

WILDCAT PRESS

October 9, 2020



WORTHINGTON IMPORTANT DATES AND EVENTS

October

- 13 - WoES PTA Meeting, 6:30-7:30 PM, Zoom Meeting
- 14 - MAP Math Assessment, 9-11 AM or 1-3 PM
- 16 - Professional Work Day - School ends 3 hours early at 12:45 PM - See *the link to the modified schedules in the School News/Updates section below.*

November

- 3 - Election Day- Schools and Offices Closed
- 6 - End of First Marking Period - School ends 3 hours early at 12:45 PM - There will be a modified schedule.



October

10/5	Caleb Sines	10/8	Brandon Socarras
	Rishi Tatini		Selina Wang
10/6	Liam Salvador	10/11	Eva Scheinberg
10/7	Krithin Dendi		
	Elias McLeod		
	Oluwatimilehin Oke-Owo		

MESSAGE FROM ADMINISTRATORS

Happy Friday Worthington Families,

It was a great 5-day week of virtual learning! Our students continue to make us proud every day with their adaptability, persistence and eagerness to learn. The structure and flow of virtual learning is improving each week as our students are growing and learning new skills to apply in this virtual environment.

Beginning Monday, October 12th, we will be transitioning to small group language arts instruction in grades K-5. During the virtual instruction model, all students participate in ELA daily. This includes 40 minutes of direct instruction (20 minutes of whole group and 20 minutes of small group) with the teacher and 20 minutes of independent practice (i.e., Lexia Core5, independent reading and writing).

Students will sign into their homeroom teacher's daily Google Meet for whole group instruction and during their designated small group time. When your child is not working with their teacher, they will log out of Google Meet and have independent practice time. Independent time may include Lexia Core5, working on their own writing, reading independently or completing any assignments.

Your child's individual schedule should have been shared with you by their homeroom teacher. If you have not received your child's schedule for language arts small group instruction, please contact your child's teacher as this will begin on Monday.

If your child has any questions or challenges with this transition on Monday, we are providing a virtual space for students to access and receive help or have questions answered in regards to the transition to the small group language arts instruction. For example, if your child is unsure of the time they need to log in to their small group reading instruction, they can use their grade level code below to ask a WoES staff member for help.

We will have staff available to answer questions or help students with navigating their schedule if needed.

The following are the grade-level times and meeting codes:

9:15-10:15 AM	12:45-1:45 PM
1st Grade Code - woessupportgr1	Kindergarten Code - woessupportgrk
3rd Grade Code - woessupportgr3	2nd Grade Code - woessupportgr2
5th Grade Code - woessupportgr5	4th Grade Code - woessupportgr4

We hope you have a wonderful weekend!

Kelli Jenkins, Principal

Jason Morton-Ortega, Assistant Principal

SCHOOL NEWS/UPDATES

MAP ASSESSMENT - OCTOBER 14TH

MAP Testing began this past week with the Reading assessment and continues on Wednesday, October 14th with the Math assessment. The math assessment will be offered at 9am and 1pm. Students may choose to attend either the morning or afternoon session. If your child is unable to attend, makeup testing will be offered during asynchronous learning times. Teachers will share Google Meet information and your student's testing group.

Due to testing, HCPSS is making the following adjustments to asynchronous assignments for the week of October 14:

- No Dreambox assignments will be assigned on Wednesday
- No Lexia Core5 assignments will be assigned on Wednesday
- No mathematics task will be assigned on Wednesday
- No changes will be made for related arts and science asynchronous assignments.

SCHEDULE ADJUSTMENTS FOR SCHEDULED EARLY DISMISSAL DAYS

The HCPSS 2020-2021 calendar includes four scheduled 3-hour early dismissal days:

- Friday, October 16, 2020 (**Next week**)
- Friday, November 6, 2020
- Monday, November 23, 2020
- Tuesday, November 24, 2020

The virtual schedules have been adjusted for these scheduled early dismissal days to provide students with synchronous learning for each class. Additionally, both full and half-day PreK classes will meet on these days using a modified schedule. The elementary early dismissal day revised schedule can be found [HERE](#).

A MESSAGE FROM THE RELATED ARTS TEAM

Over the next few weeks, the Related Arts team will be adjusting due dates for asynchronous assignments so that they will be more spread out over the course of the 5 week Related Arts cycle. This will ensure that asynchronous assignments will appear in students' "To-Do" lists closer to the actual dates that the assignments should be completed. We hope that this will make it easier for students and parents to keep track of asynchronous assignments for Related Arts classes. Look for more information in announcements from Related Arts teachers in the coming weeks. Thank you for your patience and understanding as we continue to make changes that will benefit our students and families.

A MESSAGE FROM THE MEDIA DEPARTMENT

Have a Media book at home?

Please drop it off in the Media Book Bin. It will be in front of the school on Wednesday, October 14th anytime from 9 -3pm. Any questions please email Mrs. Howe at emily_howe@hcpss.org

NEWS FROM OUR SCHOOL COUNSELOR

Connecting with Mrs. Southern

I have enjoyed meeting with students and families to support their academic progress and social / emotional well-being during this challenging time. If you are in need of assistance or would like to consult with me, please reach out via [email](#) or my [Canvas page](#). You can also access activities and resources for students by grade level.

Programs for Families in Need

Several county-wide programs are available to support families in need of assistance.

Winter Coat Giveaway

Any family in need may receive items at the Howard County MultiService Center [Coat Giveaway](#) on October 10, 10 am to noon, or while supplies last, at the North Laurel Community Center.

FARMs Participation

Many families have been financially impacted by the pandemic and may now be eligible for FARMs (Free and Reduced Meals). Families are urged to check their eligibility and complete a FARMs application by October 10.



CENTRAL MARYLAND
AREA COMMAND

Do you need a little help providing holiday gifts for your children this year? The Salvation Army of Central Maryland may be able to offer assistance through their annual Angel Tree program! Angel Tree is a program through which anonymous donors provide gifts of new clothing and toys to

thousands of children, ages 0-12. Families who wish to be considered may apply directly through the [Howard County Angel Tree application](#). **Applications are due by Sunday, October 11.** Documentation including photo I.D. for all household members, proof of Howard County residency and proof of need will be requested

PTA NEWS



Contents:

- **WoES PTA meeting Tue 10/13, 6:30-7:30pm (Zoom)**
- **PTA memberships**
- **BoxTops**

WoES PTA meeting Tue 10/13, 6:30-7:30pm (Zoom)

Please join us for the first of our regularly scheduled monthly meetings, this Tue Oct 13, 6:30pm-7:30pm. All WoES community members are welcome. At the beginning we have everyone introduce themselves and their affiliation (i.e. grade of your student), then after that you are welcome to just listen in, or participate as you like.

AGENDA

Meeting agenda is posted via Google Doc. We will be adding to it through the weekend.

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1TtleB0xxPYDQ0C0yuZTK_3QAOqMgezV4

ZOOM LINK

[remember: you can use your child's chromebook if you "join with browser"]

Time: Oct 13, 2020 06:30 PM Eastern Time

Meeting ID: 792 1970 6459

Passcode: woespta

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/79219706459?pwd=SXJueS9uSE9XQ3NuREVoQmRQTDFBUT09>

PTA Memberships

In this year's proposed budget (in response to COVID19), the PTA expenses are more focused on direct support to WoES than ever before. Thank you to the 22 PTA members that have already joined for this year. Last year we had 237 PTA members. Please consider representing your household with a PTA membership, and directly supporting our PTA with our "direct donation" mechanism, available via credit card payment to our PayPal account.

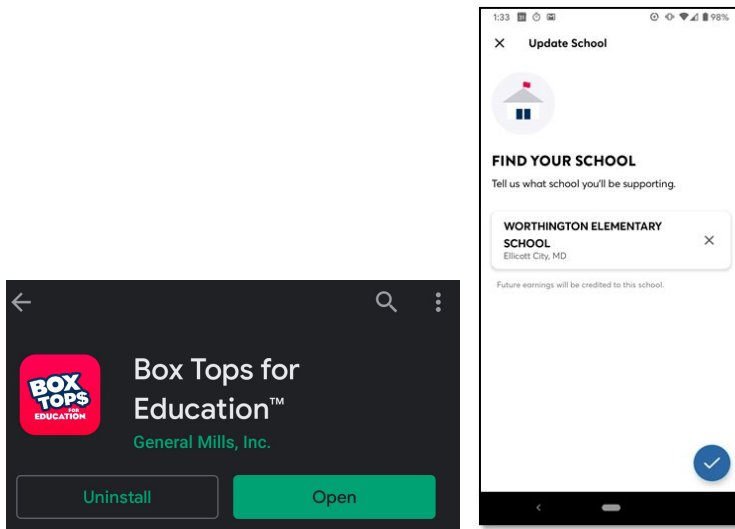
<http://www.worthingtonpta.com/join-pta-and-donate>

Box Tops to support WoES

No longer will people be cutting box tops and counting small cardboard squares. BoxTops is fully digital. How it works is you need to download the BoxTops App, create an account (or let it authenticate via Google or FB), then tell it you would like to support Worthington Elementary School. Then you take pictures of your store receipts via the app. Some people love it all digital, while some find the app frustrating. Occasionally, General Mills will run promotions like counting your BoxTops double. Maybe our November PTA meeting could hear feedback if this is working for us.

This General Mills website will direct you to your correct app store link:

<https://www.boxtops4education.com>



COMMUNITY NEWS/RESOURCES

Free Food Distribution

The Catholic Community of Ascension and St. Augustine has partnered with Lancaster Foods and Feed America, and we have received a grant to distribute boxes of food that contain 36 pounds of fresh fruit, vegetables, dairy and meat. The boxes will be distributed beginning at 10:00 am on Saturdays during the month of October at Ducketts Lane Elementary School.

Please click on the link below for more information:

[Free Food Distribution Flyer](#)

The Council of Elders Community Academy

The Council of Elders and the Howard County Public School System have partnered to sponsor the following 2020-21 parent workshop series:

Save the Date!

The Council of Elders Community Academy



The Council of Elders and the Howard County Public School System have partnered to sponsor the following 2020-21 parent workshop series:

October 17	Effective Home and School Communication
December 5	Social Media, Peer Pressure, and Human Trafficking
January 30	Healthy and Unhealthy Relationships
March 13	Suicide Prevention and Substance Abuse

9-10:30 a.m.

Sessions will be held virtually

Additional details regarding each session are forthcoming.

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