

HMS PTA Newsletter (February 2018)

Teen Anxiety Workshop

In partnership with the Howard County Office of Children and Families, the PTA is sponsoring a workshop on Teen Anxiety on **February 7, 2018 from 7:00 – 8:30 PM** in the HMS Media Center. Adolescence is a very stressful time for our teenagers and many are struggling with anxiety. This event is for parents and guardians only. **Registration is required.** Please click [here](#) to register.



PTA Help Needed for 2018 – 2019

As you are aware, PTA offers many exciting educational, fitness, and enrichment programs for our students. We need your help to continue to make a positive difference in the lives of our students. There are many PTA positions available requiring various degrees of time commitment. To nominate yourself or someone else, please contact the Nominating Committee at NomCom@hammondmiddlepta.org.



Reflections Howard County Results

CONGRATULATIONS to Aymen Haq for winning 1st place in Photography at the Howard County level competition. Her entry titled, "Grit Tree" will now be forwarded to the Maryland state level competition. PTA wishes her best of luck.



Spelling Bee

16 students from grades 6th – 8th participated in the HMS Spelling Bee on January 18, 2018. Jordan Ruit won a \$10 Chick-Fil-A gift card in a random drawing. **CONGRATULATIONS** to the following students for winning in the Spelling Bee:

- 1st Place Winner – Aymen Haq (8th grade)
- 2nd Place Winner – Jordan Ruit (7th grade)
- 3rd Place Winner – Priscilla Ye (7th grade)



Aymen will participate in the County Spelling Bee on March 16th and Jordan will be an alternate in case Aymen cannot attend. PTA wishes her best of luck in the next level of the competition. In addition, PTA acknowledges the hard work of Mrs. Blanding and Mrs. Coleman for making the Spelling Bee a huge success.

Geography Bee

13 students from grades 6th – 8th participated in the 4th HMS Geography Bee on January 25, 2018. Winnie Kopperapu won a \$10 Chick-Fil-A gift card in a random drawing.

CONGRATULATIONS to the following students for winning in the Geography Bee:

- 1st Place Winner – Christopher Bardini (8th grade)
- 2nd Place Winner – Marianne Chukwunonye (6th grade)
- 3rd Place Winner – Luke Nelson (7th grade)



Christopher will now take a State level online test to qualify for the National Geo Bee in Washington D.C. PTA wishes him best of luck in the next level of the competition. In addition, PTA acknowledges the hard work of Mr. Riley and Ms. Bardini for making the Geo Bee a huge success.

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Will YOU be a Part of Reinforcing Positive Behavior?

Hammond's PBIS (Positive Behavioral Interventions & Supports) Committee works throughout the year offering activities, initiatives and programs designed to improve student interactions with each other and their teachers, to boost their emotional investment in their education and to support strong academic outcomes. The committee works closely with Administration to establish Hammond-wide behavior expectations and supports. Some of the more fun activities include Citizen of the Month, Viking Store, Random Acts of Kindness week, MAP and PARCC testing awards and contests, and quarterly Viking Reward Day activities, to name a few. The committee relies on donations from the PTA, restaurant nights and a percentage of Harris Teeter card usage.



Please donate money for PBIS. To make a donation, kindly write your check payable to "HMS PTA", write PBIS on the memo line and send to your child's homeroom in a sealed envelope labeled HMS PTA – PBIS Donation. In addition, PTA is looking for someone to find the best prices and discounts for prize items needed for the PBIS store and facilitate the ordering and restocking. Many of our teachers are working hard to reinforce positive behavior. Volunteering for this position would be a good opportunity to take the bargaining duty off of their plates. **Please volunteer to be a PBIS – PTA Representative.** Please contact Tricia Miller at Secretary@hammondmiddlepta.org.

8th Grade Dance

We need your help to create an unforgettable experience for our 8th graders at their 8th Grade Dance on June 8, 2018. There are many tasks with varying amounts of time commitment on the 8th Grade Dance Committee. If you would like to serve on this committee, please contact the 8th Grade Dance Event Manager, Paulette Powell at ppowell7533@gmail.com. Please note that starting this year, the promotion ceremony and the dance will take place on different dates.



Box Tops – Winter Contest

The Box Tops for Education – Winter Contest will end on **February 28th**. Please send in Box Tops in a zip lock or envelope labeled with the student's name, grade and advisory teacher. Students submitting at least 15 valid, unexpired Box Tops will be entered in a drawing to win a Chick-Fil-A OR iTunes gift card! Please click [here](#) to see the list of participating products. For more information, please contact Dodie van't Hoff at vanthoff4@verizon.net.



Recap: PTA Meeting (01/09/18)

A PTA meeting was held on January 09, 2018 and was attended by 15 PTA members. The meeting minutes can be viewed by clicking [here](#). A motion will be presented to approve these minutes at our next meeting on February 13, 2018.

Dates to Remember

February 7 th	Teen Anxiety Workshop 7:00 – 8:30 PM (Media Center)
February 13 th	PTA Meeting 6:30 – 7:30 PM (Media Center)

HMS PTA Website: www.hammondmiddlepta.org

HMS PTA Facebook: www.facebook.com/HammondMiddleSchool71