

# HMS PTA Newsletter (October 2017)

## Chess Club

PTA is doing a fundraiser with Silver Knights. For each student registered for Chess Club, they will donate to PTA. Did you know that playing chess can:

- Raise your IQ,
- Improve your memory and concentration,
- Enhance your reading and problem solving skills, and
- Teach planning and foresight.



Please register your kid(s) for the HMS Chess Club and give them the opportunity to learn how to play or to improve their skills. The Club will meet on Fridays after school from 3:05 - 4:05 PM in the Media Center. The Fall session starts on **October 6<sup>th</sup>**. Please click [here](#) to register.

## Register for Fall Fling

Fall Fling will take place on **October 13<sup>th</sup>** from 3:00 - 5:00 PM. It's a great social opportunity for our students. They can hang out with their friends, listen/dance to music by a DJ, play basketball, eat pizza, enjoy Italian Ice, and have a good time. Tickets are \$6 for each student. Please



- click [here](#) to sign the online permission slip and pay using PayPal OR
- click [here](#) to print the permission slip and send to school with your payment. Paper permission slips can be sent to homeroom.

The last day to register and pay is October 12<sup>th</sup>. All registrants will be entered into a raffle to win various gift cards. We need lots of help to make this a memorable event for our students. Please click [here](#) to signup to volunteer.

## Spirit Night at Launch

Please join us at the Launch Trampoline Park on **October 19<sup>th</sup>** between 4:00 - 8:00 PM to jump and bounce off the walls with friends and raise money for the PTA. Cost is \$16/hour and \$10/additional hour. HMS PTA will receive 25% of all admission sales if you show this [flyer](#). Hard copies of the flyers will come home with your students on October 3<sup>rd</sup>.



## Help Your Kids Get Their Service Hours

Hammond Elementary School PTA is inviting all HMS students for a fun, family friendly way to give back and get their volunteer hours underway!! Please consider signing up your kids to volunteer at the Hammond ES PTA Fall Festival on Friday, **October 6, 2017** from **3:30 - 7:30 PM**. They can help the younger members of the community by running a carnival game and helping manage set up and clean up of the event. There will be cool swag bags, snacks, and a free raffle for all student volunteers to enter. Please click [here](#) to signup your kids to volunteer.



## HMS Spirit Wear

Spirit Wear sales exceeded expectations this year! We still have a few items left, mostly t-shirts. Please click [here](#) to see the remaining inventory. Spirit wear may still be purchased by contacting Karen Beck at [spiritwear@hammondmiddlepta.org](mailto:spiritwear@hammondmiddlepta.org).



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## Box Tops

The Box Tops for Education Back to School Contest ended on September 29<sup>th</sup>. We are in the process of counting box tops and the prize drawing winners will be announced very soon. Please continue to send Box Tops in a zip lock or envelope labeled with the student's name, grade and homeroom teacher. Please click [here](#) to see the list of participating products. For more information, please contact Dodie van't Hoff at [boxtops@hammondmiddlepta.org](mailto:boxtops@hammondmiddlepta.org). Remember, every Box Top is like a dime in disguise. Every Box Top thrown away is like cash in the trash.



## PTA Reflections – Arts Competition

Please encourage your students to create an original work of art based on the theme "Within Reach" to enter the PTA Reflections Arts competition. Students can:



- write a story/poem,
- produce a film,
- choreograph a dance,
- shoot photos,
- create a musical composition or
- create visual art.

All student entries are **due by November 15<sup>th</sup>**. Don't wait until November to get started, have them start working on their masterpieces now. More information can be found at the [Reflections](#) page on our website.

## Join the PTA

Please join the HMS PTA and support the many wonderful programs and event sponsored for the benefit of the HMS Students, staff and the school community. You can:



- click [here](#) to fill your membership form and pay ONLINE (using PayPal).
- click [here](#) to print the membership form (you will have to send it to school with payment)

If you have any questions, please contact Ravinder Sandhoo at [kaurr@yahoo.com](mailto:kaurr@yahoo.com).

## Parent Education Night

Our school staff are planning several insightful sessions to inform and educate us for our first Parent Education Night on **November 9<sup>th</sup>**. They will also provide student sessions at the same time as parent sessions. **The student sessions will only be available to the kids of the parents attending the adult sessions.** They are hoping to have a special session for 8<sup>th</sup> graders that will be conducted by former HMS students now in high school. The purpose will be to provide guidance based on their experience with their transition to high school. If you know of any former HMS students currently attending a high school in Howard County who will be willing to lead this session, please contact Sumaira Bajwa at [president@hammondmiddlepta.org](mailto:president@hammondmiddlepta.org). More information about adult and student sessions will be shared as soon as it becomes available. Please save the date!

## Recap - HMS Color Run

HMS Color Run took place on September 16, 2017. It was a huge success, thanks to the 177 runners who participated in the event. The PTA would like to thank **Michele Johnson** and her team of dedicated volunteers for organizing the event. Please click [here](#) to see the photos of the event.



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## Recap: PTA Meeting

A PTA meeting was held on August 30, 2017 and was attended by 8 PTA members. At our next PTA meeting on October 10, 2017, motions will be presented to approve the minutes from the following meetings:

- June 6, 2017 meeting (review the minutes by clicking [here](#)).
- August 30, 2017 meeting (review the minutes by clicking [here](#)).

## Recap: Back-to-School Night

Thanks to all the families who attended the back-to-school night on September 14<sup>th</sup>. PTA presentation was watched in all homerooms. The 2017-18 PTA budget was approved with 196 “YES” votes. Thanks to all the homeroom teachers for counting and recording the votes.

## Dates to Remember

October 10 <sup>th</sup>	PTA Meeting 6:30 – 7: 30 PM
October 13 <sup>th</sup>	Fall Fling 3:00 – 5:00 PM
October 19 <sup>th</sup>	Spirit Night at Launch Trampoline Park 4:00 – 8:00 PM
November 9 <sup>th</sup>	Parent Education Night

HMS PTA Website: [www.hammondmiddlepta.org](http://www.hammondmiddlepta.org)  
HMS PTA Facebook: [www.facebook.com/HammondMiddleSchool71](https://www.facebook.com/HammondMiddleSchool71)