

TSES Friday Newsletter January 22, 2021

Talbott Springs Families,

Dr. Lewis and I have had the pleasure of visiting many virtual classes this week. We continue to be filled with gratitude for our family members because of the support that is given to our of our young learners. When listening in a music classroom, I heard a family member say to a first grader, “You know this! It’s OK! Try to answer the teacher!”. What a joyful moment! As the state of Maryland and the Howard County Public School System continue to form decisions about the process for staff and students to return to school, please continue to provide support and please read information that is shared so that you can make informed decisions on behalf of your family. It is with hope that I believe that each of the months ahead will create progress towards in person learning. HCPSS information is available and updated at this site. Please continue to ask questions as they arise.

The end of quarter 2 is on Thursday January 28 with distribution of report cards on February 5, 2021.

We are able to collect grades for Quarter 2 through Thursday January 28, 2021.

This week we recognize the 33 students who were honored at the Black Student Achievement/Council of Elders of the Black Community academic celebration on Tuesday January 19, 2020. Each of these students achieved all A’s and B’s last school year in either 3rd or 4th grade. It was wonderful to see many of these students at the virtual celebration! Please join me in congratulating: Makai a., Jewel A., Juliana B., Janiya B., Kalaiyah C., Peyton C., Brielle D., Camille D., Sophia S., Kelly F., Will F., Cornelius H., Kaelen H., Kevin H., Alanah H., Sophia H., Ayden H., Samara H., David J., Raegan J., Jason K., Caleb M., Tunmise O., Jonathan O., Xander P., Pystis P., Azaria R., Anthony R., Rozelyn S., Ryleigh S., Justin W., Jocelyn W., and Victoria W.

I hope that you have a wonderful weekend!

Nancy Thompson

Principal

INFORMATION FOR TSES FAMILIES:

January 2021 Meal Service Adjustments: With schools being closed for students on Friday, January 29, families who pre-order or walk-up for Grab-and-Go meals on Thursday, January 28 will receive meals for Thursday through Sunday. Meals are free of charge for all students and any child under age 18. All meals include breakfast, lunch, snacks and dinner. Please visit this [link](#) for additional information.

HCPSS COVID-19 Dashboard: [The HCPSS COVID-19 Dashboard](#) now includes a link to [Board of Education Health Metrics](#) as well as three weeks of Howard County 7 day average positivity rates and 7-day average confirmed cases per 100,000 people.

Upcoming MAP Administration: On both Wednesday February 3rd and Wednesday February 10th, students in grades 1-5 will take the Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) assessment. The data from the MAP assessment will help schools and teachers measure your child’s academic progress. The MAP test does not affect report card grades. The difficulty of each test item adjusts depending on how your child responds. It is normal for students to only answer about half the questions correctly. To learn more about the MAP assessment, please visit: <https://www.nwea.org/the-map-suite/common-questions-families/> The Reading MAP will be offered on February 3rd from 9-11 am. The Math MAP test will be offered on February 10th from 9-11 am. If your child is unable to attend, makeup testing will be offered during asynchronous learning times. Teachers will share Google Meet information as we get closer to the February dates.

Public Wi-Fi and the Howard County Library!

Howard County Library System has recently updated its branches with the equipment needed to provide outdoor Wi-Fi to the public. It is currently available at the Central, East Columbia, Elkridge, and Savage Branches. Only Glenwood and Miller do not have it yet, though they will at some point. Chromebooks and hotspots are also available for check out. The attached flyer can be shared with staff and families.

Attention Families of TSES 5th Grade Students! Please see three messages below with updated information about 5th to 6th grade transition: The process for class selection for band, strings and chorus (Performing Arts) will be shared with families of 5th graders on **February 2, 2021**. Parents of next years' sixth graders will be asked to sign up their child for Band, Strings or Chorus using HCPSS Connect. In previous years, this was done on paper, but that is no longer an option. Your child will attend either Oakland Mills Middle School or Lake Elkhorn Middle School for 6th grade. Parent Orientation information for each school is below. If you are not sure which middle school your child will attend, [please use this link](#) and follow the directions.

Lake Elkhorn Middle School Rising 6th Grader Orientation: Save the date!

*Rising 6th Grade Orientation for Parents & Guardians! **Monday January 25, 2021 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.***

Please join us for an information session about the 6th grade program of studies at Lake Elkhorn Middle School. Google Meet Code: LEMS-rising6-orientation

Band, Orchestra, and Chorus Information Session!

7:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. Is your child interested in being in band, orchestra, or chorus in middle school? If so, join our performing arts teachers for an overview of our band, orchestra, and chorus programs. Google Meet Code: LEMS-rising6-music

Important Note: In order to attend Rising 6th Grade Orientation, you must be signed in to your student's HCPSS account. If you are not signed in to your student's HCPSS account, you will not be able to access the Google Meet. Please speak to your child ahead of time and write down their username and password.

Student and Family Technology Support Request Form: If your child's HCPSS Chromebook is not working, please fill out the [TSES Technology Support form](#). In addition, it is helpful if you call the school to explain the problem so that we can code your child's absence from class appropriately.

Family Resources:

Food Pantry Information: The OMHS Food Pantry will be open for business on Wednesday, January 27 from 3:00-5:00 p.m. After this month, our upcoming dates are: Wednesday, February 24; Wednesday, March 31 and Wednesday, April 28. See the linked [Google document](#) for a flyer and link to the current curbside pickup distribution procedures.

Workshop for Spanish-Speaking Families of Children with Disabilities / Apoyando a las Familias de Habla Hispana que Tienen Niños con Discapacidades

Sunday, January 31, 2:00-4:30 p.m. / 31 de enero de 2021, Google Meet Learn how to help your child with [virtual learning](#) during this Spanish-language workshop, which will focus on using Google Meet and Canvas. Aprenda a ayudarle a su niño/a con [el aprendizaje virtual](#) durante este taller en español que se enfocará en el uso de Google Meet y Canvas.

Selecting High Quality Child Care

Selecting child care can be an overwhelming process. Every parent wants to find quality care to meet their needs; a healthy & safe environment, a child that is happy to attend the program, a program that is convenient in location & hours and an program that is affordable. Learn how to choose a child care program that works for your family.

Tuesday, January 26,

12:00 to 12:30 p.m. Free Online Workshop, Register [here](#)

7:00 to 7:30 p.m. Free Online Workshop, Register [here](#)

Behavior Talks: This [series of videos](#) was created by HCPSS staff and illustrates skills such as breaking down tasks and giving feedback and praise.

COE Tutors is a **free** online tutoring program for K-12 students in Maryland. The tutors are teacher candidates at Towson University. With support and guidance from faculty members, they will **design lessons** for each tutoring session based on students' needs and individualized education plans when applicable. In addition, tutors will employ culturally responsive, evidence-based practices during their tutoring sessions and will provide families with **feedback on student progress** after each tutoring session.

<https://tses.hcpss.org/sites/default/files/Towson%20U%20tutoring%20program.pdf>

Use website to find more information and application:

<https://www.towson.edu/coe/centers/tutors/>

[Traducir esta página al español](#)

IMPORTANT DATES:

January 25, 2021
Orientation

January 28, 2021

January 29, 2021

January 29, 2021

February 3, 2021

February 5, 2021

February 10, 2021

February 10, 2021

February 11, 2021

February 12, 2021

Lake Elkhorn Middle School 2021-2022 6th Grade Parent

End of Quarter 2

No school for Students-Professional Work Day

Sign up for Parent Teacher Conferences Opens!

MAP Reading Assessment 9:00-11:00

Q2 Report Cards Issued

MAP Math Assessment 9:00-11:00

Early Dismissal for Students-Parent Teacher Conferences

Early Dismissal for Students-Parent Teacher Conferences

Professional Work Day-School Closed for Students

February 18, 2021

TSES PTA Virtual Meeting