

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**June 26, 2025**

## **Harford County Public Schools Raise More than \$270,000 for American Heart Association**

*Twelve HCPS Schools Participate in Kids Heart Challenge or American Heart Challenge*

Students and staff across Harford County Public Schools (HCPS) came together once again to support heart health education and lifesaving research by participating in the American Heart Association's Kids Heart Challenge and American Heart Challenge. With 12 schools participating in the 2024–2025 school year, HCPS raised an impressive \$270,252, an increase of more than \$55,000 over the 2023-2024 school year.

Students registered online, shared heart-healthy messages, and raised funds to help combat heart disease and stroke. Nearly 3,900 students registered for the challenge and more than 750 families took part in Finn's Mission, an initiative designed to teach Hands-Only CPR and the warning signs of stroke.

"I'm so proud to partner with these amazing schools each year," said Kate Poole, Senior Development Director, School Engagement for the American Heart Association. "Schools within Harford County Public Schools consistently demonstrate the importance of community support and engagement. Together, we are helping children build healthy habits, while also equipping families with lifesaving knowledge that creates stronger, more resilient communities."

### **Three HCPS schools were ranked among the top 20 fundraising schools in Maryland:**

- **Homestead-Wakefield Elementary School** – \$65,263 raised (Ranked #1 in Maryland and #10 nationally)
- **Hickory Elementary School** – \$44,641 raised (Ranked #2 in Maryland and #40 nationally)
- **Fallston Middle School** – \$41,287 raised (Ranked #3 in Maryland and #2 middle school in the nation)

Additional HCPS schools in Maryland's Top 20 in funds raised included Forest Lakes Elementary School (#10), Emmorton Elementary School (#13), Patterson Mill Middle School (#17), and Churchville Elementary School (#18).

"We are incredibly proud of our students, staff, and families for their generosity and continued commitment to this effort," said Superintendent Dr. Sean Bulson. "Supporting the American Heart Association not only benefits our community today but also prepares students to act in moments of crisis that could one day save a life. Their enthusiasm, leadership, and compassion embody the values we celebrate in Harford County Public Schools."

Below is a breakdown of each participating school's impact:

School	Funds Raised	Registered Students	Finn's Mission Participants
Homestead-Wakefield Elementary	\$65,263	584	204
Hickory Elementary	\$44,641	433	138
Fallston Middle School	\$41,287	1,079	116
Forest Lakes Elementary	\$25,393	232	36
Emmorton Elementary	\$23,768	202	56
Patterson Mill Middle School	\$19,563	419	54
Churchville Elementary	\$19,010	179	51
Joppatowne Elementary	\$14,356	253	49
Red Pump Elementary	\$9,429	146	33
Old Post Road Elementary	\$4,675	80	16
Darlington Elementary	\$1,706	25	4
Fallston High School	\$1,161	320	1

For more information about the American Heart Association and how to get involved in the Kids Heart Challenge or American Heart Challenge, visit [www.heart.org](http://www.heart.org).

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