



October 24, 2014

Principal's Pointers

When Parents and Schools Work Together, Everyone Wins! Research clearly shows that strong parent engagement in schools increases student achievement, positive attitudes toward school, higher homework completion, and higher graduation rates. When parents are engaged at school, children do better in school, and the schools get better. The Pointers Run Elementary community showed support for that belief when over 140 Third - Fifth grade girls and their mothers, relatives or other female role models spent a wonderful "Girl's Night Out" together Thursday, October 16. Sponsored by PRES PTA and organized by our school counselor, Patti Clifford and counselor intern Kim McLaughlin the evening included fun and insightful activities for both groups. The evening focused on recognizing children's worries and triggers for stress, identifying supports (in and outside of school), and developing the tools to deal with them. What a wonderful sight - adults and children engaged in discussions, sharing their personal perspectives and learning a little bit more about each other. This experience reinforces that school is a place where students are encouraged to take risks, without fear of putdowns. Parents' presence elevates the importance of the learning that takes place in school and sends a powerful message by willing to learn alongside their children. By partnering with our parents, we know that the skills the students learn at school will be reinforced at home. Please watch for notices of other opportunities to partner with us and don't forget "Boy's Night Out" in February!

Thank you for your continued support of your child's education, in and outside of school.

Lenore Schiff
Principal

OCTOBER

- 30th Flu Mist
- 31st End of 1st Marking Period

Important Upcoming Dates



NOVEMBER

- 3rd NO SCHOOL – Prof Dev
- 4th NO SCHOOL - Election Day
- 7th Second Grade Field Trip to Toby's
- 10th Picture Retakes
- 12th Report Cards Issued
- 13th First Grade Field Trip to Sharp's Farm
- 14th Book Fair Starts
- 24th -25th School Closes 3 hrs. early at 12:45 for Conferences
- 26th NO SCHOOL – Conferences
- 27th NO SCHOOL – Thanksgiving
- 28th Thanksgiving Holiday

Announcements

News from the Health Room:

The Howard County Health Department will be at PRES on Thursday, October 30th to administer Flu Mist.

Volunteers are greatly needed and appreciated! Please call the health room at 410-313-5633 if you would like to help out that day.

PICK A TIME CONFERENCE SCHEDULING

After November 7th go to WWW.HCPSS.ORG schedule your child's conference. Here you will find a link to the parent directions (in different languages) for the Pick A Time conference scheduling site. Conferences will be held on November 24th and 25th from 1:15 -7:30.

VISITOR MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

The Board of Education approved the installation of a new Visitor Management System throughout all of our schools. This new system replaces all existing manual and electronic visitor sign in processes for both visitors and school system personnel. **Due to the new HCPSS security procedures and the safety of our children, all visitors are required to provide their driver's license or a state-issued photo ID.** When you arrive at school, please be sure to bring in your license so that we may assist you.

REMINDERS

Just a reminder, don't forget to register your cards from Giant Food's A+ Rewards (www.giantfood.com)

Account Number 02671)

Harris Teeter's Together In Education (www.harristeeter.com)

Account Number 7583)

Target Take Charge in Education

(www.secure.target.com/redcard/tcoe/home Account Number 58073).

Our school receives rewards based on the number of participants and there's no cost to you!

CONTACTING STAFF MEMBERS

The PRES website (www2.hcpss.org/pres) will link you to each staff member's email address (the best method of communication) and webpage (if available). Just click on the staff member's name under their team to go directly to their email. *Please use this as your first line of communication when time is not of the essence.* Please keep in mind that when the office staff takes a phone message, it is e-mailed to the staff member.

HCPSSNEWS

Make sure you subscribe to receive the PRES information via e-mail, by visiting www.hcpssnews.com. This is the subscriber/user site and the only place you can sign up to receive newsletters from any of the HCPSS schools or special offices.

EMERGENCY SCHOOL CLOSING ANNOUNCEMENTS

In the event of bad weather, please check your local TV and/or radio stations including Verizon Channel 42 for any emergency school delays or closings. In addition, any school delay or closing news will be announced via the HCPSS website, www.hcpss.org, or HCPSS newsletter. Please note that no announcement will be made if schools are opening on time.

Community Information

Members of the Howard County community are invited to join the Board of Education for
Coffee & Conversation

Saturday, November 15, 2014, 9:30 to 11 a.m.
(Rescheduled from Saturday, October 25, 2014)

Clemens Crossing Elementary School Media Center

10320 Quarterstaff Road in Columbia

Join SuperSquads Cheerleading today!

It's not too late! Practices are once a week after school for 1.25 hours. Contact supersquadsinfo@verizon.net, www.supersquads.org or 410-796-2244 to register online or by mail and start next practice.

