



Welcome to CMS

August 21, 2025

Today's Agenda

Parents/
Guardians

Students



Welcome and
Introductions



CMS 101



Reunite and Walk
Student's Schedule

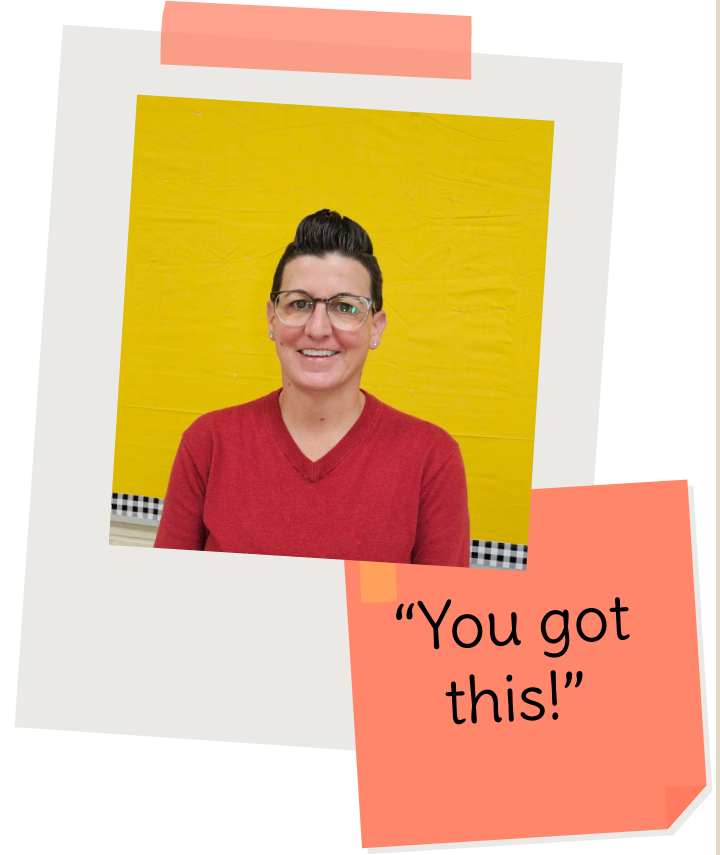
Dr. Scaife

Proud Principal of CMS
Kim_Scaife@hcpss.org



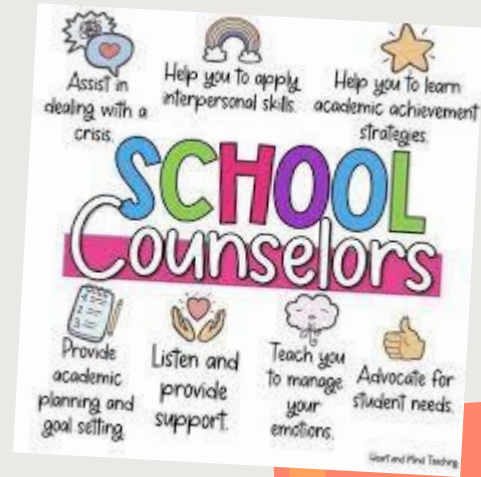
"Make
good
choices!"

**Ms.
Ritchie**
Assistant Principal
Kristy_Ritchie@hcpss.org



Ms. Prince

6th Grade Counselor
Julie_Prince@hcpss.org



"Welcome
6th
graders"

Health Room

Megan Seaman
Megan_Seaman@hcpss.org



"Welcome
6th
graders"

Nurse: Megan Seaman
Health Assistant: Adrian McNeil

Health Room Phone: 410-313-5610

When to stay home:

- Fever of 100.0 or above
- Vomiting or Diarrhea
- Difficulty Breathing

Medications:

- All medications including over the counter and supplements must have a medication administration form signed by a physician.
- Parents must bring medications to the health room

At CMS, We ORBIT
to success!

At CMS, we ORBIT to
Success!



We Are...
Organized
Respectful
Brave
Inclusive
Trustworthy



We are
focused
on...

01

Student
Belonging

02

Academic
Excellence

03

Focus on the
whole student

Ms. Mairs

G/T Resource Teacher

cass_mairs@hcpss.org

catherine_mairs@hcpss.org

- **GT Testing**
(available and encouraged for students new to Howard County-email me)
- **GT Seminars**



APPLY • EXPLORE • CREATE

GT Seminars are open to ALL STUDENTS

**Be on the lookout for
info through Student
Resources Canvas
course and CMS
communications to
families.**

- Take place during the school day; scheduled weekly or biweekly and rotate between class periods
- Variety of topics with student choice considered
- Provide all students the opportunity to think critically, problem solve, develop talents, cultivate passions, and be creative!
- Seminars include debate, book club, writing workshop, TV crew, engineering, leadership, and forensics



How will we communicate with families?

01

CMS Orbiter -
every other
Monday

02

Canvas
messages;
email

03

Website
cms.hcpss.org

Instagram
[cms_comets](#)

Bell Schedule

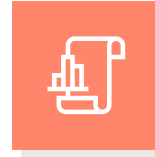
6TH GRADE	
TIME	PERIOD
7:40-7:47	Student Arrival / Breakfast
7:47	Warning Bell
7:50-7:54	HR (attendance & announcements)
7:54 – 8:44	Period 1
8:47- 9:37	Period 2
9:40 -10:30	Period 3
10:33 –11:03	LUNCH
11:06 -11:56	Period 4
11:59 - 12:49	Period 5
12:52 - 1:42	Period 6
1:45 - 2:35	Period 7

Review Updated Cell Phone Policy



No Cell Phones

No
Earbuds



Students will not
use personal
technology
devices **AT All**
during the school
day.

CMS Progressive Discipline

1

Warning, Student
Conversation

2

Parent/Guardian Contact,
Student Conversation

3

Incident Referral, Teacher Assigned
Consequence, Parent/Guardian Contact

4

Administrative Referral





Things to know before the first day of school.

01

First Period
Class

02

Bus Number

Arrive at bus stop 5 to
10 mins early

03

No lockers the
first week of
school

04

Chromebooks
will be given out
during the first
week of school



What do
students
need to
bring the
first day
of school?

01

Backpack

02

Pencil/Pen

03

Notebook

04

A positive
attitude

Meals

Breakfast

Can be purchased for \$2.00

Lunch

Can be purchased for \$3.30

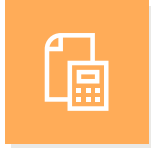
Free & Reduced

<https://www.hcpss.org/food-services/farms/>

linqconnect.com

You must register for an account if purchasing lunch at school

Farms



Confidential Info



Must apply every year

<https://www.hcpss.org/food-services/farms/>

Benefits

Free & Reduced Meals
Free registration for SAT/ACT
Reduced Tuition for summer programs, innovative pathways, and Jumpstart



Internet

Discounted Internet through Comcast





Excused Absences

01

Illness/Absent

02

Bereavement

03

Discretionary
or Religious
Observance - 3
days

What to do if my child is absent?

- Email: CMSabsence@hcpss.org or
- A signed parent note or doctor note is required when the student returns.
- Your child should **first** look at Canvas to see what work they've missed before contacting teachers

What if I need to drop something off to my child?

- Drop off on left side of lobby
- Place item in bin labeled by grade
- Sign the sheet with student's name
- Students will be called up once a day either right before or during their lunch shifts

Backpacks and Lockers

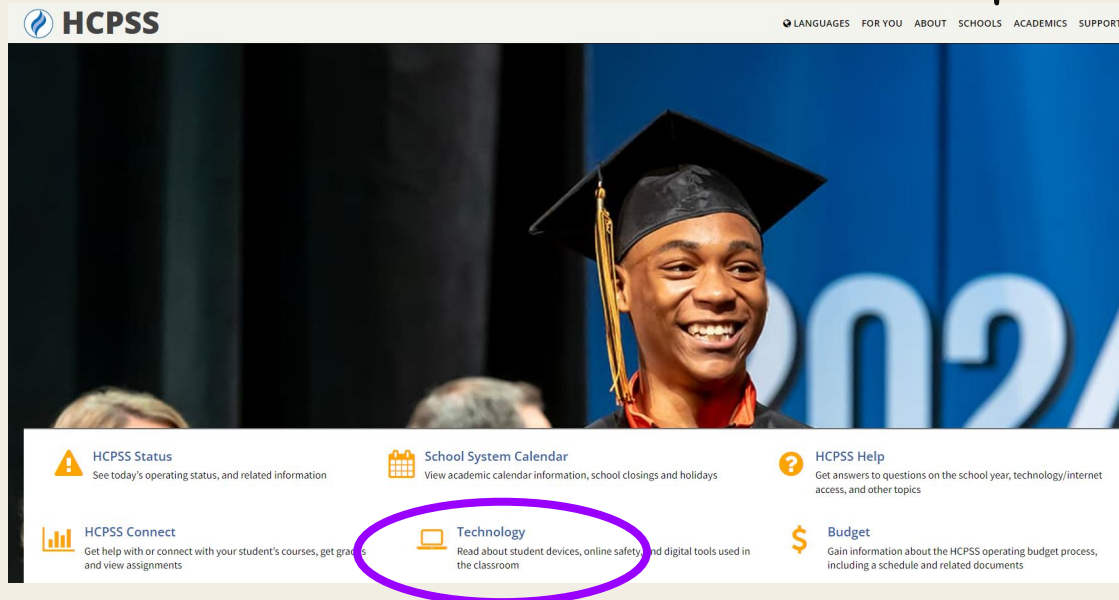
- Lockers are by request only
- Google form will be sent out through Canvas to students to sign up
- Students can carry their backpacks to and from class and will take them to lunch and recess

Chromebooks

- New to CMS students will receive Chromebooks and chargers by Friday of the first week of classes.
- Responsible use expectations and Chromebook care will be covered in media center orientation.
- Please review the information in the family letter with your child. **Students should return the bottom portion of the letter to their ELA teacher during the first week of school.**

Chromebooks

County information on responsible student use, technology guidelines, and Chromebook safety and repair costs can be found on the HCPSS website and hcpss.me.



HCPSS LANGUAGES FOR YOU ABOUT SCHOOLS ACADEMICS SUPPORT

Digital Citizenship Pledge
When using digital tools, I pledge to do the following:

- Respect myself and others: civility • integrity • vigilance
- Use the digital tools provided to educate myself and others: collaborate • communicate • create • think critically
- Protect myself and others: password • privacy • copyright
- Follow all guidelines outlined in Policy 0088, Responsible Use of Technology and Social Media

HCPSS Status
See today's operating status, and related information

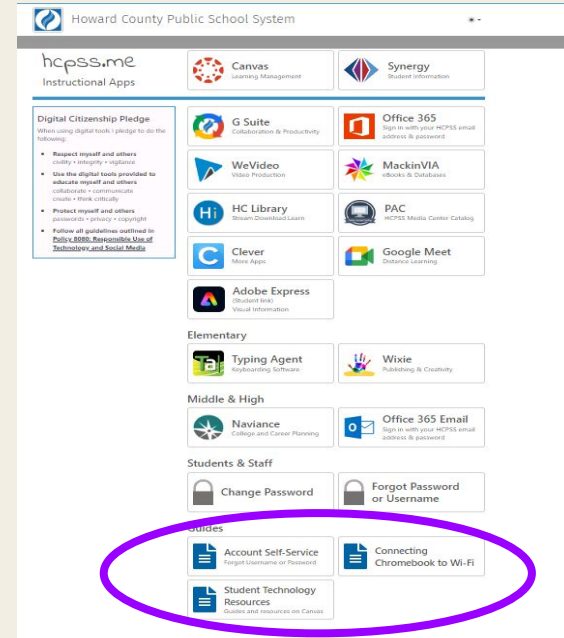
School System Calendar
View academic calendar information, school closings and holidays

HCPSS Help
Get answers to questions on the school year, technology/internet access, and other topics

HCPSS Connect
Get help with or connect with your student's courses, get grades, and view assignments

Technology
Read about student devices, online safety, and digital tools used in the classroom

Budget
Gain information about the HCPSS operating budget process, including a schedule and related documents



Howard County Public School System

hcpss.me
Instructional Apps

Canvas
Learning Management

Synergy
Student Information

G Suite
Collaboration & Productivity

Office 365
Sign in with your HCPSS email address & password

WeVideo
Video Production

MackinVIA
eBooks & Databases

HC Library
eBook Download Loan

PAC
HCPSS Media Center Catalog

Clever
More Apps

Google Meet
Distance Learning

Adobe Express
Student Info
Visual Information

Elementary

Typing Agent
Keyboarding Software

Wixie
Publishing & Creativity

Middle & High

Naviance
College and Career Planning

Office 365 Email
Sign in with your HCPSS email address & password

Students & Staff

Change Password

Forgot Password or Username

Guides

Account Self-Service
Forgot Username or Password

Connecting Chromebook to Wi-Fi

Student Technology Resources
Guides and resources on Canvas

HCPSS Technology page

- **Learn More About Devices:** Chromebook care, responsibilities, repair costs
- **Lightspeed:** Information about the Lightspeed Parent Portal
- **Learn More About Providing Consent for Google Services:**
 - If you want your child to be able to use Google Earth, Google Translate, and YouTube outside of what teachers use in class through Canvas. (Elementary school options that you may have chosen have been reset.)
 - You must select it in your HCPSS Connect family portal.

HCPSS provides online easy-to-understand device responsibilities and repair costs, as well as information on caring for Chromebooks, issue support and more.

[LEARN MORE ABOUT DEVICES](#)

ONLINE SAFETY & EXPECTATIONS

Online Safety

HCPSS continues to invest in information security efforts, upgrade our equipment and ensure that our network is secure, and it is critical that our user groups – which include students, staff and parents/guardians – do their part to maintain a safe virtual learning environment.

Google Meet Expectations

To ensure a positive and productive learning environment during Google Meet online sessions, it is important that students and parents adhere to certain guidelines.

Lightspeed

Parents/guardians may elect to receive Lightspeed weekly emails summarizing their student's HCPSS Chromebook internet usage. There also is an option for the Lightspeed Parent Portal, which provides near real-time information on a student's HCPSS Chromebook internet activity, and offers the ability to pause web browsing and block social media sites when not on the HCPSS network.

Virtual Responsibilities

A successful virtual instruction program requires collaboration and shared responsibilities among students, educators and families to ensure that every student is supported and has the best chance to learn and thrive.

DIGITAL TOOLS

HCPSS uses a number of digital tools to deliver educational programs and services, enhance educational experiences, and educate students about safe and effective online practices. A digital tool is any interactive website, application or software that requires an account with a username and password.

Essential Digital Tools

Essential Digital Tools are digital tools that HCPSS considers necessary to deliver educational programs and operational services that support the goals of the system. These Essential Digital Tools align with HCPSS curriculum standards and are 508 COMAR compliant.

Any digital tool or web application that is embedded in curriculum resources/materials and/or is endorsed/promoted by central office curriculum staff is considered an Essential Digital Tool.

[LEARN MORE ABOUT, AND VIEW THE DIGITAL TOOLS MENU](#)

Supplemental Digital Tools

Supplementary Digital Tools are digital tools that HCPSS authorizes to be used as supplementary (non-essential) enrichments to students' educational experience.

Digital Resources

Online educational resources that do not require an account to use, or are only for teachers' use.

Google Additional Services

Parents/guardians of students in grades 4-12 can provide consent for Google's menu of additional services (Google Translate, YouTube, etc.) on HCPSS-issued Chromebooks by logging in to HCPSS Connect Synergy.

[LEARN MORE ABOUT PROVIDING CONSENT FOR GOOGLE SERVICES](#)

Additional Technology Info

- The Lightspeed Parent Portal provides near real-time information on a student's HCPSS Chromebook internet activity and offers the ability to pause web browsing when not on the HCPSS network. (Yes the rumor is true; parents have the ability to block sites on their students device like games, YouTube, etc.)
- HCPSS has blocked access to social media sites at all schools and most gaming sites at middle and high schools.
- CMS Media Specialist: chelsie_wilkerson@hcpss.org



Assessment s

01

MAP

02

MCAP

03

Common Lit.

6th Grade Mashup

- October 3
- Community building opportunity for ALL 6th grade students
- Purpose is to build bridges between students who are coming from different elementary schools
- Parent volunteers needed

Back To School Night

Thursday,
September 4

6:00-7:30 pm
@ CMS

Welcome Back Picnic

September 18, 2025
6:00-8:00 pm
@ CMS

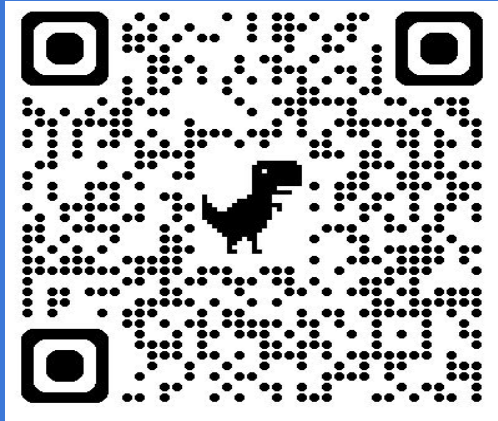
Food Trucks
&
Fun!

The background is a stylized illustration of an open notebook. It features a thick teal border. Inside, there are two white pages. A vertical brown line runs down the center, representing the spine. Along this spine, there are six horizontal brown bars, each with a small circle at its center, resembling binder rings or stitching. The text is centered across both pages.

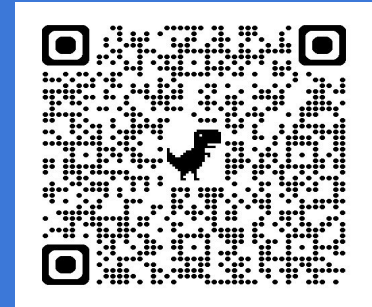
How to get involved at CMS!

Career Speakers Wanted!

Please volunteer as a **guest speaker** at our monthly **Career Cafes** or **in classrooms** to expose students to a broad array of career pathways and options!



- **College & Career Readiness Weekly Updates:**



**Career Readiness
Advisor:**

Pauline_Baek@hcpss.o



PTA

Parents as Partners

PTA President: Christine Tupino

Email: clarksvilleptapres@gmail.com



PTA

Parents as Partners

What Does the PTA Do?

- Staff Appreciation & Hospitality Events
- CMS Book Fair
- Game, Bingo and Movie Nights & Restaurant Nights
- Collaborate with CMS for events like, Winter Fest by providing funds and volunteers
- We have a budget for each teacher to defray supply costs
- Email a bi-weekly Newsletter
- Monthly Meetings – Second Wednesdays in the Media Center at 7 p.m.
 - First PTA Meeting: September 10, 2025

PTA

Parents as Partners

How can you become a PTA Member?

- MemberHub - "Clarksville MS PTSA":
<https://cmsptacomets.givebacks.com/>
- Single Membership Cost - \$10
- Family Membership Cost - \$20
- Request Donations at Bronze, Silver & Gold Levels
- Have to renew each year

Scan to join!



PTA

Parents as Partners

How can you be involved ?

- Join the PTA
- Volunteer for these Open Positions:
 - Hospitality co-chair: organize breakfast/lunch events for staff
 - Spirit wear chair: liaise with vendor and advertises sales
 - WinterFest Chairs: help set up games, organize DJ, food, tickets
 - Social Media Coordinator: post events and signup genius on social media
 - Membership chair: oversee membership website, advertise membership
 - Reflections chairs: coordinate with committee and run the reflections program at CMS
 - Year book liaison: coordinate orders and distribution; assist with year book club
 - Year-end picnic Chair: help organize the event: set up games, DJ, approach and finalize food trucks etc.
 - 8th Grade Farewell: coordinate and assist with 8th grade events



CMS Spirit Wear

Consider purchasing spirit wear - some of the purchase comes back to the CMS PTA



Scan to order!



The PTA logo, featuring the letters "PTA" in a bold, black, sans-serif font with a registered trademark symbol.

everychild.onevoice.®



PTA

Parents as Partners

- **September**
FIRST PTA Meeting: Wednesday, Sept.10 @ 7PM
Back to School Picnic: September 18 @6PM
 - **October**
PTA Meeting: Wednesday, Oct. 8
Game/Movie Night: Oct. 16
 - **November**
PTA Meeting: Wednesday, Nov.5
Bingo/Game Night: Nov. 5
Spiritwear Raffle
 - **December**
PTA Meeting: Wednesday, Dec.10
 - **January**
TBD
 - **February**
Winter Fest: Feb. 13
Book fair: Feb. 9-13
PTA Meeting: Wednesday, Feb.11
 - **March**
PTA Meeting: Wednesday, Mar.11
 - **April**
PTA Meeting: Wednesday, Apr. 8
 - **May**
PTA Meeting: Wednesday, May 13
Kickball/Game Night: May 8
 - **June**
LAST PTA Meeting: Wednesday, June 3
End of the Year Picnic: June 5
- 
- 



PTA

Parents as Partners

PTA Board 2025-2026

- President: **Christine Tupino**
Email: clarksvilleptapres@gmail.com
- Vice President: **Carl Hewett**
Email: clarksvilleptapres@gmail.com
- Treasurer: **Ankit Joshi**
Email: cmsptatreasurer@gmail.com
- Recording Secretary: **Elizabeth Schechter**
Email: cmsptasecretary1@gmail.com



Questions?



Reunite with your child

SCAN ME



- Meet your child is in their 1st period class
- Maps are posted in the hallways
- You are welcome to walk through building and find classes
- Scheduling questions-Use QR code on left