

TVMS Newsletter

September 30, 2016

Important Dates

Sept. 27-29	Outdoor Education Permission Forms Due
Oct. 3	Schools and Offices Closed
Oct. 4	Fall Student Pictures
Oct. 4	PTSA Meeting
Oct. 6	Interim Report Cards Issued
Oct. 6-7	MAP Testing (6 th Grade and 8 th Grade Only)
Oct. 10-11	MAP Testing (7 th Grade Only)
Oct. 12	Schools and Offices Closed
Oct. 16	HCPSS 5K / Fun Run
Nov. 2 - 4	6 th Grade Outdoor Education Extended Field Trip
Nov. 15	Flu Shot Clinic

A Note From the Principal

TVMS Families,

This is a busy time at TVMS. Our 6th graders are in full preparation for the Outdoor Education field trip in November. I am truly grateful for the staff and parents who support the organization and implementation of our field trips. It is a community effort to make sure field trips are properly supported, so that students can truly be enriched and fully enjoy these activities. Parent support is vital to the success of all our programming.

Reminder, interim reports will be issued on October 6th. As you discuss goals and areas of improvement with your student, please know your student's teachers are more than willing to discuss with you areas of concern.

Thank you for all who have updated their Family File Emergency Card. We are still in need of several families to update their Family File Emergency Card for the 2016-17 school year. If you need any assistance with your Family Emergency File Card, please contact Student Services, and they will be happy to assist you.

TVMS is again highlighting "Pack Leaders of the Month" for each grade by discipline. TVMS acknowledges that all students display intrinsic strengths in multiple content areas, and these strengths need to be recognized. This recognition allows us to celebrate the individual strengths of thirty-nine students each month. Names were announced today on the news program. We are excited to share them with you in today's newsletter.

We are incredibly proud of all our TVMS students!

Regards,

Shiney Ann John, Principal

TVMS Phone Numbers – Hours 7:55 a.m. to 3:25 p.m.

Main Office
Student Services (Registration, Student Schedules, Guidance Counselors)
Health Room
Fax

410-313-8711
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October 4th is Picture Day!

Reminder that Lifetouch Photography will be at TVMS to photograph students on Tuesday, October 4th. All students will need to be photographed for yearbook and administrative purposes, but only those submitting a completed order form to the photographer on picture day will receive a portrait package.

Information regarding packages and payment went home with your student today.

MAP Testing

As a reminder, all HCPSS middle schools are administering the Measures of Academic Progress (MAP®) assessment to provide information on student instructional skill levels and growth over time. In order to gauge progress, MAP will be administered at TVMS to all students in the fall, winter, and spring.

The fall administration schedule is as follows during the first 1½ hours of the school day:

- **October 6 (MAP Reading) – 6th & 8th Grade Only**
- **October 7 (MAP Math) - 6th & 8th Grade Only**
- **October 10 (MAP Reading) – 7th Grade Only**
- **October 11 (MAP Math) – 7th Grade Only**

We ask that you not schedule appointments during your child's test time to avoid having to take the student from classes for the make-up assessment. Please make sure your child gets a good night's rest, a good breakfast, and is ready to do their best on the day of testing!

HCPSS Family Emergency File Form – Please Complete

If you have not completed the Family Emergency File Form, we are asking you to make that a priority. **The Family Emergency Form must be completed each school year. Even if your child's emergency contact is the same as last year, we need you to go into your child's account and either update or confirm his/her emergency information.** Thank you to the families who have already updated/confirmed their child's emergency contact information in Family File.

Login to HCPSS Connect and select the Family File tab to review and, if needed, update your child's emergency contact, medical, arrival/departure information, and your preferences regarding data confidentiality. User guides for HCPSS Connect account activation and password reset, as well as Family File can be found in Guides.

NOTE: You must have a valid HCPSS Connect username and password to access the Family File. If parents/guardians forget their passwords, they can have HCPSS Connect email them a temporary password.

1. On the HCPSS Connect website, click the HCPSS Connect Login button.
2. Click the Parent/Guardian Forgot Password link.
3. Enter the email address used at the time of registration.
4. Click the Send Email button.
5. The parent/guardian will receive an email with a temporary password and a link to login.
6. The parent/guardian will click on that link and use the email address used at the time of registration and the temporary email to gain access.

If you have forgotten your username and password or if you experience any issues completing the Family File, please submit your issue using the Help feature on the HCPSS Connect page at: <http://www.hcpss.org/connect>.

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Gallup Student Poll

Between October 5 and October 14, our school will participate in the Gallup Student Poll.

Gallup launched the Gallup Student Poll in 2009. Gallup provides analytics and advice to organizations around the world. The Gallup Student Poll is a brief, 24-item survey available on the web for students in grades 5 through 12. One time per year, in the fall, the survey is provided at no cost to schools. The Gallup Student Poll includes the following themes:

- **Engagement** is the student's involvement in and enthusiasm for school.
- **Hope** is the ideas and energy students have for the future.
- **Entrepreneurial Aspiration** is the talent and energy for building businesses that survive, thrive, and employ others.
- **Career/Financial Literacy** is the information, attitudes, and behaviors that students need to practice for healthy participation in the economy.

The Gallup Student Poll gives students a voice in building great schools, and the results provide schools with important, actionable information beyond standard measures, such as grades and test scores, to help schools prepare students for the future. Please visit the Gallup Student Poll homepage on the web at <http://www.gallupstudentpoll.com> to view the survey items and learn more. To date, there have been over **4 million** completed Gallup Student Polls.

This survey is anonymous and voluntary. That means Gallup cannot identify your student, and your student's individual responses will not be shared with anyone. Only grade-level and school-level information will be shared with our school. Your student does not have to participate in this survey. There are no consequences or penalties if your student does not participate. Please contact Stephanie Harden at stephanie_harden@hcpss.org if you do not want your student participating in the Gallup Student Poll.

PTSA

The next PTSA meeting is Tuesday, October 4th, at 6 p.m., in the Media Center. The PTSA is a great way to get involved in your student's school experience, learn what is happening at TVMS, discover great resources, help make positive changes, and be a role model for your child. Support for the PTSA fundraisers is greatly appreciated:

Fall Flower Bulbs – delivered to your door (Deadline: October 14, 2016)

<https://www.flowerpowerfundraising.com/i/t/514991/OCs7ju9mG6Vb>

You can learn more about our PTSA at www.tvmsptsas.org. You can join the PTSA Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/gropus/tvmsptsas/> as well.

HCPSS 5K / 1-Mile Fun Run

The Howard County Public School System presents "Let's Go HoCo - HCPSS Community 5K & 1 Mile Fun Run!" The event is on Sunday, October 16th, with an 8 a.m. start, for the 1-Mile Fun Run and an 8:15-8:17 a.m. start for the 5K at Columbia Gateway Drive, Columbia, MD.

This event brings together HCPSS students, families, and staff, as well as all members of our community, to celebrate a Healthy Howard County.

For more information and to register, please visit <http://www.hcpss5k.com/home.html>.

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Alpha Staff

Is there a TVMS staff member who is making a difference in your student's life? Please nominate them for Alpha Staff. Eligible to be nominated are teachers, counselors, office, custodial, and administrative staff. Staff can be nominated in the classroom and/or school community. Forms may be picked up in the Front Office, requested via email at michelle_mackall@hcpss.org, or found online at the TVMS website, <http://tvms.hcpss.org/about/staff-award>.

Policy Corner

Bullying, Cyberbullying, Harassment, or Intimidation (Policy 1060)

The Board prohibits acts of bullying, cyberbullying, harassment, or intimidation because these behaviors compromise the learning environment and well-being of students, staff, and community. Bullying may include the following specific behaviors:

- Hitting, kicking, shoving, spitting, hair pulling, or throwing something
- Getting another person to hit or harm the student
- Teasing, name-calling, critical remarks, or threatening, in person, by email, or text message
- Bullying by demeaning and making the target of jokes
- Rude and/or threatening gestures
- Intimidation, extortion or exploitation
- Spreading rumors or harmful gossip
- Cyberbullying
- Hazing

Students, parents, employees, and service providers are responsible for reporting violations of this policy that occur on school property, on a school bus, or at a school-sponsored activity or event off school property. Incidents of cyberbullying occurring from a student's home that impact another student's well-being at school may also be reported.

For a complete description of the policy, refer to the *Student & Parent Handbook 2015-16*.

Tips for School Success

How to Talk About Bullying

Parents, school staff, and other caring adults have a role to play in preventing bullying. They can:

- **Help kids understand bullying.** Talk about what bullying is and how to stand up to it safely. Tell kids bullying is unacceptable. Make sure kids know how to get help.
- **Keep the lines of communication open.** Check in with kids often. Listen to them. Know their friends, ask about school, and understand their concerns.
- **Encourage kids to do what they love.** Special activities, interests, and hobbies can boost confidence, help kids make friends, and protect them from bullying behavior.
- **Model how to treat others with kindness and respect.**

For more tips on school success, please see the [website](#).

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Pack Leaders of the Month

TVMS is approaching the traditional concept of Student of the Month differently. Students and families may not be familiar with this approach to recognizing student leadership, but TVMS realizes students display strengths in one or more of the academic areas and is focused on capitalizing on individual strengths.

TVMS is proud to recognize our Pack Leaders of the Month. Each month, a student from one of the 12 academic areas will be recognized for displaying the PRIDE traits (Personal Responsibility, Respect, Integrity, Diligence, Excellence). The academic areas include Math, Science, English, Social Studies, Reading, Art, Technology Education, Family and Consumer Science, Health Education, Physical Education, Performing Arts, and World Language. Recognized students will receive a certificate of accomplishment and be acknowledged on the morning news. In addition, students will have their picture posted in the TVMS Alpha Hall of Fame. We look forward to highlighting TVMS students for their individual student strengths in a variety of academic areas.

Pack Leaders of the Month for September

8th Grade Students:

ELA – Tiffany Furr
Math – Assata Harris
Reading – Saul Hernandez
Science – Christopher Martin
Social Studies – Faith Kandie
Art – Kristina McKirahan
FACS – Kevin Wangai
Health – Seven Barnes
Performing Arts – Danielle Gilbert
Physical Education – Jaylen Myers
Technology Education – Far Par
World Language – Hudson Pae

7th Grade Students:

ELA – Navaha Battle
Math – Jade Osborne
Reading – Avery Yelton
Science – Praise Apanisile
Social Studies – Jaylah Jones
Art – Arielle Nicolas
FACS – Dinma Ebube
Health – Thang Cin
Performing Arts – Zion Gibbs
Physical Education – Garrett Coleman
Technology Education – Conner Bosley
World Language – Kelsey-Jo Stephens

6th Grade Students:

ELA – Jonathan Williams
Math – Sahana Rathod
Reading – Kelis Drummond
Science – Jaylin Coleman
Social Studies – Nevaeh Toppins
Art – Jesus Aguirre
FACS – Juliana Dadurka
Health – Cameron Brewer
Performing Arts – Julia Dhala
Physical Education – Peyton Breitenbucher
Technology Education – Van Lian
World Language – Suhani Shah

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Student Leadership and Service Opportunity

HCASC invites middle and high school students interested in student leadership and service opportunities to attend the Howard County Association of Student Councils (HCASC) meetings the 2nd Wednesday of every month, from 7 to 8:30 p.m., at the Homewood Cafeteria, 10914 MD 108, Columbia, MD 21042.

- Sharing the Student Voice on School Policy and Community Issues
- Gaining Leadership Skills
- Practicing Community Service
- Working with student leaders from across HCPSS

The next meeting is Wednesday, October 12th. For more information, please contact cindy_drummond@hcpss.org.

Community News

Please visit the Community News and Programs page (<http://www.hcpss.org/community-news-and-programs/>) on the HCPSS website for announcements of upcoming events and programs sponsored by non-profit organizations.

First-Ever Night of Comedy - Support Ducketts Lane Elementary PTA!

Parenting is hard, but joyous work, and we're all learning the ropes together. *And* kids say the funniest things! Sometimes all you can do is laugh. That's why you won't want to miss Ducketts Lane's first-ever **Night of Comedy Show** -- hosted by our very own DLES Dad and DC Improv Comic, Chris Lawrence, on **Thursday, October 13th, at Atholton High School**. Doors open at 6:45 p.m. Come laugh out loud with some of the area's funniest comedians as seen on Tru TV, Magooby's Joke House, and the Comic Strip. Tickets are \$10 in advance or two for \$18. Funds raised support the DLES PTA. Get tickets before they are sold out. This is an adult-only, PG-13 show, so line up your babysitter early and enjoy a night out.

For tickets, visit www.dlespta.weebly.com/fundraisers.

Hammond High School Homecoming

Join in the festivities celebrating Hammond High School's 40th year and homecoming. Pancake breakfast in the cafeteria from 8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. Cost for all you can eat pancakes w/2 sausage platter will be \$7 for adults and \$3 for kids age 6 and under. Parade kicks off from KC Village Center Amherst House at 10:30 a.m. We are calling all future Golden Bears to march in the parade (i.e, boy scouts, girl scouts, and Junior Golden Bears (under 3 assisted in strollers). Game starts at noon. Invite your parents, children, and neighbors, and join us for this autumn tradition. Please contact Karin Bruce at karinfbruce@comcast.net or 410-381-6694 or Shaun Borsh at nborsh@verizon.net or 443-794-8105 with any questions. GO BEARS!

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