

MWES News - Week of 1/25/2021

Important Dates

January 25-29 - Great Kindness Challenge (see info. below)

January 28 - Quarter 2 Ends

January 29 - Professional Work Day (**Schools Closed for Students**)

February 3 - MAP Testing (Math) Grades 1-5

February 10 - MAP Testing (Reading) Grades 1-5

February 10-11 - Parent Teacher Math Conferences (**3- Hour Early Dismissal for Students**)

February 12 - Professional Work Day (**Schools Closed for Students**)

February 15 - Presidents' Day (**Schools Closed for Students and Staff**)

Absence Email Reminder

Dear Manor Woods Parents,

Please do not send your child's absent note through Canvas. All absent notes must be emailed to MWESabsence@hcpss.org and **include student name, date of the absence and the reason for the absence.** If this information is not included, the note will not be accepted. This email goes directly to our Attendance Secretary. You may cc: your child's teacher in the same email.

Thank you in advance for adhering to our absence reporting procedures.

A Note From Our Administrators

TCOE Celebration of Academic Achievement

- The Council of Elders of the Black Community of Howard County (TCOE), in partnership with the Howard County Public School System (HCPSS), hosts an annual Celebration of Academic Achievement for students in grades 4-9. This event is held to not only publicly acknowledge and honor students of African and African-American heritage but also to encourage students to continue on the path of excellence throughout high school and beyond.
- This year's Celebration of Academic Achievement will honor approximately 3000 students who are currently in grades 4 through 9 and have achieved the following levels of academic success during the 2019-2020 school year:

~ Grades 4-6: Students must earn As or Bs in all areas under language arts AND mathematics for all four marking periods. Students cannot earn Ds or Es in any of the following subjects: language arts, mathematics, science, social studies, and health education for all four quarters.

This week Manor Woods Elementary was honored to recognize our African American scholars in 4th and 5th grade who have achieved outstanding academic success in the 2019-2020 school year. This year the Council of Elders held the annual event virtually.

Congratulations to our MWES students who received Awards of Academic Achievement this week from the Council of Elders of the Black Community of Howard County. Please join us in congratulating the following students:

~**Makida Azene**

~ **Kacey Richardson**

~ **Nyah Salters**

~ **Brooke Spears**

~**Jaden Vernet**

Keep up the good work and congratulations!

We are proud of you.

Mrs. DeBord and Mrs. Zinn

News from Ms. Heinlein, School Counselor

Family Resiliency: How to Cope During Stressful Times

The National Family Resiliency Center is offering a free Zoom program on January 27 from 7-8pm, for parents, grandparents & caregivers on what you can do for yourself & your children to build your family's level of resiliency & cope with the many stressors that these challenging times may be causing. To register email ask@nfrchelp.org. For questions call 410-740-9553 ext. 208.

Check out the [January 2021 Elementary School Counseling Newsletter](#) for information & ideas to foster well-being, kindness, community service &

more.

The MWES Great Kindness Challenge is coming! Help us celebrate & practice kindness throughout the month of January. **The Great Kindness Challenge** is scheduled for Jan. 25-29 but why limit kindness to 1 week? Let's practice it every day! This [link](#) provides families all the details they need to participate in our Great Kindness Challenge. We hope you'll join us!

Towson Univ. Free Tutoring Program for Students

Towson University's College of Educ. is offering free tutoring services for students in grades K-12. The program will offer: tutoring in math, reading and writing; support for students with exceptionalities; English language support. Registration begins Jan. 18th. For more info. & to register, [click here](#).

National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Howard County offers free monthly support groups for families living with mental illness. For more information visit [NAMI Howard County](#).

New Information

Winter Parent-Teacher Conference Registration Opens in Synergy

- **Opens on Friday, January 29th, 6:00am**
- **Closes on Friday, February 5th, 10:00pm**

Directions on how to schedule a conference with your student(s) Math teacher are [attached](#). 5th Grade GT Math conferences are available at this time as well. All conferences will be held via Google Meet on **Wednesday, February 10th and Thursday, February 11th. Google Meet codes will be provided 24 hours in advance of meetings.**

Below is a summary of the attached directions:

- Login into **HCPSS Connect (Parent Account)** Go to the **navigation pane (left side)**, **Select Conference**, then **Select Parent Scheduled Conferences (upper right-hand corner)**.
- You should be able to see all of your students in the top, left corner of the screen.
- Conferences will be 15 minutes in length (30 minutes for Special Ed and ELL). Please keep this in mind when selecting a slot for additional children. It is best not to select back-to-back time slots due to the virtual setting.
- Once you have completed your conference registration(s), you can see the schedule by selecting **More Options, Conference Scheduling, View My Conference Schedule in the navigation pane (left side)**.

Important Reminders From Past Newsletters

[click here](#)

20-21 Yearbook Cover Contest Entries Due February 8th

All students are invited to enter their drawings in our Yearbook Cover Contest. Winners will be selected to be displayed on the front or back cover of the yearbook.

[Click Here For More Information](#)

2020-2021 Inclement Weather Protocols

For the 2020-2021 school year, while in virtual, small groups or hybrid instructional models, HCPSS will transition to fully virtual instruction during inclement weather days.

[View the Four Possible Inclement Weather Decisions](#)

Board Approves 2021-2022 Academic Calendar

The next school year will begin on August 30, 2021, for students and on August 19, 2021, for school staff. Winter break will be December 23-31, 2021, with schools reopening on Monday, January 3, 2022. Spring Break will run from April 11-18, 2022. The last day of school is scheduled for June 14, 2022.

[Learn more](#)

After School Activities

Experience Howard Community College Kids on Campus!

HCC is for kids, too!

HCC's well-known Kids on Campus program provides enrichment education for youth ages 8 to 17. Topics range from Art from Around the World, Roblox, Nature Explorers, World Languages, and SAT Prep. HCC Kids on Campus has something for every interest!

Spring Registration is now open!

In all the seasons except summer, Kids on Campus classes are held weekday evenings or weekends and are listed in the quarterly Noncredit Schedule of Classes (For summer, a separate Kids On Campus Schedule of Classes is published and summer listings can be viewed online after they are published in early February of each year.) Upcoming available courses can be found [here](#).

Financial Aid

A limited number of scholarships are available for families who need financial aid. If you believe you may be eligible for financial aid, please complete [this application](#) and submit it via email to NoncreditFinAid@howardcc.edu as soon as possible.

Virtual Learning

The health, safety, and well-being of all Kids on Campus (KOC) students, staff, and faculty continue to be our highest priorities. Due to the evolving situation with the coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19), our Kids on Campus courses are currently offered remotely.

Registration Details

Tuition must be paid in full at time of registration. Each course tuition includes a built-in \$40 registration fee. All Kids on Campus registrations must be accompanied by a signed consent form, which is included in online registration and the print version of the registration form.

For all registration options, please register using the student's name and student ID number, not the parent or guardian's. To register your student for a class, follow the "Register Now" button under the course you have chosen.

Maryland Arts Institute of Racial Justice

As institutions move toward Racial Equity, it is necessary to examine and reconcile the past, understand the present, and create change for the future. [The Maryland Arts Institute of Racial Justice](#) has two types of offerings to explore racial justice together as the Maryland Arts sector. Registration is FREE.

Lunchtime Book Club

Connect with members of Maryland's arts sector to build shared language and understandings about racial justice through guided discussions and sharing. This event occurs on select Tuesdays at noon.

For dates, times, and registration, visit the [book club registration page](#).

Community News

Food Bank Donations

The Howard County Food Bank has seen a significant increase in demand for services this year. The HOCO Community Action Council is asking the community to help meet the increased need. To donate, navigate to their website [here](#), click the donate button, and complete the form. All donations are safe, secure, and most importantly go directly to those who need assistance during this critical time. Food donations can be dropped off in a collection bin at the Howard County Food Bank parking lot (located at 9385 Gerwig Lane Columbia, MD 21046). Thank you for considering this opportunity to help others in need.

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