

Cougar News

Dear Parents,

What wonderful summer weather we have had! We hope that you and your family have had great experiences out in the extraordinary weather! But, as with everything time marches on and here we are one full week into the new 2014-2015 school year! This newsletter has a ton of important information to keep you organized and connected – please read thoroughly.

This year Cougar News will come out at the beginning of the month, highlighting important events, activities, and news. We will send out electronic notices throughout the month on an as needed basis for additional information, time-sensitive information or urgent messages. So please make sure you are registered for HCPSS News and bookmarked the CES website. Our website will include school/grade level newsletters, highlight events, school calendar, and much more!

We look forward to an outstanding school year – GO COUGARS!

~ Mrs. Breon and Mrs. Slattery

Did you know??

Parents have homework too!

The first day of school your youngest or only student at CES received a folder full of papers. Hopefully you have had a chance to go thru all those papers. Below is a summary of what was included in the folders and what needs to be done with them, if anything.

SCHOOL HOMEWORK

Keep at HOME:

Carpool procedures
School Rules Quick Reference
Food & Nutrition Service Info
Student & Parent Handbook

Mail to address listed on paper:

Student Accident Coverage
National School Breakfast/Lunch Program

ONLINE ACTIVITIES

Register/Activate/Login Family Portal
Complete Emergency Cards
HCPSS News – be sure email address
is up to date
Lunch Point of Sale (POS) – optional
load money to student account
(see below for links and more info)

There are a number of systems that you should be signed up for (or updated annually) in order to be totally "connected". Each system is a separate entity and requires sign up for each service. The first few are important to sign up for in the beginning of the school year. The last one is important during conference scheduling time in October. I've listed all the websites below.

Aspen Family Portal:

<https://hcpss.me/fp/>

Need email address as login, student id number, student birthdate and Authorization Key Code to activate.

Aspen Family Portal & ER Card system is where you can view your student's grades, attendance, input emergency contacts. Please note - each parent is emailed their own individual Authorization Key Code to their email address, if email was provided. Be sure to use the correct Authorization Key with the correct email login id.

HCPSS Emergency Procedure/Student Info Form

<https://epstudentinfo.hcpss.org/UserLogin.aspx?ReturnUrl=%2f>

The login and password for this website will be the same as for Aspen. Information is shared between Aspen and Emergency Procedure Card websites.

HCPSS News:

<https://www.hcpssnews.com/user/userdefault.aspx>

This website is not connected to Aspen so you will need to register and create a login and password.

This website is where you sign up to receive email communication and alerts from CES and Central Office. If you submit your cell phone number you can also get text alerts. This is especially helpful when there are early school closings or late openings due to weather events.

Lunch Point of Sale System (POS)

You should have received a sheet of information in the first day folder regarding the Lunch POS system. Additionally, you should have received a letter in the mail which informed you of your student's pin number. I am assuming the letter gave you instructions on how to log in.

Pick-a-Time:

www.pickatime.com

You do not need to sign up for this website until late September, early October. We will send documents home around that time that give you information needed to an create account. This website is used by parents to schedule days/times to meet with your student's teacher at Parent/Teacher conference weeks in November and February.

You will need separate login id and password for this site, it is not connected to Aspen.

The past couple weeks . . .

- ◆ Summer has ended!
- ◆ Open House and Back to School Picnic
- ◆ Fire Drill
- ◆ Back to School Nights for GT, 5th, 4th, 3rd, 2nd and 1st grades
- ◆ School Meeting – Mrs. Breon and Mrs. Slattery did the ALS Ice Bucket Challenge. View the video on the CES Website at www.hcpss.org/ces

This Coming Week:

September 1st

SCHOOLS AND OFFICES CLOSED – Labor Day Holiday

September 2nd – 5th

Kindergarten Class Lists will be finalized

Next Week:

September 10th

PTA Meeting – Media Center – 7:00PM

September 12th

NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS – Professional Development Day for staff

Ongoing throughout the year

LOST AND FOUND is located in our Cafeteria. Please be sure to put your student's last name in their instruments, music books, jackets, hats, lunchboxes and water bottles. This increases the odds of your family's belongings being returned to you.

Field Trip Planner

Again this year we will be providing you with a summary of planned field trips and details about those trips. Currently there are a number of trips in the planning stages. Once they have been approved they will be added to the planner.

Please note that in an attempt to minimize the financial impact, the permission slip and money may be due long before the trip occurs.

Also, new this year, there is an option to pay for field trips ONLINE with a credit card. Look for details to come out later.

GRADE	CLASSES ATTENDING	TRIP TO	TRIP DATE	COST

FYI -

Policies that you should be familiar with.....please visit the HCPSS website for a summary or full policy.....

Alcohol, Other Drugs, Prescription Medication and Over the Counter Products (Policy 9230)

Attendance (Policy 9010)

Bullying, Cyberbullying, Harassment, or Intimidation (Policy 1060)

Civility (Policy 1000)

Discrimination (Policy 1010)

Gangs, Gang Activity and Similar Destructive or Delinquent Group Behavior (Policy 9290)

Grading and Reporting: Pre-Kindergarten through Grade 8 (Policy 8010)

Responsible Use of Technology and Social Media (Policy 8080)

Safe and Supportive Schools (Policy 1040)

Sexual Harassment (Policy 1020)

Student Assault and/or Battery on Staff (Policy 9270)

Student Discipline (Policy 9200)

Student Dress Code (Policy 9210)

Student Representation (Policy 2010)
Student Search and Seizure (Policy 9260)
Student Rights' and Responsibilities (Policy 9020)
Students Charged with Community or Reportable Offenses (Policy 9280)
Student Use and Possession of Tobacco Products (Policy 9240)
Trespassing or Willful Disturbance (Policy 3020)
Weapons (Policy 9250)

CES PTA is again offering afterschool programs visit their website for details www.cespta.net

River Hill Health Fair

The Coalition Halting Obesity in Children Everywhere (CHOICE) and the River Hill Community Association are organizing the second annual River Hill Health Fair to take place on September 13, 2014, from 11am to 2 pm. The Health Fair will be held both outdoors in the common area and indoors in Claret Hall at the River Hill Village Center (Daybreak Circle, Clarksville, MD 21029). Free games and prizes for kids; free BMI, blood pressure, bone density and vision screenings; scavenger hunt; demonstrations; door prizes, and more.

The Howard County Public School System (HCPSS) is excited to host Let's Go HoCo, its inaugural 5K race and 1 mile fun run on Sunday, October 12 in Columbia. The race is a great way to bring together students, families, staff and Howard County community members to promote health and wellness. The race will include beginners, intermediate and professional level athletes.

View event information and register today at www.hcpss5k.com.

Community Notices

**These notices are neither sponsored nor endorsed by HCPSS.
They are being provided as a service to the community.**

Howard County Recreation & Parks is offering the following Before/After School Enrichment classes this Fall at Clarksville ES. To register, go to www.apm.activecommunities.com/howardcounty and type in the Activity Number (ex RP3323.103 for Chess), or call 410-313-7275, 8am-4:30pm, Monday through Friday.

Abrakadoodle Art Education After School

Grades K-5 / 8 classes, starting Oct 2 / \$115 + \$24 materials

Children discover their creative talents and abilities through painting, sculpting and additional media. All skill levels are welcome in Abrakadoodle. Classes bolster self-confidence and pride while teaching art history, techniques, vocabulary and socialization skills. This fall, we have new lessons and highlight many new artists; there are no repeats from past seasons. Material fee due at first class, payable to Abrakadoodle. (No class 11/28.)

Info: Melissa Calleri, 410-313-4721 or mcalleri@howardcountymd.gov.

RP0136.102 Clarksville ES Oct 2 4-5 PM Thursdays

Bricks4Kidz LEGO® After School - Energy is Everywhere

Grades K-5 / 6 classes, starting Sept 18 / \$99

Energy is essential to almost everything we do, from lights in our homes and classrooms, to the gasoline that fuels our cars. Introduce your child to the world of energy in all its amazing forms! Explore many sources of energy from wind and solar power to bio-fuel and fossil fuel. Define terms like renewable, landfill, greenhouse effect, and generator. Build moving models of just some of the awesome ways we power our world. Bricks4Kidz is a STEM-based program that teaches science and technology concepts using LEGO® bricks. (No class 9/25.)

Info: www.brick4kidz.com/ellicottcity-md or Adam Wienckowski,
410-313-4714 or awienckowski@howardcountymd.gov.

RP3329.111 Clarksville ES Sep 18 4-5 PM Thursdays

Bricks4Kidz LEGO® After School - Amazing Animals

Grades K-5 / 6 classes, starting Nov 6 / \$99

It's a zoo in here! This is a unit sure to delight kids who love creatures. We build models of snakes, insects, mammals and more. Each week we discuss fascinating facts about the animals we build, from the chameleon that changes colors to the seal model that waddles across the table. Children love these moving models that celebrate the wonders of the animal kingdom. Bricks4Kidz is a STEM-based program that teaches science and technology concepts using LEGO® bricks. (No class 11/28.)

Info: www.brick4kidz.com/ellicottcity-md or Adam Wienckowski,
410-313-4714 or awienckowski@howardcountymd.gov.

RP3329.121 Clarksville ES Nov 6 4-5 PM Thursdays

Chess Club Before School

with Silver Knights Chess Company

Grades K-5 / 14 classes, starting Sep 22 / \$185

Learn how to play chess from highly rated professional chess instructors, who have coached many state and national champions! Time is evenly split between lesson and play. Lessons range from learning the rules to advanced tournament strategies. Open to all ES grades and experience levels. Play time is structured to pair against opponent of similar skill. All chess supplies provided. (No class 11/3, 12/29.)

Info: Adam Wienckowski, 410-313-4714 or awienckowski@howardcountymd.gov.

RP3323.103 Clarksville ES Sep 22 8:10-9:10 AM Mondays

NEW! Fall Freeze Fest Musical Theatre by Drama Learning Center

Grades 1-5 / 11 classes, starting Oct 15 / \$195

Summer sure was hot, but you can cool off in this drama class that focuses on celebrating the characters of the hit movie that inspires kids everywhere, "Let It Go!" Learn about Anna, Elsa, Olaf, Sven and all of the characters that live in Arendelle. Let your imagination go wild and sing your favorite songs. Bring a pencil, binder and nut-free snack to class. Class culminates in a final performance for family and friends on the last day.

Clarksville ES class meets:

10/15, 10/22, 10/29, 11/5, 11/12, 11/19, 12/3, 12/10. Dress rehearsals:

12/15 & 12/16, 5:30-8 PM. Final performance: 12/17, 7 PM.

Info: Melissa Calleri, 410-313-4721 or mcalleri@howardcountymd.gov.

RP1039.101 Clarksville ES Oct 15 4-6 PM Wednesdays

NEW! Passport to China After School

Grades 1-5 / 8 classes, starting Sept 19 / \$139

This popular after-school program gives you the chance to learn Chinese in an immersion environment, yet in a fun and efficient way. Students are introduced to the geography, history, culture and language of China. Classes also cover basic conversational language, abacus math skills, as well as native music and song! Experiment with different crafts such as paper cutting (Jianzhi), paper folding (Origami), and the art of calligraphy (Shufa). Classes are taught by specially trained Academy

of Excellence instructors, sponsored by the WeeStar Corporation, a non-profit educational organization focusing on Chinese language teaching and cultural exchange programs. (No class 10/17, 11/28.) Info: Melissa Calleri, 410-313-4721 or mcalleri@howardcountymd.gov.
RP3314.101 Clarksville ES Sep 19 4:05-5:35 PM Fridays