

COUGAR NEWS

UPCOMING DATES:

October 16th – Schools close 3 hours early for students

October 20th - Chick Fil-A Fundraiser 6am-10pm Clarksville Chick Fil-A

November 3rd – Election Day. Schools and Offices closed

November 6th – Schools close 3 hours early for students

Update Your Family File

If you have not already done so, please update your child's emergency contact information in HCPSS Connect! This is the most important step as we prepare for the start of the 2020-2021 school year. **Your Family file needs to be updated every school year.**

Parents/guardians must verify and/or update information for each child, and can do so by logging in to [HCPSS Connect](#) and selecting the Family File tab and then clicking on Family File.

Here are directions for the updating the Family file: [HCPSS Connect Parent Access.pdf](#)

Connect with Us:

During school shut down and virtual learning until January 28th, the best way to contact us is via email. For all staff emails, go to our CES website: <http://ces.hcpss.org/school-staff>

Front Office:

[Julia Blalock@hcpss.org](mailto:Julia_Blalock@hcpss.org) – Principal Secretary
[Mattia Lambiotte@hcpss.org](mailto:Mattia_Lambiotte@hcpss.org) – Teacher Secretary
[Amy Stevens@hcpss.org](mailto:Amy_Stevens@hcpss.org) – Teacher Secretary

Administration:

[Robin Malcotti@hcpss.org](mailto:Robin_Malcotti@hcpss.org) – Principal
[Lauren Slattery@hcpss.org](mailto:Lauren_Slattery@hcpss.org) – Assistant Principal

Health Room:

[Laura Smith@hcpss.org](mailto:Laura_Smith@hcpss.org) – Cluster Nurse
[Denise Matthis@hcpss.org](mailto:Denise_Matthis@hcpss.org) – Health Assistant

Guidance Office:

[Jennifer Palich@hcpss.org](mailto:Jennifer_Palich@hcpss.org) – Guidance Counselor



Every year, the Howard County Public School System celebrates the outstanding educational partnerships that the school system has with area businesses. I am pleased to share the [HCPSS Educational Partnerships 2019-2020 Annual Report](#) with you.

We are fortunate to have strong educational partnerships at Clarksville Elementary School. Business and community partnerships benefit our school in many ways. Whether the business partnerships provide financial assistance, help enhance our curriculum, or just bring a fun program or assembly into the school for our students to learn, everyone benefits from these collaborations.

As our school benefits from these partnerships, the organizations also benefit from their collaboration with our school. Please support the organizations that partner with our school.

We would like to thank Giant Food (Daybreak Circle location), Chick-fil-a (Clarksville location), Howard County Public Library (Central Branch), McDonald's (Daybreak Circle location), The Walrus Oyster and Ale House, Kendall Hardware, Howard County Department of Public Works, Tino's Italian Bistro and Wine Bar, Trout Unlimited (Trout in the Classroom), and Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC), Green School Program for their commitment to our school and students.

If you have any recommendations for future business partnerships, or if your company/employer would like to establish a business partnership, please contact me or Julia Blalock (Julia.Blalock@hcpss.org), our principal secretary.

As we move forward into our school year and students start to gain more skills with their online platform, we encourage you to leave your child so they can work on their school work independently. Our instructional sessions are meant for the students, yet we do understand that it is important for a parent to be nearby or accessible for technical support. If your child asks for assistance, encourage them to raise their hand or pop a question into the chat box for the teacher to address. This happens naturally in our classrooms and provides the teacher with observational data about how a child learns. We thank you for all you are doing to help your children learn but want to be sure we are encouraging them to be independent as well. Thank you!

As a friendly reminder, we will be having our second day of MAP testing on Wednesday, October 14th, for students in grades 2-8. This week is the math test. The math test will be offered on October 14th at 9 am and at 1 pm. Students may choose to attend either the morning or afternoon session. If your child is

unable to attend, makeup testing will be offered during asynchronous learning times. Makeup information will be shared at a later date. Teachers will share Google Meet information and your student's testing group.

Information Worth Repeating

School Meals

A stopgap U.S. government funding bill signed into law last Thursday, which includes almost \$8 billion in nutrition assistance, allows USDA to extend the meal waivers, previously due to expire at the end of December, through the end of the 2020-2021 school year. Thus, HCPSS will be able to provide meals at no cost to any HCPSS student, and all children 18 and under, through the entire school year, assuming continued availability of USDA funding.

[Beginning Monday, October 12](#), HCPSS will add a snack and dinner to each weekday meal, in addition to breakfast and lunch already being served. Additionally, weekend meals will be included with meals provided on Fridays, and in pre-ordered meals picked up on Thursdays.

HCPSS also has adjusted the pre-order process. Meals for multiple days need to be pre-ordered at least two days in advance for pickup on Mondays and Thursdays. Pre-order meal pickups will be offered only on those two days, to enable Food and Nutrition Services to improve service and efficiency while balancing staffing and food resources.

[Full details on HCPSS student meal offerings](#) can be found online.

Schedule Adjustments for Scheduled Early Dismissal Days

The HCPSS 2020-2021 calendar includes four scheduled 3-hour early dismissal days:

- Friday, October 16, 2020
- Friday, November 6, 2020
- Monday, November 23, 2020
- Tuesday, November 24, 2020

The virtual schedules have been adjusted for these scheduled early dismissal days to provide students with synchronous learning for each class. Additionally, both full- and half-day PreK classes will meet on these days using a modified schedule.

Early dismissal day revised schedules for all [elementary](#), [middle](#), and [high](#) school grades are provided on the [2020-2021 School Year](#) website.



Clarksville Elementary has a new email address dedicated to reporting your student's absences. If your child will miss class for any reason, please use CESAttendance@hcpss.org to inform us. This mailbox will be monitored by front office staff so, please include the following information:

- Your child's first and last name
- Grade, Homeroom teacher
- The dates your child is absent
- the reason for the absence (if it is an illness, please list the symptoms so we can inform the health room)

From the Media Department:

Attention 5th Graders! There will be a Battle of the Books next spring (virtually)!

The annual Battle of the Books, which is a reading competition coordinated between the HCPSS and HC Library, will be held next April - just for 5th graders! All the details are contained in the link below. The Library is holding an information session via Zoom on October 20th, and registration begins October 23rd - November 6th. Ms. Britton, the Media Specialist, will inform all the 5th grade classes about it in their synchronous meetings (they may have already had it), and if you have any questions you can email her at donna_britton@hcpss.org. Click the link below to get all the details: https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/14yzJos_-gKpR4IQKC5jKebJXUpQTdZkz9VIU5wg9yAE/edit#slide=id.p4

NOW IS THE TIME TO RETURN ALL THOSE LIBRARY MEDIA BOOKS!!

CES needs the books that were checked out to students last year returned. You can drop them off any time to the school. There are blue bins in the vestibule between the glass doors to collect them. (You don't have to put them in bags as they will sit for a week before checking in) If you don't remember what your student checked out you can email: donna_britton@hcpss.org or our media para, Elaine Thomas elaine_thomas@hcpss.org

We will start sending emails to the homes of students that still have a book(s) out in the coming weeks. **Please return all books by October 19th!**

Thank you in advance for getting those books back to us!!

Technology:



If your child is having a Technology issue, please fill out the [CES Tech Support form](#). It is also listed on our CES website, along with other Technology resources for families.



Technology Tip #1:

[Chromebook Split Screen](#) (see 2 windows side-by-side)



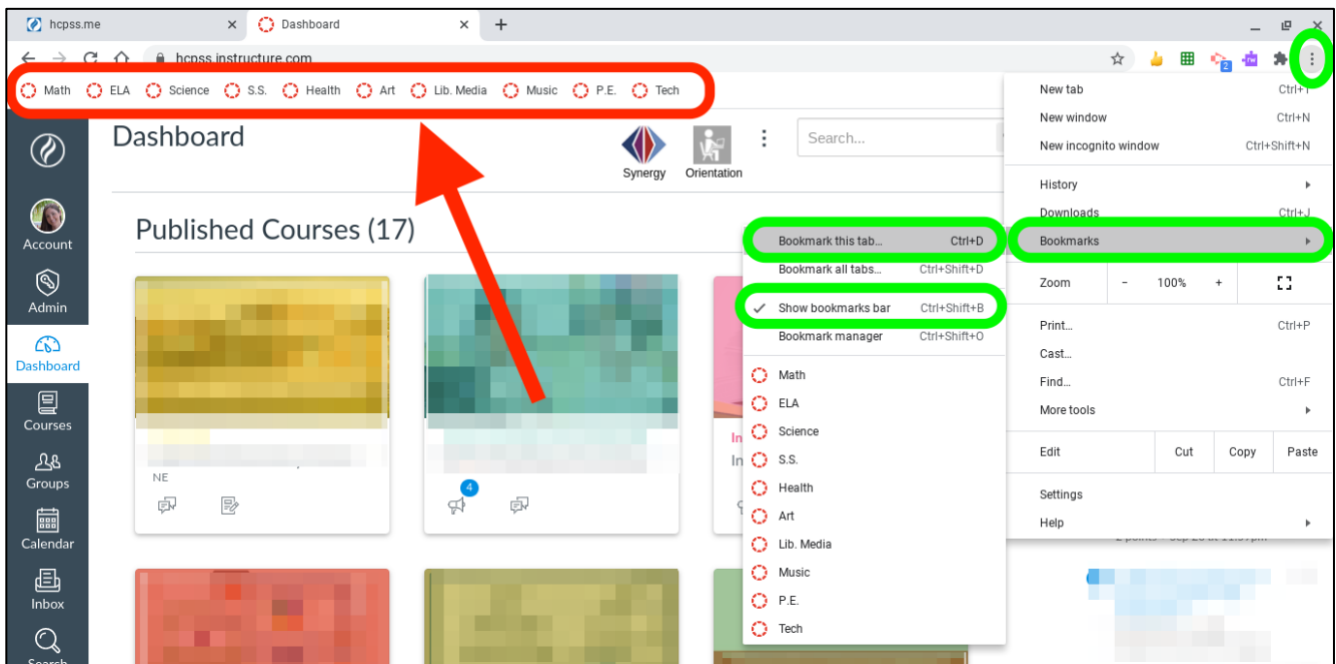
Technology Tip #2:

Parents consider [nicking your courses](#) or using the [Canvas parent app](#) to better distinguish courses between children & their courses. *If your child switches classes for reading group, soon your child may have 2 Language Arts courses. Creating course nicknames along the lines of: “John- L.A.” and “John-Rdg. Gr.” may help.



Technology Tip #3:

This tip comes from one of our very own 5th graders! Neo shared that he finds it easiest to find his courses by bookmarking each:



Tech Reminders

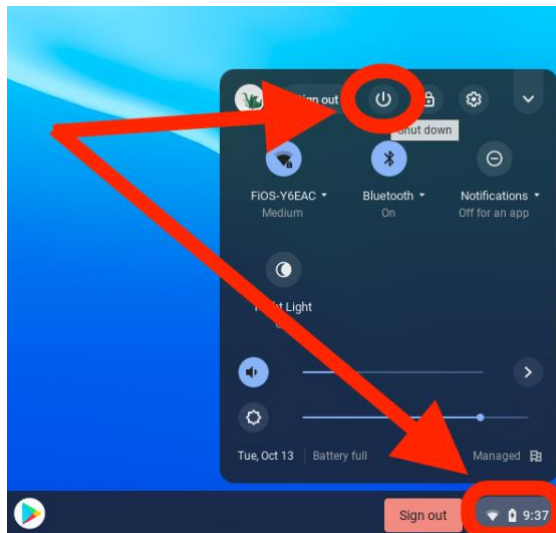
Extensions:

Students should NOT be installing any additional Chrome extensions besides the one's HCPSS pre-installed or recommended: Nod, Status, Gopher Buddy, EquatIO, Read&Write, Relay, Texthelp PDF reader, and Tracker for Chrome.

Additional extensions cause disruptions in class and interfere with programs such as Google Meet, Dreambox, & LexiaCore running properly.

Chromebook Care:

Please remind your child to shut down the Chromebook at least once per week. It needs rest, just like we do!



CES Chick Fil-A Fundraiser – October 20th



Clarksville Elementary School will be having a Chick Fil-A Fundraiser on **October 20th, 2020 from 6am-10pm**. Go for breakfast, lunch or dinner. We hope you and your family can help us. **Drive Through only. You must mention Clarksville Elementary for the purchase to count toward our CES fundraiser.** Thanks for your support!



Birthday Celebrations for October

The following students are celebrating a birthday this month. We want to wish them all a Happy Birthday!

2 nd	Andrew Mekhail	18 th	Samantha Brewer
3 rd	Tymon Anie-Botwe		Jonas Chen
4 th	Pranav Kittane		Daryn Thompson
	Esther Lim	19 th	Shiloh Jason-Peele
5 th	Brian Campbell		Caleb Ki
8 th	Maddox Barone	20 th	Samantha Kostibas
	Logan Johnson	21 st	Charlotte Livingston
9 th	Naira Gugliani	22 nd	Chiedozie Illoh
	Jordon Kim		Andre Lair
	Ana Nino Gutierrez	23 rd	Annabelle Liang
	Maame Osei-Kuffour		Shanvika Nukala
	Jiu Lin Song		Alex Shim
10 th	Maya Flowers	24 th	Sofia Artazova
	Ray Wang		Carson Li
11 th	Jerusha Sargunar		Caroline Ouyang
12 th	Warren Lee		Kerrin Tucker
	Joshua Robbins	25 th	Maxwell Stern
13 th	Eisen-Adam Dugue	26 th	Matthew Sager
	Phil Li	27 th	Zoe French
	Nicholas Proietti		Gizelle Garcia
	Yonatan Tamiru		Shuitian Lin
14 th	Fedor Deulin		Jonathan Pulaha
16 th	Eliana Kim	28 th	Jayden Hall
17 th	Benjamin Braziel		Katherine Suh
	Julia Lee	31 st	Israel Kaidbey