorial Day

**Wednesday, May 31**  
Mrs. Greene’s Class Field Trip – 9:30am to 3:45pm  
PTA Elections at General Assembly Meeting – 7:00pm

**Thursday, June 1**  
Grade 5 Students Visit Mount View Middle School – 10am to 11:30pm  
WFES Yearbooks Will Be Distributed

**Thursday, June 1**  
GT Math Parent Orientation Virtual Meeting for Rising 4th Graders – 7:30pm

**Friday, June 2**  
Mrs. English & Mrs. Rowe’s Class Field Trip – 9:30am to 3:45pm  
Grade 4 End of Year Picnic – 1:30pm to 3:30pm

**Tuesday, June 6**  
Kindergarten End of Year Picnic – 9:30am to 12:00pm  
Move Up Day for WFES Students – 2:50pm to 3:30pm

**Wednesday, June 7**  
**Schools Close 3-Hours Early for Students** – Professional Work Day

**Thursday, June 8**  
Grade 2 End of Year Picnic – 9:30am to 12:30pm  
Grade 3 End of Year Picnic – 12:30pm to 3:30pm

**Friday, June 9**  
Kindergarten End of Year Program – 9:45am to 10:45am  
Grade 1 End of Year Picnic – 12:00pm to 2:30pm

**Monday, June 12**  
Grade 5 End of Year Picnic – 11:00am to 12:10pm

**Tuesday, June 13**  
Grade 5 Celebration – 9:30am to 10:45am  
PTA Sponsored Fifth Grade Family Celebration – 6:00 to 8:00pm

**Wednesday, June 14**  
Grade 5 Volleyball Game – 9:20am to 11:20am

**June 12, 13, and 14**  
**Schools Close 3-Hours Early for Students**

**Wednesday, June 14**  
***** Last Day of School *****

**School News**

**Important Transportation Information for ALL families**

This is the last chance for families whose children are eligible for bus transportation to register through HCPSS Connect Synergy to receive bus service for the 2023-2024 school year. Registration will close at the end of the day on **Wednesday, May 31**. Please visit [https://www.hcps.org/schools/transportation/registration/](https://www.hcps.org/schools/transportation/registration/) for instructions on how to register and more information.

We do not want any students who qualify for transportation to be without a bus if they rely on that to get to and from school. Please contact the school if you need help registering your child. Please contact the HCPSS Office of Transportation at transportation@hcpss.org or 410-313-6732 if you have questions related to your eligibility to receive bus service. You may also find frequently asked questions online.

Students who receive transportation as part of their Individualized Education Program (IEP) or 504 Plan do not need to register.
Did You Move? Are You Moving?

According to HCPSS Policy 9000 – Student Residency, Eligibility, Enrollment, and Assignment, “A student attending a public school in Howard County will attend the designated school serving the school attendance area in which the parents have bona fide residence.”

If you have moved or are moving soon, please notify us immediately. Please do not wait for us to find out through other means. We can assist you with the transitioning to your child’s new school. Whether it be another HCPSS school, a private school, or a school out of the HCPSS district, we are here to help. If you are transferring to another HCPSS school, our Office Staff will help make the transition as smooth as possible.

Please complete the attached fillable Address Change Form and email it back to us with your new deed or lease. We will electronically verify your school district and update your new address on file. If you have questions, please contact our registration secretary, Mrs. Colleen Green at Colleen_Green@hcpss.org.

Food Bank Thank you!

Thank you so much for all your contributions in support of the Oakland Mills High School Food Pantry. As usual, our school community donated a phenomenal amount of food which supported many families in Howard County. We are incredibly proud of the great work done by our WFES community to support this project. Fifth and Third grades will receive an extra recess as they were the grade levels with the most donations! Once again, thank you for your generosity!

Are You Visiting WFES For Year End Activities?

If you plan to visit school for any events between now and the end of the year, please give this your attention. According to Howard County Board of Education Policy, all volunteers must complete two required volunteer trainings. Please take time to complete the required trainings now so you will be ready when these opportunities present themselves. You must review the trainings, print the documentation for each training, and send them to school at least 5 days prior to volunteering or chaperoning a trip. You may email them directly to Penny Smith at penny_smith@hcpss.org.

Child Abuse Training please review then complete the Child Abuse Certificate
Confidentiality Training please review then complete the Confidentiality Certificate

Summer Curriculum Resources

The elementary curriculum offices have compiled several activities and strategies for students to enhance their learning during the summer. The resource can be found on the Canvas Parent Pages linked below. Resources can be viewed by grade level and subject. Additional resources and suggestions can also be found on the Parent Pages. These resources include games, strategy instruction tips, field trip suggestions, and much more. We hope you find this information helpful.

- Prekindergarten
- Kindergarten
- Grade 1
- Grade 2
- Grade 3
- Grade 4
- Grade 5
Lost and Found
Please have your children check the lost and found. Unclaimed items will be donated on June 16th!

Provide Feedback on 2023-2024 Inclement Weather Asynchronous Instruction Plan
For the 2023-2024 school year, HCPSS again will repurpose up to three inclement weather days as asynchronous instruction days, which will be used at the discretion of the Superintendent. All parents, students, staff, and community members are invited to provide feedback on the plan by emailing InclementWeatherPlan@hcpss.org through June 9, 2023. Full details on the HCPSS Inclement Weather Asynchronous Instruction Plan can be found online.

Free Summer Meal Program Begins June 21
HCPSS will run a free summer meal program weekdays June 21-Aug. 4. Meals will be served only on days schools are open; there will be no meal service on Tuesday, July 4. There are no applications, enrollment or fees to participate in this program, but children must be present to receive free meals. Additional information, including a list of meal sites, is available online.

PETS ON SCHOOL PROPERTY REMINDER
Families, please remember that the HCPSS policy is that pets are not allowed on school property when students are present. Service animals are exempt from this policy. However, therapy and emotional support animals are not permitted in HCPSS buildings. Please see School System policy for complete details. Circular NO. 19 FY23 Animals on School System Property
Thank you in advance for your support and cooperation.

School Directory Access
The school directory is now available. Please log onto the directory with the following directions. The directory can be sorted by grade or other various search options.

Go to www.hcpss.org
Click on HCPSS Connect
Click on HCPSS Connect Log In
Select Family File/School Directory from the menu on the left of the screen in the navigation bar.

Howard County Family Resources
Please consider signing up to receive monthly newsletters from the Howard County Office of Children and Families. Attached you will find the May 2023 issue of Parent Pages.

Kindergarten and New HCPSS Student Registration
Registration for 2023-2024 Kindergarten continues! Parents/Guardians of children who will be five years old as of September 1, 2023, must enroll their children in kindergarten for the 2023-2024 school year. Registering for school is an online process.

Road to Kindergarten Workshop Slideshow
Gather Documentation
Getting Ready for Kindergarten
Begin Registration
Parents/Guardians without access to a computer should contact Teachers’ Secretary, Mrs. Colleen Green at 410-313-5512 for assistance in completing the registration process.

Early Admission for Kindergarten and First Grade
Applications for early admission to first grade are now being accepted. Applicants must submit all application materials for early admission to first grade by May 31, 2023.
Pre-Kindergarten Programs
The Bushy Park Regional Early Childhood Center (RECC) prekindergarten programs are preparing for classes for the upcoming 2023-24 school year. These classes include children with and without disabilities. The program’s focus is helping all children develop communication, literacy, math, problem solving, motor, and social skills. Parents of children who will be 3-years old by September 1st may apply. Applications will be available and accepted in mid-February.

In alignment with Maryland’s Blueprint for the Future, new applications for students turning 4 by September 1 will not be available or accepted. The Howard County Public School System continues to offer a prekindergarten program for income eligible children who will be four years old by September 1. For additional information contact the school or visit: https://www.hcpss.org/schools/pre-k-programs/

HCPSS is committed to providing instruction based on the statewide Early Learning Standards which are in alignment with Kindergarten Readiness. The fees listed in the application will be collected monthly, regardless of the learning model determined by HCPSS throughout the upcoming school year (virtual, hybrid, in person, or class quarantine). If you have additional questions, please contact Roseann Kleinschmidt at (410) 313-5500.

Summer Activities for Children
These summer programs offer children a variety of educational and recreational opportunities during the summer to learn, meet new friends and have fun:
HCPSS BSAP Summer Institute   HCPSS GT Summer Institute   Howard County Public Library System
Howard County Recreation and Parks   Howard Community College Kids on Campus

PTA News & Events
Nominating Committee Seeking Volunteers – PTA Positions for the 2023-24 School Year
The PTA is planning for next year and looking to fill Executive Board positions and Committee Chair positions. We are seeking volunteers to fill the following open Board positions:

President     Treasurer
1st Vice President     Corresponding Secretary
2nd President     Recording Secretary

The next General Assembly Meeting and voting will take place on Wednesday, May 31st at 7:00pm. Please contact one of the following members of the WFES PTA Nominating Committee if you are interested in being an active member of the PTA next year: Kathryn Calton at kathryn.calton@gmail.com, Penny Smith at penny_smith@hcpss.org, or Lindsay Waxler, at wfeswaxler@gmail.com.

PTA General Assembly Meeting/PTA Executive Board Nominations
The next and final (for this school year) PTA General Assembly meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 31, at 7PM. The meeting will be held in the school's Media Center. We will be voting for the PTA Executive Board for the next school year. Please consider volunteering for a position because “Many hands make light work.” We are seeking volunteers to fill the following open Board positions:
President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, Corresponding Secretary, Recording Secretary, and Treasurer.

If you are interested in joining the PTA Executive Board next year or have any questions about position duties, please contact Kathryn Calton at kathryn.calton@gmail.com, Penny Smith at penny_smith@hcpss.org, or Lindsay Waxler, at wfeswaxler@gmail.com.
Save the Date!
Our end-of-year block party is scheduled for Friday, June 9. Want to volunteer and help make this a successful and fun event for the school? Please email kathryn.calton@gmail.com.

Community News and Events
HCPSS Community News and Programs Site
The 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.

GUMC Preschool
Glenelg United Methodist Church (GUMC) is a local private preschool located in Glenelg. Several of their families move on to West Friendship Elementary each year. They have openings in their part-time Pre-K programs this fall (both 4-day and 5-day options are available). Classes are held from 9:15 AM-1:15 PM, so it works well for the bus and elementary drop-off schedules! Tuition assistance may also be available to those who qualify. For more information, please call 410-489-7702.