

fall • 2023

Inspire

magazine

HARFORD COUNTY EDUCATION FOUNDATION

Investing in the Youth of Harford County Public Schools





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what's next?

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Our Programs



Schools Supplies and Resources

Ensures all students have the school supplies to engage in high quality learning. Teachers shop for free for school supplies for their students and their classrooms, saving educators thousands of dollars in classroom expenses.

EARLY CHILDHOOD LITERACY

Increasing access to a plethora of books supporting emergent literacy development critical to school readiness and future academic achievement. Emergent literacy skills are the basic building blocks for learning to read and write and paves the way for later mastery of more complex literacy skills in early primary grades and eventually reading with comprehension.



Innovation and Enrichment Grants

Funds classroom initiatives outside of the district budget. Educators are encouraged to create innovative and exciting educational programs to enhance and broaden student learning. Classroom initiatives for funding can be found at www.harfordeducation.org.

Scholarships and College and Career Access

Helping students make college achievable. Established by business and community members, scholarships help all students achieve their dreams. Students receive support in completing FAFSA, college essays, college research, internship programs, and mentored to ensure college and career success.

Teacher Recognition & Support

Annual recognition of outstanding educators of Harford County Public Schools. We honor teachers who go above and beyond to make learning rewarding and engaging. ★





Harford County Education Foundation invests in the success of our students by removing barriers to learning and empowering every child with the opportunity to achieve academic and personal success.



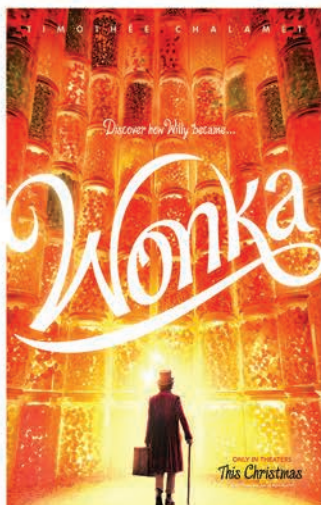
Our Focused Impact



Student achievement in a community is a social, civic and economic issue. The Education Foundation helps strengthen our community by providing targeted funding and needed resources to students, teachers and schools to ensure the academic and life-long success of our children. We want all students to have access to innovative learning and materials to help them meet the rigor of quality instruction and the challenges of 21st century workforce skills. Education is the most powerful investment in the well-being of our youth, the stability of our families, and the strength of our communities.

- 313 middle school students participated in a 3-day overnight retreat to engage in goal planning, leadership and soft skill development.
- 125 high school students participated in a week-long leadership program to engage in leadership traits, workforce skills, and career planning from business leaders in the community.
- 16,412 students received \$246,185 in essential school supplies and resources to fully participate in high-quality instruction.
- 5,920 students received homework toolkits to complete homework assignments.
- 852 educators shopped at the Tools for Schools Resource Center for free school supplies saving thousands of dollars in personal expenditures for students in need of these resources.
- 24,027 curated, leveled books were gifted to children and classrooms, birth-5th grade, to enhance classroom libraries, build book ownership, and encourage family read-aloud time to strengthen school readiness and foundational literacy skills.
- \$131,000 awarded in school and classroom enrichment projects to enhance student learning experiences.
- \$209,300 scholarships awarded to graduating seniors.
- 296 digital devices and home internet service to keep students connected and learning.
- \$26,300 in home learning resources to provide a quality learning environment for students in need during the COVID school closures.
- \$36,597 provided for Teacher Support & Recognition recognizing that effective teachers are foundational to student success. ★

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Harford County Education Foundation established the Excellence in Education Award to honor and celebrate individuals and businesses for their positive impact in support of Harford County Public Schools. Recipients are awarded during the annual Excellence in Education Showcase and Awards Breakfast held in October.



Individuals and businesses are awarded through a nomination process in the following categories:

Outstanding Achievement Award: Recognizing a person who has made significant impact in their business field benefiting student achievement in Harford County Public Schools.

Principal Achievement Award: Recognizing a Harford County Public Schools Principal for their outstanding leadership and exemplary contributions to students, school, and community.

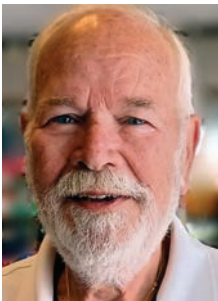
Lifetime Achievement Award: Recognizing a person who demonstrated a commitment to improving public education in Harford County Public Schools through district involvement and service.

Business Achievement Award: Recognizing outstanding business education partnerships that have demonstrated commitment to student success and academic achievement. ★



Photo: MidAtlanticPhotographic.com

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2023
EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION AWARD RECIPIENTS!



Jerome Reyerson
Outstanding
Achievement



Patricia Benedict
Lifetime
Achievement



Blaine Hawley
Principal
Achievement



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Harford County Education Foundation AWARDS ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIPS

Harford County Education Foundation awarded \$11,600 to Harford County Public Schools graduating seniors for scholarships.

Since 2007, over 110 scholarships totaling \$220,300.00 have been awarded by Harford County Education Foundation to help deserving students reach their educational and professional goals.

Harford County Education Foundation scholarships are offered annually based on a variety of criteria, including community service, academic achievement, leadership, and school attendance.

Harford County Public Schools graduating seniors are eligible to apply each year, beginning in January.

“We truly appreciate the individuals and businesses that host their scholarships with Harford County Education Foundation. Their contributions support the next generation of innovators, creators, and dreamers,” said Debora Gavin Merlock, President.

To learn more about establishing a scholarship:
harfordeducation.org/programs/scholarships

To apply for a scholarship or search for local applications, visit Scholarship Central at: harfordeducation.org/college-career-prep/scholarship-central

Applications are due April 5, 2024. ★

2023 Scholarship Winners:

The William V. Chizmar Memorial Scholarship:
Angelique Lee

Harford Mutual Insurance Group Scholarship:
Jenna Gardner

The William V. Chizmar Memorial Scholarship:
Makayla Webb

The Jennifer Donnelly Memorial Scholarship:
Ava Valen

Harford County Education Association (HCEA):
Derek Rudd





Congratulations!



Angelique Lee, EDHS



Jenna Gardner, EDHS



Makayla Webb, EDHS



Ava Valen, PMHS



Derek Rudd, HTHS



This could be YOU!

FAMILY FRIENDLY *school awards*

WHAT MAKES A SCHOOL FAMILY FRIENDLY?

The school consistently demonstrates the National PTA Standards for Family-School Partnerships:

- Welcoming All Families
- Communicating Effectively
- Supporting Student Success
- Speaking Up for Every Child
- Sharing Power
- Collaborating with Community

AND MORE!

HOW TO NOMINATE A SCHOOL:

- Visit the Parent Academy Facebook page or hcps.org for the link to the nomination form.
- Fill out and submit the form online at the beginning of the month (September through May).
- Be sure to explain which one -- or more -- of the National PTA Standards your school best models.
- A school may win several times, so nominate your school as often as deserved!

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- Early Childhood Literacy
- School Supplies & Resources
- Teacher Recognition & Support
- Scholarships

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- Education Heroes Circle
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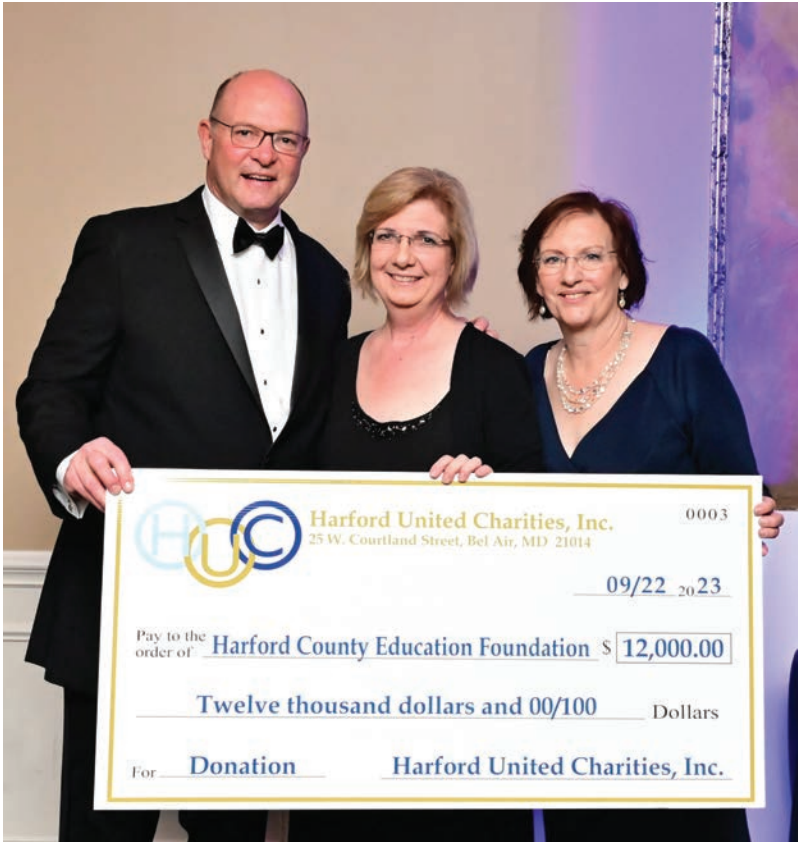
If so, designate Harford County Education Foundation:

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Collection Drives

School supplies and gently used books give children valuable tools for learning success. Hold a School Supply Drive or a Gently Used Book Drive anytime throughout the year. Let us know you want to hold a drive and Harford County Education Foundation will email you flyers to post in your business or for distribution in your community organization. Email connect@harfordeducation.org and let us help you help all children succeed in school and life.



We are honored and delighted to receive this amazing donation from Harford United Charities during their extraordinary gala. Our heartfelt thanks to County Executive Bob Cassilly and Deb Cassilly for being gracious hosts and to the host committee for planning this extraordinary event. We congratulate Char Hope Foundation, CTR and LASOS, Inc on being among the nonprofits that were presented with this generous gift. We are touched by the generous spirit of the sponsors. Their selfless support of the work of nonprofits in Harford County enable us to fulfill our mission and help those most in need live their best lives.

We are grateful!





HARFORD
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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got you
covered.**

At Harford Community College you'll gain confidence, determine your path, and learn what you're really made of. You'll prove that a solid career path provides a better life for you and your family—and we'll prove that by providing you with the academic, financial, and sometimes even personal, supports you need, you can go anywhere you choose.


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yourself.**

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Have a Fun-Filled Fall!

Fall Family Fun

BINGO

Make a bird house	Jump in a pile of leaves	Make smores outside	Go apple picking	Visit Pumpkin Patch
Bake something with apples	Go on a hike	Apple tasting experiment	Visit a corn maze	Visit a Fall Festival
Create Leaf Art	Decorate pumpkins	 Free Space	Holiday scavenger hunt	Make a gratitude tree
Read 10 great Fall books	Watch Charlie Brown	Play board games	Watch Thanksgiving Day Parade	Kickball game at the park
Visit Kilgore Falls	Play Glo Stick Hide and Seek	Visit a Farm	Old movie marathon (parents choice)	Go on a Scenic Drive



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GRANTS IN ACTION

Harford County Education Foundation funds unique and innovative projects to excite young minds, opening doors to greater learning possibilities.

Dashing into STEAM in the Classroom Norrisville Elementary School

A teacher at Norrisville Elementary School saw the learning potential of incorporating Dash robots into their media and maker space program, empowering teachers to bring coding skills into the classroom. Dash provided the students with the hands-on experience to build coding and problem-solving skills, bringing coding to life. They were able to explore and track progress through in-app puzzles and standards-aligned math activities. The students were able to watch their virtual coding turn into tangible learning experiences in real-time as Dash, with its performance and multiple sensors, interacted with and responded to its surroundings.

“Early STEAM education for our students will help build foundational skills needed to set them up for success in STEAM programs as well as any career path they choose,” said Colleen Kavanagh, Media Specialist and Gifted and Talented teacher at Norrisville Elementary School. “As the demand for IT professionals in Harford County grows, we must educate and inspire our youngest students in technology,

engineering, and problem-solving. I believe this program is a step that we can take with our earliest learners to set them up for future success.”



The first stage of the project engaged a group of students in using the robots to learn coding to include the application of Dash's catapult, drawing, and gripper accessories. The students, using angles and distances, coded Dash to travel to different states on a map.

After the students became knowledgeable in using the robots, they put their new skills to use and became facilitators teaching their classmates how to perform coding activities with Dash. They also shared their coding skills with the before-school

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program for grades 2-5 where students used Dash to learn and perform coding activities.

“The Dash robots inspired students through engaging and challenging activities, laying the foundation they need to be successful readers, writers and problem solvers,” said Kavanagh.

The coding skills kids learn while playing with Dash will help them as they prepare for middle and high school while also helping to develop their critical thinking skills today. ★

Funded in partnership with

LOCKHEED MARTIN



Community Schools through The Blueprint for Maryland's Future: HOLISTIC APPROACHES TO MEETING STUDENTS AND FAMILIES WHERE THEY ARE:

In 2016, the Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education (often known as the “Kirwan Commission”) convened to evaluate the state of Maryland schools. Their recommendations to the Maryland legislature focused on transforming educational structures, which would be adapted into formal legislation and passed under the name of The Blueprint for Maryland's Future (or “Blueprint”).



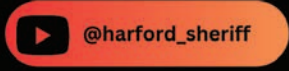
Graphic: blueprint.marylandpublicschools.org

A part of the Blueprint's legislation is the Community school's strategy that falls under the umbrella of Concentration of Poverty funding. This strategy focuses on providing high-needs schools and communities with strategic support through collective impact and wraparound services. The framework essential for Community schools' transformation consists of:

- **Powerful student and family engagement:** Community schools prioritize family involvement in a child's education, fostering a collaborative partnership between families and school staff to enhance success.
- **Collaborative leadership and shared power and voice:** Families, students, teachers, principals, and community partners share in the decision-making and collaborate in ways to decrease barriers.
- **Expanded and enriched learning opportunities:** Community schools often provide additional academic and enrichment programming outside of the traditional school day to provide safe spaces for students during non-school hours.
- **Rigorous, community-connected classroom instruction:** The curriculum and programming are deeply connected to the local community and students' identities, cultures, and experiences, providing opportunities for students to engage in meaningful inquiry-based learning and problem-solving.
- **Culture of belonging, safety, and care:** Ensuring the climate of the school is welcoming, fosters a sense that each person at the school is valued, and what they contribute to the school community is important.
- **Integrated systems of support:** Community schools offer a wide range of services beyond traditional education, often including healthcare/health and wellness, counseling, social services, and out-of-school time activities. These services are designed to address the diverse and ever-changing needs of students and families.
- **Local partnerships:** Collaboration with local organizations, nonprofits, and government agencies is a key aspect of the Community School work in Harford County. These partnerships help bring in additional resources and expertise to support the community's needs. Harford County Public Schools' (HCPS)



STAY INFORMED FOLLOW US!



SHERIFF JEFFREY R. GAHLER

Community School Specialist convenes a bi-monthly community steering committee the ***District Partner Community School Collaborative***, which brings together community school leaders and community partners to support bridging gaps between school needs and community resources

Community school designations are determined by schools' poverty rating as calculated by Free and Reduced-Priced Meals (FARMS) program. To date, Harford County has 11 Community Schools, primarily in the southern and northeastern parts of the county.

- Bakerfield Elementary School
- Deerfield Elementary School
- Edgewood Elementary School
- Edgewood Middle School
- Halls Cross Roads Elementary School
- Joppatowne High School
- Magnolia Elementary School
- Magnolia Middle School
- Old Post Road Elementary School
- Riverside Elementary School

The existing focus of HCPS' Community schools is decreasing barriers around food insecurity, mental health resources and awareness, and creating safe and positive youth development opportunities in and outside of the school day.

Community Schools in Harford County aspire to be vibrant hubs of learning and empowerment; where families, communities, and partners unite to create places of equity, belonging, and excellence; equipping students for fulfilling futures and nurturing strong and resilient communities. ★

Helping Children Cope With Stress

by Dr. Melissa Munro Boyd, Clinical Psychologist and Children's Book Author



Photo: Monstera Production, Pexels

As summer comes to an end and the school year begins, many students, whether they are returning to or starting school, experience a mixture of emotions. This can include feeling excited, calm, bored, sad, nervous, embarrassed, disappointed and more. These feelings of stress are normal responses to the many changes students experience to include establishing new routines, making new friends, having new teachers, and overall adjusting to the new school year.

Stress is a part of life. Positive events, which can be motivating, can also trigger stress (i.e. going on a field trip); however, when stress is too much, too strong, or too sudden, it can overwhelm a child's ability to cope and impact their mood, self-esteem, behavior, academic performance and overall well-being.

The majority of childhood stress is related to school related issues, friendships, and family concerns. Common sources of stress for children include:

Academic stressors

- Poor grades
- Attention/concentration difficulties
- Completing quizzes/tests
- Developing a new skill (i.e. learning to read)

Social stressors

- Interpersonal struggles with peer groups
- Bullying
- Making friends
- Meeting new teachers
- Changing schools
- Trying out for a sports team/ extracurricular activities

Family stressors

- Birth of a sibling
- Parental separation/divorce
- Losing a family member
- Moving

Tips for parents/caregivers in helping children reduce their stress

- Talk about feelings: Practice attentive listening and set aside time to talk with your child without interrupting.
- Name emotions: Ask questions and acknowledge feelings. Let children know it is ok to have feelings of worry, anger, or frustration. Give children the names for their feelings and words to express how they are feeling.
- Help children feel supported by fostering a healthy, supportive and understanding home and learning environment. Establish and maintain routines to help a child develop a sense of control.
- Provide downtime for children. Encourage your child to make time to play, draw or paint, spend time in nature, read a book, play an instrument, be with friends and family.
- Teach coping skills: Coping skills and strategies are methods a person uses to deal with or handle stressful situations and experiences. Kids feel better when they know there are things they can do for themselves to ease their stress.

My children's book series, titled the *Skills for Kids* shares coping skills, relaxation techniques, and emotion regulation strategies that engage, uplift, and inspire social emotional wellness for children.

Here is a description of each book in the series:

B is for Breathe: Includes fun coping skills and techniques children can use to express their feelings and practice calm down

strategies for fussy and frustrating emotions.

Better Together: Teaches children important social and friendship skills such as sharing, taking turns, asking for help, and paying attention to body language.

Keeping it Cool: Offers ideas for children to model social emotional skills, adjust to change, and practice healthy coping skills.

Creating Calm: Introduces children to relaxation and calming techniques, using the 5 senses, to help them focus on what's around them, be in the moment, and practice emotion regulation.

Kindness is Cool: Teaches that kindness is one of the most important skills a child can learn and shares fun examples of children showing kindness at home, school, and community.

Author, wife and mother of three, Dr. Melissa Boyd is a board certified Clinical Psychologist and has served active duty in the Army since 2008. Dr. Boyd is an author of a children's book series called Skills for Kids. Her books are focused on emotional learning, wellness, social development and healthy coping skills. To learn more visit: linktr.ee/boyd_books

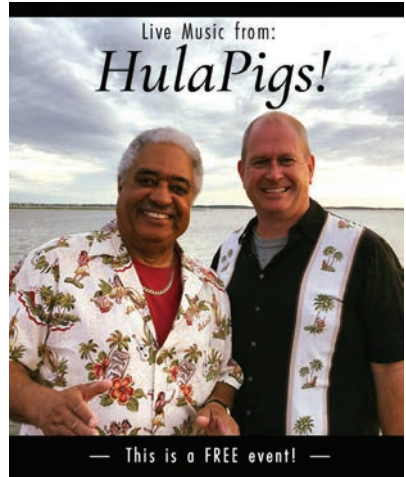


As the Sun Sets

IN HARFORD COUNTY
2024 COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Photo: Michele Kapinos

It's time for Sonipak Design's 9th community calendar, *As the Sun Sets in Harford County*, brought to you by Jarvis Appliance, to debut on **November 14 at MaGerk's Pub and Grill from 6 to 9pm**. This annual calendar release party is open to the public, is family-friendly and will feature live music by Hula Pigs. The first 100 guests will receive free Swag Bags sponsored by Freedom Federal Credit Union. Bring your family, friends and co-workers and stay for dinner (reservations are suggested). Be the first to receive your free copy of the *As the Sun Sets in Harford County 2024 Calendar* and witness as Sonipak presents this year's local nonprofit recipient, Harford County Education Foundation, with their donation.



Each year, we set out to try something new, to bring a fresh perspective and connect our community in fun and exciting ways. This year, we have reached out to our residents for photo submissions! We received glorious sunsets from every corner of our great county. We can't wait to share these exciting shots from the eyes of the people who live, work and play in Harford County!

These breathtaking selected calendar photos will be on display during the release party, and the canvases will be given to the photographer of each selected photo.

Local businesses and organizations have joined Sonipak to be part of this one-of-a-kind artistic calendar. Some advertisers this year are: Harford County Sheriff's Office, James C. Wilson Excavating, Jarrettsville Federal Savings and Loan, C & L Excavating, BCV Commercial Realty, Jarvis Appliance, Harford County Farm Fair, Turf Connections, Rockfield Manor, Kapinos Builders, The Breast Center UM Upper Chesapeake Medical Center, Town of Bel Air, The Mill, Harford County Public Library, ProPaint Systems, Bearsch's United Auto Center, Thompson's Moving, Harford Transit LINK, Delegate Mike Griffith, Global Pets, SIAB, The Highlands School and many more!

Sonipak also welcomes back some longtime sponsors, WXCY, Harford's Heart Magazine and Harford County Living as they continue to show support as media sponsors year after year. MaGerk's Pub and Grill joins them once again as the Calendar Release Party sponsor, hosting this much-anticipated event!

Distribution of this free calendar around the county and beyond will begin the week of Thanksgiving. Visit sonipakdesign.com after November 14 for a complete list of distribution locations. ★



"Community is Our Strength"

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(See how.)

SAVE the DATE

9TH ANNUAL

Chip in Fore Kids Golf Classic

Monday, May 6, 2024

Maryland Golf and Country Club

Sponsorships Available
bit.ly/HCEFGolfClassic



Thanks to the steadfast support of our generous Harford County community, Harford County Education Foundation was able to provide more than \$21,000 in school supplies helping children start the first day of school confident and prepared to learn. With more than 60 local businesses and organizations participating, we've exceeded expectations and had a profound impact on students and educators throughout Harford County Public Schools.

This amazing effort was made possible through the school supply collection sites, but enhanced by several businesses that hosted events that brought the community together – Jones Junction Toyota, Klein's ShopRite, WMAR-TV, WBAL Cares in partnership with WBAL-TV, the Orioles and Fallston Walmart. We partnered with the Aberdeen Ironbirds and packaged 400 homework kits. The Harford County Sheriff's Office (HCSO), through their Pack the Patrol Car supply drive, delivered 15 large boxes of school supply donations to the education foundation's resource center. The HCSO could be found throughout Harford County collecting donations at all of their Precincts and Detention Center, the Abingdon Walmart, and during the National Night Out event at the Equestrian Center.

These school supplies play a valuable role in stocking the Tools for Schools Resource Center. At the Tools for Schools Resource Center school supplies are inventoried and packaged for delivery to schools for students in need before the first day of school. But we don't stop at the first day of school, the resource center is available to schools throughout the school year and open for teachers to shop for free school supplies for their students and classroom helping to alleviate the financial burden many teachers face when their students do not have access to basic school supplies and to refresh student supplies mid-year. Harford County Public School educators can join an email list to get firsthand information on teacher shopping events at the Tools for Schools Resource Center. Teachers can join the mailing list at bit.ly/HCEFShoppingDay

Together, we are building a brighter future for our children and invite you to join us in this journey to remove barriers to learning for every child. Learn the numerous ways to be involved at www.harfordeducation.org/programs/tools-for-schools. ★





Our heartfelt gratitude to the businesses and organizations that participated in the Stuff the Bus school supply drive!

- Aberdeen Ironbirds – The Hangar
- American Premier Realtor
- Bel Air Orthodontics
- Benfield Electric
- Booz Allen Hamilton
- Broom's Bloom Dairy
- Christ Fellowship Church
- Chrysanthemoms, Inc.
- Coffee Coffee
- Cummings & Co. Realtors
- Edward Jones – Havre de Grace
- First National Bank
- Flavor Cupcakery
- Freedom Federal Credit Union
- Geo-Technology Associates, Inc
- Gold Medal Physical Therapy
- Hamilton Service Center
- Har-Co Credit Union
- Harford County Government – Main Street
- Harford County Department of Emergency Services and Senior Centers
- Harford County Department of Parks and Recreation
- Harford County Public Library
- Harford County Public Schools – AA Roberty Building

- Harford County Sheriff's Office
- Harford Mutual Insurance Group
- Hopewell United Methodist Church
- Huntington Learning Center – Bel Air
- Jones Junction Bel Air Subaru and Jones Junction Toyota
- KatzAbosch – Bel Air
- Klein's ShopRite
- Kiddie Academy
- Level Community Fellowship
- Macy's – Harford Mall
- Morris & Ritchie Associates, Inc.
- Paramount Die Company
- Rosedale Federal Savings and Loan Assn
- SevlTech, LLC
- Smith Detection
- Spartan Surfaces
- Towson University in Northeastern Maryland
- Truist Bank
- WAVE
- We Rock the Spectrum Kids Gym
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- Women of St. Mary's Episcopal Church
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In an effort to hire and retain talented professionals, Harford County Public Schools is currently accepting teacher applications for alternative certification pathways.

MSDE Alternative Teacher Certification

Geared towards career-changers with a Bachelor's degree, these routes allow professionals to work in the classroom while simultaneously meeting requirements for teacher certification.

Upon hire, candidates will meet with an MSDE trained certification specialist to review credentials and establish a plan to meet the requirements for a standard certificate. Each candidate can receive up to 4 years to complete all certification requirements.

Do you...

- Have a Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university?
- Have extensive coursework in Math, Special Education, STEM, Language Arts, or other content areas?
- Have a desire to teach, train, and develop young minds?

Contact HCPS Human Resources at (410) 588-5238 or apply online at www.hcps.org

HCPS Support

Support includes school-based and district-wide professional development as well as direct support from an Instructional Coach. Tuition reimbursement up to \$75/credit for undergraduate coursework and up to \$300/credit for graduate coursework.

HCPS' partnerships with area colleges & universities allow candidates to use a direct bill arrangement to lower out of pocket tuition costs.

Come Shine with HCPS!

Currently seeking certificated and support staff members.

- Teachers
- Paraeducators
- Inclusion Helpers
- Transportation
- Food and Nutrition
- Long-Term and Daily Substitutes



Find us on
social media!
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Become a member of our team and help our students SHINE!

Speak to a school administrator or apply online today!

For more information, contact Human Resources – 410-588-5238.

www.hcps.org



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Our Bi-Annual Publication



The cover of the Inspire magazine features a collage of four photos: a young boy reading, a young girl holding a book, a young girl looking at a tablet, and a large yellow star on a blue background. The text 'Inspire' is written in a large, blue, serif font, with 'HARFORD COUNTY EDUCATION FOUNDATION' written in a smaller, black, sans-serif font below it.

Inspire
magazine

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PARENT CONNECTION

family newsletter

Harford County Public School's Parent Academy is excited to bring parents and caregivers a NEW monthly newsletter, Parent Connection. This newsletter was thoughtfully developed to support and strengthen the home and school connection and to help families stay connected and in the know about important topics, events, community resources, and tips. Important information will be shared through the newsletter to better equip parents to navigate the school year with their children.

A new issue of Parent Connection will be published each month during the school year, September through June. Check your inbox at the beginning of the month. The newsletter is emailed to the parent/guardian email address(es) on file with the school system. In addition, each issue will be shared on the Parent Academy Facebook page (HCPSParentAcademy) and archived on the Parent Academy page on hcps.org.

HCPS Parent Academy wishes all HCPS families a safe and successful 2023-24 school year!

Parent Connection
Inaugural / September 2023 Issue

Superintendent's Pen
Building community, strengthening collaboration, and improving communication can profoundly shape the school experience for many of our students. By focusing on the home and school connection, we can help increase academic achievement for all learners, ensure strong social emotional supports are in place, and empower both educators and parents/guardians to help our students realize their full potential. Together, we provide the foundation that each student needs to achieve the dreams they have for their future.

I am proud of the HCPS Parent Academy for launching this new monthly newsletter for parents/guardians to stay connected and in the know about important topics, events, and resources. Be on the lookout for a new edition at the beginning of each month during the

HOPE
Healthy Outcomes from Positive Experiences (HOPE). Positive experiences can ease toxic stress, helping children and youth to grow into more resilient, healthier adults. HOPE identifies ways that parents/caregivers can better ensure that all children have more positive experiences and that all families have support to nurture and celebrate their strengths.

To schedule a HOPE presentation with your PTA or community group, contact ParentAcademy@hcps.org.

Join Your School's PTA!
PTA members are people who have a vested interest in the education, health, and wellbeing of all children. [Click here](#) to support your child's PTA and see how to stay informed.

Harford County Council
PTA
Parent Teacher Association





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