

TSES Friday Newsletter April 23, 2021

Talbott Springs Families,

I hope that you have each found your child(ren)'s report cards in HCPSS Connect. If you are unsure of how to locate the Q3 Report Card document, please see the directions below.

Last Friday, several of our 5th graders participated in a virtual version of the Howard County Library sponsored Battle of the Books. Groups of students led by coaches read several books over the course of months and then participated in a competition to respond to questions based on the books.

Congratulations to Lillian, Camille, Payten, Jewel, and Klarissa led by coaches Mrs. Sansone and Mrs. Glassband; Zack, Will, Jonah, Cooper, and Audrey led by coach Mrs. Slade; Kate, Abraham, Maddox, and Rozelyn, led by coaches Mr. McMahan and Mrs. English. Coaches we are grateful for your time! Students are so proud of you for your interest and your effort!

We are thankful to the Oakland Millage Village Association for their donation to TSES! This donation will be used to sponsor books for students to read during the summer. This gift is appreciated as we did not expect to have additional funds for this school year! Stay tuned for more information about summer reading! If you have a moment, please drive by TSES to see the visible progress with our replacement school! It is so exciting to see this progress each day!

Thank you again to our families for your support each day whether your child(ren) are in person or virtual. Although the challenges have been many, there have also been many celebrations! Working together, we are making a difference for children during the last quarter of the 2020-2021 school year. I hope that you have a wonderful weekend!

Nancy Thompson

Principal

Information Items:

Spiritwear! Show your #EaglesStrong pride with spirit wear! All options are available in Youth and Adult Sizes. Orders are due by May 2nd, 2021. Late orders cannot be accepted.

Order online at [TSES PTA Spirit Wear](#). All orders will be available for pickup at TSES the third week in May. Thank you for your support of the TSES PTA!

2021-2022 Digital Education Center: The Howard County Public School System is planning for a full-time online option for students entering grades K-12 who wish to learn virtually for the 2021-2022 school year. Parents/guardians who wish to commit to the DEC should log in to HCPSS Connect Synergy by **Wednesday, May 5 at 4 p.m.** (see directions below). Families **must commit to the DEC for the full 2021-2022 school year**. Students who wish to return to in-person learning during the 2021-2022 school year, if that option is available, should not sign up for the DEC. The Superintendent and Board of Education members have stressed that they consider the return to normalized, five-day, in-person learning this fall to be essential for the majority of HCPSS students, however, an official decision on the 2021-2022 academic year has not yet been made. In committing to the DEC, parents/guardians acknowledge that:

- This is a commitment that your child will attend the DEC for the 2021-2022 school year, and that students will need to go through the reassignment process if they choose to return to their home school for instruction.
- Not all course requests may be able to be honored in the DEC environment.
- There are attendance requirements that will apply in the DEC environment.

- The implementation of the DEC is pending funding from the HCPSS Board of Education. Should funding not be provided, students automatically will be returned to their assigned home school.

Prior to making any decision, we strongly encourage families to review [details about the DEC](#) that are available online, as well as answers to frequently asked questions for the [DEC in general](#) and [student-specific information](#). To access the commitment form:

1. [Log in to HCPSS Connect Synergy](#) using parent/guardian credentials
2. Select More Options from the left panel
3. Select Digital Education Center Commitment from the middle of the page
4. Complete the questions in the form for each child and select “save”
5. Email DEC@hcpss.org with any questions about the Digital Education Center. If you need assistance completing the online commitment form, please contact your child’s school.

TSES School Counseling Connection! Please use this [link](#) to access the TSES School Counseling newsletter. Mrs. Sansone has provided us all with outstanding information and resources!

TSES Yearbook Student Photos:

Not able to get a student photo taken by School Pictures Inc.® this week? Not to worry, we have you covered. Please take a photograph (face shot if possible) of your child(ren); preferably with a solid background and forward to Michelle Humphrey at yearbook@tsespta.org. We, unfortunately, cannot order prints of your photograph, but it will be included to the 2020-2021 Talbott Springs Yearbook. **Please be sure to include your child’s full name, grade, AND homeroom teacher.** For our families who would like to order pictures that were taken by School Pictures, Inc.® and would like to order copies, please do so before Sunday, April 18, 2021 at 11:30P.M.

Consent for Voluntary Student COVID-19 Testing: HCPSS now offers a voluntary K-12 COVID-19 Testing Program that will provide free COVID-19 tests for students and school-based staff who develop COVID-like symptoms or are [identified as close contacts](#) while they are in a school building. Parents/guardians should not send their children to school, and staff should not report to work if they are presenting COVID-like symptoms

[Answers to frequently asked questions](#) about the COVID-19 Testing Program are available online.

Free Parenting Classes: HC DrugFree and the Howard County State's Attorney's Office, partnering with HCPSS and the Health Department, will once again provide evidence-based classes for families to gain skills and knowledge to reduce the risk that their children will engage in risky behaviors including using drugs. This 4-class series for parents of 9-14 year olds will be held on Zoom from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Tuesdays, May 4, 11 and June 1, 8. Parents/guardians must register at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HCDrugFreeSpring2021> If you have questions, email Joan Webb Scornaienchi, HC DrugFree’s Executive Director at Admin@hcdrugfree.org

TSES PTA Information and Updates!

LOVE NOTES ARE BACK and will be printed in the 2020-2021 Yearbook!!! Please see the attached google form (English and Spanish). Please complete a form for each TSES student/child in your household. **Deadline is MAY 7, 2021** . Contact Michelle at yearbook@tsespta.org with questions.

English Form: <https://forms.gle/xy9E6ZLFtTG231m28>

Spanish Form: <https://forms.gle/FgAGxrCLRjLw69NJ9>

Staff Appreciation Week! The TSES PTA is asking for your help in honoring the TSES teachers and staff for the upcoming Staff Appreciation Week! (May 3-7, 2021)

Individuals and families may use the linked Google form to share a few kind words/words of appreciation for any, and/or all, staff and teachers at TSES. Submit as many encouraging and appreciative thoughts as you wish! You may complete as many forms as you want! Let's work together to thank our TSES Staff in a memorable way! Some of these quotes will be printed as posters and displayed in the hallways of TSES. Submissions due by April 23, 2021!! <https://forms.gle/5huz3sAuxSbXQzNL8>

TSES YEARBOOK COMMITTEE NEEDS YOUR PHOTOS!! The 2020-2021 yearbook WILL be published this year, but we need help filling those pages. Please send pictures of your child(ren) from any of the following themes. (1) First Day of Virtual School; (2) Fun Fall pictures (leaves, fall, etc); (3) Holiday celebrations; (4) Snow Days; (5) Virtual Learning (reading, working, etc); (6) Student artwork completed for Art Class or class projects; (6) Spring photos; (7) Wacky Tacky dress up day. Send all photos and/or questions to Michelle at yearbook@tsespta.org. The yearbook committee is so thankful for all the photos everyone has sent thus far; please keep them coming! 😊

OMHS Food Pantry The OMHS Food Pantry will be open for business for distribution from 3:00-5:00 p.m. The upcoming dates are: Wednesday, April 28 and Wednesday, May 26. Please reference this [Google document](#) for information.

Food Giveaway at Howard Community College:

Friday April 30 from 11:00-2:00 PM

Howard Community College 10901 Little Patuxent Pkwy Columbia, MD LOT B

Cars Only---No Walk Ups---Masks Required---ID not needed

Free Food; Free coupon for dental visit; additional free items

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.

New HCPSS Community News and Programs Site: In response to community requests for resources, HCPSS' new [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.

IMPORTANT DATES:

May 3-7,2021

TSES Staff Appreciation Week!

May 13, 2021

Schools Closed for all Students Professional Work Day

May 19, 2021

TSES PTA Restaurant Night at Red Robin 5:00-9:00