

Talbott Springs Elementary School Friday Newsletter June 19, 2020

A message from the Principal:

Talbott Springs Families,

Congratulations to our 5th grade students on their promotion from elementary school to middle school! Although our promotion ceremonies were different from our usual practices, each of the events was a well planned meaningful recognition of our students. In addition, I appreciate the efforts of each of the grade level teams for celebrating the accomplishments and promotion of all of our students as they transition from one grade to the next. Please take a moment in the days ahead to celebrate your child for his or her accomplishments as we approach the last day of school on June 23, 2020. Because we still have two days of school, please assure that your child has achieved all of the goals necessary to 'pass' each of their courses. Please see below for specific information regarding requirements for passing courses this quarter. The end of a school year brings mixed emotions. This year is particularly challenging as we have not seen our students in person for 3 months! We appreciate the dedication of our families as students completed their school work at home. We wish our students who are attending SFES next year the best as they are welcomed at their new school. We will miss you but know that you are in great hands! We wish our students who are moving to another location or to middle school the best as they embark on the next steps of their journey! Again, we will miss you at TSES. Please know that you are always welcome to visit us or to just check in and let us know how you are doing. Thank you to all of our students, families and staff members for making this very interesting school year one that is filled with positive memories. We are a school family and a school community. Working together and caring for one another, we will remain healthy and safe. Thank you for sharing your children with us this year!

Nancy Thompson

Important Dates:

June 22, 2020 Half Day of School for Students (modified schedule)

June 23, 2020 Half Day of School for Students (modified schedule) Last Day of School

Your voice Matters! As the 2019-2020 school year comes to a close, HCPSS staff continue to prepare for the 2020-2021 school year while navigating continuing unknowns of what school will look like in the fall. I encourage you to provide input and feedback to help guide the solutions for the 2020-2021 school year through the online survey provided below. The deadline to complete the survey is **Wednesday, July 1 at noon.**

- [English \(Links to an external site.\)](#)
- [Chinese \(Links to an external site.\)](#)
- [Korean \(Links to an external site.\)](#)
- [Spanish \(Links to an external site.\)](#)

Parents across all grade bands have the opportunity to provide their input for students, including those in younger grades, by completing the parent/guardian survey linked above. Additionally, stakeholders may provide input and feedback by sending an email to fall-input@hcpss.org throughout the summer. More information on HCPSS planning for the 2020-2021 school year can be [found online. \(Links to an external site.\)](#)

Juneteenth! Please also take a moment to think about, talk about and celebrate Juneteenth (June 19th) also known as Freedom Day or Emancipation Day as a landmark event in American History. It was on this date in 1865 (two and a half years after the Emancipation Proclamation) that the enslaved Africans were finally freed as word of emancipation reached Galveston, Texas. Learning more about Juneteenth holds important value as we examine our priorities around racial justice and American History. There are many resources available to learn more about Juneteenth including this linked [video](#).

June 22 and 23, 2020: It is very important to know that students have the opportunity to complete assignments through June 23, 2020 as that is the official last day of the quarter. If your child has not yet met expectations (below) to 'pass' a class June 22 and June 23 is a great opportunity to make up work that has not yet been completed. I am encouraging students to use this time to access the Canvas modules (Social Studies, Science, Health, Music, Art, Media, Band, Strings, Chorus and Physical Education), the LexiaCore5 minutes and the Dreambox minutes that are not yet completed according to expectations.

- LexiaCore 5=Minimum of 263 minutes to pass
- Dreambox=Minimum of 263 minutes to pass
- Social Studies and Science: minimum of 3 lessons completed to pass
- Health, PE, Music, Art, Media: minimum of 2 lessons completed to pass

Grade level events are planned to celebrate the end of the school year, some of which are planned for June 22 and 23. Information about each of these events will be shared through Canvas email. Please assist your child with checking that information and attending these events.

Summer Meals~HCPSS will [continue its free meal program](#) for all HCPSS students and anyone under the age of 18 through the summer. Running from July 1-August 14, free meals will be available at locations countywide, weekdays from 11:30-1:30. There will be no meal service Friday, July 3, and weekend meals will be provided at school-based locations Thursday, July 2. Some summer locations differ from the spring locations. Please note that the TSES site will not be available due to construction. Please use the OMMS site.

Summer Enrichment Activities for HCPSS Students: Summer Reading: Links to summer enrichment activities for students at all grade levels are provided online for any families who wish to use them. Also online is information regarding volunteer and activism opportunities, and family and community resources. Find all this and more on our [Summer Enrichment webpage](#).

Reading Lists and Programs: [Recommended summer reading lists](#) for students in all grade levels, developed by HCPSS library media specialists and Howard County Library System staff, are available online. Students are encouraged to read other books by the authors included, as well as explore additional book topics. While its branches remain closed, the Howard County Library System will continue its [summer reading program](#) this year online. New activities and challenges will be added each week.

HCPSS Digital Tools: All students have access to their school's digital MackinVIA eBook and audiobook collection all summer long by logging in through [hcpss.me](#).

Student Access to Lexia Core5 and DreamBox:

Elementary students will have access to DreamBox Learning and Lexia Core5 throughout the summer. Students are not required to work with either learning platform, and their progress will not be monitored by teachers. The Parent Portal for DreamBox will continue to be available and student progress in Lexia can continue to be monitored via the student dashboard."to review student progress. If you choose to have your child work with these tools over the summer, we encourage you to limit use to the recommended amount of 15-20 minutes per day. For technical support during the summer, please use the following contact information:

DreamBox Technical Support Contact Information -

Email: support@dreambox.com Customer service: 1 (877) 451-7845

Lexia Core5 Technical Support Contact Information -

Website: <https://www.lexialearning.com/support> Email: support@lexialearning.com

Customer service: 1 800-435-3942

The following links provide additional mathematics and language arts resources for students: <https://www.hcpss.org/academics/english-language-arts/>
<https://www.hcpss.org/academics/mathematics/>

Checking for Completed Assignments in Canvas: Several families are seeking guidance about how to best find out if their child(ren) has/have completed the Canvas Assignments (ELA, Math, Social Studies, Science, Health, PE, Music, Art, Media, Technology, Band, Strings, Chorus, GT Enrichment, School Counseling). Please find very helpful guidance at this [link](#). Thank you to Mr. McDonald for creating this reference! In addition, please find a helpful schedule tool for your children to use as they complete tasks <https://tses.hcpss.org/file/required-work-checklistpdf>.

Attention 5th Grade Parents! If your child was unable to participate in the virtual Middle School visits for Lake Elkhorn Middle School and Oakland Mills Middle School, families can see the school presentations at the following links:

[Lake Elkhorn Middle School](#)
[Oakland Mills Middle School](#)

Kindergarten Registration/Pre-Kindergarten Registration:

Kindergarten Registration Parents/guardians of new incoming students and those entering kindergarten in the 2020-2021 school year (who are not already enrolled) are able to begin the enrollment process online, followed by completion of the registration process when schools reopen.

Online registration is not required and parents may elect to complete the full registration in person at the time of reopening. Once school buildings reopen, parents will be contacted to complete the registration at Talbott Springs. Please contact Ms. Cristiani at patricia_cristiani@hcpss.org for further information.

Pre-K Applications: Pre-Kindergarten enrollment is now open!! TSES has a full day Pre-Kindergarten program for students who will be 4 years old on or before September 1, 2020. Please visit this [link](#) for information on registering your child. Please note that TSES full day Pre-Kindergarten program admittance is based income qualifications. Information is contained in the website referenced above.

Free and Reduced Meals Program: Families financially impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic are encouraged to check eligibility for the Free and Reduced Meals Program, through which a number of resources and discounts are offered. <https://news.hcpss.org/news-posts/2020/06/superintendent-encourages-families-to-access-support-resources-including-farms-program/>

Yearbook ordering is coming to an end.....PLEASE DO NOT MISS OUT ON GETTING THIS KEEPSAKE. LAST DAY FOR ONLINE ORDERS IS JUNE 23RD The total cost for online orders will be \$30.39 (includes tax and shipping). I do apologize, but online order automatically includes the shipping cost. School Pictures Inc. did research if we could have the direct shipping as an option not a requirement, and unfortunately the program does not allow that function. The bonus to that, is that the yearbook will be directly shipped to your address you provide.

Instructions:

1. Visit www.Schoolpix.com
2. Click on the big yellow circle that says Preorder Portraits Online Here. Do Not click on the yearbook tab.
3. It will ask you for a shoot key so you would enter Shoot key: **FV484MEP**

4. Once you have entered that you should be in and just need to fill out all the information for ordering your child's yearbook. There is an issue with entering shipping street information. **Please be sure your billing address is correct as that is where the yearbook will be shipped.**

School Counseling Newsletter: Visit the new and archived [HCPSS Elementary School Counseling Connection Newsletters](#) that have been shared through school messenger.

Please visit the HCPSS Community News and Programs web-page for all announcements of events and programs sponsored by non-profit organizations.