

# WAVE NEWSLETTER

March 14, 2024

## **Important Dates:**

March 15 ~ Family Bingo Night; 6:30 p.m.

March 21 ~ Vision and Hearing Rescreening

March 25 - April 1 ~ Spring Break - Schools Closed

April 10 ~ Schools Closed for Students - Professional Work Day

## **On Deck with your Administrators**

Dear DOES Families:

The Young Authors' Contest (YAC) contest encourages 1st through 12th grade students to enter a poem and/or short story. Students in public and private schools submit their writing piece to the school-level contest. Each participating school then selects an outstanding poem and short story per grade to compete in the county-wide competition. At the county level of the YAC contest, judges select a first and second place winner for each category and grade level. First place Howard County poetry and short story winners have their written work forwarded to the state-wide contest. SoMLA (State of Maryland Literacy Association), who sponsors this program, holds a reception for state winners as part of the SoMLA conference.

Howard County Literacy Association (HCLA) recognizes the first and second place winners through two main events. First, at our YAC Reading Day, students can share their work by reading the poem or short story in public for friends, family, and community. Second, students invited to the Howard County YAC Celebration receive acknowledgments during an awards ceremony and listen to a guest author discuss their craft. Finally, students have their winning pieces published in an anthology.

We would like to congratulate Kaitlynn Hotrabhavananda for earning 2<sup>nd</sup> Place in the Howard County Young Authors' Contest for 4th Grade Short Story, Nature is Always Beautiful! Congratulations to Kaitlynn for this wonderful accomplishment and for representing Dayton Oaks in the Young Authors' Contest.

Educationally yours,

Ms. Williams-McKinney, Principal

Ms. Shari Lorch, Assistant Principal

## **Counselor's Corner**

Dear DOES Families,

During the month of March and into early April, the school counselors will implement classroom lessons related to college and career readiness standards. During these lessons, students are exploring a variety of career paths, discussing how their interests and strengths can support their future decisions, and discuss the tools that can help them achieve their goals! Students are also hearing about a variety of careers on the morning announcements, as teachers are sharing about the jobs of some of their family members.

During the lunch shifts on Wednesday, March 20th, students will participate in our 3<sup>rd</sup> Mix It Up Lunch of the school year. Instead of sitting with their homeroom class, the counselors will

support a structured way to mix up the students socially. Students will be provided with cards on the table to encourage conversations around their future with those sitting near them. Thank you for your support in all of these activities. Please reach out to one of the School Counselors if you have any questions.

Stephanie Dix and Alyson Hannan  
[Stephanie\\_Dix@HCPSS.org](mailto:Stephanie_Dix@HCPSS.org)  
[Alyson\\_Hannan@HCPSS.org](mailto:Alyson_Hannan@HCPSS.org)

### **2024-2025 Kindergarten Registration**

**Do you have a relative, friend or neighbor that has a child who will be 5 years old by September 1, 2024? Tell them it's time to register for kindergarten!**

Kindergarten [registration](#) kicked off Monday, March 4. Parents can begin the enrollment process online, after which a member of our front office team will contact you to complete the registration process. Current HCPSS prekindergarten students do not need to be re-registered for kindergarten because they are already enrolled as an HCPSS student. If you have any questions, please contact us at 410-313-1571.

### **Band Musicians of the Month**

Congratulations to the Band Musicians of the Month for March! These students will have their names in the Howard County Times and have their certificates displayed on the band bulletin board during the month of March. Keep up the great work and awesome attitudes!

Brian Miranda Giron - Alto Saxophone  
Tanu Vishal - Flute  
Audrey Guzman - Flute  
Eileen Feng - Percussion  
Carter McKenna - Percussion  
Riley Bruns - Trombone  
Claire Jasi - Trombone  
Hannah Ball - Trombone  
David Siwajuola - Trumpet  
Istvan Turcsanyi - Trumpet  
Agastya Krishna - Alto Saxophone  
William Burke - Clarinet  
Clara Brooks - Euphonium  
Evie Herbert - Flute  
Eli Kraemer - French Horn  
Kellen Edmonston - Percussion  
TJ Smith - Percussion  
JB Brown - Trombone

Musically,  
Mrs. Amy Bejm Syversen  
Director of Bands (she/they/them)

## **Spring 2024 After-School Classes at DOES**

Howard County Rec and Parks provides fun, structured, educational, and enriching activities for students, benefitting both the child(ren) and parents! To register for an after-school class at Dayton Oaks, click [HERE](#).

[DOES Spring 2024 After-School Classes](#)

## **Glenelg Theatre Camp**

This summer, the Glenelg Theatre Camp is back (for our third summer) with a 2-week summer theatre camp at Glenelg High School presenting... Annie JR!

When: July 1-12 (no camp July 4) from 9AM-3PM.

Who: All rising 3rd-8<sup>th</sup> graders; no experience necessary

Where: Glenelg High School Auditorium

Register today at <https://www.glenelgboosters.com/summer-sport-camps/>

## **NEWS WORTH REPEATING**

### **Health Room Reminders**

Deciding when a child is too sick to go to school can be a difficult decision for parents to make. When trying to decide, use the guidelines below to help you.

**Stay at Home:** If your child has any of the following symptoms, please keep your child at home or make appropriate child care arrangements:

- **Appearance and Behavior** - unusually tired, pale, lack of appetite, difficult to wake, confused or irritable. This is sufficient reason to exclude a child.
- **Eyes** - thick mucus or pus draining from the eye or pink eye. With pink eye (conjunctivitis) you may see a white or yellow discharge, matted eyelids after sleep, eye pain and/or redness.
- **Fever** - temperature 100 degrees Fahrenheit or higher. Remember that a child must be fever free for 24 hours before returning to school.
- **Greenish nose discharge and/or chronic cough** - should be seen by a healthcare provider. These conditions may be contagious and require treatment.
- **Sore throat** - especially with fever or swollen glands in the neck. (With strep throat, the child may return to school after 24 hours on antibiotics.)
- **Diarrhea** - three (3) or more watery stools in a 24-hour period, especially if the child acts or looks ill.
- **Vomiting** - vomiting two (2) or more times within the past 24 hours
- **Rash** - body rash, especially with fever or itching. Heat rashes and allergic reactions are not contagious.
- **Ear infections without fever** - do not need to be excluded, but the child needs to get medical treatment and follow-up. Untreated ear infections can cause permanent hearing loss.
- **Lice** - children may not return to school until they have been treated and are free of live lice. Make a habit of checking your child's hair for head lice once a week.
- **COVID** - Students who are positive for Covid should isolate at home through at least day 5 (day 0 is the day symptoms appeared or the date the specimen was collected for the positive test for people who are asymptomatic). They should wear a mask through day 10 while at school. Students must be 24 hours fever free to return to

school.

- The Maryland Department of Health and Maryland State Department of Education recommend that schools and child care programs follow the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Operational Guidance for K-12 Schools and Early Care and Education Programs for the 2023-2024 school year.

**If your child shows any of the above symptoms at school, it will be necessary to pick them up from school. Please make sure to update your emergency contacts so that you can pick up your student within an hour of notification from the health room. Please call or email if you have any questions: Rachel\_Tulis@hcpss.org or 410 313-1575**

### **Handicapped Accessible Parking Spaces**

In response to our need for additional handicapped accessible parking for this year, the county offices have provided several additional spaces. These are located in our front lot adjacent to the school.

As a reminder these spaces should be utilized only by those who currently hold a State of Maryland issued plate or placard allowing for use.

### **DOES Student Showcase**

SAVE THE DATE for the Dayton Oaks Student Showcase scheduled for May 9, 2024, 6:30-8:00 pm. The DOES Student Showcase is an open house for family and community that spotlights learning at Dayton Oaks Elementary. We will be rolling out the red carpet to view the amazing work from all our star students in RECC to 5th grade! Additionally, we invite students to participate in the showcase by creating a STEAM project. Just follow the directions for creating a STEAM Project in the packet . We hope to see you at our red carpet event!

### **Volunteer in the Media Center!**

The Media Center is always looking for parent volunteers. Please consider signing up to volunteer by clicking on the link below:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080A44A5AD2EAA8-47151726-winter>

### **Student Technology Reminder - Personal Devices**

Recently, we have noticed an increase in the number of students bringing personal technology devices to school. These include cell phones, Apple watches, Gizmo watches, and other personal devices that include text messaging capabilities. These items have been disruptive to classroom instruction, therefore, we wanted to uplift the HCPSS Policy regarding personal technology devices in elementary schools:

[HCPSS Policy 8080](#) - Responsible Use of Technology, Digital Tools, and Social Media states that elementary school students "will keep personal technology devices in backpacks during the school day, unless otherwise authorized by school administrators or instructional staff."

If your child has a personal device, please review this policy with them. As stated in Policy 8080, students who bring these devices to school will be instructed to place them in their backpacks for the duration of the school day. Thank you for your partnership.

### **HCPSS Emergency Notifications**

As we head into winter weather, [families are reminded](#) that in emergency situations (including inclement weather), information will be shared with the community only through the HCPSS

website, email and text, Twitter and the HCPSS weather hotline. [Be sure your Family File is up to date](#) and that you have [opted into texts](#) to receive emergency messages.

### **Volunteer Training Required for Volunteers and Visitors**

Anyone volunteering at school in any capacity, including parents joining their children for lunch, are required to complete volunteer training prior to their first visit. Please visit [HERE](#) for more information. Thank you in advance for your willingness to support our staff and students at DOES.

### **Attendance/Reporting Absences**

Parents can email [DOESabsence@hcpss.org](mailto:DOESabsence@hcpss.org) to report a student's absence. Please include your child(ren)'s full name, parent's/guardian's full name and phone number, the date your child(ren) was absent and the reason. Parents may instead choose to send in a paper excuse note to their child's teacher with the same information when the student returns to school.

For families requesting local discretionary absences, please complete a [Local Discretionary Absence Request Form](#) and submit it to the front office at least one week in advance.

### **2023-2024 School Meals Information**

Click [HERE](#) to learn more about HCPSS meal information.

Pricing for school meals for 2023-24:

Breakfast (\$2.00)

Lunch (\$2.80)

Many HCPSS families are eligible to participate in the [Free and Reduced Price Meals \(FARMs\) program](#), which provides children with a wide range of benefits including free or discounted college tuition, testing and application fees, academic and athletic program fees and many others in addition to free or discounted meals. Families are urged to check their eligibility and complete a [FARMs application](#) as soon as possible. Families must submit a new application every school year.

[Details on the Free and Reduced Meals program](#), including a link to apply, are available online.

## **COMMUNITY NEWS**

Please visit the HCPSS website [Community News and Programs site](#) for upcoming events and programs sponsored by non-profit organizations.