

Talbott Springs Families,

Thank you to the many families who were able to join us during our Back to School virtual events. It was a pleasure to see you and your children. Those of you who might not have been able to attend the meeting, the presentation will be posted on your child's Canvas page. If you have any questions, please contact your child's teacher, Dr. Lewis or me.

To our families observing Yom Kippur this weekend, we wish that your time is filled with meaningful reflection and peace. In observance of Yom Kippur, please remember that schools are closed for virtual learning on Monday September 28, 2020. Have a wonderful weekend. Nancy Thompson

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Google Meet Guidelines: Recently, there have been instances of students demonstrating behaviors during the live Google Meet sessions that are not within HCPSS guidelines. Please take a moment to review these [Google Meet Expectations for Students](#) with your child this weekend. Of particular concern have been inappropriate comments in the chat box between students or in response to a teacher question, students trying to stay beyond the google meet to check in with friends, TSES students sharing meeting codes with older students who no longer attend TSES and attempting to set up a meet that is not supervised by an adult and students making inappropriate gestures at the camera. TSES follows a hierarchy of consequences for inappropriate behavior. Although virtual learning is a novel opportunity for children, it is still school. Thank you for your continued support.

Response to Parent Feedback: Based on parent feedback from last week's survey and from Back to School Night, we hear your concerns about asynchronous assignments. The HCPSS elementary school schedule indicates that each Wednesday, students have work to complete asynchronously without the teacher. The work to be completed on Wednesdays will include (times are approximate): LexiaCore5 (15-20 mins); Dreambox (15-20 mins); Math Task (30 mins); Science, Social Studies OR Health Follow-up Lesson; Writing Assignment.

Students have asynchronous work for Related Arts. Related Arts assignments to be completed asynchronously are for the three related arts classes students have not had in a live meet that week. For example, if students have PE and Art synchronously in one week, those students would have Music, Media, and Technology to complete asynchronously **on any day of the week**, during asynchronous learning time. Students and parents can view weekly Assignments on the Canvas Calendar. Canvas does limit the number of calendars for viewing to a maximum of 10 at any one time. Consider [turning on/off calendars](#) by subject and by Related Arts. Students and parents can also consider changing the view of the calendar by week, month, and agenda. The [Canvas Parent App](#) ([Google Play](#) or [App Store](#)) offers options for parents as well. This app allows parents to sort events and courses by student if there are multiple students in HCPSS. Parents will log into this app using their [HCPSS Connect](#) account. Please use this link to find some suggested [Wednesday Schedules](#) for your family to use to guide your child's day. Please use this [link](#) to find screenshots of how to view your child's completed assignments. A more detailed version of this will be uploaded soon.

Face-to-Face Supports to Small Groups of Students: In the coming weeks, HCPSS will begin providing face-to-face support to small groups of students. Identified students and staff have been invited to complete an interest survey. If you did not receive a survey, it is because your child has not yet been identified for in-person support. Families of all students who receive special education services will receive an email with directions to complete a survey. If your child receives special education services, and you have not received an email by Friday, September 25, then please reach out to Ann Scholz (ann_scholz@hcpss.org) from the Office of Special Education Compliance, Non-Public Services, and Family Support. More information about the HCPSS In-Person Support initiative can be found here: <https://www.hcpss.org/2020-2021/small-groups/>. TSES students identified as having an Individualized Education Program (IEP) to receive Special Education services are in the category of 'Resource Students'.

TSES Bridges After School Program: Talbott Springs is excited to offer students in grades 3-5 the opportunity to participate in the Bridges after school program. This is a fully virtual program Monday-Thursday from 4:00-6:00pm offering extra academic supports along with enrichment activities like yoga, drama, science, and art. Daily attendance is mandatory to participate. If you would like more information, or to sign your child up, please reach out to laura_ciarrocchi@hcpss.org.

Breakfast and Lunch Service for TSES Students: Please come to TSES for meals! Miss Cindy and the rest of our cafeteria staff are looking forward to seeing you at a door near the cafeteria. Despite the construction fences, we are serving meals!! Meals are provided at no cost to any HCPSS student, and all children 18 and under, through December 31, 2020, subject to U.S. Department of Agriculture funding availability. Grab-and-Go breakfasts and lunches can be picked up at any school meal site Monday through Friday from 8-9 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.-12:45 p.m. [Full details](#), including meal pickup, pre-ordering, assigning a designee and more are provided online.

The Free and Reduced-priced Meals (FARMs) program provides many additional benefits to participating students. Please complete the FARM application even if we are not in the school building! It is critical that this application be completed each year. Several of our current families' applications expire on October 16, 2020. In addition, many more families have become eligible during the pandemic. Please visit the HCPSS [website](#) for details and a link to the application, which is available in several languages. Paper application forms are also available at the TSES meal distribution site.

On Thursday October 1st, students and staff are invited to participate in an (optional) Spirit Day to celebrate Hispanic Heritage.

Students and staff can wear clothing to represent Hispanic Heritage or colors found on the flags of Hispanic countries. Any questions or concerns please reach out to Mrs. Sansone, our school counselor, lauren_sansone@hcpss.org.

School Counseling Connection: Mrs. Sansone has prepared an outstanding newsletter for TSES parents. Please find the newsletter at the following link: <https://tse.hcpss.org/news/2020/09/tse-school-counseling-connection-september-2020>

It's Instructional Seminar sign-up time! Instructional Seminars are interest based and open to all students in grades 2-5. Please check your Canvas Inbox for a message from Ms. Lepore and Mr. McMahon that explains GT seminars and what we are offering this Fall. There are some amazing classes for students to enjoy! Please sign up for seminars on the Google form by September 30th, as they will begin the week of October 5th. <https://forms.gle/3tYbf7TamuKFEP6PA>
Questions? Please contact Mr. McMahon or Mrs. Lepore

BSAP Saturday Math Academy Online Registration Families can register online on Saturday, September 26 for the [BSAP Saturday Math Academy](#). Certified teachers offer instruction and enrichment in all levels of mathematics to a diverse student population through the six-week academy, offered virtually in October and November.

Girls on the Run is HAPPENING! Schools may be closed to students, but Girls on the Run will still deliver our evidence-based, life skills curriculum to girls of all abilities this fall. We will be offering a **hybrid in-person/virtual program for girls in the Talbott Springs area, which will meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4:00-5:15 pm.** The team will meet outdoors at the Columbia Ice Rink in the Oakland Mills Village Center. The 8-week season begins on September 20 with our 10th Birthday Bash Virtual 5K is scheduled for November 14 & 15, 2020. Social distancing measures and face

coverings will be required during in-person practices. In the event of rain or a change in governmental guidelines for in-person gatherings, the team will seamlessly transition to virtual team meetings using Google Meet. Virtual programming, if necessary, will be engaging and will include plenty of movement with activity goals for girls to meet between practices. The registration fee is \$150, with generous financial assistance available to those who qualify by completing our [online scholarship application](#) before registering. For more information or to register, visit gotrcentralmd.org.

PTA-Special Election Meeting

Please join us for a special election general membership meeting on Thursday, October 1, 2020 at 5:30 pm to vote on the vacant VP Fundraising position. The nominee for the VP Fundraising position is Deanne Alexander. This meeting will be extremely brief as it is solely for voting purposes. All PTA members with paid dues for the 2020-2021 academic year are eligible to nominate, self-nominate, and/or vote. This meeting will be held in-person at the TSES Bus Loop. Please maintain social distancing and wear masks. If you are interested in this position or have any questions, please contact Cass Cooley at pta@tsespta.org. Our standard monthly meeting for the month of October will remain on October 15th at 7 pm via Google Meet.

PTA MemberHub and How to Join the TSES PTA

National, Maryland, and Local PTAs are now using MemberHub. It's a one-stop-shop to pay TSES membership dues, obtain a digital membership card (which can be printed out!), receive communications from TSES PTA, easily subscribe to the TSES PTA calendar of events, purchase school spirit wear, event and volunteer sign-ups, connect with others in the TSES community and stay informed. Create your MemberHub profile at <https://app.memberhub.com/>. Enter your email address, select 'I need to create my password', and select 'Next'. Fill out your profile and explore! Pay your 2020-2021 TSES PTA Membership dues online at the [membership store](#). Alternatively, cash or check can be paid during any in-person meetings or mailed to the school at 9550 Basket Ring Road along with a filled out [membership form](#). You can still create a MemberHub profile even if your membership is paid via cash or check..

Save the Date: The Council of Elders of Howard County is hosting Community Academies for Parents. The first meeting will be held on October 17 and the topic is 'Effective Home and School Communication'. Please see link for additional details: <https://tses.hcpss.org/file/save-date-council-elders-1pdf>

IMPORTANT DATES:

September 26, 2020	On-line Registration for BSAP Saturday Math Academy Opens (see above)
September 28, 2020	Schools and Offices Closed
October 1, 2020	TSES PTA Special Election-in person 5:30 TSES Bus loop TSES Celebrates Hispanic Heritage! Please see above for information!
October 7, 2020	MAP Administration (Reading) for Grades 2-5 9:00-11:00 OR 1:00-3:00.
October 8, 2020	TSES Administrator Office Hours for Families 4:00-5:00
October 14, 2020	MAP Administration (Math) for grades 2-5 9:00-11:00 OR 1:00-3:00
October 15, 2020	TSES Virtual PTA Meeting at 7:00
October 16, 2020	School Dismissed after ½ Day. Afternoon is a professional work day.