



PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER

December 6, 2019

Happy Friday, Vikings!

Today concludes HCPSS Inclusive Schools Week as well as our 2nd annual Unity Week, and I wanted to take a moment to highlight a few of our students who have been instrumental in making this week a success. I am particularly proud of **Jacob Bashura**, who directed our MMHS Unity/Inclusive School Week video (even if you did plan a special scare for me in my office this week! ☺) and the students who took time to share and provide insights on their experiences here at MHHS. Kudos to: **Josselyn Cruz, Ed Davis, Justin Im, Journey Ivey-Bloom, Rohan Rai, Justin Richter, Malcolm Truett, Alexandra Wendt and Willy Zhen.**



Thank you also to sponsors **Ms. Christine Schmidt** and **Mr. Matt Aubin** for all their efforts to help coordinate this week for our students. We have a fantastic photo installation outside of the lunchroom with pictures from last year's celebration (check it out next time you're in the school), and we look forward to adding new pictures this spring when we have our next Unity Assembly on the football

field and share our video.

We've encouraged discussions around social inclusion this week, which is the act of making everyone of all abilities feel valued and important. In our video, a student described it perfectly as, "**It is great to be invited to the party, but social inclusion is being asked to dance.**" We've also had conversations around gifts, not the kind wrapped in paper with shiny bows as we usually think of this time of year, but the gifts that each of us bring to MHHS just by being our unique, incredible selves.

However, if you are in the market to buy a gift you can wrap, we hope you'll consider making your way to Old Ellicott City tonight for Midnight Madness and while you're there, stop by and see our Leadership students as they'll be campaigning for the Canned Food Drive after the basketball game tonight. The Canned Food Drive has a limited number of days left. Thank you to everyone who continues to support all of our student-led initiatives, Unity Week, the Canned Food Drive and more. Your support is the greatest gift we could ever receive!

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
December 10	3:30-5:30pm	Theatre Workshop to grades 6-8 RSVP by Dec. 9th
December 10	7-9pm	Career Academies Information Session @ ARL
December 11	7-8:30pm	HC Student Council Meeting at Homewood
December 12	6-7:30pm	HCC Ambiciones Program(Hispanic/ Latino Students) info Session in the Media Center
December 12, 13	7pm	Concert Band (Band, Orchestra, Choir) Snow date: 12/14
December 13		Hebron Hour of Code day
December 16	5:30-7pm	HC DrugFree Teen Advisory Council Meeting @ The Barn/Teen Center in the Oakland Mills Village Center
December 18	8:30-10am	Alumni Day
Dec 23-Jan 1		Schools closed for Winter Break
January 9	6pm	8 th Grade Parent Night in the Auditorium
January 10	7pm	Winter Dance Spectacular in the Auditorium
January 11		MS/ HS Honors Band Rehearsal
January 13	6:30-8pm	Electives Fair in the Gym and Cafeteria
January 20		Schools & offices closed/ Martin Luther King Jr. Day
January 22-24		HS only 3-hour early dismissal at 11:10am
January 27		Schools closed/Professional Work Day for Staff
January 31	7pm	Jazz Showcase
February 17		Schools closed for Presidents' Day
February 28	7-8am	Restorative Justice in Education Book Discussion over Coffee Sponsored by PTSA in the Media Center
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 Pavilion
May 25		Schools closed for Memorial Day
June 22		Last possible school day if all 5 snow days are used

CELEBRATIONS!

*****For even more celebrations & good news, follow us on Twitter: @hcpss_mhhs
We now have over 2,000 followers!!! Go Vikings!!***

Congratulations to our Math Students of the Month!!

Common Core Algebra I: **Step Aliyah Williams, Carlos Ponce**

PreCalculus GT: **Logan Scarbath**

Advanced Algebra: **Ciara Coe**

Common Core Geometry: **Ben Scherr**

Business Calculus GT: **Tristan Cohoon**

Discrete: **Co-Tu Doan**

Trig & Math Analysis: **Noah Manasterli**

AP Statistics: **Justin Michelotti**

Common Core Algebra II: **Cooper Baer**

Math Analysis: **Kate Milano**

Calculus AB: **Nicholas Venginickal**

Calculus C: **Siri Rao**

Trigonometry: **Victor Aguilar**

Geometry GT: **Rachael Gordon**

Algebra II GT: **Erik Lopus**



Congratulations to Co-Tu Doan, David Wang, and Jeremy Roberts-Kleban (and Connor Croft as the alternate) for their strong first place finish at the WJZ sponsored It's Academic competition. The team will compete in the play-off round

on March 7th. Be sure to tune into WJZ, channel 13, on Saturday morning, February 8th at 10:00 am to watch their exciting victory.



Congratulations to the 35 students who were inducted as new members into our Social Studies Honors Society this past Wednesday!



Congratulations to Kaine Oduah who has been selected as the student of the month for the Aerospace Engineering Academy. This is from his instructor at the ARL:

I am sure that you would agree that Kaine is an extraordinary young man. As his Engineering Teacher, I have seen many examples of his talent and have been impressed by his diligence and work ethic. There are many reasons that Kaine was selected. Some of these include his outstanding organizational skills and his ability to successfully complete multiple tasks with favorable results despite deadline pressure.

Our current project has Turner and a small team of students designing, building, programming and testing different electromechanical device devices. Kaine is not only heading up the project, he is ensuring its success by demonstrating leadership abilities that his classmates both admired and respected.

So proud of you, Kaine! Keep up the great work!!



Here are six seniors that attend Mt. Hebron High school. Each student shares their unique story on how they use the various *Sources of Strength* in their daily lives!

Howard County SOURCES OF STRENGTH is a youth suicide prevention project that aims to influence positive social change, promote mental health advocacy, & empower students to create networks of connection & resiliency. With six adult advisors & over 50 peer leaders, Sources of Strength encourages students across the county to use their voice & support others who are struggling, whether it is with mental health, substance use, or bullying, to connect & seek help.

The kick-off training was held in early November, followed by monthly meetings. Peer leaders have the opportunity to build leadership skills, develop interpersonal skills, & increase mental health awareness. Through discussions & interactive activities, peer leaders & adult advisors have the ability to impact the people around them & use their social influence to prevent suicide.

THANK YOU to the 6 Seniors who were featured in this month's SOS newsletter!



Congratulations to our Leadership U graduates who were honored this past Tuesday night at a celebration at The Meeting House/Oakland Miller Interfaith Center. This year's graduates were: **Connor Byrne, Lexi Cucchiaro, Rishika Kokatam, Sophie LeClaire, and Prem Mahta.**

NEW NEWS

Please Keep Our Students & Staff Safe

Parents of **walkers along Rt. 99** - Please remind your children to **keep to the far right on the shoulder** to avoid getting hit by a vehicle. It might not be a bad idea to wear some reflective gear. Traffic is heavy on Rt. 99 in the morning.

Parents of **students who get dropped off in the morning** - PLEASE drop your students off in the STUDENT LOT, not the FACULTY LOT, not the BUS LOOP. It becomes a very dangerous situation, again, in the darkness, as bus drivers may not see your vehicle or student running across the lot. Also we are finding that parents are parking in staff parking spaces and waiting until the cones are removed. This is preventing staff from parking and getting into the building on time.

Parents of **students who park on Tiller Drive** - Neighbors who live on Tiller Drive are willing to work with students who park along the street. However, they are asking that students **park on only one side of the street**, so as not to impede traffic. There are a number of walkers, some of whom are elderly. Also, please do not let your car block mailboxes and/or driveways. If this happens, they will not consider NO PARKING signs as other streets in the area have done.

Viking Service Club to Make Blankets & Holiday Card

Viking Service Club is at it again! Please come out and support the Viking Service Club on December 16th directly after school in the cafeteria. The club will be making BLANKETS and HOLIDAY CARDS, as we are requesting donations for fleece material to be provided to Student Services by December 13th. If you have any questions or concerns please contact Liz Dolan at elizabeth_dolan@hcpss.org, or use the sign-up.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080E48ABA628A1FD0-blanket>

Counselor's Corner

Career Academy Information: Check out an information session December 10 from 7-9 at the ARL located next to the Board of Education on Rt. 108. If your child missed the November Shadow Days, they will have another opportunity to attend in January; permission slips are due **December 12**. Students can shadow academies for:

- Computer Networking-Cyber
- Heating Ventilation and Air Conditioning
- Academy of Finance
- Construction
- Homeland Security
- Biotechnology
- Animation
- Cybersecurity Operations
- Architecture
- Graphic Design
- Automotive
- System and Project Engineering
- Agricultural Science
- PLTW Aerospace Engineering
- Health Professions

Students should see their school counselor for permission slips!

Ambiciones is coming! See information below!

- Mt. Hebron High School is hosting HCC for information on the Ambiciones Program! Come out on Thursday, December 12 from 6-7:30 in the media center to learn more about the support designed to meet the needs of Hispanic/Latinx students at HCC! They will discuss applications, immigration status questions, academic advising, financial support and much more!

Alumni Day – Do you have a Mt. Hebron Alumni or know of someone who is? We would love to have them come speak on December 18, 8:30-10. See link below to sign up!

<https://forms.gle/pXfd1iMVaeWJSvFH7>

Rotary Club Opportunity - The Ellicott City Rotary Club is looking for Mt Hebron sophomores and juniors interested in developing leadership skills. We are offering a \$360 scholarship to participate in RYLA, the Rotary Youth Leadership Award Weekend. Two students will be selected from your Mt. Hebron. This is a great opportunity to enhance your leadership skills while you have fun and meet new friends. Life long bonds are often made. You will grow, discover, improve your communication skills, and practice team building, while learning about community and worldwide service. Applications can be accessed here:

<https://www.ryla7620.org/>. Applications are attached and should be emailed to okonskitg@verizon.net by **DECEMBER 20**, 2019. Interviews may follow. Questions: Email: okonskitg@verizon.net.

Is your child interested in a career as an electrician? Check out the Open House!

Future Electrician Open House

Friday, February 28, 2020

8:30am-1:00pm

IEC Chesapeake 8751 Freestate Drive, Suite 250 Laurel, MD 20723

R.S.V.P BY January 24, 2020 To SBurley@IECChesapeake.com

[PERMISSION SLIP](#) for field trip

Student Release Reminder From the Health Room

When your child needs to come home during the school day for an injury or an illness, the health room staff will initiate a call to the parent/guardian who has custody to discuss the situation. Per school policy, upon arrival to pick up your child the parent/guardian must come to the front office with photo identification and sign out the student. Please note: **Only the parent/guardian or emergency contacts can pick up a student.**

Please double check your child's emergency contact list for accuracy (correct phone numbers and contacts).

Request from Student for Help with Girl Scout Project

Dear Mt. Hebron Community,

Hi! My name is Angeline Luther and I am a senior at Mt. Hebron High School. Over the past few years, I

have found and developed a passion for computer science. However, it wasn't until my sophomore year that I discovered the computer programming career academy offered in Howard County. Even today, I would like to know more about the ways I can apply the subjects I enjoy in school into a career.

I want to help future students, especially underrepresented groups and those without a role model in STEM to get a head start and have easy access to information such as all the opportunities in STEM in the area like classes, extracurricular activities, volunteer events, conferences, and more. I decided to base my Girl Scout Gold Award on creating and sharing this information with Howard County Students.

One vital aspect of my project is interviewing STEM professionals from a wide variety of fields to give students an understanding of the variety of STEM jobs available in the nearby area, as well as the applications of STEM coursework in the real world. The interview form, which can be accessed through https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScHMPmpZdxjoXXhYefMKIm1vg5szgk-lzHTD-A51m4tYfuL6w/viewform?usp=sf_link and also through the project's website hocostem.github.io, is a way that you can share your knowledge with Howard County students.

I hope that you can find the time in your day to fill out the survey form (takes no more than 5-10 minutes), or share this with someone you know who works in a STEM field. Thank you so much for your time.

Sincerely,
Angeline Luther
Mt. Hebron High School Senior, Girl Scout
HoCo STEM Founder
hocostem.github.io
hocostem@gmail.com

Computer Science Education Week – December 9 - 13!

We live in a world surrounded by technology. And we know that whatever field our students choose to go into as adults, their ability to succeed will increasingly depend on understanding how technology works.

But only a tiny fraction of us are learning how technology works. Only 35% of all high schools teach computer science.

That's why the CTE Department invites you and your families to participate in the Hour of Code during Computer Science Education Week, December 9-13, 2019. More than 100 million students worldwide have already tried an Hour of Code. To continue bringing programming activities to your students, we want to make our Hour of Code event huge. I encourage you to volunteer, reach out to local media, share the news on social media channels and consider hosting additional Hour of Code events in the community.

Throughout the week, students will participate in coding and computational thinking activities all throughout the building. Friday, December 13th has been declared Hebron Hour of Code day. You can participate at home by visiting the site below. There are activities available for everyone! See <http://hourofcode.com/us> for details, and help spread the word.

SPECIAL SECTION for SENIORS

Graduation Window Announced

HCPSS has confirmed the window for the 2020 high school graduations as Monday, May 18-Thursday, May 28, 2020. The 12 HCPSS comprehensive high schools will hold ceremonies at Merriweather Post Pavilion. The Cedar Lane School ceremony will be held at that school.

HCPSS has made this early announcement to accommodate planning by parents, students, schools and community members. 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.

A Note from Student Services

Please periodically check out the folders located under the **DOCUMENT RESOURCES** link on the Home Page of Naviance. There are folders for College Planning, Career Planning, Financial Aid, NCAA/ Student Athletes, Parent Presentations, among others. We upload resources we think will be valuable for you and your students!

Senior Portraits

The final date here at Mt. Hebron will be Tuesday, January 7. Portraits are due by Friday, January 31, 2020, if you want your portrait to be in the yearbook.

Any outside portraits should be mailed to the yearbook email:

yearbook.mounthebron@gmail.com

All other questions can be answered from the FAQ on the yearbook webpage

<https://mhhs.hcpss.org/yearbook>.

Senior Events Calendar

Event	Date	Location	Cost
Final Senior Portrait date from Lifetouch @ Hebron	January 7, 2020		
Senior Portraits Due	January 31, 2020		
Senior T-shirt	January		Free
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	Free

NEWS WORTH REPEATING



Theatre Workshop

open to all students in grades 6 to 8

December 10th

3:30 to 5:30pm

**Join us for this free workshop led by
Mt. Hebron High School theatre
students!**

Come play theatre games and participate in
performance activities.

**Please RSVP to Ms.Carlsen by Dec. 9th to
kcarlsen@hcpss.org**



A Note from the Nurse

As we enter into flu season, this is a reminder that good hand washing and covering sneezes and coughs with tissues and sleeves are essential steps to preventing the spread of "germs." Also, remember that despite concerns about school attendance, your children's health (and the health of other children) is most important of all. For this reason, we ask you to please:

- Call the school nurse to let us know if your child is absent with a **contagious illness** such as strep throat, or the flu etc. Please provide any documentation from your physician about diagnosis and release to return to school. (Ear and sinus infections, while often a reason for keeping a child home, are usually not contagious.)

- Keep your child home if he/she has a **fever of over 100.0**. A fever indicates that your child has an infection that could be passed to other students. If you give your child Motrin or Tylenol, the fever will, of course, disappear but he/she will still be contagious to others. Children must be fever-free for 24 hours (without medication) before returning to school!
- Have your children **wash their hands properly** after using the restrooms and prior to eating.
- If the doctor prescribes **medication for your child**, please make sure he/she takes it as directed-which means the right amount at the right time and without missing doses.

Thank you very much for helping keep all our students healthy!

AP Exam Registration Update

Registration for AP exams closed on November 15th at 2:30pm. If a student wishes to register after November 15th, he/she may see Dr. Kiehl in room 109. College Board charges a late fee of \$40 per exam, on top of the \$94 exam fee. Students who registered for exams but wish to cancel will be charged a \$40 cancellation fee from College Board, meaning their refund will be \$54. These students should also see Dr. Kiehl. Registration closes for late orders or cancellations on March 13th.

Get Your Mt. Hebron Sideline Jacket!

There is no reason to be cold on the sidelines this year! Get your official Mt. Hebron sideline jacket complete with the Mt. Hebron logo and your name.

This sale is a fundraiser for the Mt. Hebron field hockey team but all sports can benefit from this warm and cozy offer. Go to <http://www.mthebronfieldhockey.com/> to check it out!

HC DrugFree Teen Meeting

We encourage all Howard County high school teens to join HC DrugFree's Teen Advisory Council (TAC) where they will have a safe place to learn about risk taking and healthy alternatives, discuss what is happening in and around our community, and much more. Questions? Call 443-325-0040 or email Admin@hcdrugfree.org.

The next TAC meeting will be held on **December 16** from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at The Barn (The Columbia Association's Teen Center) located in The Oakland Mills Village Center.

TAC is open to all Howard County high school students (public, private and home school), but students must RSVP to 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.

Howard County Student Council Meeting

HCASC welcomes all middle and high school students to attend HCASC Meetings the second Wednesday evening of each month at the Homewood School 10914 Clarksville Pike, Ellicott City

Students who attend will:

- Work with student leaders from across HCPSS
- Meet with the Student Member of the Board of Education
- Gain Leadership Skills
- Turn ideas into actions
- Learn about Leadership and Community Service opportunities
- Practice civic engagement and serve as an informed citizens

Next meeting Wednesday, Dec. 11, 7-8:30pm at the Homewood School

For more information please contact cindy_drummond@hcpss.org

Join the Plastics Student Task Force

Are you concerned about plastics in our waterways?

Students from each high school are encouraged to apply to the plastics student task force.

Please see your teacher for an application.



All meetings will take place at the Howard County Conservancy, 10520 Old Frederick Rd, Woodstock, MD

11/6 5:30-7 Work Group
12/11 5:30-7 Work Group
1/8 5:30-7 Work Group
2/5 5:30-7 Work Group
3/4 5:30-7 Work Group

Your next **VALHALLA VOICE** will be published **December 9th** 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 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:

December: 10, 15, 17, 19

January: 2, 7, 9, 14, 16, 21, 28, 30

February: 4, 6, 11, 13, 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

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

*Maple Rock Dr and East Stayman Dr

*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

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. We no longer are taking paper forms or checks; everything is going through the website. Your membership supports ALL students at Mt. Hebron.

