

ELKRIDGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Debra Anoff, Principal

Katherine Carter & Anthony Esposito, Assistant Principal

Elkridge...Always providing Elkcellence!



The Elkster Examiner

**7075 Montgomery Road
Elkridge, MD 21075
410-313-5006**

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Health Room 410-313-8506

Front Office 410-313-5006

ees.hcpss.org

FROM THE DESK OF THE PRINCIPAL

I am very pleased to tell you that all beginning of the year assessments are complete, and we feel we have a good handle on the areas of relative strength and weakness for the students. Your first opportunity to formally see how your child is doing so far this year is coming up next week. On Thursday, October 2nd, first quarter interim progress reports are coming home. The interim progress reports will let you know if your child's work and work habits are satisfactory or in need of improvement. Please take some time to discuss the interim report with your child and go over successes and areas for improvement.

With the new school year recently starting, it's time to log onto HCPSS News and change grade levels and/or schools for each of your children. While you're updating your profile, please double-check your contact information and make sure you have entered the correct email and cell phone information. To update your profile now, go to www.hcpssnews.com, click on Account Manager and enter your email or cell phone number. Click on "change your subscription information" and update your information.

MAP testing begins on Monday, September 29th for grades 1 – 5. Students will begin by taking the math assessment followed by the reading assessment. MAP testing will not impact our school-wide schedule because students will take the assessment during their designated math and reading time. Below is the schedule that we will follow for the next few weeks.

Monday, September 29 – 1st, 2nd, & 3rd Grades
Tuesday, September 30 – 1st, 2nd, & 3rd Grades
Wednesday, October 1 – 1st & 4th Grades
Thursday, October 2 – 4th Grade
Friday, October 3 – 5th Grade
Monday, October 6 – 1st, 3rd, & 5th Grades
Tuesday, October 7 – 1st, 2nd, & 3rd Grades
Wednesday, October 8 – 1st, 2nd, & 4th Grades
Thursday, October 9 – 4th Grade
Monday, October 13 – 5th Grade
Tuesday, October 14 – 5th Grade

Finally, if you have not already renewed your Giant, Safeway, or Target accounts, remember this needs to be done every year. Thank you for supporting us and allocating EES as the school to receive the benefits of your Giant, Safeway, and Target shopping trips. Your support, generosity, and partnerships make Elkridge Elementary School the best in the county!

Debra Anoff, Principal

NEW DEDICATED HEALTH ROOM LINE

I am excited to announce that Elkridge Elementary School now has a dedicated health room line! The new phone line will ring directly into the health room where you can speak to Mrs. Jones or Mrs. Tucker without calling the front office and being transferred. The new phone number is: **(410) 313- 8506.**



REPORTING ABSENCES

When your child is not going to be in school for the day, we ask that you use the following email to notify us of their absence: eesabsence@hcpss.org

In the body of the email please include:

Student's Name:

Homeroom Teacher:

Reason for Absence:

This notification is extremely important, as we keep official records of your child's attendance. We want to thank you, in advance, for using this method of communication. Please don't hesitate to call the front office if you have any questions.

DISCRETIONARY ABSENCES

According to the HCPSS Attendance Policy the only lawful reasons for student absences are: death in the immediate family, illness of the student, court summons, hazardous weather conditions, observance of a religious holiday, state emergency, and suspension. If you are planning on taking your child out of school for any other reason please fill out a discretionary absence form. The first three days of the absence will be marked as lawful/ excused, any additional days will be marked as unlawful/unexcused. The discretionary absence form can be found at www.hcpss.org/f/aboutus/absence_request.pdf.

DISMISSAL REMINDERS—NOTES FROM HOME

Please remember to send in a written reminder to your child's homeroom teacher **whenever** there is a change in dismissal instructions at the end of the day. Many after school activities have begun, children are staying after school, or going home early, and **EES needs prior written notification of change in dismissal.** With enrollment topping 795, we ask that parents write notes so phone calls to the front office won't be necessary. The afternoon is a very busy time of the day and we thank you for your cooperation in sending prior written notices to your child's teacher rather than calling the front office.

MARKET DAY SEPTEMBER SALE—BACK TO SCHOOL SAVINGS

September orders MUST be picked up in the front lobby of EES on Friday, September 26th from 5:00-6:00 PM.

HCPSS: LET'S GO HoCo 5K RACE

The Howard County Public School System (HCPSS) is excited to host Let's Go HoCo, its inaugural 5K race and 1 mile fun run on Sunday, October 12 in Columbia. The race is a great way to bring together students, families, staff and Howard County community members to promote health and wellness. The race will include beginners, intermediate and professional level athletes. View event information and register today at www.hcpss5k.com.

FLUMIST CLINIC AT ELKBRIDGE ELEMENTARY

On the morning of **Tuesday, November 18 2014**, the Howard County Health Department, in cooperation with the Howard County Public School system, will be offering influenza vaccinations to our students. Consent forms will be sent home, as we get closer to the date. We will need parent volunteers the morning of the school's annual FluMist clinic. If you are available for all or any part of that time and would like to help, please contact Marianne Jones at Marianne_jones@hcpss.org or Jennifer Tucker at Jennifer_tucker@hcpss.org.

PTA NEWS

EES PTA MEETING

Our next PTA meeting scheduled for Wednesday, October 1st at 6:30 pm. Our meetings are open to everyone, and we hope all of our EES families can join us. It is a great way to see what the EES PTA is all about and how you can help our PTA be the best it can be. We have many wonderful events planned for the year and can always use more volunteers. We have volunteer opportunities to fit all schedules. We will be in the media center and are hoping to see some new faces. Feel free to contact Cathy Riddle at cathyfriddle@hotmail.com with any questions.



IMPORTANT POLICY INFORMATION

A Student/Parent Handbook 2014-2015 was sent home to every family the first day of school with important policies for parents and student to become familiar with. We would like to communicate some of these policies.

DISCRIMINATION (Policy 1010)

The Board is committed to providing an educational and work environment that is free from discrimination, fosters equitable opportunities, and values diversity and commonality. To that end, the Board prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, creed, national origin, religion, physical or mental disability, age, gender, marital status, or sexual orientation in its educational program, including co-curricular and extra-curricular activities, and in the workplace. Furthermore, the Board recognizes its responsibility to promote the worth and dignity of all individuals through curriculum, instruction, professional development, and resource selection. Employees and third parties share responsibility for the health, safety, and general welfare of students and for contributing to an environment free from discrimination. It is a violation of this policy for any student, employee, or third party to engage in acts of discrimination in schools, school system offices, or at school-related activities. It is a violation of this policy to engage in retaliation with regard to allegations of discrimination. Violations of this policy are cumulative; subsequent offenses may affect the nature and severity of the consequences.

GRADING AND REPORTING (Policies 8010 and 8020)

The Board of Education is committed to ensuring that all students meet or exceed rigorous performance standards. Accordingly, grading and achievement information must be determined in a consistent manner and regularly reported to students and their parents. Grading and promotion within the school system is based on the degree of success the individual student has achieved in the educational program. Decisions regarding promotion, retention and acceleration are made based on a student's performance and academic progress over the entire school year. The grading system for kindergarten through Grade 8 includes evaluation, effort, and instructional codes and/or comments. When the performance of any K-8 student is below grade level, the teacher, with appropriate participation of parents, will develop strategies and apply appropriate interventions to assist the student. The decision to retain or accelerate a student is based on a number of factors that may include but are not limited to: Academic achievement level Demonstrated progress in response to academic interventions Age of the student Previous retention Or acceleration Attendance record Parental concerns Developmental, health, and emotional factors Report card IEP or 504 Plan An elementary student who is not performing on grade level in reading and mathematics will automatically be considered for retention.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Friday, September 26

Market Day Pick Up 5:00-6:00 PM

Wednesday, October 1

EES PTA Meeting 6:30 PM

Thursday, October 2

Interim progress reports go home today

Friday, October 17

MSEA Convention—School Closed

Monday, October 20

Fall Picture Day (Individual and Yearbook Portraits)

Tuesday, October 21

Fall Picture Day (Individual and Yearbook Portraits)

Friday, October 31

End of 1st Quarter

Monday, November 3

Professional Learning/Work Day~ Schools Closed for Students

Tuesday, November 3

General Election Day~ Schools & Offices Closed



Wednesday, November 5
EES PTA Meeting 6:30 PM

Wednesday, November 12
Report Cards go home today

COMMUNITY NOTICES

The following events are neither sponsored nor endorsed by the Howard County Public School System.

Healthy Howard

Door to Healthcare, a project of Healthy Howard and we provide FREE help in choosing affordable, quality health coverage. The Door provides practical answers about new changes in health care, personal support for making the right choice and assistance with signing up for health insurance. Our certified Navigators and Assistants are available for in-person assistance and to guide you and your family through the process of becoming insured. To learn more, visit www.doortohealthcare.org or call us at [855-288-3667](tel:855-288-3667).

Maryland Judiciary

Judiciary Contest for Young Artists Helps Promote Peacemaking

The Maryland Judiciary is asking young artists to help promote peacemaking in its annual Conflict Resolution Student Bookmark Art Contest. The contest, for Maryland students, grades K-8; helps celebrate Conflict Resolution Day, which is Thursday, Oct. 16. For more information contact Alecia Parker, 410-260-3540, or alecia.parker@mdcourts.gov.

FREE Winter Clothing Distribution – Date: Saturday, October 11 from 10am-12pm. Distribution location is First United Methodist 424 Main Street, Laurel, MD. Items to be distributed include: coats, hats, gloves, boots, shoes, sneakers, jeans, dress pants, shirts, sweatshirts, socks, and dresses. EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

Howard County Recreation and Parks

Rock School: Drums, Guitar, Keyboard, or Vocals, this class meets Sat., Oct 4. To register by phone, please call Recreation and Parks at 410-313-7275. For more information, please contact Kori Jones at kjones@howardcountymd.gov or 410-313-4609. **ES, MS, HS**