

HES PTA News

September 18th Edition



Events

Restaurant Night on Monday, September 22 at Uno Pizzeria and Grill

Look for the Uno flyer coming home soon. When you give it to your server, a portion of your tab will be donated to HES PTA.

PTA General Meeting on Tuesday, September 23 at 6:30 p.m. in the HES Media Center

Please join us for the first general membership meeting of the HES PTA. HES principal, Mrs. Pratesi, will present the first volunteer training of the year. If you haven't already, you can join the PTA and get your free PTA drawstring tote, too! Learn about upcoming activities and enjoy some refreshments as you visit with our fundraisers and activities chairpeople.

HES Fall Festival on Friday, October 10 from 4:00-7:00 p.m.

Save the date!!! Fall Festival is such a fun event with carnival-type games and concessions. Assistance is needed from ALL Hammond families to make it successful again. Last year we raised over \$4,500 for our PTA!

News

Fall Fundraiser: Joe Corbi's Pizza & Mrs. Fields Cookies

Our fall fundraiser is on! The Winning Combination catalogue was sent home with students last week. Please send in your collection envelope by Tuesday, September 30th. All checks should be made payable to Hammond Elementary PTA. The pick up date is Wednesday, October 29th. If you have any questions or are interested in helping with this fundraiser, please contact Christina Alvarez at calvarez957@gmail.com.

PTA Membership

As of September 14th, the PTA has 186 members. We hope to see more families and staff members join. If you would like to join PTA and show your support, you can download a form at <http://www.hespta.org/membership.html> or contact Christine Hyun at HESPTA.Hyun@gmail.com for a membership form. New members are welcome anytime during the year!

Food Drive

The Food Drive for LARS has begun! If you have any food items you would like to donate, please send them to school with your child. You can donate any unopened item such as cereal, pasta, peanut butter, canned foods, etc. LARS stands for Laurel Advocacy and Referral Services, and they help the needy right here in Laurel. So send in those food items with your child.

Grocery Store Rebates

Many local grocery stores offer a rewards for schools. By simply linking your grocery store rebate card to Hammond Elementary School PTA, these stores donate a portion of each sale to us. The rebate money funds programs like Cultural Arts assemblies and recess equipment. Please take a few minutes of your time to enter your grocery store rebate cards into each site to help fund these programs for our children.

- Harris Teeter Code #8583. Please tell the cashier during check out to link Hammond Elementary PTA to your Harris Teeter VIC card. You can also sign up online at http://www.harristeeter.com/community/together_in_education/link_to_your_school.aspx
- Giant Code #00388. Please attach this number on the rewards program. You can sign your card up online at http://www.giantfood.com/savings-and-rewards/rewards-program/aplus/?_requestid=87415
- Target Code #58038. Please register your Target Visa or Target card at www.target.com/tcoe or call 1-800-316-6142 to register.
- Safeway shoppers can register for school rewards at www.escrip.com

Remember you must re-enroll each year!

Reminders

After-School Programs

The After-School Program Committee has many exciting programs lined up for the 2014-15 school year. Check your child's folder (and hespta.org) for information on Kidz Art, Overtime Athletics, Karate, Spanish, Drama, Science, Chess, Legos, and Girls on the Run. Please participate in programs of interest to your child so we can keep a strong After-School Program at Hammond.

Girls on the Run

Join Girls on the Run (GOTR) this fall at Hammond ES! For girls in 3rd through 5th grade, GOTR will meet Wednesdays and Fridays after school until 4:45 p.m. Fall session is Wednesday, September 25 through Friday, December 5 with a 5k on Saturday, December 6. To sign up and learn more about GOTR follow this link: <http://www.gotrcentralmd.org/get-involved/register-your-girl>.



Registration ends Saturday, September 20. Looking forward to another great season!

No-Bake Bake Sale

If you prefer to support the PTA in helping raise funds for activities that benefit the school and our children but don't want to deal with order forms and catalogs, consider making a tax-deductible donation to our No-Bake Bake Sale. Information was sent home and can also be found on our [website](#). Donations are appreciated and completely voluntary.

Tuffy's Pride

Do you know of a teacher or staff member who went above and beyond to make the children feel welcome and included during the back-to-school transition? If so consider nominating that person for the September Tuffy's Pride Award. Nominations can be made [here](#) and only take few minutes of your time. The teacher or staff person selected will receive a certificate of appreciation and a small gift card.

Facebook

Like Hammond Elem PTA on Facebook.

Help the PTA while shopping with Amazon Rewards

Are you an amazon.com shopper? Shop through our link and your school's PTA will earn money! Yes, it's that easy! Make all your usual purchases using this link: <http://www.amazon.com/?&tag=hp0e9c-20&linkCode=wsw&>.



Click on the black portion of the Amazon box

You can also help by adding the following information to your email signature line so friends, family members, and co-workers can support HES PTA:

Support Hammond Elementary PTA by making all of your Amazon.com purchases through this link:

<http://www.amazon.com/?&tag=hp0e9c-20&linkCode=wsww&>

Thank you to all those families who shopped Amazon using the PTA link last year. The PTA has earned over \$400 so far to help support programs throughout the school.

Lost and Found

With fall approaching we want to remind you to label your child's outerwear so it will be easier to find in the lost and found items.

Box Top Information

This year, our goal is to raise \$1,000 for classroom supplies and recess equipment.

Clip the Box Tops from hundreds of participating products and send them to school. Each one is worth 10¢ when our school redeems them from Box Tops for Education. You may turn in clipped box tops with your child throughout the school year.

<http://www.boxtops4education.com/>



PTA Council of Howard County Meeting Updates

- A new Family Support Center from the Howard County Public School system shows parents how to help their children with the mathematics curriculum:
<http://hcpssfamilymath.weebly.com>
- Six elementary schools are piloting new programs which include:
 - full day pre-kindergarten classes for income-eligible families
 - up to 30 minutes a day of world language (Spanish)
 - fuller embracement of the departmentalized teaching model (teachers specialize in math, reading, etc.), and
 - a new online preventative medical care system which enables children to have online access to University of Maryland doctors via the nurse's office in schools, for diagnosis and prescriptions for common child ailments (ear infections, sore throat etc.).
- A member of the MD state legislation is in favor of legislation mandating that Maryland schools cannot start the school year prior to Labor Day. The PTACHC discussed whether to take a position on this issue. A committee will be formed to research the pros and cons.

- News from the Board of Education's Capital Budget (construction): the county will be required to bid "prevailing wage" on contracts, which will increase costs by 9-14%. In addition, State of MD support for HoCo's capital budget has decreased significantly, due to other counties being in greater need of funds.
- All elementary schools are now operating under the county's new visitor registration system, which means that all visitors to the school will need to check in at the front office and wear a badge during school hours.
- The county school system is holding a 5k run on Sunday, October 12. The run starts at the Sheraton hotel in downtown Columbia. <http://www.hcpss5k.com>
- The Department of Education and Howard County Educators Association signed a one-year contract on 9/11.

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