

TSES Friday Newsletter April 30, 2021  
Talbott Springs Families,

A year ago at this time, we had been out of the school building for almost 2 months. There were more questions than answers and there were more worries than there were comforting thoughts. A year later, although we are not fully clear from concerns, we are in a much better place. We have collectively and individually experienced many emotions and have been challenged in our patterns thinking. We have learned many new skills and we have become more resilient. We have appreciated people and things that we may not have noticed before. I remain grateful to our families for their support throughout the school closure and the re-opening process. Next week is Staff Appreciation Week and National Nurse Appreciation Week! Please take a moment to reach out to your child's teacher(s) to express your gratitude! Our staff members have remained strong and positive during the changes and challenges that have occurred. One way to express your gratitude this week is to have your child send a note or picture of gratitude through Canvas email. Another way is for parents to send a message of appreciation to staff members through Canvas email or through HCPSS email. Please find a list of staff members and their email addresses at this [link](#). Many thanks to the TSES PTA for supporting Staff Appreciation Week during the 2020-2021 school year!

This week in our Social Emotional Learning classes, we will share a resume skill of being a strong problem solver. When you have a moment, please talk with your child(ren) about what it means to be a person who is willing to solve problems and to understand that the solution to a problem may not be what they originally imagined it to be. I hope that you have a wonderful weekend!

Nancy Thompson  
Principal

### **Information Items:**

Spring MAP Administration: On **May 5, 2021** at **9:30** a.m. we are offering the Map Reading test to your child. This test will not affect grades, however, it can provide us with useful information regarding your child's progress. Please be assured that, it is normal to only answer about half the questions correctly. To ensure accurate results, your child should answer the questions independently.

Your child's Reading Google Meet link will be shared by your child's ELA teacher through Canvas

Here are some suggestions for a successful MAP experience:

- Minimize distractions for your child as much as possible
- Have scratch paper available for your child to write down Session Name and Password provided in the Google Meet chat
- A link to the test site will be provided in the Google Meet chat (<https://test.mapnwea.org/#/nopopup>)
- Your child will then login using the Session Name and Password
- Once your child has finished testing, he or she should leave the Google Meet and work on other asynchronous learning tasks that are to be completed on Wednesday.

The MAP Math test will be offered to your child on Wednesday May 12, 2021 at 9:30 AM

**SCHOOL PICTURE Pick Up!** If your child had his or her picture taken by School Pictures, Inc® on April 13, 14 or 15, 2021 those pictures will be ready for distribution on Wednesday May 5, 2021. Please see below for details:

- Groups A and E Students: Picture envelopes will be sent home with students on Tuesday May 4.
- Group B students: Picture envelopes will be sent home with students on Thursday May 6

- Group V Students: Please pick up picture envelopes from TSES on Wednesday May 5, 2021 between 9:00 and 11:30 AM. If you are unable to pick up the picture envelope at that time, please contact [Ms. Hoffman](#) to make alternate arrangements.

**From the TSES PE Teachers: Virtual Field Day!** In the Spring of 2020, the world's schools were forced to remote learning due to COVID-19. And because of that, we did not experience one of the most exciting events in our school year. But now, Mr. Bonsu and Ms. Parker are excited to announce that our school community will be hosting Field Day events! Our team has created amazing activities that will bring our entire school together. Field Day is an important part of our school year and we all look forward to this festive celebration with our community each year. This year, all field day events are designed to be completed indoors or outdoors using common household items. Families won't be asked to purchase any specialized equipment or supplies. Stay tuned each week for your instructions concerning the challenges and activities in the Friday Newsletter. Each grade will be able to earn either a student choice or movie and pajama day during class in June. In order to have a choice or movie/pajama day during class there must be at least 50% participation from the overall grade. For us to count your participation in Field Day please submit either a picture, video, or sentence of you performing the activity under the Field Day tab on your Canvas modules page. More information coming soon!

**National PTA School of Excellence Survey:** TSES is in the final phase of renewing our TSES National PTA School of Excellence! We need your help! Please take 5-10 minutes to reflect on your experience at TSES and complete the survey at the link provided. Select the answer that most accurately expresses how you feel about your experience at Talbott Springs. This survey is completely anonymous. Please complete the survey by May 7th, 2021. Please feel free to contact Casey Otten at [caseypotten@gmail.com](mailto:caseypotten@gmail.com) with any questions, [National PTA School of Excellence Final Survey](#)

[National PTA Preguntas de la encuesta\\_Espanol](#)

Here are some of the ways the TSES PTA continues to support our students, school staff, and the community: Blessings In A Backpack Program providing supplemental food for students; Donations to support Columbia Community Cares; Virtual Holiday Craft Night; Thanksgiving Food Drive; Staff Appreciation Events; Financial support for school programs and projects; Special Celebrations for 5th Grade Promotion; 2020-2021 Yearbook; Planning for the opening of the brand new TSES in Fall 2022; Planning for events for the upcoming school year; Virtual Family Bingo  
Thank you for your continued support and collaboration as we work toward becoming a National PTA School of Excellence!

**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.** 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.

**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!

**Virtual Support for Parents of Young Children:** HCPSS parents at Title I schools of children birth-5 and older are invited to a FREE Virtual Parent Cafe. Virtual Parent Cafés are a free, safe space for parents to have meaningful conversations with other parents. The structured conversations give parents an opportunity to talk together about topics that matter to them. Please contact allyson\_glassband@hcpss.org for more information. <https://tses.hcpss.org/file/parent-cafe-invitationmay2021pdf>

**HoCo Rainbow Conference:** High School Students, Staff, Parents (who may bring their middle school aged children) and community members are invited to attend this free virtual conference on Saturday May 15, 2021 from 8:45 am -5:00 pm. The event is designed to raise awareness of LGBTQ+ issues and to provide education and support to the HCPSS community. . [Find more information](#) and [register 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](mailto: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>

#### **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.**

**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](mailto:yearbook@tsespta.org). The yearbook committee is so thankful for all the photos everyone has sent thus far; please keep them coming! 😊

**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](http://community-programs.hcpss.org) for more information. Questions should be directed to the Public Information Office at [publicinfo@hcpss.org](mailto:publicinfo@hcpss.org).*

#### **IMPORTANT DATES:**

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|----------------------|---|
| <b>May 3-7, 2021</b> | <b>TSES Staff Appreciation Week!</b>  |
| <b>May 5, 2021</b>   | <b>ELA MAP 9:30 AM (Virtual)</b>  |
| <b>May 6, 2021</b>   | <b>PTA Virtual Bingo Night (More information to follow!)</b>                  |
| <b>May 7, 2021</b>   | <b>Last day to complete the TSES PTA National School of Excellence Survey</b> |
| <b>May 12, 2021</b>  | <b>Math MAP 9:30 AM (Virtual)</b>   |
| <b>May 13, 2021</b>  | <b>Schools Closed for all Students Professional Work Day</b>                  |
| <b>May 19, 2021</b>  | <b>TSES PTA Restaurant Night at Red Robin 5:00-9:00</b>                       |
| <b>May 26, 2021</b>  | <b>MAP Make Up Sessions</b>   |
| <b>May 31, 2021</b>  | <b>Schools and Offices Closed for Memorial Day</b>                            |