

Dragon Tales

March 12, 2021

Reminder - Transition to Hybrid Instruction Schedule

Group A students will attend on **Monday/Tuesday** and your first day in person will be:

- **Monday, March 29:** Grade 6
- **Monday, April 12:** Grades 7-8

Group B students' will attend on **Thursday/Friday** and your first day in person will be:

- **Thursday, April 1:** Grade 6
- **Thursday, April 15:** Grades 7-8

Parents/guardians may view their child's group designation at any time by taking the following steps:

1. [Log in to HCPSS Connect Synergy](#) using parent/guardian credentials
2. Select Student Info from the left panel
3. Scroll down to the Other Data section to see the Student group for the attendance field.

If after logging in you do not see the options, please confirm you are logged in with your credentials and not as your child. If you need additional assistance, please contact your grade level counselor, Ms. Madison, Tiffany_Madison@hcpss.org, or Ms. Peppers, Ebony_Peppers@hcpss.org for assistance.

Health Room Updates

Parents/guardians, please remember to perform a symptom check daily, prior to your child's departure from home. Please reference the [Health Room Updates](#) Google doc for details.

From Ms. Han

The Howard County Middle School Creative Works Magazine, Our Voice, is looking for original, creative student work in the category of writing and photography!

Literary entries will be evaluated based on originality, creative use of language, and distinctive voice. Pieces can be poetry, fiction, or nonfiction. Short stories generally accepted are 12-point font, 1 1/2 pages long, single-spaced.

Photography entries will be evaluated on composition, use of photographic techniques, and originality.

Submission Requirements:

- All submissions should be the original work of the student from the current school year and are considered voluntary contributions.
- Submissions should be carefully drafted, revised, and edited for publication.
- The content should be appropriate for a middle school audience.
- All literary entries should be typed in Times 12-point font.
- All photographs must be in high resolution.

Please use this [form](#) to submit to Ms. Han your original short story, poem, review, essay, journalistic writing, or other creative composition; or a creative/artistic photograph. All entries will be juried at the school level before being sent to the county level for consideration. Selected writing and photographs will be published in this year's edition of Our Voice.

All submissions are due **Monday, March 22, 2021**.

Lois Han
GT Resource Teacher

Upload Your 7th Grade Yearbook Portraits NOW!

We are excited to feature YOU in the yearbook! But in this year like no other, we need your help. If you did not get your portrait taken at school, please use the directions below to submit a yearbook portrait.

Right now, we are asking that 7th-grade students ONLY upload their portrait for the yearbook. Each grade will have a separate upload window.

How to Submit a Yearbook Portrait in Three Easy Steps:

1. Take a selfie

Guidelines:

- Head and shoulders up
- Only you
- Centered in the middle of the frame
- Neutral background
- Good lighting and focused
- No sunglasses or hats
- No hand gestures
- No odd shadows
- No black and white or filters

2. Save it as a jpg or png file with your last name, first name, and grade
(Ex: Smith_Mary_8.jpg)

3. Upload it to <https://images.jostens.com/416174393>

Thank you for helping us tell the story of this year!

Yearbook Staff

Upcoming Events

- **March 29:** Hybrid Students in 6th Grade Return
- **April 1:** Hybrid Students in 6th Grade Return
- **April 2 – April 6:** Spring Break
- **April 12:** Hybrid Student in 7th & 8th Grade Return
- **April 14:** Schools close 3 hours early, End of 3rd Quarter
- **April 15:** Hybrid Student in 7th & 8th Grade Return
- **April 22:** Report cards issued

Community Messages

Suicide Prevention and Substance Abuse Parent Workshop

- Parents of elementary, middle, and high school students are invited to attend a powerful session entitled, "Suicide Prevention and Substance Abuse" on Saturday, March 13 from 9:00 to 10:30 a.m. Attendees will have the opportunity to engage in discussion and receive valuable information as it relates to suicide prevention, substance abuse, and mental health awareness. Please [click here \(Links to an external site.\)](#) for additional details.

Heart & Sole is Back!

Registration is now open for the 8-week season, which will begin the week of March 21. We will meet In-person on Wednesday and Friday outside on the blacktop at Dunloggin Middle School from 3:00 pm to 4:15 pm. Registration is \$150 and includes a program shirt, water bottle, 5K registration, and finisher's medal, as well as a cinch sack with all necessary program materials. The end-of-season 5K weekend is scheduled for May 22-23, 2021. In-person teams will adhere to enhanced health and safety policies and will meet outdoors with the ability to transition to virtual meetings in the event of bad weather or COVID-related meeting restrictions.

Registration link:

<https://www.raceplanner.com/register/index/GOTRCENMDSP21Registration>

Financial assistance is available - for more information contact Susan Michel at 443-864-8593 or susan.michel@girlsontherun.org. For more details and to register, visit gotrcentralmd.org. Teams are limited to 15 girls and registration is first-come, first-served.

New HCPSS Community News and Programs Site

In response to community requests for resources, HCPSS' new [Community News and Programs \(Links to an external site\)](#) website makes it easy for families to find educational and recreational resources, events, and after-school programs beyond the school day by non-profit organizations.

Community organizations requesting their announcements be shared in school newsletters should visit community-programs.hcpss.org for more information. Questions should be directed to the Public Information Office at publicinfo@hcpss.org.

For other Community News visit our website www.dms.hcpss.org