

Talbott Springs Elementary School Friday Newsletter
Friday September 24, 2021

Talbott Springs Families,

We are so grateful to have had a full week of school! TSES staff members are so energized by the positive spirit and eagerness that your children bring to our school. Please continue to be vigilant about your child's health status as we work in community to support of the health of each of our members. If you are unsure about your child's health status, please contact our nursing staff, Mrs. DeLair and Ms. Byrd to ask questions. In the week ahead, during our Social Emotional Learning time, your child(ren) will learn about the meaning of 'quarantine', how it might feel to be in quarantine and what it feels like to return to school after quarantine. The introductory video about quarantine shows 'Jennifer' (Mrs. Sansone) interacting with 'Nurse Smiley' (Dr. Roth) as 'Jennifer' learns that reporting sickness is OK and being in quarantine, whether you are sick or not sick, is OK. Although it is not my wish to have ANY child in quarantine, we do want our children to be emotionally prepared. 'Jennifer' and 'Nurse Smiley' also discuss the importance children coming to school when they are healthy. Please see below for continuing HCPSS updates regarding [Students in Quarantine](#) at this link and below. This past weekend, air purifiers were installed in each of our classroom areas adding to the protections of upgraded air filters and our masking, handwashing and hand sanitizing practices. Please continue to assure that you are staying safe and have a wonderful weekend!

Nancy Thompson, Principal

Information:

Please conduct a daily Health Screening with your child! Let's work together to protect our children! **COVID 19 Screening Visual**

MCAP (Maryland Comprehensive Assessment Program): Next week, TSES students in grades four and five will be administered the MCAP English Language Arts/Literacy and Mathematics assessments. These assessments are scheduled for the early fall as a "make-up" for the assessments that were not administered during the 2020-2021 academic year. The student schedule for the MCAP is as follows:

Grade 4:

Tuesday September 28 ELA 1:45-3:00; Wednesday September 29 ELA 1:45-3:00

Grade 5:

Tuesday September 28 Math 10:45-11:15; Wednesday September 29 Math 10:45-11:15

Details on MCAP can be found at the following link: **<https://help.hcpss.org/grades-testing/mcap-early-fall-2021>**

Registration for BSAP Saturday Math Academy: Please share [this announcement \(Links to an external site.\)](#) with students and families in your next community newsletter. The registration window opens on September 25. Please contact Ashley Armstead with questions.

Kids Read Now® (KRN) Survey: This summer, TSES students in grades K-4 received up to 7 books from Kids Read now®. This program was funded through donations and grants. Please share your thoughts about the KRN program so that we can begin planning for the Summer of 2022. English: <https://forms.gle/W8vz4GhXtrGRhsn97>
Spanish: <https://forms.gle/LgVBVSwUwdJojBmi8>

Free and Reduced Meal Applications: Families may complete the Free and Reduced Meal (FARM) Application for the 2021-2022 school year. Please find the application [at this site](#). If you would like some assistance with completing the FARM application please contact Ms. Hoffman, Ms. Garcia-Gill or Ms. Cristiani by calling 410-313-6915.

Instructional Supports During Quarantine: Comprehensive information about students in quarantine and the instructional supports available, as well as answers to many frequently asked questions on this, and other related topics are provided online at:

- [New HCPSS Students in Quarantine website](#)
- HCPSS Help site FAQs on:
 - [COVID-19 Student Quarantine](#)
 - [COVID-19 Health and Safety](#)
 - [COVID-19 testing](#)

If your child placed in quarantine by the school, we will be in contact with you regarding the process of accessing work and meeting times with teachers. Because quarantine is an absence from school, we are unable to require that school work be completed, however, it is helpful for children to be able to engage in work during their absences.

HCPSS/TSES Chromebook Obligations: On Monday September 13, 2021, HCPSS started charging families for lost, stolen or damaged devices under the following circumstances. Please note that when your child's Chromebook is damaged, we are required to investigate the circumstances surrounding the damage. Please assure that your child has brought his/her Chromebook back to TSES. Several children have returned the Chromebook that belongs to a sibling.

- Families will be charged for any devices that are lost, stolen or damaged while in their care.
- If devices are lost, stolen or damaged during school hours and in our school building, school administrators will conduct an investigation to determine if the incident was the result of neglect on the part of the student assigned to the device.

A full explanation can be found at [this link](#).

Student/Parent Handbook: The [2021-2022 Student and Parent Handbook](#) is now available on the HCPSS website. This resource is helpful for navigating the school year and includes information about HCPSS practices, policies and services available to support and enrich learning. A printed version of the handbook is no longer provided.

Policy Corner: [HCPSS Policy 1060: Bullying, Cyberbullying, Harassment and Intimidation](#) provides definitions and complete information regarding each of these critical topics. If know of a child who is being bullied as defined in the policy, please contact Ms. Thompson or Dr. Lewis at TSES or please visit www.stopbullying.hcpss.org

The [HCPSS Educational Partnerships 2020-2021 Annual Report](#) has just been released. Each school's partners are listed, as well as system wide (at-large), curricular and program office partnerships. The report demonstrates how partners work to make Howard County a thriving community that cares for all of its members.

Girls on the Run Coaches needed! TSES is in need of one or two volunteers to coach our Girls on the Run Program! Become a Coach, Change Her Life

Inspire and empower girls by volunteering as a coach. Our girls need you more than ever! You do not need to be a runner, you simply need to have a desire to support and encourage girls. Safety of girls and coaches is our top priority, that's why we've included safety modifications and virtual options.

As a coach, you will:

- Receive all the tools and support needed to lead interactive and easy to follow lessons with your co-coaches
- Help girls grow in their confidence, stand up for themselves and give back to their communities
- Help to transform and strengthen the next generation of girls
- Experience the positive impacts yourself!

Please visit [this link](#) to sign up. Thank you for caring about our students!

TSES PTA News!

Square 1 Art has begun! This favorite of all PTA fundraising offerings is back for 2021! Each TSES student will complete a Square 1 Art project during art class. In addition, Square 1 Art papers were sent home in the Friday Folder on Friday, 9/17/2021. Families are encouraged to create art for Square 1 Art projects at home as well. All completed projects are due back to TSES by 10/08/2021. Personalized order packets with a free sheet of stickers featuring the child's art will be sent home on 10/26/2021. Although this is an optional fundraiser, the outcome of the projects provides fun and lasting memories! Stay tuned for further information, happy creating!

What: Restaurant Night at Neo Pizza & Taphouse

Where: 8872 McGaw Rd Suite A, Columbia, MD 21045

When: Tuesday, 9/28/2021 from 11am-10pm

How: [Bring the flyer](#) (printed or displayed on your phone) to NEO Pizza & Taphouse to dine in or carry out all day.

Why: Because everyone loves pizza!!

Please reach out to Casey Otten @ fundraisers@tsespta.org with any questions.

TSES Important Dates:

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| Tuesday September 21 | Vision and Hearing Screening Clinic |
| Tuesday September 28 | PTA Restaurant Night at Neo Pizza & Taphouse |
| Friday October 8 | Kindergarten Firefighters Visit at TSES PTA Square 1 Art fundraising student work is due |
| Thursday October 14 | TSES PTA Meeting at 7:00 |
| Friday October 15 | School Closed for Students |
| Wednesday October 20 | Kindergarten Field Trip to Clarks Elioak Farm 11:00-1:45 |
| Thursday October 21 | Fall Individual Student Pictures |
| Wednesday October 27 | Flu Vaccine Clinic |