

WILDCAT PRESS

January 10th

WORTHINGTON CALENDAR

[Subscribe to the HCPSS calendar](#)

[Worthington Fridge Sheet-A quick glance at the 24/25 SY](#)

January

16: Group Photos for Yearbook

20: Schools & Offices Closed ~ MLK Jr Day

21: In School Band/Strings Concert

22: Rising 6th grade Parent Orientation at Ellicott Mills MS

23: End of 2nd Marking Period

3 hr Early Dismissal ~ *WoES will dismiss at 12:55 pm*

Band & Strings Concert 7 pm at Howard High School

24: Spelling Bee

27-28: Grade 3 Math MAP Testing (afternoon)

29: Schools Closed ~ *Professional Work Day*

30-31: Grade 4 Math MAP Testing (*morning*)

Grade 2 Math MAP Testing (*afternoon*)

FROM THE ADMINISTRATION

Dear Worthington Community,

Today we treated our students to a special surprise for Purple Friday. The Baltimore Ravens Caravan joined us for a treat for our hardworking students and staff. We had about 25 Ravens Marching Band members, 14 Cheerleaders, and of course, Poe-the Ravens Mascot here for a celebration in the school gym. It was a great deal of fun for your children. There were cheers, music, and Ravens spirit for the big game tomorrow. Sorry we couldn't let you know ahead of time, we wanted this to be a true surprise for our students. We thank HCPSS, the Baltimore Ravens and Dunkin Donuts for making this possible.



Mid year assessments have already started as we continue to shine as academic superstars.

Reminder that schools and offices will be closed on Monday January 20th in honor of the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Have a great weekend,

Robert Bruce
Principal

FROM THE PTA

PTA Family Bingo Night - TONIGHT, January 10

Tonight is the night for our fun and exciting PTA Family Bingo Night at Howard High School! We will have 10 games of Bingo, a 50/50 raffle, a basket raffle, and food!

All Bingo pre-sales have closed online, but we will have a limited number of entry tickets at the door. If you need daubers, drinks, and more raffle tickets, you can purchase that tonight. We will also have Worthington blankets for sale. We prefer **cash or check payment**, but we will take credit cards through our online store. NOTE: there is a small platform and credit card fee added to online purchases so paying with cash is cheaper and quicker.

Basket Raffles - we have 31 great baskets this year to raffle off! If you didn't pick up the tickets in advance, we will sell them tonight: 1 ticket for \$3, 2 tickets for \$5, 4 tickets for \$10. Here is a sneak peek of the wonderful and generous baskets we are giving away this year:

https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1iySVUftwNGAQSC34pbbsVmj1DeldeYz_n2WCn9uqdBk/edit?usp=sharing

We would like to give a huge thank you to these businesses who have donated gift cards and products to our baskets this year:

- Pazani Italiano
- Smyth Jewelers
- Ellicott Distilling Co.
- YMCA of Central Maryland (EC Dancel Location)
- HoCo Brew Hive
- Ooh La Lal Salon
- Phoenix on Main
- The Wine Bin
- Mango Grove
- Texas Roadhouse in Columbia
- Coal Fire
- Hallowed Ground
- Curry & Pie
- EC Pops

Family Bingo Night is a fundraiser for the PTA. All the money earned goes back into helping us fund more initiatives. Thank you for your support!

Winter Wonderland Dance - Friday, January 31

The Winter Wonderland Dance is ON. Thank you to those who have signed up to volunteer to make sure we can still hold this event this year. Details will come out next week on how to purchase tickets.

Volunteers needed! Yes, yes - we can always use more help... sign up here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050A49ABAE2AA5F49-53916803-worthington#/>

National Blue Ribbon Wildcat Blankets for Sale

Cuddle up on these cold days with a Worthington Wildcats/National Blue Ribbon School blanket! Our PTA gets a portion of the sales and you will get to show off your Worthington pride - it's a win-win! Note: we will have blankets for sale tonight at Bingo Night! <https://worthingtonespta.givebacks.com/store>

INSIDER INFORMATION

Worthington Elementary School is seeking a Substitute Special Education Paraeducator!


Worthington Elementary School is seeking an enthusiastic, dedicated and compassionate individual to join our AMAZING school community as a **Substitute Special Education Paraeducator**.

Job description:

- **Days/Hours:** Monday through Friday, 8:40-4:10
- **Pay Rate:** \$115.43 per day

If you have questions about this position or would like to set up an interview, please contact Jayme Brewrink, Assistant Principal at 410-313-2825 or jayme_brewrink@hcpss.org. We look forward to hearing from you!

Rising 6th Grade Information Night



Ellicott Mills Middle School
Rising 6th
Information Night

Wednesday, January 22th, 2025
Snow Date January 27, 2025

5:30pm- GT presentation
6:00pm-7:00pm

Topics include; information regarding the middle school schedule, course requirements, course registration, extracurricular opportunities, and other amazing programs here at *The Mill*. If your child is enrolled in any GT Courses this school year and you expect that your child will be placed in GT classes next year, please be sure to attend the Gifted and Talented Program Information Session which will proceed the general information session. Parents attending the GT portion should attend both sessions. We look forward to seeing you there!

HCPSS NEWS

2025 Summer Programs Registration

Online enrollment requests for [2025 Summer Programs](#) will be open in HCPSS Connect Synergy Monday, Feb. 3 at 12 p.m. through Tuesday, Feb. 17 at 12 p.m. Requests for registration-based programs can be made by a parent, guardian, school counselor or achievement liaison. Parents/guardians will be notified via email of enrollment status (enrolled or waitlisted) prior to the next registration window, which opens Monday, March 3 at 12 p.m.

Road to Kindergarten Workshops Begin Jan. 21, 2025

Save the date! HCPSS' [Road to Kindergarten workshops](#) begin Jan. 21, with additional sessions available through the end of the month. Each workshop will provide information on expectations for school readiness, the HCPSS kindergarten program, and more. Childcare will be available for children ages 2 and older. No registration is required, but attendees are encouraged to allow ample time for parking, childcare drop off, and check in.

HCPSS Emergency Notifications

As we head into the winter months, [families are reminded](#) that in emergency situations (including inclement weather), information will be shared with the community only through the HCPSS website, email and text, Twitter/X and the HCPSS weather hotline. [Be sure your Family File is up to date](#) and that you have [opted into texts](#) to receive emergency messages.

*Parents/guardians are automatically enrolled for email notification; however all users must opt in one time to receive text messages. **To opt in or confirm that you are signed up to receive text messages, text the word "yes" to 67587** from the mobile number listed in your Family File. *If you are not receiving HCPSS or school emails/texts, please contact the front office.*

BSAP Saturday Math Academy Spring Program Registration, Jan. 4

The HCPSS Black Student Achievement Program (BSAP) Saturday Math Academy will offer an [in-person enrichment program this spring for any students in grades 3-12](#) in all levels of math, based on course availability. Registration will take place online Saturday, Jan. 4, 2025, from 9:00 a.m. until capacity is reached. Class space is limited

Understanding Early Intervention Services & Child Development

Monday, January 13, 2025 6:00 p.m.

Free Virtual Event

Concerned about your child's development? Research shows 68% of 3rd graders who received early intervention services no longer need special education. Learn how to request developmental testing through the Infants and Toddlers and Child Find Programs. Discover the significant benefits of early intervention and other valuable community resources to support your child's growth. For families of children ages birth to five. [Visit registration page.](#) Sponsored by Howard County Office of Children and Families

Family Support Center

Assists families in advocating for their child with a disability.

Services include:

- Workshops for parents and caregivers
- Guidance in the IEP/IFSP process
- Lending library including disability and special education related books and DVDs
- Facilitation of parent groups
- Weekly emails with upcoming events for you and your student
- Service, community and recreational resources to support the specific needs of your family

Contact FSRC@hcpss.org

COMMUNITY

Winter 2025 Howard County Recreation & Parks Before & After school classes

Available activities for students at Worthington ES can be found here: [Winter Rec & Park Classes](#). These classes provide fun, structured, educational, and enriching activities for students, benefiting both the child(ren) and parents! Registration: [HCRP Registration](#)

Whiz Kid Academy's After-school STEM program

The program offers engaging, hands-on STEM experiences for students in grades K-2. Class will begin on January 28th and run for six weeks from 4-5 pm. The cost is \$125. Parents can register here:

https://anc.apm.activecommunities.com/howardcounty/activity/search/detail/145684?onlineSiteId=0&from_original_cui=true

Save the Date and Register for the MLK Day of Service!

Join us for the 11th annual MLK Jr. Day of Service on Monday, January 20, 2025, from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM at Glen Mar Church. This event offers service opportunities for all ages—grandparents, parents, young adults, and children. Planned activities: Packaging 60,000 meals; Sewing pillowcases; Decorating cookies; Making 'no-sew' fleece hats and blankets; Writing letters to seniors and veterans; Collecting non-perishable food and gently used clothing. Additional Details: Service Hour forms are available for

students. Enjoy a free lunch featuring chili and grilled cheese sandwiches. To register or find the latest event updates, visit glenmarumc.org/events/day-of-service/. If you have any questions, email us at DayofService@glenmarumc.org.

Free Life Skills Classes for HoCo Middle/High School Students

- Classes will be taught by HoCo college students with high school student assistants and adult supervision. Botvin's Evidence Based Curriculum promotes positive health and personal development for students in grades 6 to 9. (Slightly younger students will be considered especially if joining an older sibling, and students older than 9th grade may be invited to join our high school team to earn Community Service Hours while learning.) If parents/guardians have questions about the appropriateness for students, register the students and HC DrugFree's team will contact you. **Siblings and friends are encouraged to take these classes together.**
- Class dates: **February 24, March 3, 10, 17, 31, April 7, 28, and May 5 from 5:00-6:30 p.m. on Zoom.** Visit HC DrugFree's website for more information and register students at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Spring2025LifeSkills>
- **HoCo High School Student Leadership Opportunity to Earn Community Service Hours:** Join HC DrugFree's instructional team to assist college students teaching online Life Skills classes – all while serving as a role model and mentor to younger HoCo students. This leadership experience looks good on resumes and college applications. For more information and to register to volunteer, go to <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/AssistLS2025spring>

Free Parenting/Grandparenting Classes

- Free! On Zoom and open to parents, guardians and grandparents residing in HoCo or with school-age children/grandchildren residing in HoCo. This evidence-based, interactive prevention program provides families with the skills and knowledge to reduce the risk that their children will use drugs including alcohol or engage in other dangerous behaviors. The curriculum was written for families with children 9-14 years olds, but we believe it is appropriate for K-12 families. Class dates: **March 18, 21, 25, 28 and April 1 from Noon to 1:30 p.m. on Zoom.** Visit HC DrugFree's website for more information and register at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Spring2025GGC>