

WILDCAT PRESS



March 1st, 2024

WORTHINGTON CALENDAR

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES [HCPSS Approved Calendar 23/24](#)

- March 1: PTA Sponsored Talent Show @ 6:30 pm
 - [Last Chance to Order 5th Grade T-Shirt](#)
- March 4-8: Kindergarten and PreK Registration Begins
- March 8: SEL Day-Share & Wear Positive Messages
- March 11-15: Book Fair [Set up an ewallet for purchases](#)
- March 11-12 & 14-15: 5th Grade MISA Testing
- March 12: PTA Meeting at 7 pm
- March 13: 3 hour Early Dismissal- *Professional Work Day for Staff*
- March 15: PTA Bingo Night @Howard High School [Buy Your Tickets Here](#)
- March 25-April 1: Spring Break-Schools Closed for Students

NOTES FROM THE ADMINISTRATION

Dear Worthington Community,

It is already March 1st. The weather continues to tease us with hints of Spring. Please continue to dress your child appropriately for outdoor recess. Thank you as always for continuing those morning health checks. Daily attendance percentages are almost back to 95%.

Tonight, our students get a chance to show off their talent at the Worthington PTA Student Talent Show at 6:30 pm.

Parents wishing to retain their child next year in their current grade should contact the school principal by phone or email. The school has already contacted any parents of children where the possibility of retention is a staff concern. This is also true for acceleration, we ask parents to contact their child's teacher and see if the classroom teacher would support such a change. If so, parents also may contact the school principal by phone or email.

The Howard County Board of Education will adopt their budget on Tuesday March 5th at 4:30 pm. The budget will then be sent to the County Executive and County Council for approval.

Robert C. Bruce
Principal

FROM THE PTA

Contents:

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- ***Bingo Night Ticket Sales are Available!***
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- ***5th Grade Celebration Planning Underway and More!***
- ***PTA Needs New Board Members for the 24'-25' School Year***

Talent Show TONIGHT - March 1 at 6:30pm

The day has finally arrived for one of our most beloved events, the PTA Talent Show! We hope you can join us tonight to cheer on our talented students! Showtime starts at 6:30pm. If you have a performer, check-in begins at 6:00pm. You can find the program here:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/IVyhTskhKcPpibTMJdIC2Cxuy0Z7Ngc-y/edit?usp=sharing&oid=110725085474025733350&rtpof=true&sd=true>

Bingo Night Ticket Sales are Available!

Wow! We have over 250 tickets sold and counting! WoES PTA Bingo Night is a hugely popular event and sold out last year with a long waiting list. This year we have a much bigger space and we are hoping to fill it up! You can expect great prizes again this

year! Raffle baskets, a 50/50 raffle, concessions, and more will be available! We hope you will join us for this thrilling evening while we raise funds to support the WoES PTA! Head over to our site for all the information and purchase your tickets today!

<https://worthingtonespta.memberhub.com/w/bingo>

WoES Orioles Game Night Ticket Sales are Available!

Last Spring, the WoES community enjoyed a beautiful and exciting evening at the ballpark when Cedric Mullins hit for the cycle! Fireworks went off and the crowd went crazy! We are thrilled to bring this fun community event back this year! We are selling tickets in 2 different sections; Upper Reserve for a great view of the entire field (these are great seats because you can see all the game action), and Eutaw Street Bleachers for a lower, farther back view of the field. Check out the seating maps on our website and pick up your tickets today!

<https://worthingtonespta.memberhub.com/w/oriolesgamenight>

5th Grade T-shirt Order Ending TONIGHT!

Don't forget to order your 5th Grade t-shirt. Ordering closes tonight! ALL 5th Grade families are encouraged to purchase a shirt so all the students can wear them together during the 5th Grade celebration and the 5th Grade clap-out.

To purchase 5th Grade T-shirts and signs, and to make a donation to the celebration, please visit our store here: <https://worthingtonespta.memberhub.com/store>

If you would like to help out with any of the 5th Grade activities, please reach out to Kristie at WorthingtonPTAPresident@gmail.com.

WoES PTA Needs New Board Members for the 24'-25' School Year

We are still looking for interested people to be PTA board members for next school year! The current board has put the PTA in great shape for the new board to take over. We hope we can keep supporting the students and staff next year, and we can only do that with a PTA. Please reach out to Kristie to learn more!

WorthingtonPTAPresident@gmail.com

INSIDER INFORMATION

SEL Day-March 8th

SEL Day is a global, grassroots campaign for social-emotional learning to support children's mental health and well-being. At WOES, SEL is an essential part of our daily practices to build community, foster belonging, and amplify student voice. All week we're celebrating the work that our students have been doing to grow their brain, handle big feelings, be kind and have empathy for each other, and solve problems. On Friday we will celebrate with a Positive Messages Spirit Day! Everyone is encouraged to wear something with a positive message and / or share positive messages with others at school and at home.

Here are some core examples of SEL skills that are students are building every day:

SEL Skills

- Self-Awareness—My recognition of who I am, what I need and how I feel relative to the world around me.
- Self-Management—My ability to manage my emotions and behaviors, to complete a task or succeed in a challenging situation.
- Social Awareness—My demonstration of consideration for others and a desire to positively contribute to my community.
- Relationship Skills—My ability to use positive communication and social skills to interact effectively with others.
- Decision Making—My approach to problem solving that involves learning from others, past experiences and my values to guide my action and accepting responsibility for my decisions.

Kindergarten Registration

Kindergarten Registration for the 2024-2025 school year begins Monday, March 4. Children must be 5 years old by September 1, 2024 to enroll in kindergarten.

Every eligible child must be enrolled in a kindergarten program this fall or have an approved waiver form. Please note, 2024-2025 kindergarten waivers will be posted by March 1. [Please see the link below for more details](#) about registration.

If you have any additional questions, please call the front office at 410-313-2825 and we will be happy to help!

The Scholastic Book Fair is Coming to WoES March 11th - March 15th

[Preview the Book Fair Here](#)

All students will have the opportunity to buy books during their media class. Parents are welcome to come in to volunteer and shop with your child during their media time. Please note, we will NOT hold a family night this year.

Important Payment Information:

- **NO cash will be accepted**

- In school shopping and payments will be handled with an Ewallet: <https://www.scholastic.com/bf/worthingtonelementaryschool>
- To pay by check: Make a check out to Worthington Elementary School PLEASE remember to ADD 6% SALES TAX to your TOTAL.
- SHOP ONLINE DURING March 7– March 20 TO SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL!
 - 25% of every online purchase during the Fair directly benefits our school!

We will attempt to fill your child's book order the day they pay for it, but please allow extra time if we have lots of orders. Some popular books may need extra copies ordered. If that is the case, a receipt of the book you ordered will be given and you will receive the book upon arrival.

To volunteer or for any questions, please email: emily_howe@hcpss.org or isabel_azevedo@hcpss.org

RECC Registration

The Worthington Regional Early Childhood Center (RECC) prekindergarten programs are making preparations for classes for the upcoming 2024-2025 school year. These classes include children with and without disabilities. The program's focus is helping all children develop communication, literacy, math, problem solving, motor, and social skills. Parents of children who will be 3 or 4 by September 1st, applications will be available and accepted in mid February.

In alignment with [Maryland's Blueprint for the Future](#), a limited number of new applications for students turning 4 by September 1 will be available. The Howard County Public School System continues to offer a prekindergarten program for income eligible children who will be four years old by September 1. For additional information contact the school or visit: <https://www.hcpss.org/schools/pre-k-programs/>

HCPSS is committed to providing instruction based on the statewide Early Learning Standards which are in alignment with Kindergarten Readiness. The fees listed in the application will be collected monthly regardless of the learning model determined by HCPSS throughout the upcoming school year (virtual, hybrid, in person, or class quarantine). If you have any additional questions, please contact Hope Duffy at (410) 313-2825.

Cultural Awareness Volunteer Opportunities

Our goal is to have you as members of our WoES community, help us in honoring the diversity of our community by volunteering time and [signing up to be a Guest Reader](#) in a classroom. Come share your culture with our staff and students!

HEALTH ROOM

Over the next few months, the health room will be reviewing all health room files. If your child is missing a form, you will receive an email detailing which forms are missing. **Please note, most of these forms do not require a special appointment to be completed. If your child has seen the doctor within a 6 month time frame, the forms can be dropped off or submitted through a portal for the doctor to complete.**

Once completed, the forms can be brought to the health room or emailed to Jackie_brewer@hcpss.org

Thank you for your understanding and as always, reach out with any questions.

Classroom Food Reminders

If your child brings a snack to eat in the classroom, **please make sure that it is nut-free**. Also, please take the time to remind your child **not to share or accept any food from another student**. Thank you for helping to keep everyone safe!

FROM HCPSS

Access the HCPSS Academic Calendar Online

The HCPSS 2023-2024 academic calendar is available online, and updated throughout the year to reflect changes in Board of Education meetings and more. The calendar webpage also offers information on non-academic calendars, emergency closing dates, graduations and more. [View, download and/or subscribe to the calendar](#) online.

IN THE COMMUNITY

Free Tickets to UMBC Basketball Game Tuesday March 5th

UMBC ATHLETICS WELCOMES HOWARD COUNTY FAMILIES!

We invite you to support the Retrievers with a **FREE** ticket offer for Howard County families!

Men's Basketball



Tuesday, March 5
7:00 P.M.

Chesapeake Arena
Employers Insurance

Claim your **FREE** tickets at:

tickets.umbc.edu

Select seats in Sections 103, 105, or 205 and use discount code **HOWARD5** at checkout.

STEM Roots: STEM Fair

STEM Roots, a Howard High school-based club dedicated to enhancing K-12 involvement in all things STEM will be hosting a STEM Fair on April 6th at Howard High.

This STEM Fair is a platform designed to inspire and showcase the creativity and talent of young students from grades 3 - 8. This event invites participants to present their projects across various STEM categories, with the opportunity to win exciting prizes! The purpose of this event is to encourage a passion for learning and exploration, allowing children to express their unique ideas. Judges will score each project, provide constructive feedback, and give out medals at the end of the event but all participants will nevertheless receive certificates.

Date: April 6th, 2024

Time: 12 pm - 3 pm

Location: Howard High School (8700 Old Annapolis Rd, Ellicott City, MD 21043)

Who? 3rd to 8th graders in Howard County (parents will need to stay at the event)

THERE WILL BE PRIZES AND CERTIFICATES FOR ALL WHO COMPETE

**Parents/Guardians must stay during the entire event.

PLEASE READ ALL THE GUIDELINES HERE:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1mlbzNFQOPlateiW2pUyp_b4gA6lJkxpPGcDULSxfk/edit?usp=sharing

Contact Information:

Email - hohs.stemroots@gmail.com