

COUGAR NEWS

UPCOMING DATES:

February 1st – 14th – CES Scholastic BOOK FAIR

February 5th – Report Cards Issued

February 5th – Spirit Day: Wear your favorite JERSEY Day

February 9th – PTA Virtual Meeting 6:30pm; meet.google.com/wfy-jwdx-irj

February 10th – Parent/Teacher Math Conferences; Schools close 3 hr.s early

February 11th – Parent/Teacher Math Conferences; Schools close 3 hrs. early

February 12th – Professional Work Day; Schools closed for students

February 15th – President's Day; Schools and Offices Closed

February 16th – Spirit Day: 100th day of school; Dress like you are 100 years old

February 19th – CES Virtual Talent Show

Connect with Us:

During virtual learning, 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) and [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 Smith1@hcpss.org](mailto:Laura_Smith1@hcpss.org) – Cluster Nurse [Denise Matthis@hcpss.org](mailto:Denise_Matthis@hcpss.org) – Assistant

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



Hello CES Families! Welcome to winter and the month of February! February is a busy time for CES....parent teacher conferences, report cards, MAP testing. Also, there are national calendar events that the month of February brings as well such as Presidents' Day, Valentine's Day, Lunar New Year, and the celebration of Black History Month. What a busy time of the year!

We have one more thing to add to this busy time of the year....an adjustment to the instructional delivery for students of HCPSS. On January 21, Governor Hogan shared his expectations for Maryland schools to change to a hybrid format by March 1. On January 26, the Howard County Board of Education voted to direct the Superintendent and staff to implement a phase-in approach to opening schools. Information was sent to you by email on Thursday, January 28. The change in instructional delivery may cause us to have a variety of feelings, from excitement at the prospect of having our students engaged in instruction in our building to fear and anxiety around safety. As HCPSS continues to communicate with the overall Howard County community, we will provide meaningful updates regarding what plans look like for our Clarksville school community. We want to make sure we provide the most accurate information to you in a timely manner. This change is new to us, and we are in the early planning phase to help implement this change according to the timeline. Our goal is to provide the best educational opportunities for our students regardless if they are in-person at school, remain entirely virtual, or some sort of hybrid arrangement. All of our students are our number one priority.

Noteworthy News To Share :

Decision on Instructional Preference for Remainder of 2020-2021 School Year

The Howard County Public School System will begin a phased-in transition to a hybrid instructional model, beginning March 1. By Friday, February 5, parents/guardians must make a decision to send their child to school for 1-2 days per week and receive virtual instruction the remainder of the week, or to have their child remain fully virtual for the remainder of the school year. Certain student groups including, but not limited to, students receiving Special Education services and others requiring additional learning support will have the opportunity to receive in-school learning 5 days per week.

All parents/guardians have the option to have their child continue virtual learning full time for the remainder of the current school year.

To prepare for this transition, HCPSS requests that parents/guardians complete a two-question survey by 4 p.m., Friday, February 5 with your decision:

1. The type of instructional model – hybrid or fully virtual – that you choose for your child.
2. Whether bus service will be used, for children who are eligible for this service.
 - If your child is designated as a walker, transportation will not be provided. View the [School Bus Locator](#) for your child's transportation eligibility. PLEASE NOTE: Pickup times and bus stop locations are being updated and are subject to change. At this time, the School Bus Locator should only be used to determine if your child receives transportation services.

***Please note the following:

Answers to [frequently asked questions on student in-person return](#) can be found on the HCPSS Help site. This site will be continually updated as new information becomes available.

The Board of Education on January 26, 2021 [approved the following phased-in model](#) for student in-person return:

- [Week of March 1](#): Students identified for the 5-days-per-week program
- [Week of March 15](#): Students in grades PreKindergarten, Kindergarten, 1 and 2
- [Week of March 29](#): Students in grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 12, and students attending programs at the HCPSS ARL
- [Week of April 12](#): Students in grades 7, 8, 10 and 11

HCPSS is striving to offer students two days per week of in-person learning. However, if the number of requests exceeds capacity, due to social distancing requirements, HCPSS may offer only one in-person day per week.

Parents/guardians who opt for their student to remain fully virtual may request to switch to the hybrid in-person model at any time during the 2020-2021 school year. However, approval of that request is dependent on available space, social distancing guidelines, and other factors.

For families that opt to send students back in-person, HCPSS will make every effort to group siblings together. However, the school system cannot guarantee that siblings will be in the same grouping. Please take this into consideration when making your decision.

Additional information on [HCPSS spring planning](#) can be found online.

See directions below for accessing this form. Please complete by 4 p.m., Friday, February 5. Please contact your school if you require assistance completing the form.

To complete the form:

[Log in to HCPSS Connect](#)

Select More Options from the left panel

Select “In-Person Commitment” from the middle of the page

Complete the questions in the form for each child and select “Save”

Virtual Movie Night for Black Lives Matter at School

A group of Wilde Lake High School students has organized a Virtual Movie Night for elementary-aged students and families for the Black Lives Matter at School Week of Action. Black Lives Matter at School is a national group organizing for racial justice in education. The movie night will take place on Friday, February 5th at 5:00 pm and will end at 6:30 pm.

First, the students will watch a movie short called *The Snowy Day*, rated for all. *The Snowy Day* features Peter, an African American boy, who explores his neighborhood after the season’s first snowfall. After the movie short is over, we will watch the movie *Our Friend, Martin*, rated TV-G. It is a one-hour movie that “offers highlights and lowlights of Martin Luther King Jr.’s life and work through the eyes of a group of middle-school classmates.”

After the movie, students will have the opportunity to participate in some discussion about the movie and will receive action steps they can take to be an ally to the Black community.

You can join the event using the Google Meet code: *wlhs-justice*. We hope that you can make it to the BLM Week of Action movie night.

New Lightspeed

Beginning February 8, 2021, our school is participating in the use of Lightspeed, a platform and instructional support tool that helps teachers keep students on track and safe as they navigate online learning.

Lightspeed enables teachers to link students' HCPSS or personal Chromebooks and HCPSS Dell laptops into a single virtual classroom for synchronous lessons, giving teachers the ability to monitor students' screens and share resources.

Lightspeed allows teachers to:

- Assist students with using the technology
- Monitor live independent work
- Lock screen to transition between live whole group activities and live independent work
- Close browser tabs and automatically navigate to websites

Teachers will only have access to Lightspeed during regularly scheduled class time.

Additionally, to comply with the Children's Internet Protection Act, HCPSS uses Lightspeed to filter inappropriate content and monitor general usage of the Chromebooks, during and beyond the school day.

Teachers do not have the ability to control computer screens, including clicking buttons and changing settings. However, teachers can direct and lock a student's computer to specific websites. If the website turns on the student's camera and/or microphone, the teacher would be able to observe the video and audio the web camera picks up. For example, if a student was

on a site viewing their own image via the web camera, the teacher would be able to see that content.

There will be no opt-out option for Lightspeed. HCPSS-issued devices and accounts are governed primarily by HCPSS Board policies: 8080 Responsible Use of Technology, Digital Tools and Social Media, 3040 Technology Security, and 3060 Student Data Governance and Privacy.

We're looking forward to offering this additional platform for our teachers to better provide support for our students. Thank you as always for being our educational partner during this unprecedented time of virtual learning.

If you have any questions, you can contact Ms. Malcotti, Ms. Volker, or Ms. Britton.

Kindness Rock Project!

For the month of February CES will be spreading JOY and KINDNESS! We would like all students to paint a rock to show a little joy and bring it to Clarksville Elementary School!

Directions:

1. Find a rock
2. Paint the rock
3. Bring it to CES and place it in the front flower bed of our school
4. Enjoy looking at other rocks painted by CES students and staff

Can't wait to see them!



Art

ART NEWS • All the artists at Clarksville Elementary are doing amazing with being creative and using their imaginations to solve every art challenge! Here are snow portraits started during our ART live google meets and completed asynchronously! Each one has so much personality and unique details for the background.



What happens when a Monster loses it's 'M'?? It loses it's 'mean' and becomes an 'Onster'. Through their art, 2nd grade used paper collage and drawing to express how even though you might be a Monster, your personality and character can be kind, caring, sweet, giving and many more valuable traits. These are just a few of the wonderful 'Onsters' that were created.



Technology



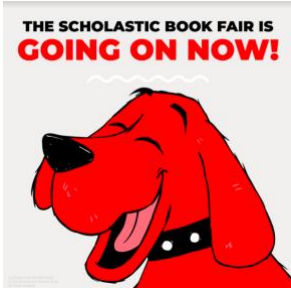
If your child is having a Technology issue, please fill out the [CES Tech Support form](#). It is also listed on our CES website.



#1: Please remind your child to turn off the Chromebook at least once per week. It needs rest, just like we do!

#2: Periodically, check for & install [Chrome OS updates](#)

Media



The Scholastic Book Fair is back! While the Fair is exclusively held online this year, CES still plans on making it a fun and joyous experience for our students. Our customized Clarksville Elementary homepage features:

- A fully Virtual Fair so everyone can experience the magic of the school shopping experience. Browse over 200 titles by grade, meet popular authors, and discover the comfort and joy of our Fair. Click on titles and book trailers!
- Direct access to over 6,000 additional titles with family-friendly prices, at the Scholastic online store
- Every dollar you spend will benefit our school directly (25% back in rewards!)

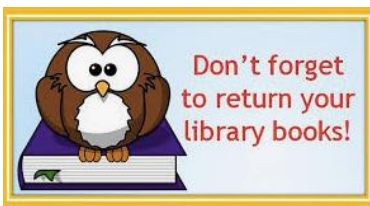
Here is the link to our

Fair: <https://www.scholastic.com/bf/clarkvilleelemsch>

Fair Dates: February 1st - 14th

We can't wait to "see" you at the Fair!

If you have any questions, please contact Donna Britton @
donna_britton@hcpss.org



The Media Center still unfortunately has hundreds of books that were checked out last year and were not returned. We REALLY need to get those books back as we have no funds to replace them (and would much rather purchase NEW books anyway). You

may have forgotten which books your student still has out - so you will be receiving - or have already received - a notice with the titles. Please look for these outstanding books and drop them off any day M - F from 9 to 4 in the front of the school in the bins. Your Media Center thanks you!!

The Black-eyed Susan Reading Program is Off to a Fantastic Start!

Many students are participating and enjoying these amazing books. We will continue to highlight a Picture Book nominee each week **between now & April 17.**

February's Featured Titles are...

Ruby Finds a Worry by Tom Percival

Sweetie by Andrea Zull

Rescue & Jessica: A Life-changing Friendship by Jessica Kensky

The Remembering Balloons by Jessie Oliveros

Join Mrs. Faust, our reading specialist, for a read-aloud and discussion Wednesdays at 12:00PM or Thursdays at 7:00PM.

A reading of each book will also be posted to be enjoyed at your convenience. The program will culminate with voting the week of April 18th. Children who have read at least 8 of the 15 nominated titles will have earned the privilege of voting.

See the Black-eyed Susan link on each grade level page for more details.



Birthday Celebrations for February

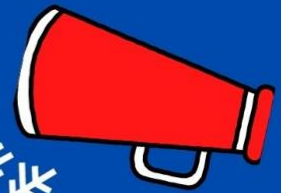
The following students are celebrating a birthday this month. We want to wish them all a Happy Birthday

Luke, Caris L.	2/1	Williams, Auzori P.	2/13
Sun, Ryan X.	2/1	Lawson, Ariana D.	2/14
Alderman, Kamari J.	2/3	Skaria, Sergei S.	2/15
Buduri, Saatvik V.	2/3	Aragon Wynne, Kroy A.	2/16
Fleming, Devrin D. Jr	2/3	Henry, Brooklyn M.	2/17
Finkelston, Paxton J.	2/4	Manchanda-Izquierdo, Aina	2/17
Jenkins, Savhanna R.	2/4	China, Joshua I.	2/18
Park, Jay	2/4	Matkovic, Alexander A.	2/18
Zhang, Isabella	2/4	Matkovic, Sophia I.	2/18
Mubangizi, Carsten D.	2/5	Syed, Zaine N.	2/18
Jimenez, Mia N.	2/6	Snyder, Dara V.	2/19
Kim, Harung	2/8	Makia, Melody G.	2/20
Fadlalla, Yazan H.	2/9	Wang, Matthew S.	2/20
Liang, Natalie S.	2/9	Altamimi, Talia R.	2/21
Yang, Violette Y.	2/9	Altamimi, Yamen H.	2/21
Chavez Ortiz, Darlyn M.	2/10	Wang, Charles W.	2/21
Cheng, Neo	2/10	Gibson, Julianna M.	2/22
Feliciano, Elias W.	2/10	Hargrove, Stone C.	2/22
Gohel, Jainil M.	2/10	Schull, Johann C.	2/22
Grey, Autumn V.	2/10	Speaks, Bachir J.	2/22
Manns, Laila R.	2/10	Lukin, Emersyn H.	2/23
Martini, Izadora M.	2/10	Zhang, Henry J.	2/24
Yusupov, Abbas	2/11	Wilson, Karter L.	2/25
Juarez Soto, Carlos R.	2/12	Klemmer, Kaira I.	2/27
		Farrell, Vivian N.	2/29

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GO TEAM

CHAMPS



CLARKSVILLE ELEMENTARY



FEBRUARY SPIRIT DAYS

CHEER



Show your Cougar pride by wearing your favorite jersey on **Friday, February 5, 2021.**



The 100th day of school is **Tuesday, February 16, 2021.**

YAY

Celebrate this day by dressing like you are 100 years old.



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Tweet Us
[@hcpss_ces](https://twitter.com/hcpss_ces)

GO TEAM

GO COUGARS!!!!



CHEER

YAYYY

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CHEER

