



# MURRAY HILL

## Middle School

*Celebrating 20 Years of Excellence*

Week of November 14, 2016

RESPECTFUL

RESPONSIBLE

READY



### MHMS Community

#### **American Education Week – November 14 – November 18 - "Great Public Schools: A Basic Right and Our Responsibility"**

American Education Week—November 14-18, 2016, will present all Americans with a wonderful opportunity to celebrate public education and honor individuals who are making a difference in ensuring that every child receives a quality education. We hope you are able to join us this week to see all the wonderful things your students are engaged in during the school day.

National Education Association's (NEA) vision calls upon all Americans to do their part in making public schools great for every child so that they can grow and achieve in the 21st century.

#### **Parent/Teacher Conferences Are Coming in November**

Our first parent/teacher conferences are scheduled to occur from November 21 through November 23. Starting Thursday, November 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m., parents will be able to schedule conferences with teachers through HCPSS Connect. The registration window will extend through Friday, November 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 a.m. For your convenience, the parent conference registration directions are attached to this message. Additionally, the directions and information can also be accessed at <http://www.hcpss.org/connect/guides/> under Synergy User Guides.

The conference scheduling windows will be:

Monday, November 21 – 1:00 – 3:30 p.m. and 4:30 – 8:00 p.m.

#### **Dates to Remember:**

November 17 – MHMS PTA Family Fitness and Fun Night – 6:30 p.m. – Chorus Room

November 14-18 – American Education Week

November 15 – Flu Shot Clinic

November 15 – 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Report Cards Go Home

November 16 – Passport to Success: College & Career Night – 6:00 p.m.

November 17 – College and Career Day

November 18 – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Field Trip to Washington, D.C.

November 18 – PTA International Music & Food Event – 6:00 p.m.

Tuesday, November 22 – 1:00 – 3:30 p.m. and 4:30 – 8:00 p.m.  
Wednesday, November 23 – 8:00 – 11:15 a.m. and 12:00 – 3:30 p.m.\*

\*Teachers who are available for both evening conference sessions will not be available for conferences on Wednesday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Please note that in order to schedule conferences, you will need to have established your HCPSS Connect account. If you have not already done so, please set up your account at [HCPSS Connect](#).

### **Annual Passport to Success: College and Career Night**

November 16 - Passport to Success: College and Career night from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Murray Hill students and their families are invited to attend this event, where they can learn about various careers, colleges, and funding for college. There will be door prizes, too. Come out to gain information to plan your child's future.

### **Grassroots Benefit Concert**

A big thank you to our amazing music directors, Mrs. Hersey, Mr. Kim and Mr. Heaton and our many talented students for a wonderful concert last week. The Orchestra, Wind Ensemble, Jazz Band, and 7th/8th Grade Chorus performed music from many countries and continents!!! Thanks to our generous students, staff and community, we raised \$908 to benefit the many programs at Grassroots.

### **Students of the Month for November 2016**

Congratulations to the following students for receiving Student of the Month for November: Matthew Goering (6th Grade), Martin Pinto (7th Grade), Kenneth Anderson (8th Grade), and Ryan Rorls (Related Arts).

Congratulations to the following students for receiving the Respectful, Responsible, Ready award for November: Riannah Bandy (6th Grade), Jessica Mendez Figueroa (7th Grade), Elijah Diarra (8th Grade), and Christian Lapid (Related Arts).

These students have been nominated by their teachers for displaying the appropriate behaviors and work ethic both in and out of the classroom.

### **8<sup>th</sup> Grade Washington, D.C. Field Trip**

The 8th Grade class will be going to Washington, DC on Friday, November 18th. The class will get to explore the Newseum, American History Museum, and other museums and memorials on the National Mall. The cost of the trip is \$22.00 and payment can be done online at (<https://osp.osmsinc.com/howardmd//default.aspx>) or sent in with student's permission slip.

We will leave at 9:00 am- so students can come to school at the regular time. We will be returning to MHMS at 4:30 pm, so students will need to get picked up by 4:45 pm. If you need to arrange a ride for your student to go home with someone else, please write a note to the office indicating who has permission to take your child home. If you have any questions regarding the trip, please contact Molly Schaefer at [molly\\_schaefer@hcpss.org](mailto:molly_schaefer@hcpss.org)

## Federal Impact Aid Survey Forms

On Tuesday, November 1st, your child was given a Federal Impact Aid Survey form to take home. This form is used to determine if a “parent/guardian works on federal property in Maryland, or if they are active duty military personnel. If so, the Howard County Public School System is eligible to receive funds from the federal government to operate and maintain our schools and enrich our school programs.”

When completing the form, please only use a No. 2 pencil. Completely bubble in the appropriate circle, which applies to your circumstance. Make sure you SIGN the form before returning it with your student.

**All forms need to be returned to the Murray Hill Front Office by Wednesday, November 16th.** Please call the front office at 410-880-5897 with any questions.

## Save the Dates

**Reservoir High School visits MHMS 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Students** – Tuesday, December 13<sup>th</sup> – 10:15 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

**Atholton High School – Programs of Study and Scheduling Night** – January 9<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 – 9:00 p.m.

## Help Wanted - Murray Hill Middle Students Could Use Your Assistance

We are looking to hire persons who have passion and patience to work one on one with some of our students who would benefit from this type of support. If you are interested in employment, contact one of the temporary employment agencies below and let them know that you are interested in working at Murray Hill Middle School.

| Agency                          | Contact Person   | Contact Information                               |
|---------------------------------|------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| Social Service Consultants, Ltd | Bob Trencher     | 410-313-9181<br>trencher@gmail.com                |
| Delta T Group                   | Clifford Pigford | 410-505-5362<br>Cpigford@deltatg.com              |
| MissionOne/<br>Source4Teachers  | Noelle Baglivo   | 856-482-0300 ext. 3260<br>nbaglivo@missionone.com |

**More Employment Opportunities!** If you would like to substitute teach for Murray Hill, we would love to have you! Please follow the link and instructions below.

Please go to our website: <https://www.applitrack.com/hcpss/onlineapp/>

*Check for current vacancies on the left hand-side or Start an application as an Internal Applicant. This is found on the Welcome page below the* two hands shaking.

You should start an application as an external applicant if you have never work for us before. You will need to create a log-in which is your email address and a pass-code. Once you have completed your initial profile, you will need to proceed to page 4 and 5 of the application. You will see various positions that include **"Substitute/Temporary"** and click the position for **'Substitute Teacher'** then complete the work history for the past 10 years. This includes paid and volunteer work as well as periods of unemployment.

You must also list three professional references from your most recent supervisor, manager, professor or university adviser. We do not accept references from friends, or co-workers. The final item is a copy of your Official college/university transcript. This document should be scanned and attached to your application. You can go back at any time to edit or make changes to your application.

Please submit an application at your convenience and contact me after your application has been submitted and all three electronic references have responded back on your behalf. Be sure to include their correct email address and complete contact information. You may view the status of their response at any time by logging into your application to check.

### **Teaching the Whole Child - Asset of the Week:**

One of the many wonderful things about being a middle school educator is observing how much our students grow during their 3 years with us. This growth is not just physical or in the critical academic arena, but also in their equally important social/emotional domains. In an effort to support the social/emotional growth of our students this year, Murray Hill will be leading our students through a introduction to the Search Institute's 40 Developmental Assets. This week's asset is "Integrity". Each week, 1 asset will be highlighted with MHTV segments, associated quotes, and posters displayed throughout the building. We hope you will reinforce these assets at home with your children and support their individual development with positive praise and recognition.

Want to know more about the 40 Developmental Assets and ideas for helping young people build them? Visit <http://www.search-institute.org/assets>.

If you have any questions, comments, or suggestions please don't hesitate to reach out to Mr. Wilson.

## **Music News and Events**

### **Music Boosters Meeting - Monday, November 14th**

Come share your ideas and suggestions 7:00pm in the band room. Everyone is welcome to attend!!!

### **Joe Corbi / Mrs. Fields – Going on NOW!!**

Purchase delicious pizza and snacks as well as delectable cookies and desserts! A portion of the proceeds benefits our music program! Delivery will be on Friday, December 16th in the band room, just in time for the holidays! If you are able to help with the delivery and pulling orders, please go to our sign up <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/409094daeeaa29a5fa7-joeecorbi>

### **BJ's Restaurant & Brewhouse - Thursday, November 17th**

Come out and enjoy delicious burgers, pizza, steaks, pasta and so much more!! Have lunch and/or dinner. Just bring the flyer to BJ's in Laurel Towne Center. Our fundraiser is from 11:00am-10:00pm and is good for dine-in or take out. Thanks for supporting our excellent music programs!

Volunteers are always needed to make MHMS Music the BEST! If you are able to help in any way (a little time or a donation), please let your Director know so that we may add you to our email list or go to our website and sign up!!!

Check out our website <http://mhmsmb.weebly.com/> for our calendar of events and flyers. You can also access from the schools website under Get Involved.

### **From the Health Room**

A reminder that our flu vaccination clinic will be held in school on **Tuesday, November 15, 2016. IF YOU HAVE SENT IN A SIGNED CONSENT, BUT YOUR CHILD HAS SINCE HAD A FLU SHOT ELSEWHERE**, please notify the school nurse or health assistant at 410 880-5897. Please do not give this information to your child's teacher, as they no longer have the consents and don't have control of the roster for that day. Please remind your student to wear short sleeves on the day of the clinic.

Thank you for your assistance.

### **PTA News**

#### **Spirit Wear**

Spirit Wear Sales have been extended through Friday, November 18<sup>th</sup>! Show your school spirit, order your Spirit Wear today! We are selling black short sleeve T-shirts, black long sleeve T-shirts, black sweatshirt and Murray Hill Middle School lanyards! Spirit Wear pick-up will take place on Monday, November 28<sup>th</sup>, more details to follow.

## PTA International Event

**WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT!** Your PTA has kicked-off its International Event ~ 17 Days Around the World! We'll be dining and dancing around the world. Come out and show your support. Here's a list of events happening during this event:

| DATE                                                                            | EVENT                                         | LOCATION                          | TIME            |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| Monday, November 14 <sup>th</sup>                                               | International Cuisine – LaPalapa Too          | 7500 Montpelier Road              | 11am-9:30pm     |
| Tuesday, November 15 <sup>th</sup><br>To<br>Thursday, November 17 <sup>th</sup> | International Cuisine – Gourmet Shish Kabob   | 3493 Laurel Fort Meade Rd, Laurel | 11am-10pm       |
| Thursday, November 17 <sup>th</sup>                                             | Dance Around the World – Belly Dancing Lesson | MHMS Music Room                   | 6:30pm – 8:30pm |
| Friday, November 18 <sup>th</sup>                                               | International Celebration                     | Cafeteria, Gym, Hallway           | 6:30pm – 8:30pm |

The event will conclude with a celebration of all the different cultures represented at our school on Friday, November 18<sup>th</sup>. This event will only be a success with the support that we receive from our MHMS community. Join us by representing your country, your heritage, your culture and/or traditions by setting up a table/booth. If you would like to join the planning committee, please contact us at mahaptamhms@gmail.com. Check out this SignUp Genius for details and sign-up here! <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090a48ada92bab9-your>

## Staff Appreciation Dinner

**Monday, November 21<sup>st</sup> 3:30pm-4:30pm**, we will be serving dinner to our wonderful staff and teachers during conferences. We are looking for volunteers to help out in cooking, baking, serving, setting-up and/or cleaning-up. Please check out this SignUp Genius and mark where you can lend a hand: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090a48ada92bab9-staff>. Keep in mind "Many hands make light work!"

## PTA Membership

It's not too late! You can still join your PTA. Membership forms were sent home a couple of weeks ago (please check your student's backpacks) or you can complete the website and send it in with your child: [http://media.wix.com/ugd/ed7733\\_186e5364d7f145279ef0ff62a62d972d.pdf](http://media.wix.com/ugd/ed7733_186e5364d7f145279ef0ff62a62d972d.pdf)

## PTA Meeting

Join us at our next PTA meeting on **11/28/16 at 6:30pm** in the Media Center! Come out and see what your PTA has planned for you this school year!



## Box Tops

Continue clipping your Box Tops! We are collecting Box Tops again! Check your Kleenex boxes, cereal boxes, Land O Lakes butter, etc. for the box top symbol and clip it out and send it in with your child; make sure you include their name and homeroom teacher's name on the envelope/baggie. Your child will give the envelope to his/her teacher. The child with the most box tops will win a prize! You can bring them in on your conference day as well.

## Facebook

Find us and "Like Us on Facebook" (Murray Hill Middle School PTA) to stay up to date with our events and happenings during the school year! Our website will also have up to date information as well: <http://mhmsptawebmaster.wixsite.com/mountainlion>

## Martin Luther King, Jr. Essay Contest

The Howard County Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Commission will host the Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration on January 15, 2017. County Executive Allan H. Kittleman has recognized the importance of this event to our community by making the organizing group a permanent county commission. A highlight of the celebration is the award presentations to Howard County Middle School and High School students who are our essay contest winners.

Dr. King's historic speech, "I have a Dream" <http://archives.gov/press/exhibits/dream-speech.pdf> remains as relevant today as it was in 1963. The Howard County MLK Holiday Commission invites your students to describe their dreams and vision for their world in their essay submission.



**The essay theme for this year is: "Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. had a dream....What is yours?"**

The individual essay focuses on both the present and the future. Students are invited to write an essay about their own dreams for a better community and a better world, demonstrated through leadership, service, inventions etc. and what they envision themselves doing. **The deadline for submission has been extended to Friday, December 2, 2016. The essays must be submitted by email in Word format.** Students with disabilities can submit a poster or use other media to portray their ideas for the present and the future.

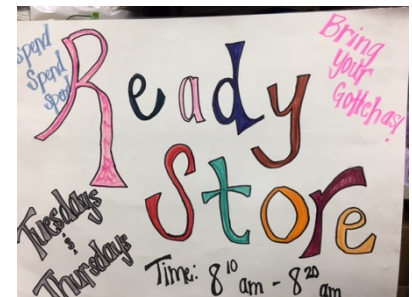


The Winter Bazaar is back again this year! The Winter Bazaar is a small “store” filled with donated items that students can purchase using their Gotchas. We are currently looking for donations—small items such as books, candles, jewelry, games, household items, decorative items, baby items, toys, movies, CDs, etc. **Donations can be dropped off in Ms. Hodder’s classroom (Room 106) starting on November 28<sup>th</sup>.** We will be accepting donations through December 14<sup>th</sup>. Thank you for your support!

### Ready Store Requests!

Every Tuesday and Thursday mornings, students are able to use their Gotchas to purchase items that will assist them in being ready for the school day. The Ready Store has items such as pencils, markers, rulers and folders for purchase. In order to keep the Ready Store stocked we are asking for donations. Popular items include:

- \*mechanical pencils \*0.7mm lead
- \*scented markers
- \*white out
- \*erasers
- \*pencil grips
- \*composition notebooks
- \*pens (gel and ball point)



Please contact Liz Zinger ([Elizabeth.zinger@hcpss.org](mailto:Elizabeth.zinger@hcpss.org)) if you would like to send in a donation or have any questions. Thank you!



## Lost and Found

We have an overflowing collection of lost and found items. Valuable items such as glasses, house keys, jewelry, etc. are turned into the front office. Lunch boxes, sweatshirts, and other clothing items are placed on a table designated as Lost and Found, in the cafeteria. Please have your student check for any items they may have misplaced or left behind.

## HC DrugFree Updates

HC DrugFree is offering free medication storage boxes. If you have medications in your home, please secure them! To schedule a time to pick up your free box, please email [admin@hcdrugfree.org](mailto:admin@hcdrugfree.org)<<mailto:admin@hcdrugfree.org>>.

HC DrugFree's Teen Advisory Council is open to all Howard County high school students and community service hours are available. The next meeting will be on Monday, November 14 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at The Barn (Teen Center) in the Oakland Mills Village Center. Free pizza provided. Teens need to RSVP to [admin@hcdrugfree.org](mailto:admin@hcdrugfree.org).

## Spin in the City Fundraiser for Grassroots Crisis Center / Suicide Prevention Services

Saturday, November 12th

8:30 am – 10:30 am

Quest Fitness – 10045 Baltimore National Pike, Ellicott City, MD 21042

\$65 for (1) session; \$90 for (2) sessions

Registration fee includes: cycle bike, t-shirt, catered lunch, raffle, goody bag.

To register: Call Quest Fitness at 410-750-7300



## HCPSS News

### Weather Information Notifications

In times of emergencies or [school closings](#), information will be shared with the community through the school system [homepage](#), [HCPSS News](#) and text message alerts, the HCPSS Information Hotline (410-313-6666), [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and via HCPSS cable TV (Comcast 95/Verizon 42).

### HCPSS Introduces Canvas App for Middle and High School Parents

The new mobile app, Canvas Parent, allows parents to check grades, review assignments and events, view course announcements, see a weekly calendar, and set student activity alerts, such as missing assignments or grades above or below a set threshold.

### Announcements of Upcoming Community Events

Please visit the Community News and Programs page on the HCPSS website (<http://www.hcpss.org/community-news-and-programs/>) for announcements of upcoming events and programs sponsored by non-profit organizations.