



Thunder Hill Elementary 2022-2023

September 16, 2022

2022-2023

SCHOOL HOURS

9:25 a.m. – 3:55 a.m.

Note: Doors open at 9:15 a.m.

Arrival ends at 9:23 a.m.

Students are expected in their classes at 9:25 a.m.

#WeSOARtogether

Important Dates:

September

- 19-Oct 14 MAP Testing Grades 1-5
- 20 Individual School Pictures
- 26 Rosh Hashanah Schools/Offices Closed
- 30 In House Assembly-HCC presents Miss Electricity

Back-To-School Highlights

Thank you to all the Thunder Bird families that attended Back-To-School night. Below is the link to the Back-To-School presentations.

[THES Back-To-School](#)

September Highlights

In alignment with our school's climate and belonging goals, students will learn about many celebrations during the month of September: Hispanic Heritage Month, Rosh Hashanah and many more! Please visit <https://www.hcpss.org/diversity/> to read how HCPSS supports diversity, equity, and inclusion throughout the school system.

September is National Emergency Preparedness Month. In addition to evacuation drills, we conduct drills to prepare for emergency situations. Our primary goal is to keep all students and staff safe. Please click [here](#) to view protective actions used in the event of an emergency.

School Pictures

Individual school pictures will be taken on September 20th. Picture order forms/envelopes have been sent home with students. To purchase pictures, please return the envelope with payment before or one picture day. This year pictures will be taken by Strawbridge. Below is our picture schedule:

Time	Teacher	Time	Teacher
9:30 AM		11:30 AM	Sullivan

9:40 AM	Williams	11:40 AM	Lasinski
9:50 AM	Auld	11:50 AM	Baumer
10:00 AM	Lesinski	12:00 PM	Kendrick
10:10 AM	Rembert-Gonzales	12:10 PM	McGinnis
10:20 AM	Schardt	12:20 PM	
10:30 AM	Michaelson	12:30 PM	Hollywood-Proctor
10:40 AM	Hollis		
10:50 AM	Dvorak	1:50 PM	Supreme
11:00 AM	Pratt	2:00 PM	Beasley
11:10 AM	Miller	2:10 PM	Dillah
		2:20 PM	Kessler

School Spirit Thursday's

Every Thursday we will begin celebrating THUNDEROUS THURSDAY!! Please show your **THUNDERBIRD PRIDE** on Thursdays by wearing yellow and/or blue!

New Information

Getting a School Lunch

All students, who are going to be getting a school lunch will need to enter their personalized code into a machine (refer to image below). Staff will be there to help and have a list of student ids, but the sooner our students know their code and how to enter it into the system without accessing their card the faster the lunch line will move.

The steps to determining what your child's code is:

1. Log into HCPSS Connect
2. Click on More Options
3. Click on Homeroom/Transportation/POC
4. POC is the child's lunch code number

We ask that you help your child/children practice entering their code using the image below.

Students will need to enter their code + the green enter button.



To help speed up the school lunch ordering line, please review the HCPSS lunch menu and help your child select what they want to have for lunch each morning.

Click [here](#) to review the month lunch menu.

Meal Payments

On-site payments and prepayments may be made using cash or check. Families may prepay with a credit card by setting up an online account at myschoolbucks.com, which also allows parents to view account activity and receive balance alerts. There is a \$2.75 processing fee for each credit/debit card payment. Each transaction can be up to \$120.00 in total.

Click [here](#) to create a new myschoolbucks account

Click [here](#) to login to an existing myschoolbucks account

THES Fall Festival

Please mark your calendars!

Co-sponsored by the PTA and Community Outreach Team

October 7 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm with a Rain Date of October 14th

Join us for a free meal, lots of games/activities, a DJ and more!

We can't wait to see you to have lots of fun and build community.

More details will be coming in a flyer soon!

MAP TESTING

Thunder Hill will administer the Measured Academic Progress (MAP) assessment to all students in 1st through 5th grades in Reading and Math between September 19 - October 14. The data from the MAP assessment will help schools and teachers measure your student's

academic progress. The MAP test does not affect grades and the difficulty adjusts depending on how your child responds. It is normal for students to only answer about half the questions correctly. Please check with students to see if they need headphones to use at school. The HCPSS website contains detailed information about MAP testing [here](#). If you have questions about MAP testing, please contact Kimberly Dillard at kimberly_dillard@hcpss.org.

FLU VACCINE CLINIC

THES Flu clinic will be held on October 25th for students and staff only. More information will be sent the first part of October.

Parent Volunteer Procedures at THES

We value our volunteers and the contributions they make to our students and schools. Parents who wish to volunteer must complete a brief training course online and submit a certificate of completion to their school. This also includes anyone who chaperones a field trip. Details are available on HCPSS [website](#).

Fare-Free Bus Rides

Public buses are fare-free to start the school year, no passes needed. This applies to students and families.

Repeated Information

Are you interested in working at Thunder Hill this school year?

Thunder Hill is looking for dedicated, friendly staff to join our amazing learning community. Positions include:

Daily Substitute Teachers:

- Start Date: 8/29/22 through the duration of the school year
- Hours: 8:55 am - 4:05 pm
- Daily Pay Rate:
 - Retired Substitute Teacher \$169.00
 - Degreed Substitute Teacher \$169.00
 - Non-degreed Substitute Teacher \$157.00
 - (must have at least 60 approved college credits)

Substitute Lunch and Recess Monitors

- Start Date: 8/29/22 through the duration of the school year
- Hours: 10:40 am - 1:40 pm
- Hourly Pay Rate: \$14.00

Temporary Employee (close adult supervision for students requiring extra support)

- Start Date: 8/29/22 through the duration of the school year
- Hours: 9:25 am - 3:55 pm
- Hourly Pay Rate: \$15.00
 - For the close adult support position, you would apply through an outside agency that staffs these positions in our schools.
 - We also frequently need subs for this role, as well.
 - Click here to learn more & apply:
<https://www.socialserviceconsultants.com/prospective-employees>

If interested, please email Kimberly Dillard (kimberly_dillard@hcpss.org) or call us at Thunder Hill 410-313-6922 for more information!

Family File Information:

Currently we have 60% of our Family Files completed. Come on Thunderbirds, let's get to 100%. If you are having trouble completing your Family File, please contact the office at 410-313-6922.

Every year HCPSS parents must complete a Family File (electronic emergency card) for each child. HCPSS utilizes Family File for parents/guardians to complete emergency information. The Family File for this year is now available. Parents/guardians must verify and/or update information for each child, and can do so by logging in to [HCPSS Connect](#) and selecting the "More Options" tab on the left and then clicking on "Family File" from the list. If your child was in an HCPSS school in previous years, you only need to update any changes. ***Please update/provide the info ASAP. Thank you!!!***

Once logged in, you will be asked to update or provide the following information:

- Student Information
- Parent/Guardian Contact
- Emergency Contacts
- Medical Information
- Arrival/Dismissal Procedures
- Photo Approval

- Data Confidentiality
- PTA/PTSA Directory

Student Absences

Just a reminder that parents/guardians must turn in a note if the child is absent. The note should include the student's name, date absent, reason for absence, and parent/guardian signature. We also accept these notes through an email address. Please email THESabsence@hcpss.org with the same information if you prefer this format. Please submit notes within two days of your child returning to school.

Release of Students During School Hours

Parents must report to the front office when picking up their child for an early dismissal. Students will be called to the school office for dismissal upon the parent's arrival. If someone other than the parent/guardian is picking up a child for an early dismissal, the person must be granted permission as indicated on the emergency card or by providing a note from the parent/guardian. Early release of students close to the regular dismissal time is discouraged. Please note: In order to not disrupt dismissal procedures, the office staff will not be able to call individual students down for parent pick up after 3:30 p.m. Please bring a drivers license or ID when picking up a student for early dismissal.

HCPSS Calendars

There will be no printed 2022-2023 calendars. Staff, students, and families may add our online calendar to their own mobile/online calendar by

1. Going to <https://www.hcpss.org/calendar/>
2. Scrolling down to Subscribing to a Calendar
3. Right-clicking on the calendar you wish to subscribe to
4. Selecting Copy Link Location/Address/Shortcut
5. Adding to your calendar of choice (See your calendar for specifics on adding a new calendar)

You also may view and/or download printable PDFs of the [full calendar](#) and/or important [dates only](#). Updates to the PDFs will be noted on the [HCPSS calendar page](#).

PLEASE NOTE! The calendar is subject to change. The online calendar reflects the most recent version.

Calendars in Spanish, Chinese, and Korean

[Calendario en español](#)

西班牙语日历

스페인어로 된 달력

September 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
September holidays and other dates of interest National Hispanic-American Heritage Month (9/15-10/15) 26. National Day (Sept. 16) 28. Youth National Day (Sept. 18) *Signs current of previous day				B First day of school for Pre-K/RECC BGE Meeting - Staff's August Professional Development 1:00 pm	A	3
4	5 Labor Day Schools and offices closed (State-mandated holiday)	6 B CAC Meeting 7 pm	7 A BGE Attendance Area Adjustment Public Hearing 1 7 pm	8 B BGE Meeting 4 pm Presentation of FY24 Capital Budget & FY25-26 Capital Impacts Proj. 7 pm	9 A	10
11 B	12 A	13 B BGE Attendance Area Adjustment Public Hearing 1 7 pm	14 A	15 B	16	17
18 A	19 B	20 A BGE Attendance Area Adjustment Public Hearing 1 7 pm	21 B BGE Meeting 4 pm Public Hearing, May 10 BGE Meeting 4 pm Presentation of FY24 Capital Budget & FY25-26 Capital Impacts Proj. 7 pm	22 A	23	24
25	26 B Schools and offices closed	27 A BGE Attendance Area Adjustment Public Hearing 1 7 pm	28 B	29 A	30	

September 2022

APPROVED

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
September holidays and other dates of interest 26. Youth National Day (Sept. 18) *Signs current of previous day				1 First day of school for Pre-K/RECC	2	3
4	5 Labor Day Schools and offices closed (State-mandated holiday)	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26 Schools and offices closed	27	28	29	30	

PTA News

Join the THES PTA!

One of the best ways you can help the PTA this year is to simply become a member. Memberships provide the PTA with crucial funding, and it also shows us the members of our school community care about the mission of the PTA. Becoming a PTA member does not commit you to attending meetings or volunteering (though you are welcome to both.)

Memberships can be purchased online at <https://1thes.memberhub.com/store>

Please follow us on our Facebook page for important announcements and updates.

<https://www.facebook.com/thunderhillpta>

Click [here](#) to read more information about Memberhub.

Community News



On 9/21, SuperSquads Cheerleading is back on Wednesdays 3:55-5:10 at Thunder Hill Elementary for students Grades 2-5! Visit www.supersquads.org to register! Additional information can also be found on [Cheerleading - SuperSquads - After School Teams! | Community News and Programs \(hcpss.org\)](http://www.hcpss.org/CommunityNewsandPrograms).

The Salvation Army will be hosting monthly food drives

For September's Drive:

Location: 3267 Pine Orchard Lane, Ellicott City, MD 21042

Phone: 443-656-3376

When: Monday, September 26

Drive-thru event from 12:00 – 2:00pm

Please do not arrive before 11:45am

El Ejército de Salvación organizará colectas mensuales de alimentos
Para la campaña de septiembre:

Ubicación: 3267 Pine Orchard Lane, Ellicott City, MD 21042

Teléfono: 443-656-3376

Cuándo: lunes 26 de septiembre

Evento de autoservicio de 12:00 a 2:00 p. m.

Por favor no llegue antes de las 11:45 a.m.

HC DRUGFREE

HC DrugFree's team wishes you a safe and happy school year! Thank you in advance for sharing the information below with families in your school. We are excited to partner with you and offer a variety of classes and programs for adults and students this fall.

Free Parenting Classes for Parents/Guardians/Grandparents Starting Soon! Adults can learn how to help kids avoid risky behaviors, all while learning how to say NO to drugs and alcohol.

HC DrugFree is pleased to present another series of Guiding Good Choices, an evidence-based, interactive prevention program that provides families with the skills and

knowledge to reduce the risk that their children will use drugs and alcohol or engage in other dangerous behaviors, for Howard County parents, guardians, and grandparents. This program will meet via Zoom for 5 class sessions (September 21, 28 and October 12, 19, 26) from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. For more information or to register visit

<https://hcdrugfree.org/2022/02/guiding-good-choices-free-classes-for-parents-2/> or email Parenting@HCDrugFree.org

8th – 12th Grade Students: HC DrugFree's Teen Advisory Council is open to all Howard County students in grades 8 through 12. This is a great opportunity to help prepare younger students for success in high school while allowing older students to develop their leadership and mentoring skills. The registration form is available at <https://hcdrugfree.org/teen-advisory-council/>.

Community service hours available. Email your registration to admin@hcdrugfree.org or mail a hard copy the office. To register for the upcoming meetings on Monday, September 19 or Monday, October 17 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. click on the TAC Registration links next to each date <https://hcdrugfree.org/teen-advisory-council/>

Medication and Sharps Collection: Clean out your unwanted and expired medicines and sharps! The next convenient drive-thru collection will be held on Saturday, October 29, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Wilde Lake Village Center parking lot (near the Swim Center). Community service hours available. HC DrugFree and the Howard County Police invite families, student/adult groups, scout troops, religious organizations, and sports teams, etc. to volunteer to join us. Medically-trained adult volunteers are needed (nurses, EMTs, pharmacists, chiropractors, etc.) to help safely handle the medication and sharps collected. For more information and to volunteer, visit <https://hcdrugfree.org/drug-take-back-day-1/>, contact Admin@hcdrugfree.org or leave a message at 443-325-0040.

Stay Informed about What's Happening in Howard County: Sign up for HC DrugFree's newsletter at <https://hcdrugfree.org/enews-signup/> to get updates on events as well as information to keep your family safe and informed.

