

MWES News - Week of April 20, 2020

## **APRIL**

**20** - Remote Learning Begins

**22** - Google Meet Virtual Family Orientations

**24** - End of Quarter 3

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

Hello Manor Woods Families,

As our teachers are wrapping up their few weeks of learning about teaching your children virtually, we remain excited to connect with the children next week. We realize you have so many emails to read, but please take a minute to read this as it has a lot of important information.

Next week, teachers will have their virtual learning orientations with the children. These orientations are created for the children with parents supervising as the children listen to their teachers and gain information about what distance learning will look like. Please see below for the orientation schedule on Wednesday, April 22. (**see times below**) You may choose one time to attend. You do not need to attend both sessions.

### **Tuesday, April 21**

- PreK/Preschool Family Google Meet Orientations: 9:00-9:45 a.m. and 11:00-11:45 a.m.

### **Wednesday, April 22**

- Grades K and 1 Family Google Meet Orientations: 9:00-9:45 a.m. and 1:00-1:45 p.m.
- Grades 2 and 3 Family Google Meet Orientations: 10:00-10:45 a.m. and 2:00-2:45 p.m.
- Grades 4 and 5 Family Google Meet Orientations: 11:00-11:45 a.m. and 3:00-3:45 p.m.

Please also take a moment to review what your child's schedule will look like once distance learning begins at <https://www.hcpss.org/health/coronavirus/col-schedules/> (scroll to the bottom to see elementary). It is important to note that as the children move into virtual learning, the teachers are checking in with the students weekly to see how they are doing, taking a temperature check, and allowing the students to ask questions. This is considered as "check-in" time for the students. During this time, the children are the teacher's focus. As students ask questions and gain information, we ask that parents do not interrupt or join the check-ins with or for the child. If you have any questions after the check-ins, you are always welcome to email your child's teacher directly. We want to ensure the children come first and their check-ins don't lead to quick conferences or questions from adults. We hope you understand our priority. Please see an additional resource below that further explains the purpose of the virtual check-ins.

### [Purpose and Goal of Virtual Check-Ins](#)

Also, in the name of safety, teachers will only be admitting those children to check-in with a Howard County issued email address. Parents will not be able to use their personal email addresses to enter the check-ins or virtual meetings. To ensure this happens, students should be logging into hcpss.me to access Canvas and all other resources. If you have an emergency and should need to use another email address, you will need to make the teacher aware of the change before the meeting begins. We will be using the Google Meet platform and Canvas for distance learning. It is important that your child knows how to login to Canvas. Please see the resource below to ensure your child has access to these resources. More information about this will be sent out by teachers next week.

### [TECH Resources](#)

We wish you the best of luck as we partner with you as academic support for your children over the upcoming weeks. Our staff has worked really hard and we want to publicly thank them for all their time, energy, and collaborative efforts to make this transition a great one for you and your students. Please grace them with patience and encouragement as we move forward.

See you next week!

Fondly,

Mrs. DeBord and Mrs. Zinn

## **From the GT teachers:**

As part of the elementary distance learning that will begin on Monday, April 27, Gifted and Talented Resource teachers will provide optional weekly enrichment activities in which students may engage in lieu of current Curriculum Extension Units (CEU) and Instructional Seminars. In addition, they will continue to provide instruction for students currently in GT Math. We look forward to resuming regular CEU and Seminar instruction in the future.

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

If you would 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.

## **STUDENT SERVICES SUPPORT**

### **Ms. Heinlein's Counseling Newsletter for Families**

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1sa73sMD6N7vczCOqDLy6GVCYn4CYwjKG-CVHpfmL1hQ/edit?usp=sharing>

## **From Our School Psychologist, Craig Cooper**

Dear parents and students, You can schedule an 'appointment' with me to chat on Google Meet using the following link, from 9:30-10:30 each morning. Of course, you can email me at [craig\\_cooper@hcpss.org](mailto:craig_cooper@hcpss.org) and we can arrange to discuss/meet at other times. This link will take you to my calendar where you can sign up for a slot. Please don't hesitate to reach out if you need to talk.

Sincerely,

Mr. Craig Cooper  
School Psychologist, HCPSS  
County Diagnostic Center M, T, W  
Manor Woods Elementary R, F

<https://calendar.google.com/calendar/selfsched?sstoken=UUFwMHpaY1VJaU13fGRIZmF1bHR8MDU5MGZhMjA2YWVmY2QzOTQ4ZmE2YjI3NDlhYWQ4ODM>

## **From Our School Psychologist Intern, Michal Boyars**

### **Office Hours Message:**

Dear Parents and Teachers,

I hope you are all safe and healthy. Beginning Monday the 20th, I will be holding daily office hours from 1:00-2:00pm. During this time I will have appointments available to meet virtually with parents and staff in order to answer questions or address other concerns about students. Meetings will take place via Google Meet or over the phone.

If you are interested in setting up an appointment, you can either fill out this [form](#) or email me directly at [michal\\_boyars@hcpss.org](mailto:michal_boyars@hcpss.org). I look forward to hearing from you!

## **From Our School Counselor, Monica Heinlein**

Hello Manor Woods families!

Beginning April 14th, I will be available daily (M-F) between 9:30 - 11:30am & 12:00 - 1:00pm for parent/guardian & student virtual appointments through Google Meet or by phone. Please email me at [monica\\_heinlein@hcpss.org](mailto:monica_heinlein@hcpss.org) to schedule an appointment.

I will also send announcements and post resources and lessons on each grade level team's Canvas pages in the upcoming weeks.

I look forward to talking with you in the upcoming days and weeks. Please know that I am still here to talk with you. I'm thinking about you and I wish you & your families all the best.

If you have an immediate need for help with depression, suicidal thoughts, or other serious mental health issues, please contact:

Grassroots Crisis Intervention at 410-531-6677

The Maryland Crisis Hotline: Dial 211 and then choose option 1

The Crisis Text Line: Text 741741 and a trained counselor will respond.

The National Suicide Prevention Hotline at 1-800-273-8255

## NEW SCHOOL NEWS

### INFORMATION FROM PAST NEWSLETTERS

#### **Yearbook Ordering Information**

Hello MWES students, parents, and staff,

Our Yearbook Committee continues to work hard on our book for this school year. Unfortunately, the school closures impacted several components.

We are requesting the following:

- 1) We would like to ask you to submit any pictures of school activities including field trips, concerts, and other special events to [manorwoodsyearbook@gmail.com](mailto:manorwoodsyearbook@gmail.com).
- 2) We'd like to include pictures of some of the things students are doing to stay engaged during the school closure. Please submit those to the same email address with the subject line: "school closure"
- 3) We are continuing our cover contest, so please submit a picture or scan (jpg preferred) of your cover to [manorwoodsyearbook@gmail.com](mailto:manorwoodsyearbook@gmail.com). Remember to include:
  - 8 1/2 x 11 sheet of white paper
  - vertical orientation
  - Our yearbook theme: "Be true, be you, be kind"
  - "Manor Woods Elementary School 2019-2020"
  - First and last name of the student artist and their classroom teacher in the subject line, not on the drawing

YOU MAY STILL ORDER A 2019-2020 MWES YEARBOOK from [treering.com](http://treering.com)  
[purchase link: https://www.treering.com/validate?PassCode=1014749226162236TreeRingYearbooks](https://www.treering.com/validate?PassCode=1014749226162236TreeRingYearbooks)  
[passcode: 1014749226162236](https://www.treering.com/validate?PassCode=1014749226162236TreeRingYearbooks)

If we are unable to distribute books at Manor Woods, the yearbook can be shipped to your home for a small fee.

Sincerely,  
MWES PTA

## **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.*

Please see the updates below regarding the updated process for registration for Pre-K and kindergarten for the 2020-2021 school year. You will also find updated information regarding early admission to kindergarten and first grade.

### **Kindergarten Registration**

Parents/guardians of new incoming students and those entering kindergarten in the 2020-2021 school year (who are not already enrolled) are able to begin the enrollment process online, followed by completion of the registration process when schools reopen.

Once school buildings reopen, parents should be contacted to complete the registration at the child's school. Parents or legal guardians must visit their child's school and provide proof of parental relationship and any other documents not provided during the online registration process.

### **Early Admission to Kindergarten**

Due to state-mandated school closures, early admission appointments scheduled during this time are canceled and will be rescheduled at a later date. Additionally, assessment dates and notification regarding acceptance or denial of application have been postponed until schools reopen, and will be shared at a later date.

### **Early Admission to First Grade**

Parents/guardians applying for early admission to first grade may submit all required documentation electronically to their prospective school. After schools reopen, parents or guardians will be contacted by their prospective school regarding an assessment appointment.

### **Pre-K Applications (Manor Woods Does Not have a Pre-K Program)**

Due to state-mandated school closures, Pre-K application and enrollment for the 2020-2021 school year has been postponed. Once schools reopen, applications may be completed and

returned to schools.

Please see the link below with the announcement from HCPSS outlining these details for families:

<https://news.hcpss.org/news-posts/2020/04/student-enrollment-for-2020-2021-school-year-during-hcpss-school-closures/>

Please review the information and contact [amy\\_h\\_kelly@hcpss.org](mailto:amy_h_kelly@hcpss.org) with any questions. Thank you!

**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.**

### **INFORMATION FROM HCPSS**

The [HCPSS Coronavirus website](#) provides the latest information and resources for [Continuity of Learning](#), answers to many [frequently asked questions](#), and much more. This one-stop resource is updated regularly so please check back often.

### **Updates**

- **Supporting Language Needs:** Find [information](#) on the ways that HCPSS is supporting the language needs of families through in-person and online resources.
- **Update on Device Distribution:** Find [details](#) on the revised device delivery procedure for middle and elementary families.
- **Continuity of Learning Updates:** Find [summaries](#) of HCPSS work currently underway to resolve issues resulting from the coronavirus-related school closure, including 4th quarter grading, attendance, GT placement, and mitigation of learning gaps.
- **Special Education Continuity of Learning:** This new [webpage](#) provides an overview of special education services for continuity of learning, timeline for service delivery and links to online resources for family use at home.
- **Public Forums:** Board of Education meetings are currently being held virtually due to the coronavirus-related school closure. Beginning with the April 16 Board meeting, Public Forum will be reinstated following a modified procedure. Community members may register by emailing written comments in advance; the first 10 submissions will

be read aloud during the meeting. [Detailed instructions](#) provided online.

## Reminders

- **Meal Distribution:** [Free Grab-N-Go meals](#) are served weekdays from 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., through April 24 to anyone age 18 and under and/or any HCPSS student at locations countywide. Participants are encouraged to bring bags to carry meals home. Hollifield Station Elementary School will be added to the HCPSS meal distribution sites beginning Tuesday, April 14. Please note that parents/guardians may pick up meals for their children, who do not need to be present.
- **Howard County Library Online Classes and Tools for Students:** Students can access many learning resources with their A+ student accounts through [hcpss.me](#) by selecting HC Library.

*Elementary school students:* Keep reading with a large selection of eBooks and audiobooks. Practice math with TumbleMath. Build skills in language arts, science, and social studies. Learn a new language.

*Middle and high school students:* Find eBooks and audiobooks, online magazines and books, historical research tools, literary research and criticism tools. Practice world languages. Take an online class. Prepare for SATs and ACTs.

## Access to Learning Fund

Bright Minds Foundation has launched an emergency Access to Learning Fund to raise money for critical education access supports for HCPSS students during the extended COVID-19 school closure. Find more information on the [Bright Minds website](#).

## 2020 Census

Several HCPSS programs rely on funding based on accurate census information, so all families are encouraged to participate in the 2020 census, which may be completed [online](#). [Learn more](#).

## Counseling Services for Students, Families and Staff

The COVID-19 pandemic has made this an especially stressful time for many, especially those already impacted by mental health concerns. Find information about local and online resources for counseling and mental health supports for you and your family on our [website](#).



## Need Internet Access?

### Free Wifi through Comcast Xfinity

In addition to providing low cost internet access to eligible families through its [Comcast Internet Essentials](#) program, Comcast has opened free access to its Xfinity WiFi network, making hotspots across the country available to anyone, including non-subscribers, at no cost. Search by zip code or city to find a hotspot near you at [wifi.xfinity.com](http://wifi.xfinity.com).

**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 AND PROGRAMS

### HCLS Online Resources: We're Still Here For You!

Here is a direct link to the eContent page for Elementary Students:

<http://hclibrary.org/new-a-main/a-student-card-eresources-for-elementary-school-students/>

There are all sorts of resources there, including homework help, ebooks, and research tools. Students can access all of this content from home using their virtual A+ Student Card or a regular Howard County Library System card.

If a student does not have an A+ Student Card or if a parent or teacher would like to access these resources and don't have a library card, they can sign up for an online card here: <https://hclibrary.org/how-do-i/getting-a-library-card/>. This online card will provide immediate access to all of HCLS's eContent.

You can access all of our eContent by clicking on HCLS Now! on our web page or clicking here: <https://hclibrary.org/research/>

### Pop-Up Food Pantry



**“Take all you need.  
Donate anything you don’t need”**

# Pop-up Food Pantry

From Sunday April 19th to Sunday May 3rd  
2020, every day from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM  
(Subject to change. Please call to confirm)



**Long Reach Village Center  
8775 Cloudleap Ct, Columbia,  
MD 21045**

To donate contact Pravin Ponnuri:

☎ 410-340-0529

✉ PravinPonnuri@hotmail.com

Co-ordinated by Indian Origin Network of Howard County

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.

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