

MWES News - Week of 3/22/2021

Important Dates

March 25 - Maryland Day Spirit Day! - **Dress in Maryland Flag Colors**

March 29 - 3-5 Hybrid Students Return to Building

March 30 - A Student Picture Day

March 31 - Virtual Student Picture Day

April 2 - April 6 - Schools Closed for Spring Break

April 8 - B Student Picture Day

April 14th - Qtr 3 ends; 3-Hour Early Dismissal

To Our MWES Asian American Families,

The staff of Manor Wood is deeply saddened by the increase in violent attacks against the AAPI community in this past year. Discrimination and hatred against anyone is unacceptable and our hearts are hurting for you. We will continue to pray for all of those touched by the senseless tragedy in Georgia and the hatred that has been shown throughout the year. We will continue to love your children and pray for those touched by this senseless violence.

Response to Violence and Incidents of Anti-Asian Hatred

A Statement from the Board of Education and Superintendent

We are deeply saddened by the tragic shooting in Atlanta on Tuesday, March 16. Eight people were killed, including six Asian Americans. This tragedy is particularly painful to members of our Asian community in Howard County, and many Asian students are understandably fearful. One month ago on the Lunar New Year holiday, six local restaurants, including four owned by Asians, were burglarized and vandalized. Two weeks ago, a hateful

and racist speech against Asian Americans, Hispanic Americans and immigrants was delivered during the Howard County Racial Equity Task Force Public Hearing held on March 4th.

Unfortunately, these are not isolated incidents. We are witnessing in horror the recent increase in incidents of violence, attacks, hatred and discrimination against Asian Americans. Recent reports indicate there have been thousands of incidents targeting Asian Americans across the nation. The Howard County Board of Education and Superintendent Dr. Michael J. Martirano unequivocally condemn all anti-Asian violence, crimes and incidents.

HCPSS is committed to providing a safe, welcoming and inclusive environment for everyone in our community. We are enormously proud of our diverse and inspiring Asian American students and families. We are also very appreciative of the Asian American community's contributions to HCPSS and Howard County. We reaffirm that Asian students are an integral part of diversity, equity, and inclusion in Howard County and our nation. HCPSS staff are committed to offering full support at this time of great stress for our Asian American students and families.

First and foremost, it is critical that we tend to the well-being of our students who require support. HCPSS will not tolerate bullying in any form; we ask that any child who feels victimized to reach out to a trusted adult. Students, staff and family members can easily and confidentially report incidents of bullying on the HCPSS [Stop Bullying](#) site. Counselors and staff in all of our schools are prepared to support any students who need someone to talk to. Additional resources are provided below that may be helpful for parents and educators as you discuss these recent events with your children.

We encourage everyone to stand in solidarity with our Asian American community. We urge the leaders of our country, as well as our county, to work harder to stop the hatred and take concrete actions to protect vulnerable minorities, including Asian Americans. As Martin Luther King said: "Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere." An inclusive, just, and compassionate Howard County starts with treating all citizens and community members with kindness, respect and trust.

Resources

The National Association of School Psychologists (NASP) provides the following information for parents and educators to talk with children about violence:

- [Talking to Children About Violence](#)
- [Managing Strong Emotional Reactions to Traumatic Events: Tips for Families and Teachers](#)

- [Supporting Vulnerable Students in Stressful Times: Tips for Parents](#)

Additional reminders from NASP include:

- Reassure children that they are safe
- Make time to talk
- Keep your explanations developmentally appropriate
- Review safety procedures
- Observe children's emotional state
- Limit television (and social media) viewing of these events
- Maintain a normal routine

HCPSS Resources

- The [Mental Health and Wellness](#) webpage provides guidelines, tips and sources of help.

A Note From Our Administrators

Dear Manor Woods Families,

"Weighing In On Heavy Backpacks"

Dear Families,

Now that we have moved successfully through our first week of primary AB learners at school, we have realized having the children carry such a load to and from school each day is not a good practice. The backpacks are extremely heavy. We have worked with our team leaders to come up with a solution and we hope this helps as we move forward. We will do the same thing with our intermediate learners once they return to school as well.

It has been decided that the only supplies the students will bring to and from school daily will be their computer, charger, and headphones. (Of course, lunch if packing, and water bottles too) On occasion, the children may need to bring a journal home to complete an assignment but that should be on a very rare occasion. If your student needs a journal or

extra paper at home, please let their classroom teacher know and we can send some paper home.

We hope this helps your child navigate a little easier on the bus and alleviates any potential injuries. Please reach out to us if you have any questions.

Thank you!
Carol DeBord
Jennifer Zinn

Elementary MAP Test Results

For students in grades 1-5 who participated in the February MAP assessment, winter 2021 MAP test results and PDF copies of student home reports are available in Synergy.

[Learn more](#)

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.

New Information

Picture Day is Coming!

[Pre-Order Pictures Here](#)

A Day Students Tuesday, March 30th

Virtual Students Wednesday, March 31st (**A sign-up email will be sent to these parents via School Messenger**)

B Day Students Thursday, April 8th

2021 Summer Programs Registration is Open

Online enrollment requests for currently enrolled HCPSS students will open at 6 p.m., Monday, March 15 for BSAP Summer Institute, Gifted and Talented Summer Institutes for Talent Development, Innovative Pathways High School (Math and Science only), and STARTALK Chinese Language Summer Camp.

[Learn more](#)

Important Reminders From Past Newsletters

[click here](#)

New Late Arrival/Early Dismissal Procedures

Late Arrivals:

- Student and Parent/Guardian together, should come to the vestibule and ring the doorbell.

- **Only the student will be admitted into the front office to sign in late.** Parent/Guardian may not enter the building. Parents must accompany their child into the vestibule in order for your student to be marked present.

Early Dismissals:

- Parent/Guardian will come into the vestibule and ring the buzzer for early dismissals. **We ask that early dismissals are completed by 3:15 pm.**
- We will ask Parent/Guardian to hold their driver's license up to the window for staff member to see. **We are only permitted to allow contacts listed in your Family File to pick up your student.**

Parents and/or Visitors:

- Visitors are not permitted into the building at this time.

Employment Opportunities at MWES For THIS School Year

Are you interested in working at MANOR WOODS ES as a lunch and recess monitor substitute?

Please use this link to apply <https://www.hcpss.org/employment/>

Lunch/recess monitor substitute position - These individuals supervise students at lunch and/or recess, under the supervision of MWES staff.

This position would begin on March 1st for Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays

The hours are 10:20am - 2:20pm **(Times May Vary Depending on Finalized Schedule)**

The pay rate is \$14.25/hour.

If you are interested in becoming a lunch/recess monitor substitute, please email jennifer_zinn@hcpss.org to schedule an interview.

Close adult support to some of our special education students.

- For the special ed position, you would apply through an outside agency Social Service Consultants that staffs these positions in our schools.
- The position is for 6-hours each day. \$12 per hour
- We also frequently need subs for this role, as well.
- Applications are available at [Social Services Consultants](#) Completed applications may be sent to rtencher@gmail.com or faxed to 410-777-8657.

After School Activities

Black Student Achievement Program and The Council of Elders Workshops

BSAP Workshops:

- March 20 6:30-8:00 p.m. - BCAP CCON Webinar – Virtually Expanding Your Horizons – Jumpstart (more details to follow)WC

TCOE Workshops:

[Please click here\(Links to an external site.\)](#) for detailed flyers:

- March 20 9-10:30 a.m. -Family Financial Education Series

Community News

In response to community requests for resources, HCPSS' new [Community News and Programs](#) 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.