

# MWES News - Week of March 16, 2020

## **APRIL (subject to change)**

**1** - Scholastic Book Fair Family Night and Ice Cream Social

**3** - 3 hour early dismissal for students

**6-13** - Spring Break Schools Closed

**14** - SCH Kickoff for 5th Grade

**17** - Spring Class and Individual Pictures

**23** - Take Your Child to Work Day

**28** - Primary Election Day Schools and Offices Closed

## **MISA Testing in 5th Grade**

Students in grade 5 will be participating in the Maryland Integrated Science Assessment (MISA) this month. MISA is a measure of student achievement in science in grade 5 (testing content from grades 4 and 5). MISA consists of four units lasting approximately one hour each. Students will be tested over four separate days. The best way to prepare your child for this assessment is to make sure they get a good night's sleep the night before and to eat a healthy breakfast the morning of the test. Should you have any questions regarding the MISA, please contact Mrs. Zinn at [jennifer\\_zinn@hcpss.org](mailto:jennifer_zinn@hcpss.org).

Testing will take place on the following days:

**TBD**

## **The Maryland Comprehensive Assessment Program (MCAP)**

The Maryland Comprehensive Assessment Program (MCAP) provides information to educators, parents and the public on student progress towards proficiency on the [Maryland College and Career Ready Standards](#). Through a strong assessment system, stakeholders gain an understanding of how schools are performing and where assistance can be directed to support student growth and achievement.

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) requires that states administer annual statewide assessments to all students in English Language Arts/Literacy and Mathematics in grades 3-8 and once in high school. The window for testing in Howard County is from April 20 through June 5, 2020. At Manor Woods, students in grades 3, 4, and 5 will test on the dates below. Please contact Mrs. Zinn with any questions at [jennifer\\_zinn@hcpss.org](mailto:jennifer_zinn@hcpss.org).

### **Grade 3**

English Language Arts - April 20, 21, 22, and 27

Math - May 5, 6, 7, and 8

### **Grade 4**

English Language Arts - April 29, 30 and May 1, 4

Math - May 11, 14, 19, and 20

### **Grade 5**

English Language Arts - April 21, 21, 22, and 27

Math - May 5, 6, 7, and 8

## **A note from Mrs. DeBord and Mrs. Zinn**

Dear Manor Woods Community,

On behalf of the staff at Manor Woods, we'd like to thank you for your support and understanding over the past couple weeks in regards to changes due to the Coronavirus, COVID-19. Thank you for those families that sent in food for others in need and for bags for

the contents of our student's desks. While the students are out of school, our custodial team will disinfect and prepare the building for our return. Please, do not throw away your student's supplies as they will need to bring them back when school re-opens. We recommend that you follow the guidelines presented by Governor Hogan and read the information below from Superintendent, Michael Martirano. It is our hope that our students and families stay safe while not in school.

Thank you,  
Carol DeBord, Principal

Jennifer Zinn, Assistant Principal

We would like to share additional information and resources for staff and families. We recognize this will create inconveniences for many in our community. If you have any questions, please do not reach out to our teachers as they will not be working. We encourage you to use the following website for up to date information.

<https://www.hcpss.org/health/coronavirus/>

## **School Closing Information and Guidelines**

### **Closing Dates**

All school buildings will be closed beginning at 6:00 p.m., Friday, March 13. All field trips for Friday, March 13 are canceled.

All school and Central Office staff should report as scheduled to work tomorrow, Friday, March 13. Specific information regarding expectations for all staff during the March 16 – 27 school closure will be shared during the day tomorrow.

### **Access to Instructional Resources**

On Friday, March 13, we will provide students with information and instructional resources that can be used optionally while at home. A paper version of these documents will be sent

home with all students according to their grade. These resources will not be collected or graded.

In addition, students may continue to work on classroom assignments provided by teachers prior to school closures. There are no expectations that assignments be turned in during the closure.

### **Food Distribution**

Beginning Tuesday, March 17, we will be providing free “Grab-N-Go” nutritious meals to anyone age 18 and under at four school sites and five mobile sites. Meals will be available from 11:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m., weekdays, Tuesday, March 17 through Friday, March 27.

### **School Sites:**

Howard High School, 8700 Old Annapolis Road, Ellicott City  
Oakland Mills Middle School, 9540 Kilimanjaro Road, Columbia  
Swansfield Elementary School, 5610 Cedar Lane, Columbia  
Cradlerock Elementary School/Lake Elkhorn Middle School, 6680 Cradlerock Way,  
Columbia

### **Mobile Sites:**

Laurel Woods Elementary School Parking Lot, 9250 North Laurel Road, Laurel  
Ducketts Lane Elementary School Parking Lot, 6501 Ducketts Lane, Elkridge  
Bushy Park Elementary School Parking Lot, 14601 Carrs Mill Road, Glenwood  
Monarch Mills Apartments, 7600 Monarch Mills Way, Columbia  
Forest Ridge Apartments, 5890 Stevens Forest Rd, Columbia

### **Plays, Concerts, SATs & Community School Use**

All activities scheduled for Friday afternoon/evening, including plays, concerts and athletics are canceled. Additionally, the SAT scheduled for Saturday is canceled. All community activities being held in HCPSS facilities are canceled beginning Friday, March 13, 2020 at 6:00pm for the duration of the time schools are closed.

### **Clean Out Lockers and Classroom**

Students should clean out all lockers (including gym lockers) and desks, and staff should put away personal items in classrooms and be sure to take any necessary materials home so that schools can be thoroughly cleaned during the next two weeks.

### **Medicine and Health Supplies Pick-Up**

Nurses and health assistants will be contacting impacted families to ask them to pick up medication and health supplies by the end of the school day on Friday, March 13.

Parents/guardians need to pick up the medications; however medical supplies may be sent home with students. If a parent does not need to pick up the supplies or medication since they have enough medication and/or supplies, those items will be locked in the health rooms while schools are closed.

### **Information Shared with Students**

Understanding that students may be upset by what they are hearing related to Coronavirus and that schools will be closed, age-appropriate information will be shared with them tomorrow in classrooms and they are able to ask questions of a teacher. Any students who appear upset will be supported by a Student Services team member and parents will be contacted.

### **Make-Up Days**

The State Superintendent recommended the use of planned Spring Break days as make-up days. We are reviewing this recommendation with the Maryland State Department of Education and will provide additional information to families as soon as possible.

« [State Superintendent Closes MD Schools for Two Weeks, Beginning Monday, March 16, 2020](#)

Mrs. Carol DeBord, Principal

Mrs. Jennifer Zinn, Assistant Principal

## **MWES School-Wide Events Calendar**

If you would like to link to sync your phone to our website calendar, please click on the subscribe link on the MWES [calendar page](#) on our [MWES website](#) and follow the prompts.

## **Maryland School Survey**

Maryland requires that all public schools survey students in grades 5-11 about school climate. Last year the Maryland School Survey was administered with great success and data has been shared with schools. The purpose of the survey is to gain valuable information about the quality and character of each school's learning environment so that schools can promote a climate that supports student learning.

Students in fifth grade will take the survey during regular school hours in technology classes between now and April 24th. The survey will take about 30 minutes and will ask students about topics such as student engagement, interactions with adults and with other students in the school, the school environment, bullying, and safety. The survey will not ask about a student's personal experiences and students will not be asked to provide any information that might violate his or her privacy.

The survey is confidential and school personnel will not have access to the responses of specific students. The responses your child provides will be combined with the responses from other students in the school, and results will be reported for each school and district.

## **NEW SCHOOL NEWS**

### **Let Me Run Starts April 15th**

Become a Let Me Run athlete!

[Let Me Run Flier](#)

## **INFORMATION FROM PAST NEWSLETTERS**

We are looking for a business or community member to donate 750 river rocks to our school for our PBIS project. If you are interested or able, please contact Mrs. DeBord at [carol\\_debord@hcpss.org](mailto:carol_debord@hcpss.org).

### **2020-2021 Kindergarten and New Family Registration (Not Current Students)**

*Please make certain you are in the screen for 20-21 if registering for the next school year. Please read this message in its entirety.*

Registration for students entering Kindergarten in Fall 2020 - starts on Monday, March 9th and runs through Friday, March 13th from 9:30 am-2:00 pm at Manor Woods Elementary. [Kindergarten enrollment information](#) is now available online. Additionally, [Early admission to Pre-K](#) and [Early Admission to First Grade](#) opens March 1st. Those webpages will be updated immediately prior to the application open date. The [Pre-K application](#) period opens March 16th. **MWES is not a Pre-K location. If your child is already enrolled at MWES, please do not re-enroll!!**

Step 1: Register Online Here: [https://sisparents.hcpss.org/PXP2\\_OEN\\_Login.aspx](https://sisparents.hcpss.org/PXP2_OEN_Login.aspx)

Step 2: Complete registration in person by providing the documents listed below. *The registration process is easier if you bring copies of the documents for us to keep or upload them during online registration.*

The following documents are needed for registration:

- Child's evidence of birth
- An authorized record of immunizations
- Proof of residency in the form of a signed lease or deed including signature pages
- Current utility bill
- Photo ID of parent/guardian
- Proof of custody (if applicable)

**If you have a child currently attending an HCPSS PreK program, there is no need to re-register your student for Kindergarten. Also, if your child is a current HCPSS student at MWES or any other HCPSS school, please DO NOT re-register your student.**

**If you have a multi-family living arrangement, an appointment with our PPW, Jeanine Smith is required. A representative of the host family and guest family must be present for the appointment. Email [Jeanine Smith@hcpss.org](mailto:Jeanine.Smith@hcpss.org) for more information.**

### **Cell Phone Use & Social Media- What Parents Need to Know**

For many parents, now is a time you may be discussing & deciding when to get your child a cell phone. Some of our students already own one. As a parent, it's critical to know how to teach your child responsible cellphone use, how to manage social media & how to stay safe online.

TikTok, Instagram & Snapchat are just a few of the social media applications teens & tweens are using. It can be overwhelming for parents to stay up-to-date with current social media trends & know how to help their children navigate the digital world.

Common Sense Media is an organization that can help. This nonprofit's mission is to ensure digital well-being for kids everywhere.

Use the links below to learn information that every parent should know regarding children's cell phone & social media use.

[Cell Phone Use Common Sense Media](#)

[Social Media Info. for Parents Common Sense Media](#)

Thank you for your support!



## **Trex Recycling Challenge**

Tired of throwing away all the soft plastic packaging and plastic bags in the trash because it can't be recycled? Send that clean, dry plastic to school! MWES is participating in the Trex recycling program.

[READ MORE](#)

[trexrecyclingposter](#)

[trexrecyclingchallenge](#)

The plastic then needs to be taken to a collection site nearby - one of the grocery stores on the [list](#). We need assistance from some parents or PTA members to help collect, weigh and transport the plastic. If you are available to help, please sign up through the link below.

[SignUpLink](#)

## **Reporting Absences**

Please use the following link to report your child's absence. Your child needs a note to return to school each time they are absent. Please be sure to state the reason for their absence. If a reason is not included, the absence will be recorded as unlawful. [MWESabsences@hcpss.org](mailto:MWESabsences@hcpss.org)

## **INFORMATION FROM THE BOARD**

**Boundary Review Update:** Updates and information can be found at the [Boundary Review](#) page.

**Board Approves 2020–2021 Academic Calendar:** The [next school year](#) will begin on Tuesday, August 25, 2020, for students and on Monday, August 17, 2020, for school staff.

Winter break will be December 24–January 1, with schools reopening on Monday, January 4, 2021. Spring Break will run from April 2–9, 2021. The last day of school is scheduled for June 10, 2021.

## **COMMUNITY NEWS FROM OUR FEEDER SCHOOLS**

### **Marriotts Ridge Softball Clinic**

[Softball Flier](#)

### **Hammond High School Baseball Clinics**

[HHS baseball flier](#)

### **Summer Sports Camp at Reservoir HS**

[Summer Sports Flier](#)

## **COMMUNITY NEWS AND PROGRAMS**

### **Columbia Association A Story Called Kindness Poster Contest**

Design a poster illustrating acts of kindness.

[2020 Poster Contest Flier](#)

Find out what is going on within Howard County and surrounding areas. Notices are neither sponsored nor endorsed by the Howard County Public School System.

[READ MORE](#)

### **Summer School Program Information**

Each summer, HCPSS offers learning experiences and educational opportunities through a variety of programs and classes. Contact Information for Summer Institute is available through the following links.

[Summer School Programs 2020](#)

[Summer School Preview 2020](#)

### **Columbia Association Summer Camps**

[CLICK HERE FOR FLIER](#)

### **AFTER SCHOOL CLASSES WITH HOWARD COUNTY RECREATION AND PARKS**

For Complete information on these Before & After School classes, including how to Register, please go to [www.howardcountymd.gov/afterschool](http://www.howardcountymd.gov/afterschool)

[WinterClasses](#)