

Talbott Springs Families,

As we move towards each next stage of the 2020-2021 school year, please continue to read information coming from the HCPSS and from TSES. Despite the current uptick of COVID numbers, conversation is taking place about metrics that would be necessary for students to return to the school building and what those return plans would be for elementary, middle and high schools. Please note that if a return to school happens, the target date is February 1, 2021 and that HCPSS will remain with virtual learning until that time. Please see below for current information about 'Spring Planning' and for a link to the HCPSS Virtual Town Hall that took place last Tuesday. Parent Teacher Conferences will take place on November 23 and 24 following the end of the student day at 12:45. TSES staff members are looking forward to conversations with you as we discuss your child's progress with learning skills and concepts. See below for information about sign up for Parent Teacher Conferences through HCPSS Connect. The week of November 16-20, 2020 is American Education Week! This annual event is designed to celebrate public education and to honor the individuals who are making a difference with ensuring that all students are achieving a quality education. This year we are more grateful than ever for the efforts of our staff and of our parents as they work in collaboration to assure that each child is able to participate in virtual learning. If you are not typically able to attend any of your child(ren)'s classes, please feel free to attend with your child during his or her learning on Tuesday November 17, 2020. It is incredible to witness the skills that students are able to display while in their virtual learning classes. Please note that you must enter the class using your child's HCPSS username and password. Staff are not permitted to allow entry for non-HCPSS email addresses. The TSES Related Arts Team looks forward to meeting with you on Tuesday November 17 (English) and Wednesday November 18 (Spanish). See below for directions on how to join us. Lastly, Quarter 1 Report Cards will be issued no later than the end of the school day on November 16, 2020. Please see below for specific information about how to access your child's report card. As always, please take care of yourselves and stay safe as we work as a community to decrease COVID numbers. Nancy Thompson

### **IMPORTANT INFORMATION:**

**First Quarter Report Cards:** The 2020-2021 report cards will be available through HCPSS Connect after 4:00 on Monday November 16, 2020. We will not be sending home printed report cards. Please access your child's report card using the following link: [How to Access Your Child's Report Card](#)

**Grading for Quarter 1:** This has been a challenging 1st quarter of school for many of our families. Due to the impact of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and the resulting virtual learning, HCPSS has made some changes to 1st quarter grading that you may see reflected on your child's report card. Students in primary grades will earn an I (Independent) or W (With assistance) if they have engaged in synchronous instruction. Students in intermediate grades will receive A, B or C grades if they have engaged in synchronous instruction at least 60% of the sessions. As a result, Canvas grades may not align with Quarter 1 report card grades. These changes are in place for 1st Quarter report card grades only. Asynchronous assignments complement and support synchronous learning, please support your child with task completion and with attending support sessions during Quarter 2 as needed. Any area on the student report card that is shaded with gray was not graded for elementary school students across HCPSS

**Parent/Teacher Conferences:** Parent/teacher conferences will be held Monday, November 23-Wednesday, November 25. Conferences can be scheduled online through [HCPSS Connect](#) from November 13-19.

**Meet the TSES Related Arts Staff!** We are pleased to announce our first family event of the year! We hope you will join the **Related Arts team** on Tuesday 11/17/2020 from 6-7 pm. Use the code tses-parentnight and join us from the comfort of your own home. At this meeting, the Related Arts team will share their Canvas pages, give you tips for finding their assignments and answer any questions you might have. This meeting will be in English. Join us on 11/18/2020 at the same time and with the same code if

you'd like to participate in the same meeting shared with our families who speak Spanish. [See this flyer](#) for details.

**Parent Consent Required for Student Access to Google Play!** HCPSS is using some of the apps available in Google Play for student learning. The only way for your child to access Google Play is with parent consent. Please follow these directions to provide consent as soon as possible!

1. Log in to [HCPSS Connect](#).
2. Select **More Options** from the left panel.
3. Select **HCPSS Google Menu** from the middle of the page.
4. Click the check box to provide consent. Changes are saved automatically.

A parent or guardian must provide consent for each elementary school child in the family by selecting each child's name at the top of the page.

**TSES Contactless Book Check Out and Pick Up** begins the week of November 16, 2020!

Information can be found at this [link](#). Please note from the instructions at the link that a book must be ordered by the process described in the flyer. Book pick up is on Thursdays from 9:00-3:00.

**HCPSS Town Hall Archived Video:** The HCPSS Board of Education held a virtual town hall on November 9, where panelists answered questions from stakeholders regarding a potential hybrid model and the spring semester 2020-2021. The archived [town hall video](#) and a list of the [questions](#) that were answered are available to view online.

**Spring Planning:** Find updated information about the 2020-2021 school year on the [HCPSS website](#), now with a new [spring planning page](#). Answers to frequently-asked questions are provided on the [HCPSS Help site](#).

**Office Hours for Students and Parents!** As we begin the 2nd quarter, TSES is pleased to offer open office hours every Tuesday and Thursday from 10:20-10:50 a.m. and Wednesdays from 1:30-2:00 p.m. A staff member will attend all open office hour sessions. Students and parents can stop in using the code: TSEStitle1support or the link <https://meet.google.com/wez-mvwo-zmx>. During these times, students can ask questions about assignments, practice skills necessary for completing assignments or ask general Canvas navigation questions. Classroom teachers will not be in attendance during these hours, but staff members at the sessions will communicate with them when necessary.

**Thanksgiving Break Meal Service Adjustments:** To ensure children have access to essential nutrition over the holiday period, families may pick up meals in advance to cover the holiday break. Pre-ordering will not be available for meals picked up on Monday, November 23 or 30. [See all service and schedule adjustments](#).

**Does your child love pets?:** Fidos Lends an Ear wants to help support children with independent reading by encouraging everyone to read to a Fidos dog (via Zoom)! To inspire children to keep up with reading while at home, we're inviting families to make a Fidos Lends an Ear pledge to set a reading goal to meet. And, to have fun along the way, children will have access to free resources that can be downloaded such as a bookmark, reading log, and a reading Bingo Card. Please visit [Fidos Lends an Ear](#) for more information.

**TSES PTA Food Drive!** The TSES PTA is once again sponsoring a food drive to collect food for families for the Thanksgiving Holiday from October 28-November 18. Food donations may be dropped off in a box outside TSES Monday through Friday 8:00-4:00. Food items being requested are: Dry Cereal (please no bulk large packages); Stuffing Mix; Instant Potatoes; Canned Green Beans, Corn, Carrots, and Gravy; Cornbread, Muffin and Bisquick® mix; Applesauce; Cake Mix and Frosting; Chicken Broth; Juice. Communities can agree on having one neighbor be a collection point and to have that person

deliver the donations to TSES. Please support our families this Thanksgiving!  
<https://tses.hcpss.org/file/omhs-food-pantry-october-28pdf> Thank you for giving generously and supporting our TSES Thanksgiving Food Drive.

**From the TSES PTA~TSES Families!** Hay there! Orange you glad its fall? It may sound corny, but the a-maize-ing TSES staff have been working so hard to harvest education and teach our little pumpkins to be-leaf in themselves. Let's return the favor and show them a gourd time this autumn. We invite you to have students color or decorate the attached FALL GRAM to let TSES staff know that we love them a (pumpkin spice)-latte. Students can either decorate it online or print the page to fill it out by hand and send a pic of the page to the staff member through their Canvas inbox (or parents can send via email to hcpss email addresses found [HERE](#)). Alternatively, students can also make their own thank you note or drawing of appreciation on regular paper and mail it to TSES. Send it to as many staff members as you'd like! Let's make sure they know that they are the cream of the crop!

**TSES PTA Website:** [www.tsespta.org](http://www.tsespta.org)

**TSES PTA Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/Talbott-Springs-Elementary-School-PTA-153654291324397>

**TSES PTA Twitter:** <https://twitter.com/TSESPTA>

**TSES PTA Instagram:** <https://www.instagram.com/tses.pta/>

**Oakland Mills High School Food Pantry:** Thanks to the generosity of our community, we were able to serve 52 families, representing 211 people, in October. However, to keep up with demand, we need continued support. Please stop by OMHS on Wednesday, November 11, from 3pm-5pm to donate! We will gratefully accept any non-perishable food items, as well as diapers of all sizes and baby wipes. Some of our most urgent needs are: Canned/dried beans, Canned/package fruit, Applesauce, Juice, Raisins, Macaroni & cheese, Soups, Peanut butter and Canned vegetables. We also have an [Amazon wish list](#), which can be used to send donations directly to the school. Our next distribution date will be Wednesday, November 18, due to the Thanksgiving holiday.

#### **IMPORTANT DATES:**

November 13, 2020	Parent Teacher Conference Sign Up Begins
November 16, 2020	Report Cards Issued
November 17, 2020	Conversation with TSES Related Arts Staff- 6:00-7:00 (code: tses-parentnight)
November 18, 2020	Conversation with TSES Related Arts Staff (Spanish) 6:00-7:00 (code: tses-parentnight)
November 19, 2020	TSES PTA Meeting at 7:00 (virtual)
November 20, 2020	Parent Teacher Conference Sign Up Closes
<a href="#">November 23, 2020</a>	<a href="#">Parent Teacher Conferences-Early Dismissal</a>
<a href="#">November 24, 2020</a>	<a href="#">Parent Teacher Conferences-Early Dismissal</a>