

# *LKMS Leopard's Tale*

**October 10, 2019**

## **Message from Administration**

Dear LKMS Community,

As you are aware, the revision of Policy 8020 (Secondary Grading and Reporting) included the elimination of Interim Progress Report distribution at the secondary level. We encourage you to keep the lines of communication open with your student's teachers throughout the quarter, semester and school year. In addition to regularly checking Canvas, please do not hesitate to reach out to teachers if you have questions or concerns about your student's academic progress at any time.

Thank you to LKMS' Technology and Community Outreach Committees will hold a Canvas informational session for parents on **Wednesday, October 16, at 6:00 pm** in the LKMS Media Center immediately before the next PTA meeting. The 30 minute session will allow time for one on one help. Please sign up to attend through this

link. <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1xXO35mBPBndEAsNfWTfXq9D6XTuspiIQWcFjcigzDQc/edit>

Have a wonderful weekend!

Mrs. Lublin and Ms. Smith

## **MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

- October 10 & 11 - MAP Testing - 7th Grade
- **October 14 - Flu Vaccine Clinic**
- October 14 & 15 - MAP Testing - 6th Grade
- October 16 - PTA Meeting - 6:30pm
- October 17 - 7th Grade Zoo Field Trip
- October 18 - Schools Closed for Students/Prof Work Day

- October 23-25 - 6th Grade Outdoor Education
- October 28 - French Concert Field Trip
- October 31 - Hearing and Vision Screening
- November 1 - 3 Hour Early Dismissal/End of Quarter 1

[View our full calendar](#)

## **LKMS News and Events**

### ***6th Grade Outdoor Education - October 23-25***

Outdoor Education is quickly approaching for our 6th grade students. Students will travel to NorthBay Camp in North East, Maryland on Wednesday, October 23 through Friday, October 25. The cost of the trip is \$185 and can be paid online or by check/cash. If paying by check, please include your student's name on the memo line of the check along with your telephone number. **Students who qualify for Free or Reduced meals can attend Outdoor Education at no cost.** Please contact Principal, Lucy Lublin, [lucy\\_lublin@hcpss.org](mailto:lucy_lublin@hcpss.org) directly for more information. Medications can be turned in to our nurses beginning Monday, October 21. **All medication forms need a doctor's signature.** Outdoor Education forms and additional information regarding this field trip are [attached](#).

### ***Family File Information***

Parents/Guardians, we have several families who have not completed their student's Family File information. **Important information must be reviewed/updated for each child and for each year regardless if there are any changes or not.** HCPSS utilizes [Family File](#) for parents/guardians to complete information and share preferences. Log into [HCPSS Connect](#), select the Family File tab then click on Family File. Once logged in, parents/guardians will be asked to provide or update your student's information.

### ***News from LKMS' Gifted and Talented Program***

Mrs. Spillman, the Gifted and Talented Resource Teacher, is looking for a parent who is interested in representing our school-based GT Education Program as a parent representative to the G/T Parent Academy sessions this year. It is important for our school community to have well-informed parents

who understand the G/T Education Program goals, delivery model, and the various opportunities that exist for advanced-level students of various talent areas. Please [read](#) further for more information on becoming a GT parent representative.

### ***Visitor Procedures***

We welcome parents and guardians in to our school building, however it is important that all visitors come in through the front door and sign in at the Front Office. This includes before and after school. Once you have signed in, we can help you get to where you need to go. Thank you for your understanding and helping us to keep our students and staff safe! **If you are picking up your child for an early dismissal, please remember that a photo i.d. is required from all parents/guardians for releasing of your student.**

**Parents who are participating in non-HCPSS sponsored events after school, we ask that you kindly wait outside the school until after student dismissal time so that we may reduce the flow of traffic in our Front Office.**

### ***LKMS' Attendance Reporting Procedures***

Parents and Guardians may send notes for absences via email to [LKMSAttendance@hcpss.org](mailto:LKMSAttendance@hcpss.org). This mailbox will be monitored during school hours for the purpose of receiving absence notes from home; parents providing physician's notes, late arrival and early dismissal notes. Your child may also bring the notes to school too and deliver them to Ms. Hill in Student Services. The school must receive a note from the parent or physician explaining the absence/tardiness of a student within two school days of the student's return or the absence/tardiness will be unlawful/unexcused. **Note:** Parents are automatically opted in to receiving email notifications when students are marked absent or tardy, however, you may opt out when you complete the Family File. If you would like to opt out, you may edit the Family File through [HCPSS Connect](#). Also, it is important to know that your child will be marked accordingly if they leave for an early dismissal, even when planning to return. At the time your child returns to school, their attendance will be updated, however, the system does not send notification emails for attendance corrections.

Please refer to Policy 9010 to review policies and procedures for excused and unexcused absences. <https://www.hcpss.org/policies/9000/9010-attendance/>. All absences for extended local

discretionary days will require Principal approval. The request form is available here:

<https://www.hcpss.org/about-us/forms/>.

If you need further assistance, you may email our Student Services Secretary, Rhonda Hill, rhonda\_hill@hcpss.org or call (410) 880-5997.

## **Messages from the PTA**

### **PTA Membership**

Have you bought your PTA membership yet?

Your membership and financial support help the PTA provide student programs like the school musical, Shakespeare residency, LimeTime celebration, 8th Grade dance, school-wide assemblies, and more. **Membership is just \$20** per family (and additional donations are always welcome)!

Simply click on the following link to create (or re-activate) your account.

**<https://lkmspta.membershiptoolkit.com>** If you have any questions, problems, or concerns, please contact Sonya at [lkmsptamembership@gmail.com](mailto:lkmsptamembership@gmail.com). Thanks again for your support, and we hope to welcome you as a member soon!

### **New Lime Kiln Spirit Wear Online Store**

Students, families and staff, the PTA has exciting news! Lime Kiln Spirit Wear is now available through a new online store! The [online store](#) has 100+ items and 12 designs from which to choose. If you're interested in purchasing spirit wear, you can go directly to the [online store](#) ([www.limekilnspritwear.com](http://www.limekilnspritwear.com)) to place your order. All orders are processed as received and shipped directly to your home or designated shipping address. **Shipping is Free now through October 7.** The online store is active throughout the year. If you have questions, email [spiritwearlkms2019@gmail.com](mailto:spiritwearlkms2019@gmail.com). Thank you!

## **HCPSS News and Information**

*HCPSS Policy 8020 Grading and Reporting*

Middle and high schools will no longer receive interim reports, as per the [Board of Education Policy 8020 Grading and Reporting: Middle and High School](#). Instead of interim reports, secondary students and parents/guardians are encouraged to regularly monitor progress through their student's grade book in [HCPSS Connect - Canvas](#). LKMS' Technology and Community Outreach Committee will hold a Canvas tutoring session for parents on **Wednesday, October 16, at 6:00 pm** in the LKMS Media Center immediately before the next PTA meeting. The 30 minute session will allow time for one on one help. Please sign up to attend through this link. <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1xXO35mBPBndEAsNfWTfXq9D6XTuspiIQWcFjcigzDQc/edit>

### ***National School Lunch Week***

HCPSS' Department of Food and Nutrition Services is celebrating National School Lunch Week 2019 with an art competition. The art competition will take place during National School Lunch Week on October 14-18, 2019. The art competition announcement will be posted in cafeterias and on Nutrislice (HCPSS online menu). Please see the attached [announcement](#) for more information on the art competition.

### ***Howard County Gifted/Talented (G/T) Program Parent Academy, Oct. 16***

HCPSS families interested in the Gifted and Talented (G/T) Program are invited to come learn about the advanced-level offerings available through the G/T Education Program on Wednesday, October 16, 7:00-8:30pm at Long Reach High School. Read further for more information on this [program](#). Please email [hcpssgtac@gmail.com](mailto:hcpssgtac@gmail.com) or [alyson\\_tommins@hcpss.org](mailto:alyson_tommins@hcpss.org) or call 410-313-6800 with additional questions.

### **HCPSS Council of Elders Academy Parent Workshop**

The Council of Elders Academy Parent Workshop Series session will be held on Saturday, October 12 from 9:00-11:15am at Oakland Mills Middle School. Attendees will learn more about effectively maintaining communication with their child's school. HCPSS teachers will be on hand to show parents how to monitor student performance by utilizing school system online resources. Additionally, families will receive strategies to help ensure successful parent-teacher conferences.

This session is appropriate for parents/guardians of students at all levels. The session information and online registration link can be found [here \(Links to an external site.\)](#).

### ***Free and Reduced-Price Meals (FARMs) Program***

View our [Food and Nutrition Services webpage](#) regarding information about meal prices, how to pay for meals, where to view menus, nutritional and allergen information, and more. Parents of students who qualify for **Free and Reduced-Price Meals (FARMs)** must submit a new application every school year. View [program details and learn how to apply](#). Participation in the FARMs program qualifies students for opportunities including free childcare services, free college applications, discounted internet through the Comcast Internet Essentials program, and more.

**The Community News and Programs** webpage contains brief announcements of upcoming events and announcements from community and non-profit organizations. Please visit [Community News and Programs](#) on the HCPSS website for all announcements of upcoming events and programs sponsored by non-profit organizations.