



## PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER

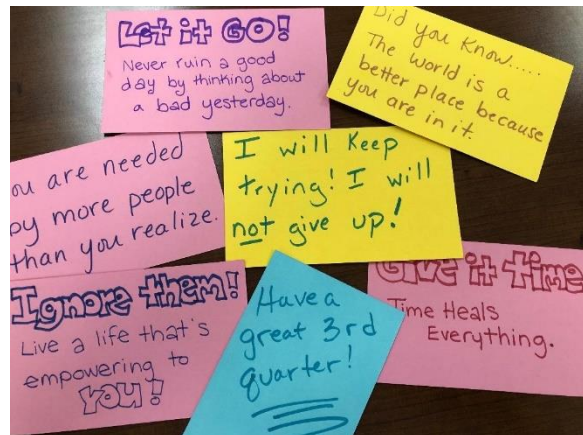
February 14, 2019

Happy Valentine's Day, Vikings!

Who do you love? This space wouldn't begin to be big enough for my list, but this week, I want to lift up our incredible **PTSA** who came to me last November with the idea for a Valentine's surprise for your students. Yep, they've been planning today's beautiful love note extravaganza for over 3 months!

In preparation for today, they hosted events in the community for parents to write notes of support and encouragement and also came to school to give staff an opportunity to participate. The notes are posted on boards throughout the school so students can take one for themselves or give one to a friend.

My heart is truly overflowing with gratitude and love today, and I want to especially thank **Ana Nunez**, chair of PTSA's newly formed *Mental Health Committee* for her brilliant idea and dedication to our students. Of course, I would be remiss if I didn't give a huge shout out to our tireless PTSA President, **Caroline Bodziak**, who spends countless hours working on behalf of every student in our school.



To say that we are lucky and blessed to have so many caring parents and community members sounds cliché, but it's true. There is never a call that we put out that isn't answered warmly and happily and it helps us be more effective educators when we know you're supporting our students as well.

Our Village is a busy place, both inside and outside of our building, and I realize that time is a precious commodity. But please know that the time you spent writing notes of affirmation to our students was well spent and much needed. I wish you could see the smiles on their faces today!

Author, political activist and lawyer, Charles W. Chesnutt once said, "We sometimes underestimate the influence of little things." My mission in this week's newsletter is to ensure you know how much we value YOU and your positive notes. There is absolutely no underestimating their value. Or yours.

Love on Valentine's Day and every day,  
Joelle

## **FOLLOW US & STAY CONNECTED**

Twitter: [@hcpss\\_mhhs](https://twitter.com/hcpss_mhhs)

Website: <http://mhhs.hcpss.org>

Student Online Newspaper: The Mountain: <https://mthmountain.com>

## **UPCOMING DATES/EVENTS**

*See the [calendar](#) on our website for additional dates.*

Date	Time	Event
February 17		Schools closed for Presidents' Day
February 24	6pm	Spring Sports Parents Meeting in the Auditorium
February 28	7-8am	Restorative Justice in Education Book Discussion over Coffee Sponsored by PTSA in the Media Center
February 28		Deadline for Spring Sports Registration
February 29		Spring Sports Tryouts Start
March 6		National Day of Unplugging (#unplugged) MHHS will be participating
March 7		Science Olympiad @ Hebron
March 18-22	3/18, 10am 3/19-21, 7pm 3/22, 2pm	"Beauty and the Beast" Musical Production
March 26	6-7:30pm	College Night (College Park, HCC, Armed Services and UMBC) in the Auditorium
March 28	9am-2pm	Becca's Closet Free Prom Dress @Atholton High Senior Cafeteria
April 2	6pm	HebronFest
April 3		3-hour early dismissal/ Professional Work Day for Staff
April 6-13		Schools closed for Spring Break
April 14	6:30-7pm	Guest Speaker on Restorative Justice in Education
April 14	7pm	PTSA Meeting in the Media Center
April 28		Schools closed for Primary Election Day
May 15		3-hour early dismissal/Professional Work Day for Staff
May 18-28	TBD	Graduation Window @ Merriweather Post Pavilion
May 25		Schools closed for Memorial Day
June 22		Last possible school day if all 5 snow days are used
June 22-July 31		HCPSS Summer School
August 25, 2020		First School Day for Students 20-21 School Year



# CELEBRATIONS!

***\*\*For even more celebrations & good news, follow us on Twitter: @hcpss\_mhhs***

*We now have over 2,000 followers!!! Go Vikings!!*



**Congratulations to Magnus Dunn** who was selected to the MSABC Preseason All State Baseball team, as voted on by the Maryland State Association of Baseball Coaches. Magnus was honored at an awards banquet on Saturday February 1<sup>st</sup> at the BWI Marriott. In attendance were his parents, Jamie and Jenise, Mt. Hebron head Coach Brian Culley and assistant coach Patrick Miles. Magnus will be attending and playing baseball at Washington University in St. Louis next year. The Mt. Hebron baseball season begins February 29<sup>th</sup>

**Congratulations to Aboli Dahiwadkar, William Li, Lorelei Loraine, Pooja Nambiar and David Wang** who are finalists in the 2020 Competition for National Merit Scholarships!!

**Congratulations to Shreya Santhanagopalan** has been selected as a 2020 Maryland Affiliate Winner of the NCWIT Award for Aspirations in Computing.

## **Congratulations to our Math Student of the Month!**

Advanced Algebra: Maia Barrett  
Business Calculus GT: Rasha Zablah  
Trig & Math Analysis: Surakshya Devkota  
Calculus AB: Henna Poon  
Trigonometry: Andrew Solak  
Algebra II GT: Katie Noppenberger  
PreCalculus GT: Amanda McLaughlin  
Common Core Geometry: Serenity Holland  
Discrete Mathematics: Trevor Moore  
AP Statistics: William Li  
Math Analysis: Samantha Yakaiti  
Calculus C: David Wang  
Geometry GT: Alyssa Renew  
Common Core Algebra II: Ray Strozyk & Jenna Miller  
Common Core Algebra I: Christopher Graciano Diaz & Yurbana Barrientos Choj



## **Congratulations to our new Science National Honor Society Inductees!**

Moumita Afrin	Sharon Jacob	Isha Raje
Amuthini Arivazhagan	Ashmitha Julius Aravind	Trisha Reddy
Priya Balakrishnan	Eleanor Karueh	Sarah Sating
Mohit Bogineni	Rishika Kokatam	Meera Sevalia
Danjing Chen	Keith Lee	Kaitlin Siu
Sanjana Chittimalla	Saniya Mahate	Sanjana Srimath
Caelia Chung	Pratham Mathapati	Jayshree Srinivasan
Pranavaa Elangovan	Jerome Mathew	Sashita Subburaj
Rachel Fitzsimmons	Trevor Moore	Varshini Suresh
Anwesha Gorantla	Jillian Morgan	Vikas Reddy Thoti Reddy
Maria Grafov	Pragat Patel	Pavankumar Umashankar
Audrey Hill	Christina Qian	
Amelia Holland	Nivetha Rajapandi	



**How sweet it is...to be loved by our Staff Appreciation Committee!**

Look what Joanne DiMaggio, Sandi Miller, and Molly Smith surprised us with this month!

So sweet & thoughtful!!!

**FEEL GOOD FRIDAY !!!**



## STAFF FOCUS



**Mary May** - Grade/Scheduling Processor

Ms. Mary May is ray of sunshine in our Student Services department. She serves in the role as Grading and Scheduling processor for Mount Hebron. Ms. May has been working for the Howard County Public School system for twenty one years, thirteen of which have been at Mount Hebron.

**Ms. May** works tirelessly to update our student management system, process grades, manage Canvas, and assists in building the master schedule. There are many other 'behind the scenes' tasks that Ms. May takes on outside of her responsibility to help a colleague or student. She is kind hearted, knowledgeable, welcoming, very funny and always has the students at the forefront of her work.

Ms. May is a true advocate for students and it shows through her positive attitude and willingness to step in to assist at any time.



# NEW NEWS

## **Pennies for Patients Fundraising by Viking Service Club**

Please donate in the MHHS Pennies for Patients campaign, run by the Viking Service Club in partnership with the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society! LLS is a voluntary health organization dedicated to funding research, finding cures and ensuring access to treatments for blood cancer patients. Mount Hebron has set a goal to raise \$3,000 for this incredible organization and it is a **competition** between the classes to see who can bring in the most! There are two ways you can donate!

**ONLINE:** Donate through your class-specified link! See below for access!

9<sup>th</sup> Grade: <https://events.lls.org/pages/md/MtHebronHighSchool-2020/9thGrade>

10<sup>th</sup> Grade: <https://events.lls.org/pages/md/MtHebronHighSchool-2020/10thGrade>

11<sup>th</sup> Grade: <https://events.lls.org/pages/md/MtHebronHighSchool-2020/11thGrade>

12<sup>th</sup> Grade: <https://events.lls.org/pages/md/MtHebronHighSchool-2020/12thGrade>

**IN SCHOOL:** The Viking Service Club will be collecting at all lunch shifts on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays! Bring a few dollars to place in your grade's collection bucket! We will keep you updated as the campaign continues to let you know how each class is doing and how close we are to our goal! Go Vikings! We can cure blood cancer together!

## **Beauty and the Beast**

Performances: March 19-21 at 7pm and 22 at 2pm

March 18 at 10am: Elementary and Middle

Student Matinee

Tea with Belle: March 22 at 1pm in the cafeteria

- We will have tea and yummy treats as well as activities for kids ages 3-12.
- Tickets are \$15 and can only be purchased online with the purchase of a ticket for the March 22<sup>nd</sup> 2pm show. Adults and kids must both purchase tickets.
- Adults must accompany students. This is not a drop off event.
- There will be gluten-free food options available.

Rating: PG

Running Time: 2 hours and fifteen minutes with one intermission

Tickets: \$12 General Admission, \$10 Student, \$6 Senior Citizen/Child Under 6

Advanced Ticket Sales:

- Visit the website [www.MtHebronTheatre.org](http://www.MtHebronTheatre.org) to purchase tickets online. There is a service charge of \$1.50
- Tickets will be sold in advance starting on March 16<sup>th</sup> during lunch shifts for students. We can accept cash, checks, and credit cards
- Tickets **cannot** be ordered over the phone
- Senior citizens get half priced tickets-\$6. These can be purchased online

Door Ticket Sales:

- Tickets will be sold at the door starting at 6:15pm on the night of the performance
- We can accept cash, checks and credit cards

Door Open:

- The audience will be seated starting at 6:30pm

Questions: Contact Kathryn Carlsen by email [kcarlsen@hcpss.org](mailto:kcarlsen@hcpss.org)



## **Save The Date! Senior Week: Staying Safe in Ocean City**

The two 2020 Senior Week: Staying Safe in Ocean City programs will be held on Monday, March 30 at Atholton High School and Monday, April 27 at Howard High School. Free. Open to the public. Both programs will be at 7:00 p.m. in the school auditorium. This program is for students and parents/adults. Come hear from the Ocean City Police and a former member of the Ocean City Beach Patrol (and current HCPSS administrator). No matter your age, if you plan to go into the ocean, this is a good program for you. More information and a flier will be shared in future updates.

## *Counselors' Corner*

- Parents of seniors: Midyear reports will go to all colleges on your student's transcript list beginning on Tuesday, February 18<sup>th</sup>.
- MINDFUL MARCH is coming to Mt. Hebron! Student Services will be hosting mindful workshops every Wednesday in March. There are QR codes around the school for students to scan and see their options. They can choose from a variety of topics!
- Summer opportunities for students:
  - George Washington University Diversity Open House: Saturday, March 28 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
Please ask students to use [this link](#) to register for the event!
  - STEM Program at Princeton University for 8<sup>th</sup>/9<sup>th</sup> graders: Find more information on this amazing program <https://duboisscholars.org/>
  - UVA Cornerstone Institute is accepting applications now!  
<https://slavery.virginia.edu/cornerstone-summer-institute/>
  - *Do you have a young activist who is passionate about social justice and civil liberties issues? Check out the ACLU National Activist Institute program!*

[https://www.aclu.org/high-school-program?redirect=summer-advocacy-program&\\_cldee=dmVyb25pY2FfdmFsZW50aW5lQGHjcHNzM9yZW%3d%3d&recipientid=lead-c06cf45fed33ea11a812000d3a31cce4-aa04951cf3c04e9d89b921a714057ca5&esid=5b53b99b-5e47-ea11-a812-000d3a31cd85](https://www.aclu.org/high-school-program?redirect=summer-advocacy-program&_cldee=dmVyb25pY2FfdmFsZW50aW5lQGHjcHNzM9yZW%3d%3d&recipientid=lead-c06cf45fed33ea11a812000d3a31cce4-aa04951cf3c04e9d89b921a714057ca5&esid=5b53b99b-5e47-ea11-a812-000d3a31cd85)

## **SPECIAL SECTION for SENIORS**

### **PTSA Scholarships – Get Ready**

PTSA is offering seven \$1,000 scholarships to seniors to pay for college or *any other post-high school adventure*. The application will be available on the PTSA website February 1 and the due date is April 15. Please remember that to be eligible, *the senior student and at least one adult family member must be PTSA members*. To become a member, [join online](#).



## **Graduation Window Announced**

HCPSS has confirmed the window for the 2020 high school graduations as Monday, May 18 to Thursday, May 28, 2020. The 12 HCPSS comprehensive high schools will hold ceremonies at Merriweather Post Pavilion. We will provide the specific dates and times of each school's graduation ceremony after Merriweather finalizes its concert schedule, historically in the early spring.

## **Senior Events Calendar**

<b>Event</b>	<b>Date/Time</b>	<b>Location</b>
PTSA Scholarship Application Available (Eligible for PTSA Memembers)	February 1, 2020 - April 15, 2020	PTSA Website: <a href="http://www.mthebronptsa.com/">www.mthebronptsa.com/</a> mthebronpts@gmail.com
Deadline to Submit Casual Portraits and from Outside Photographer	February 14, 2020	Submit to: yearbook.mounthebron@gmail.com
Prom	May 2, 2020, 8-11pm	Turf Valley
Class Night Dinner & Dance	May, 2020	TBD
Senior Picnic	May, 2020	TBD
Graduation Window	May 18-28, 2020	Merriweather Post Pavilion

# **NEWS WORTH REPEATING**

## **Science Olympiad Needs You**

Thank you for volunteering on Saturday, March 7th, 2020 at our 2nd Annual Science Olympiad competition at Mt. Hebron High School! Please sign up for all jobs you feel most comfortable in doing. If you are an "Event Volunteer" we will notify you which one you are covering ahead of time. If you want to help with a specific event like Forensics or Ornithology please leave a comment. Note: if you sign up for an event we will need help grading the tests. \*Please note this is a Div. C (high school) tournament.

Students age 16 and up may volunteer on their own; high school students under age 16 may volunteer with an adult. Any age student may volunteer for setup and cleanup. All students may earn service hours for volunteering.

We also need people to work set-up after school on Friday 3/6/20, early set-up Saturday morning before the event, and clean-up after the awards that same Saturday.

Email the Director, Paul Sabota, at paul\_sabota@hcpss.org for further clarification or if you want to see a list of events. The address of the venue is 9440 Old Frederick Road Ellicott City MD 21042.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0b4da9a62fa31-mthebron1>

This Sign-Up Genius will be updated. You will receive an email if you signed up.

## **Muslim Interscholastic Tournament**

MIST is coming! **MIST** is the Muslim Interscholastic Tournament that takes place every year around the United States and in Canada. This year students in the DC and surrounding counties will participate at the Universities of Shady Grove April 03, 2020-April 05, 2020. Students interested in participating should go to <https://my.getmistified.com/> to register or to <http://www.dcmist.com/> for more information. Stay tuned to the announcements for MSA meetings or see Mrs. Brooks-Odom in room 149 for details.

## **Leadership U Class of 2020**

Are you thinking of college for your child? Let **Leadership U** help your current sophomore build their 21<sup>st</sup> century skills that will help them succeed in life! **Leadership U** can provide him or her a memorable week-long program of leadership development, networking, and community awareness. Beginning the end of July and continuing through the fall of their junior year with nine Sunday afternoon group meetings, **LU** will give your child the opportunity to build their confidence, learn to network, strengthen their leadership skills, meet new students, and work on a community service project of their choice. **Come learn more and speak to some of our grads at one of our final two information sessions: March 1 at HCLS-Miller Library from 3-4pm.** Parents and students in 10<sup>th</sup> grade are encouraged to attend. Additional information is available at <http://www.leadershiphc.org/leadership-u-2/> or email Meg Ignacio [mignacio@leadershiphc.org](mailto:mignacio@leadershiphc.org). Online applications are due no later than March 12, 2020.

## **HC DrugFree Updates**

HC DrugFree's Teen Advisory Council (TAC) will meet on Monday, February 10 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at The Barn/Teen Center in the Oakland Mills Village Center. TAC meets one Monday evening a month and is open to all Howard County high school students. Community service hours are available for all meetings and events. To access the registration form, please visit <http://www.hcdrugfree.org/teen-advisory-council-1>. Refreshments provided at meetings, so must RSVP to [Admin@hcdrugfree.org](mailto:Admin@hcdrugfree.org) or call 443-325-0040.

**TAC is open to all Howard County high school students (public, private and home school),** but students must RSVP to [Admin@hcdrugfree.org](mailto:Admin@hcdrugfree.org) for each meeting. TAC follows the HCPSS school cancellation policies. Registration forms can be found on the TAC page at <http://www.hcdrugfree.org/teen-advisory-council-1/>. Refreshments provided.

## **FREE Prom Dresses!**

Atholton High School's Becca's Closet student club is hosting our 4th annual A Pretty and Polished Affair! We want to help your students get a prom dress for this year's prom season! The event is 100% free and not only includes a dress, but accessories, alterations, hair and make-up, refreshments, and giveaways! Free Prom Dresses from Becca's Closet @ Atholton High Senior Cafeteria on March 28<sup>th</sup> from 9am-2pm.



*4th Annual*  
**A PRETTY & POLISHED AFFAIR**

Cherice Daniel, President & Kristin Bogst, Advisor

Becca's CLOSET

**PROM**

Students, you are cordially invited to a one of a kind boutique experience.....

Each student will receive assistance from a personal shopper and access to hundreds of free dresses, accessories, and expert fashion, and makeup advice.

Get your **FREE** ticket today at  
**WWW.APPA2020.Eventbrite.com**

Organizations & groups are welcomed!

For more information, email [APPA@ghibbz.org](mailto:APPA@ghibbz.org) or [beccascloset@gmail.com](mailto:beccascloset@gmail.com).

**SATURDAY MARCH 28<sup>th</sup>**  
9:00 AM TO 2:00 PM  
ATHOLTON HIGH SCHOOL, SENIOR CAFETERIA  
8020 FREETOWN ROAD COLUMBIA, MD 21044

Hosted by  
Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. Lambda Gamma Zeta Chapter of Howard County, MD  
Becca's Closet of Atholton High School

Your next **VALHALLA VOICE** will be published February 18<sup>th</sup> with the latest news from your parent advocacy groups and community.

## School Year Resources

### **Update Your Emergency Information ANNUALLY**

Parents/guardians may now complete/update their Family File emergency information. *Parents must verify or update information for each child, each school year.* Access your Family File by logging in to [HCPSS Connect](#), selecting the Family File tab on the left and then selecting Family File. [Details and resources](#) can be found on the HCPSS website.

### **Free Drop-In Tutor on Tuesday and Thursday**

The Media Center will be open every Tuesday and Thursday until 4pm. National Honors Society tutors will be available for free drop-in tutoring. All students are welcome. Please contact [danielle\\_borgia@hcpss.org](mailto:danielle_borgia@hcpss.org) with any questions.

### **After School Activities Bus Schedule**

The Activities Bus is available for any student staying after school for academic support or extracurricular activities. The dates for the bus, as well as the stops, are listed below. Both are subject to change. If your child is interested in taking the bus, please fill click on the link & complete the form. **Students may not ride the bus without parent/guardian permission.**

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1hfuJg83ak7JXXsSaOv-1Hrly6lvbQea0HtTzOdfwmo/edit>

#### **Bus Dates:**

February: 18, 20, 25, 27

March: 3, 5, 10, 12, 17, 19, 24, 26, 31

April: 2, 14, 16, 21, 23, 30

May: 5, 7, 12, 14

\*Hollifield Station ES

\*High Ridge Rd and Rosemar Dr

\*Town & Country Blvd and West Springs Dr

\*Wheaton Way and Normandy Woods Dr

\*George Howard Bldg - 3430 Courthouse Dr

\*Worthington ES

#### **Bus Stops (Pick up at MTH @ 4:10 pm)**

\*Maple Rock Dr and East Stayman Dr

### **Are You A Proud Viking? Become A Viking Backer!**

We invite you to join the Viking Backers, Booster Club for Mt. Hebron High School. The Viking Backers is an all-volunteer, parent organization which supports ALL student extracurricular activities including academics, arts & athletics.

Visit [www.vikingbackers.org](http://www.vikingbackers.org) to join online. We no longer are taking paper forms or checks; everything is going through the website. Your membership supports ALL students at Mt. Hebron.

