



PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER

September 18, 2020

Happy Friday, Vikings!

It was wonderful to connect with so many parents this week through our [Viking Backers](#) & [PTSA](#) meetings. Now, more than ever, we're connected through and to our technology, so I would be remiss if I didn't give a huge shout-out to our incredible Media Specialists, Tracy Richter and Michelle Brown, who have been working long hours to keep all of our staff and students (over 1800 people) connected virtually!

And I know I shared this last week, but I wanted to once again ensure you've got our designated number for students for Tech Help. Not every high school has a helpline, but Ms. Brown created this specifically for us.

If your student is having trouble signing into a class or has trouble during the class with their video or mic or anything else technically, they can call **443-961-6689** to speak to Ms. Brown. This number will only be answered from **7:45am-3:15pm daily and only for students who are having technical challenges.**

I also wanted to lift up Greg Blevins. He works in IT with the county as a field technician and has spent countless hours at our school ensuring our staff are able to resolve their technology issues in a timely manner. We'd be lost without him and are so appreciative of all he does for us!

I've heard so many great things from teachers this week regarding classes – your students have their cameras on, and they're engaged – so to the extent that you're supporting us behind the scenes to make that happen, we thank you!

Please know we are working hard to ensure we're all connected virtually. If you haven't already bookmarked our [website](#), you may want to. It's updated daily and one of your best resources for answers to your questions.

[Virtual engagement for sports teams](#) begins next week. All of the information you need is on our website. Also, if you want to see a complete list of clubs your student can choose from, just click under "Student Life" across the top bar of our website and then on "[Activities and Clubs.](#)" Our incredible staff volunteer countless hours every year to support an amazing variety of opportunities for your student to get involved.

I hope you are able to enjoy some time outside this weekend away from your screen and connect with others and nature a little differently so we can come together again next week reinvigorated.

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>

Follow us on Instagram: @mhhssga

PTSA: mthebronptsa.com

Viking Backers: <http://www.vikingbackers.org>

MTHMU Boosters: <http://mthmarchingunit.wixsite.com/boosters>

UPCOMING DATES/EVENTS

Date	Time	Event
September 28		Schools & Offices closed in observance of Yom Kippur
October 3		SAT administration at Mt. Hebron
October 6	6:00pm	Black Student Achievement Program (BSAP) Open House via Google Meet
October 12-16		Senior Portraits (<i>see Class of 2021 Info below</i>)
October 16		Schools close 3 hours early for students
November 3		Schools and Offices closed for Election Day
November 16-20		American Education Week
November 18-20		Senior Portraits make-up dates
November 23-24		Schools close 3 hours early for students
November 25		Schools closed for students
November 26-27		School and Offices closed for Thanksgiving Holiday
December 24-January 1		Schools closed for Winter Break
January 18		Schools and Offices closed for Martin Luther King Jr. Day
January 26-28		High Schools ONLY close 3 hours early for students
January 29		School closed for students
June 15		Last Day of school for students

CELEBRATIONS!

*****For even more celebrations & good news, follow us on Twitter: @hcpss_mhhs***

Mt. Hebron's Sudharsan Sundar took a Silver Medal and Nick Snyder captured a Bronze Medal at the International Economics Olympiad (IEO).

Sudharsan and Nick were the United States' representatives in the prestigious international competition, which took place September 7-13.

Although originally slated to take place in Almaty, Kazakhstan, the competition moved to an all-virtual platform in response to COVID.

The IEO invited both young men to compete following capturing their second National Championship in the National Economics Challenge in May.



NEW NEWS

Hispanic Heritage Month

Hispanic Heritage Month is observed in the US from September 15 to October 15, by celebrating the histories, cultures and contributions of American citizens whose ancestors came from Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean and Central and South America. [Read more](#)

La Sociedad Honoraria Hispánica (Spanish National Honor Society)

¿Has estudiado español y tienes interés en ser miembro de una sociedad honoraria? ¿Tomas la clase de Español 4 Honores o Español 5AP este semestre o vas a tomar una de éstas el segundo semestre? Debes solicitar [una solicitud de membresía](#). Si ya la hiciste en la primavera de 2020, tienes que hacerla otra vez (lo siento). Si tienes preguntas, habla con la Sra. Ammann (Leslie_Ammann@hcpss.org). La solicitud es para el 2 de octubre, y tendremos el programa de iniciación por Google Meet al medio o al fin de octubre.

Google Form Application: <https://forms.gle/UHJ6ynganLGDCEpg7>

Annual Coat Drive

It's time for the annual HCPSS Coat Drive! We are collecting winter coats, hats, gloves, mittens and scarves for all ages. There will be clearly marked collection bins or boxes at the following neighborhood drop-off points. Please drop off your CLEAN, gently used or new items by the morning of Wednesday, September 23.

- Valley Mede - 3133 Hearthstone Rd (on corner of Joey Drive)
- Hollifield Station - 8701 Stonehouse Dr
- Taylor Village/Worthington - 4209 Seaward Circle
- Mt. Hebron - 9720 Gudel

The PTSA, Viking Backers, and SGA are all working together to make Mt. Hebron's donation to the HCPSS Coat Drive a huge success! Thank you for your donation!

Counselor's Corner

First Things First Webinar

UChicago Admissions is proud to host **First Things First**, a monthly webinar series all about the importance of and value in being first – especially our students that are First in their family to attend college. [First in their family to attend college](#)

- [Saturday, 9/26 at 11 am. CDT: Parent Panel](#) Join for a conversation with parents of UChicago first-generation college students.
- [Saturday, 10/24 at 11 am. CDT: First Generation Faculty at UChicago](#) Tune in to hear from first-generation faculty at UChicago.
- [Saturday, 11/14 at 11 am. CDT: Navigating Success](#) Join in for a celebration of first steps. The University of Chicago is committed to ensuring that [students from every background can find a home here](#). There are no barriers at UChicago.
- [Thursday, 10/1 at 7 pm. CDT](#) Virtual Spanish language UChicago information sessions.

For more information, contact firstgen@uchicago.edu

Youth Personal Finance Workshop

For families of 9th grade students: a team of educators from 4-H Youth Development and Family and Consumer Sciences from the University of Maryland Extension facilitates this youth personal finance workshop. Program Description: Smart Cents Fall Teen Camp - a personal finance workshop for youth ages 12-15. The overall goal is to increase the ability of young people to make informed decisions about financial wellness while strengthening their use of social and emotional skills necessary for success as they grow into responsible adults. Topics covered include financial decision making, spending and saving, debt and credit, careers, and risk management. Thanks to the grant, there is no cost, and we offer a family engagement component. Money Mondays Smart Cents Fall Teen Camp - Nine-week session starts October 5 and is held every Monday, 4:00-5:00 PM ending November 30. [Additional information and the link to register](#). Parents or caregivers use the link to register their teens or to register themselves for the parent information sessions.

Seeking Peer Leaders

The Sources of Strength (SOS) program at the Howard County Health Department is recruiting student peer leaders. Sources of Strength is an evidence-based youth suicide prevention program that incorporates leadership skills development to promote help-seeking behaviors and community connectedness. This year we have adapted the program to a virtual platform. Students can learn more about the program and access

the student information and parent permission forms on our [Teen Health Matters page](#). If you have questions, please email/call Leah Bulka, the Behavioral Health Navigator and Youth Suicide Prevention Coordinator with the Howard County Health Department at lbulka@howardcountymd.gov.

Services to Assist Low-Income Households

The Maryland Department of Human Services is the state's human service provider. The agency provides a wide range of services that are administered by local departments of social services in each of the 24 local jurisdictions across the state. These services assist low-income individuals and families in their communities.

[Supporting Maryland's Families in Need - English](#)

[Supporting Maryland's Families in Need - Spanish](#)

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) helps low-income households buy the food they need for good health.

[SNAP flyer - English](#)

[SNAP flyer - Spanish](#)

Class of 2021 Information

Need information on the Transcript Process?

Counselors will be offering **live Google Meet sessions** on **Wednesday, September 23, 2020** to review the **Senior Transcript Process**. Choose a Google Meet time below and type in the Google Meet nickname. Parents must log in to the Google Meet through your student's Canvas.

10 am: **SeniorTranscript10am**

2 pm: **SeniorTranscript2pm**

6 pm: **SeniorTranscript6pm**

Senior Pictures

One of the first things you need to do as a SENIOR is to have your senior portrait taken. **Senior portraits will take place October 12-16. Make-up portraits November 18-20.** Please click [here](#) for more information.

Reminders

Back to School Vaccine Clinics

Free vaccine clinics will be held at several HCPSS schools every day from 4-6 p.m. during the week of September 21-25. Online pre-registration is required and is open from August 25-September 9 at www.vaccineconsent.com. Clinics will be held outdoors using a virtual queue program so families can wait in their cars or socially distance from the clinic. Appointments can be made at any available location. Multiple vaccines, many required for school entry, will be offered and provided at no cost. When registering, parents/guardians will be able to choose which vaccines their child needs. Families can check <https://md.myr.net/> to see which vaccines their child has already had or can contact their school nurse. Click [here](#) for a flyer with information.

AP Testing

New information is on our website. [Read more.](#)

National Honor Society

Juniors and Seniors are now welcome to start the National Honor Society application process for the 20-21 school year. The entirely digital application is available on the MHHS website under academics. Please disregard any application materials that came out last spring. They are no longer being used and will not be accepted as part of the new application. Email Mary_Sankey@hcpss.org or Suzanne_Stafford@hcpss.org with any questions. *The application deadline is October 9, 2020.*

Is Your College-Bound Student Taking the SAT Soon?

The Answer Class helps students gain confidence in their test-taking abilities and teaches tips and strategies on timing, guessing, and scoring. Click [here](#) for more information.

One Book, One Hebron

Interested in making actionable change in our community? Click [here](#) for more information on our school website.

G/T Seeking Parent Help with Intern/Mentor Program

Click [here](#) to learn more about how you can help our G/T students.

Concerns with your 2020 yearbook?

Please fill out this following [form](#) for the yearbook staff. We will answer questions as soon as possible; thank you for your understanding and patience during this busy time! Any other questions about purchasing yearbooks or senior portraits can be emailed to yearbook.mounthebron@gmail.com

Looking for Donations of Photo Supplies

Been cleaning during quarantine? If you have any old film cameras or photography equipment you don't use any more, please consider donating it to the MHHS art department for our photography classes. Email instructor Caroline Creeden @ Caroline_Creeden@hcpss.org

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 to join online.

Support Your PTSA

Mt Hebron's PTSA supports critical academic needs, is an active voice on decisions that impact your child's health, safety, and quality of education, and builds a stronger, more inclusive school community. We invite you to [join](#) because increasing our membership, even by one, makes many things possible.