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# ANNUAL REPORT 2014-2015

[www.hcps.org](http://www.hcps.org)

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## BOARD OF EDUCATION PUBLIC MEETINGS

Regular meetings of the Board of Education are typically held on the second and fourth Mondays of each month (except July and August) at 6:30 p.m. Meetings are announced on the HCPS website and in other media, including the Harford Cable Network (HCN). Meetings are open to the public, unless otherwise noted, and attendance is encouraged for those with an interest in business operations of the school system. If you are unable to attend the meetings, watch them live via streaming video on the school system's website, [www.hcps.org](http://www.hcps.org).

Each regular, public business meeting of the Board includes a public comment period. Any citizen, group representative, parent or student may make a statement regarding an item on a past, present or future Board open-session agenda, or a matter of general policy over which the Board has jurisdiction.

## BOARD OF EDUCATION OF HARFORD COUNTY 2014-15

**Nancy Reynolds**  
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Appointed Member-at-Large

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Elected Member  
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**Thomas Fitzpatrick**  
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**Arthur F. Kaff, Esq.**  
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**Hannah Jones**  
Student Representative

**Barbara P. Canavan**  
Secretary-Treasurer,  
Superintendent of Schools

# CONTACT US

Employment Opportunities	
Human Resources - Staff Management	410-588-5238
Substitute Teaching	410-809-6341
General Information and Inquiries	
Communications Office	410-588-5203
TTY	7-1-1
Website/Emergency Notifications	www.hcps.org
Fraud Hotline	410-809-6056
HCPS Central Office Switchboard	
Local Number	410-838-7300
Toll Free	1-866-588-4963
Psychological Services, Student Services	
Maryland Youth Crisis Hotline	1-800-422-0009
Office of Student Services	410-588-5334
Aberdeen Office	410-273-5514
Bel Air Office	410-638-4143
Edgewood Office	410-612-1521
Fallston Office	410-638-4124
Havre de Grace Office	410-939-6612
Magnolia Office	410-612-1531
North Harford Office	410-638-3662
Patterson Mill Office	410-638-4215
Southampton Office	410-638-4153
Hickory Elementary (Child Find)	410-638-4386
Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment	410-588-5298
Elementary School Performance	410-588-5207
Middle and High School Performance	410-638-4061
Grants and Business and Community Partnerships	410-809-6065
Special Education	410-588-5246
Transportation	410-638-4092
Use of School Facilities - www.hcps.org/UOFonline	410-588-5256
Volunteer Work - www.hcps.org/partnership	Your local school



## CORE VALUES

### Vision

Harford County Public Schools will be a community of learners in which our public schools, families, public officials, businesses, community organizations, and other citizens collaborate to prepare all of our students to succeed academically and socially in a diverse, democratic, change-oriented, and global society.

### Mission

The mission of the Harford County Public Schools is to promote excellence in instructional leadership and teaching and to provide facilities and instructional materials that support teaching and learning for the 21st century. The Harford County Board of Education will support this mission by fostering a climate for deliberate change and monitoring progress through measurable indicators.

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[www.facebook.com/HCPSchools](http://www.facebook.com/HCPSchools)

[www.twitter.com/HCPSchools](http://www.twitter.com/HCPSchools)

**NEW!** [www.instagram.com/HCPS\\_Schools](http://www.instagram.com/HCPS_Schools)

[www.youtube.com/HCPSchools](http://www.youtube.com/HCPSchools)



# UNRESTRICTED OPERATING BUDGET ACTUAL FY 2015

SOURCE	AMOUNT	% OF BUDGET
Harford County	\$223,667,302	52.11%
State of Maryland	\$193,925,226	45.18%
Federal Government	\$433,573	0.10%
Other Sources	\$5,653,808	1.32%
Fund Balance	\$5,533,875	1.29%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$429,213,784</b>	<b>100%</b>

## FINANCIAL DATA

How does Harford County compare to the other 24 Maryland school systems in cost categories per pupil?

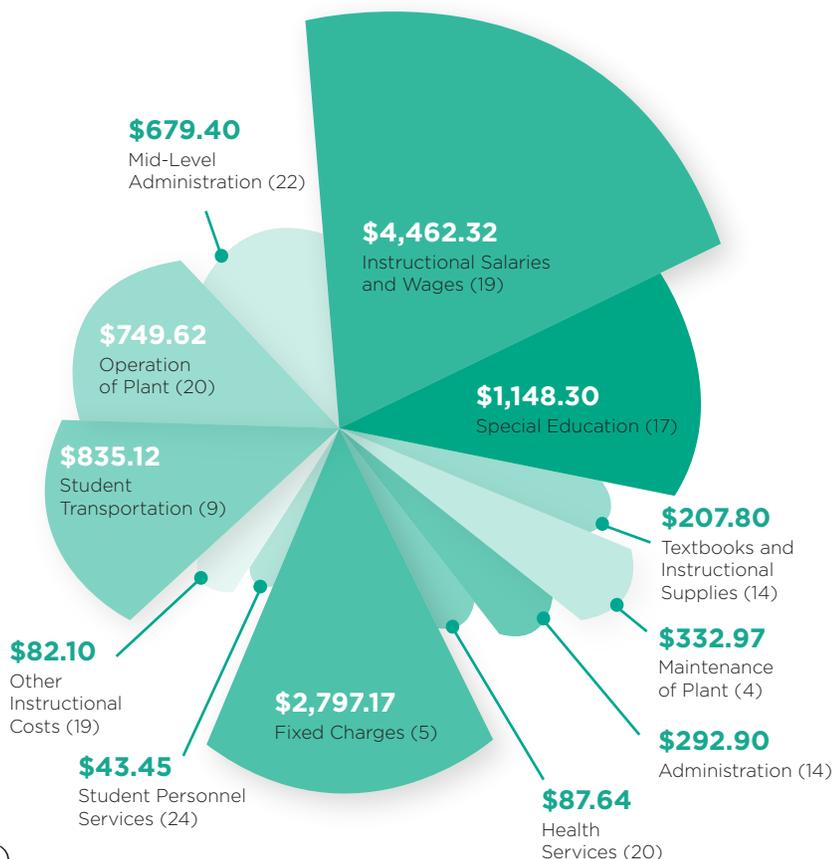
### OUR SCHOOLS

Elementary Schools	33
Middle Schools	9
High Schools	9
Special	1
Technical High School	1
Alternative Education Center	1

**TOTAL 54**

**\$11,718.81**

Total Cost per Pupil (17)



# STRATEGIC PLAN

Board of Education members, with consideration of community input, established four goals:

**GOAL 1:** To prepare every student for success in post-secondary education and a career.

**GOAL 2:** To encourage and monitor engagement between the school system and the community to support student achievement.

**GOAL 3:** To hire and support skilled staff who are committed to increasing student achievement.

**GOAL 4:** To provide safe, secure, and healthy learning environments that are conducive to effective teaching and learning.



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## STAFF PROFILE 2014-15

**5,231**

Total Number of Staff

**91%**

Percent of Employees Provide Direct Services to Students

**2,947**

Number of Teachers and Counselors

**2,284**

Number of Support Staff

**70.3%**

Percent of Teachers have their Master's, Master's +30 or Ph.D.

# SUSTAINABLE SCHOOLS

Sustainable Schools are healthy, energy efficient schools that minimize resource consumption and maximize student learning potential. Harford County Public Schools utilizes a Resource Conservation Manager to oversee sustainability initiatives and ensure their school buildings serve as educational resources for their teachers and students. Several programs and projects have been implemented to support sustainability in our school system. Many of the initiatives promote environmental stewardship while reducing operational costs for the school system. Here are a few of these programs:

**ALTERNATIVE ENERGY PROGRAM:** Six large-scale solar photovoltaic (PV) sites have generated more than 6,678,223 kWh to help provide clean energy for those schools. These solar sites have avoided over \$106,500 in operational costs since activation on June 30, 2011. In addition, the teachers and students can log on to a website to see the actual energy production of their schools. Harford Glen Environmental Center has a roof-mounted wind turbine that generates electricity for their dining hall lights. Two of our schools use solar hot water systems for kitchen and restroom use.

**BUILDING AUTOMATION DEPARTMENT:** A new computer platform monitors building energy consumption. This program has resulted in identification of energy savings in excess of \$40,000 within the first few months of operation. The Demand Response Program has expanded to include a total of 14 school sites. Our Building Automation department reduces electric consumption in these schools during high usage periods to offset grid demand. Participation in this program resulted in revenue of over \$91,500 for the 2014-15 school year. The program has produced a total of \$623,611 in revenue for the school system since its inception in 2009.

**TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT:** Working together, our Office of Technology and our Transportation Department have installed new software to evaluate our bus routing. This program reduces operational costs by improving the efficiency of bus routes and reducing travel time for students.

**SINGLE STREAM RECYCLING PROGRAM:** Through restructuring of the current contract and right sizing our dumpsters, HCPS has greatly reduced operational costs.

**THE ORGANIC RECYCLING PROGRAM:** Includes 12 school sites in a commercial composting program that diverts cafeteria food scraps to a composting facility. Our Facilities Department is able to use the nutrient rich compost to amend the soil on sports fields.

**BGE SMART ENERGY SAVERS PROGRAM:** HCPS has taken advantage of these incentives to continue making energy efficient retrofits to our buildings. To date, we have totaled over \$2,741,647 in rebates since the program started.

**PERFORMANCE CONTRACTING PROGRAM:** By working with Energy Service Companies, we have installed energy efficiency upgrades to our schools at no additional cost to the school system. These improvements are funded by utilizing the utility cost savings they create. Three schools were converted from heating oil to natural gas. This conversion yielded a cost avoidance of over \$146,000 in fuel costs. The school system has yielded an average annual cost avoidance of \$1,384,525 on these projects. The most recent phase has produced a total of \$2,543,711 in cost avoidance this year, exceeding expectations by \$722,159.

**FURNITURE REFURBISH PROGRAM:** Resulted in cost avoidance of \$71,000 by renovating and reusing desks and chairs and other furniture.

**PHARMACEUTICAL RECOVERY PROGRAM:** This program has collected 1,200 pounds of unclaimed student prescriptions and expired medication since 2009. At the end of every school year these drugs are taken for processing through a medical disposal company.

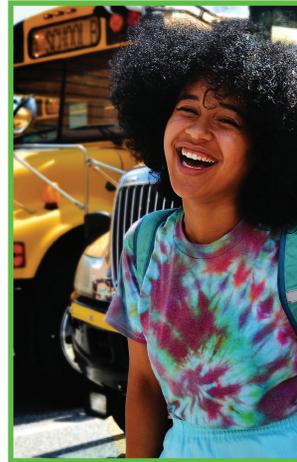
**SUSTAINABLE SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM:** Focuses on designing and constructing our new schools utilizing the latest sustainable materials, processes, and concepts to maximize student success.



# TRANSPORTATION & FACILITIES



An essential component of the education process is the safe and efficient transportation of students to and from school. The successful completion of this task relies on the shared responsibility of drivers, students, parents, schools, and our Transportation Department. To ensure safe and reliable service, the Harford County Public Schools Transportation Department takes great pride in their driver training program and fleet maintenance.



**90.07**

Acres of Parking Lots

**174\***

Total Buildings

**25.65**

Miles of Driveways

**335**

Total Custodians

**2,434**

Total Classrooms

**\$1,088,460,007**

Total Property Value  
(as of 10/1/2013)

\*This figure includes relocatables

**432**

Number of Buses

**32,944**

Number of Students Transported

**461,874**

Number of Hours Driven

**7,979,920**

Number of Miles Traveled

**\$30,176,723**

Total Transportation Costs

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# FOOD & NUTRITION

Menus for Harford County Public Schools are reviewed annually by the state and constantly by two registered dietitians on staff. Each day, the lunch menu features a romaine lettuce-based garden salad, a variety of fresh fruit, and fat-free, white and flavored milk. Over the course of a week, students are able to choose from red-orange, dark green, green leafy vegetables and legumes. Much of the fresh fruit offered is locally grown, including apples, watermelon, cantaloupe, pears and peaches. Vegetables also come from local farms, providing a healthy alternative for students while supporting local agriculture. Spices used in the program are purchased locally, in Forest Hill.

Other items on the menu are also more nutritious than they may appear. Pizza is made with low-fat cheese and whole grain crust. The fish sandwich is baked, not fried, as there are no fryers in any school kitchen in Harford County, nor has there been for over ten years. Each day a variety of healthy options are available in forms familiar to most children. All grains served at lunch are whole grain-rich — at least 50% whole grains — including the breading on baked chicken nuggets.



The school food service program is staffed by people who are proud of what they have to offer and are genuinely concerned about the nutritional needs of the students. Growing children need a strong nutritional foundation to succeed in the classroom and in their other endeavors. The staff works hard to fulfill that need and maintain a program that is attractive to students.

The HCPS Food & Nutrition Department was recognized as a District of Excellence by the School Nutrition Association in 2009 (one of 30 in the nation) and we continue to maintain that level of service. Seven members of the central office are credentialed School Nutrition Specialists and most managers are certified Level I by the School Nutrition Association. Professional development is critical to the advancement of our program and achievement of expected standards.



The Food & Nutrition Department is involved in several initiatives to support Harford County students and the community.

**FARM-TO-SCHOOL** involves the purchase of produce directly from local farmers and orchards so that money spent goes back to the local community. It provides fresh produce for students and connects them to the heritage of the local agricultural community.



**NUTRITION OUTREACH** is primarily directed by our food and nutrition dietitian, and features direct interaction with more than 2,000 students per year via classroom presentations, school health fairs, and student council meetings. HCPS also supports an Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics approved Internship Program to provide means for aspiring dietitians to meet their Food Management and/or Community Health requirement.

**THE SUMMER FOOD SERVICE PROGRAM** operated in 14 locations over the summer with 12 of them supported by community organizations. These programs operated while school was out and served more than 1,000 meals per day.

**HARFORD COUNTY SCHOOL NUTRITION ASSOCIATION (HCSNA)** is an organization of local school food workers. Every year, a food drive is organized to support the Food Pantry. A family is also adopted for the holidays and gifts are collected to bring them the joy of the season. For more information, visit [www.hcps.org](http://www.hcps.org).

## FOOD & NUTRITION AWARDS

*These awards acknowledge innovation and commitment to students.*

### RACHEL ZIEGLER

Employee of the Year Award - Maryland

### EARLIENE KLAPKA

Manager of the Year Award -  
Maryland & Mid-East Regional Winner\*

\*This is the fourth consecutive year that HCPS has received this award.



**\$16,179,122** Total Sales & Revenue

# STUDENT FACTS

- 34.90%** of elementary students are eligible to receive free/reduced meals
- 12.0%** of elementary students receive special education services
- 94.1%** of high school students attend school regularly
- 79.8** instructional staff per 1,000 students
- 12.0** professional staff per 1,000 students
- 16.3** instructional assistants per 1,000 students
- 6.6** hours is the average length of school day for students

Information above can be found on [www.mdreportcard.org](http://www.mdreportcard.org).



**GRADUATION RATE\*\***  
**89.8%**

## TOTAL ENROLLMENT 37,536\*

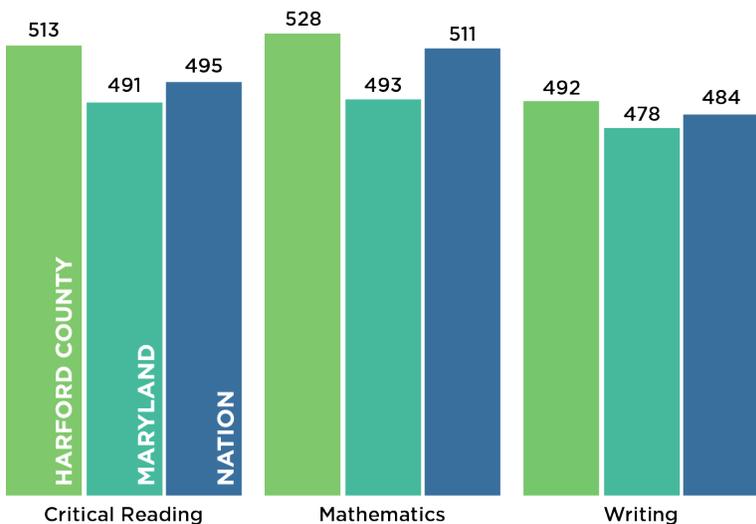
Asian	1,235
African American	6,788
Hispanic	2,366
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	81
American Indian or Alaska Native	103
White	24,776
Two or more races	2,187
<hr/>	
MALE	19,364
FEMALE	18,172

\*as of 7/30/2015 | \*\*for the Class of 2014. Official data lags one school year.

## AP/SAT PARTICIPATION

- 6,347** total enrollment in AP courses  
(many students enrolled in multiple AP courses)
- 60.4%** AP student test-taker pass rate
- 64%** of graduates participated in the SAT exam in 2014

## SAT MEAN SCORES CLASS OF 2014



## DISTRICT SCHOLARSHIP TOTALS

HCPS students have earned a significant growth in scholarships being awarded for the past three academic years, amounting to more than **15 million dollars**.



# Teacher of the Year



## LAURA POTTER

2015 Teacher of the Year  
Mathematics Teacher  
C. Milton Wright High School

As teachers, the impact that we make on the lives of our students and our community most often comes after our students have left our classrooms. The hard work and dedication that we put forth each day in the classroom with our students, along with our time lesson planning, is a slow and steady journey throughout the school year. Sometimes I wish that I could capture a few moments in August and compare them with a few moments in June. This way, the growth of my students, as both mathematicians and citizens in our community, would be laid out before me to see and admire. When I received six nomination letters from my students in early January for Teacher of the Year, I could not believe how much I meant to my students and their families. I could not believe how much they felt that I had influenced their path in life and how much they learned from me (and not just mathematics!). I felt honored and humbled by their kind words, memories and sentiments. These letters became my personal snapshots in time of my impact on students' lives, and their amazing growth.

During my time as the Teacher of the Year, I have learned and grown as a teacher, spokesperson and leader. First and foremost, speaking to community stakeholders, students and teachers requires me to reflect on what it means to be a teacher, consider how to best share the most important parts of the job, and learn how to inspire others. The opportunities to get to know other Teachers of the Year from around Maryland, whether at a Ravens or Terps game or our Smith Island retreat, continue to inspire me to try new ideas and continue to grow professionally. Being a voice from HCPS to our state

superintendent and local superintendent, Mrs. Canavan, gives me the chance to share both the joys and challenges of our profession. As I write this article, there are many additional opportunities for learning and growing that I am excited to participate in this year!

Every time I have been engaged as the HCPS Teacher of the Year, I have felt the gratitude and thanks for the hard work that is done every day in our schools. There are amazing moments (both planned and spontaneous) that happen each and every day, in all classrooms in our county, whether these moments are publicized or not. Our community and the leaders in the community do know how hard we work and the difference that we make over the entire school year. The generosity of local businesses and the community reminded me that my job is important and that students do rely on me. It is pretty amazing when you consider how much is donated for recognizing teachers for the Teacher of the Year program.

**"I HAVE FELT THE GRATITUDE AND THANKS FOR THE HARD WORK THAT IS DONE EVERY DAY IN OUR SCHOOLS."**

The evening that I was announced as Harford County's Teacher of the Year for 2014-2015, I was surrounded by my colleagues, friends, family and students. These people have continued to support me to become the teacher that I want to be for the students and the community. I am forever grateful for their support and confidence in me. When my name was called, I wasn't really sure what to do because the moment was not real to me yet, and I didn't believe that it could possibly be me. My husband hugged me and whispered in my ear, "Congratulations. I love you. You deserve this." Each time I am thanked or receive recognition for being a teacher, I accept the honor. I accept it for the work that I've done, but also on behalf of each and every teacher in HCPS who I know is passionate, giving, hardworking, dedicated, inspiring, and a true professional.



## TEACHER OF THE YEAR BLOG

Keep up with our Teacher of the Year throughout the school year through the Teacher of the Year blog!

<http://www.hcps.org/aboutus/teacheroftheyear/>

# Nurse of the Year



## **DORIS SCHAULE**

2015 Nurse of the Year  
*Patterson Mill High School*

Congratulations to the 2015 HCPS Nurse of the Year, Doris Schaule from Patterson Mill High School! Mrs. Schaule has been a registered nurse for 30 years and has served as a school nurse for the past 21 years. She is deeply involved in her school, the Harford School Health Services Association (HSRSA), and her community.

Mrs. Schaule is known for her consistent professionalism in crisis situations as well as routine tasks. She worked several years on the in-service committee, reviewing and updating the Health Services Handbook, the Policy Manual and forms. Among many contributions to Patterson Mill, she has created an emergency handbook for every staff member at her school to use as a reference. Mrs. Schaule is also a CPR instructor and teaches CPR to the HCPS nurses, HCPS staff and family members, and the students of the Homeland Security Program at Joppatowne High School.

In addition to her work with the school system, Mrs. Schaule has volunteered for 10 years for the Sports for Life program. She also collects prom gowns for Cinderella's Closet and has worked with the SMILES program, which helps supply underprivileged students and their families with items such as winter coats, attire for special school functions, or senior photos. Mrs. Schaule models advocacy and is a highly effective communicator who goes out of her way to make the world a better place.

Mrs. Schaule was named Nurse of the Year in a surprise announcement at the annual HSRSA banquet, hosted at the Tower Restaurant on May 21, 2015. Mrs. Schaule was awarded \$300 from HARCO Credit Union as one of her winning gifts!

## **2014-2015 Inductees**



Gloria J. Liedlich  
Allyn Smith Watson  
Joseph J. Hughes  
Donna M. Clem  
Margaret "Peg" Goodson

Harford County Public Schools, in cooperation with the Harford County Retired School Personnel Association (HCRSPA), honors those who have given their professional lives to building a school system that consistently ranks in the top 25 percent in student achievement among Maryland school districts. Retired educators are chosen by HCRSPA in recognition of their outstanding contributions to the system to be enshrined in the "Hall of Fame." Visit our website at [www.hcps.org](http://www.hcps.org) to read more about our "Hall of Fame" members!

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# SAFETY & SECURITY

## CRISIS & EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

HCPS maintains a proactive approach to preparing for a crisis situation in a school setting. A systemwide critical incident plan enables us to effectively and efficiently manage various emergencies. The plan is constantly reviewed and updated. All school administrators and staff members participate in tabletop drills and complete regular crisis training through the HCPS Safety and Security Office. In addition, countywide drills are conducted in conjunction with various county agencies, including the county government, the Emergency Operations Center and the Harford County Sheriff's Office.



## SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS

All HCPS high schools, and three middle schools, are assigned a School Resource Officer (SRO), an officer from the local police department or sheriff's office who provides additional security and support to maintain a safe atmosphere for students to learn. The SRO also provides counseling, problem-solving, and education to the school community on law enforcement topics. Many officers are involved in the G.R.E.A.T. (Gang Related Education and Training) program for elementary and middle schools. SROs also assist neighboring elementary schools in the event of an emergency.

## DRUG DOG SCAN PROGRAM

As part of the school system's commitment to keeping illicit drugs out of schools, routine and random drug dog scans are conducted at each HCPS middle and high school throughout the school year. School administration may request an additional scan if there is a specific concern. The scans are accomplished in partnership with the Harford County Sheriff's Office or local police department.

## HCPS SAFETY & SECURITY MISSION

To advance security with HCPS by integrating safety into the fabric of the school system through evaluation, education and training. The following objectives have been established to accomplish this mission:

To establish clear expectations for positive school climates and maximize student learning

To provide safe and secure schools during daytime and evening hours of building use

To provide safe and secure schools during those hours when the buildings are not occupied

To maximize school building safety and security through student, staff and parent training

To expand interagency cooperation and partnerships among youth serving professionals and agencies

For more information and safety tips, visit [www.hcps.org](http://www.hcps.org), hover over "Parents" on the top menu, then click "School Information," then click "Safety & Security" under the "Our Schools" section.

## SAFETY & SECURITY FEATURES

**2,391** surveillance cameras in 64 school system buildings

**ALL** schools have remote door access

**9** schools with vestibules directing all visitors to main office

**90** buses with surveillance cameras

**187** hand-held radios distributed to schools during the 2014-15 school year

**ALL** schools have a computer visitor management system

**54** Critical Incident Plans specifically designed for each individual school and reviewed and revised annually



# DIGITAL HARFORD

In today's technology-driven world, the art of teaching and learning is evolving at a rapid pace. Harford County Public Schools is committed to being responsive to the needs of its students and to preparing them to be successful in a change-oriented and global society. In January 2014, HCPS formed a digitalHARFORD Think Tank to envision the possibilities of digitally converting instruction and operations within the school system. The mission of digitalHARFORD is to create active and dynamic learning environments using cutting-edge, on-demand content and seamless access to digital tools that inspire all learners.

Under the digitalHARFORD umbrella, HCPS piloted the Bring Your Own Technology (BYOT) initiative at Edgewood High, Fallston Middle, North Harford Middle and Magnolia Middle schools, blending a digital approach to learning with traditional methods. This initiative incorporates student-owned devices – in conjunction with existing HCPS devices – into instructional activities. Allowing students to use their own devices in classrooms has afforded additional opportunities for inquiry, collaboration and formative classroom assessments. Giving students the opportunity to use their own device allows for students to choose the best tool for the learning task and experience a level of comfort with their own device while meeting the increased demand for digital tools in the classroom.



## Blackboard connect

### COMMUNITY MEMBERS:

Do you want to receive alerts, such as delays or closings, from Harford County Public Schools? The HCPS Community Portal is designed for community members who want to receive HCPS announcements and do not have a student attending a Harford County public school.

Use the Community Portal to:

- Opt in to receive calls, emails and/or text messages
- Add multiple phone numbers and email addresses



Be sure to select Emergency and Outreach for Harford County School District. Select how you would like to be contacted for Emergency and Outreach calls. You can enter up to 10 phone numbers and 10 email addresses to receive HCPS communications.

For help setting up a Community Portal account, contact the HCPS Communications Office at 410-588-5203 or [communications@hcps.org](mailto:communications@hcps.org).

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# STATE RECOGNITIONS



## FOUNTAIN GREEN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NAMED 2015 MARYLAND BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL

Fountain Green Elementary has over 95.4% of students proficient or advanced on MSA math and 96.9% proficient or advanced in reading. This high academic achievement is encouraged, monitored and celebrated. In addition to the academic subjects, students and teachers value the importance of the “whole child.” Students are encouraged to participate in activities that showcase their talents in the fine arts by entering poster contests and participating in the annual school musical. The school has won the Maryland Center for Character Education School of the Year Award. The PTA runs a Lego Club and implemented a STEM Club to encourage students to apply logical thinking and inquiry. Fountain Green students strive for strength in academics and apply their learning in creative manners.



## MAGNOLIA ELEMENTARY NAMED 2015 MARYLAND SCHOOL OF CHARACTER

Harford County Public Schools is pleased to share that Character.org, a national advocate and leader for the character education movement, named Magnolia Elementary a 2015 Maryland School of Character. The program recognized Magnolia Elementary as a school that has demonstrated its use of character development to drive a positive impact on academics, student behavior, and school climate. Magnolia Elementary, located in Joppa with a student population of 497, is one of just 80 schools across the country awarded this distinction.

“Utilizing components of character education is a large part of our daily routines at Magnolia Elementary,” said Magnolia Elementary School Principal Patricia Mason. “We are grateful for Character.org and its efforts to create a state and national discussion on the importance of character in education. We are proud that we will have this distinction for years to come and will continue our steadfast efforts to enhance student’s lives at Magnolia Elementary.”



# HCPS HAPPENINGS

## MEADOWVALE ELEMENTARY PAYS TRIBUTE TO LOCAL VETERANS



Meadowvale Elementary School honored Veterans from the community during the school's Fourth Annual Veterans Day Celebration on November 11, 2014. Seventy-seven veterans, from all branches of service, participated in the celebration and received a long stem red rose during the ceremony. Students honored the Veterans by creating pictures, poems and letters and by singing patriotic songs to the Veterans who were seated on the stage. In addition, fourth grade Boy Scouts

served as the Color Guard, several fifth grade students performed a skit, and the Advanced Trumpet students performed Taps. The pictures, poems, cards and letters were delivered to Veterans at Perry Point Hospital later in the day. Meadowvale has honored more than 250 Veterans during the last four years.

## HAVRE DE GRACE MIDDLE STUDENTS RAISE MONEY FOR CANCER RESEARCH



On October 24, 2014, students at Havre de Grace Middle School came decked out in pink for breast cancer awareness and were ready to play as part of the school's Play 60 event. Students participated in flag football, soccer, wellness walking, Drums Alive, Zumba and other planned activities for 60 minutes. Students also had the opportunity to donate money to support the Kaufman Cancer Center in Bel Air, and more than \$270 was raised in three days.

## JUDY CENTER AT MAGNOLIA ELEMENTARY OPENS ITS DOORS



The Judy Center program is fully funded through a grant from the Maryland State Department of Education. The Magnolia Judy Center has a formalized partnership with local agencies, organizations and businesses in the Magnolia Community including the Health Department, Social Services, Catholic Charities, Child Care Links, Harford County Public Libraries, Head Start, the Infants and Toddlers Program, and the Office of Child Care. For more information, visit [www.hcps.org](http://www.hcps.org), click "Schools" on the left menu, then click "Alternative Schools".

## ABERDEEN HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS VISIT THE WHITE HOUSE



On April 27, 2015, 22 Aberdeen High School students participated in a Joining Forces Event with Vice President Joe Biden at his residence. Alexandra Stephens, Aberdeen High senior, had the distinct privilege of introducing Vice President Biden for the event. The students also had the chance to meet NASA Specialist Kay Hire who has flown on two Space Shuttle Missions.

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