

GATOR AID

November 19, 2009

Monday- 23rd - (A – Day)

Tuesday –24th - (B-Day)

Wednesday – 25th - (C-Day) – 1:30 PM DISMISSAL

Thursday – 26th – Schools and Offices Closed ~ *Happy Thanksgiving*

Friday – 27th - Schools and Offices Closed

Dear Parents,

We hope you enjoyed visiting during American Education week. More than 1500 visitors took time out of their busy schedules to spend time with their children and grandchildren. We appreciate the many positive comments our guests took time to share about our students, teachers and the school’s positive learning environment. I am sure you would agree that it is a pleasure to be part of a school community in which education is valued so highly.

Throughout the year, our safety team will be conducting drills to practice a variety of procedures that are contained in the school’s emergency plan. We practice fire drills on a regular basis, but other scenarios can demand other responses. Even a power outage or a sudden change in weather can require an alternate plan for moving or dismissing students. Now that the weather is getting colder, we plan to practice evacuations that include moving students from the primary building to the intermediate building and vice versa. If the need arises, classes can be combined in one building for a short period of time in a warm, dry environment. I am making you aware of these drills so they will not come as a surprise when your child tells you about the experience.

The Inclement Weather Codes and Procedures are provided for you in this newsletter. More detail can be found on the www.hcps.org website. It is a good time to review the summary so you are well prepared with a plan for your child should school open late or dismiss early.

Mark your calendars for the two Winter Concerts that will be held at Youth’s Benefit on two evenings in December. On Wednesday, December 16th, the 5th grade band, orchestra and chorus will perform. The evening of Thursday, December 17th is set aside for performances by the 5th grade chorus ensemble, the “Gallant Gators” and the 4th grade chorus. Both events will begin at 7:00 p.m.

Harford County Public Schools will dismiss two hours early on the day before Thanksgiving, Wednesday, November 25th. Please expect your child to be home two hours earlier than usual on that day.

Happy Thanksgiving to everyone!

Angela Morton



Inclement Weather Procedures

Background:

Specific procedures are required to provide clear directions for closing schools, delayed openings, early dismissals, and cancellation of school activities because of inclement weather or other emergencies. The procedures and subsequent public announcements must be easily understood by all staff and by all members of the school community. Since each situation is unique, the Superintendent of Schools must make decisions at various times during the day, and those decisions must be communicated to a variety of interested parties in a swift and precise manner.

Discussion:

Essentially there are three scenarios for which procedures are developed. They are closing schools for students; closing schools and offices; closing schools and offices with essential personnel reporting.

Schools Closed: Code BLUE Harford County Public Schools are closed today.

Schools are closed for students and teachers. School offices and school system central offices will open on time. All evening activities are cancelled.

Schools and School Offices Closed: Code RED

Harford County Public Schools and Offices are closed. No second shift custodians on duty. All evening activities are cancelled.

All schools, school offices, and central offices are closed. All daycare and all evening activities are cancelled. No second shift custodians on duty.

Schools and School Offices Closed: Code GREEN

Harford County Public Schools and Offices are closed. Essential Personnel report for duty (in accordance with 8082.00). No second shift custodians on duty. All evening activities are cancelled.

All schools and offices are closed. Only those identified as Essential Personnel will report according to specific directions upon arrival. No second shift custodians on duty. All daycare and all evening activities are cancelled.

PTA GATOR BITE

Please join the **YBES PTA** today by visiting <http://www.hcps.org/YBES> to print out a membership form or pick one up from the envelopes outside of each office. Thank you for your support!!!!

Please check the school website for additional PTA news and information @ www.hcps.org/YBES.

PTA SPECIAL REQUESTS

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

We are looking for a few good volunteers to help fill the PTA positions listed below:

Book Fair Chair and Committee

Spring Bazaar Games Chair

New Dad Committee Chair

Summer Challenge Chair

If interested, please contact any PTA Board member for more details.
Thank you for your help and continued support!

REFLECTIONS

The Reflections Program was established in 1969 by the National PTA. Since that time, more than 10 million children have participated in the program. The program's longevity and participation figures attest to its strength. Participation and appreciation for the arts is the Reflections Program's goal. Participation is a great way for students to explore and learn about various art forms. Creating art is a valuable learning process that challenges students to use their critical thinking skills as well as their creative talents to create art that supports a specific theme.

THIS YEARS THEME “**BEAUTY IS**”...

Please join us as we acknowledge our participants and winners for the Reflections Program YBES Awards Ceremony on
Wednesday, December 2nd, 2009 in the Intermediate Cafe at 7:00 pm.

BARNES AND NOBLE NIGHT

Thursday, December 10, 2009 from 5 - 8 pm

- ~Come hear our choir sing holiday music and orchestra perform
- ~Take your picture with **Al E. Gator**
- ~Don't miss story time with YBES teachers
- ~We hope to see many YBES families and friends there this is the perfect event to jump start your holiday smiles and fill your hearts with holiday magic!!

Parents, family and friends are welcome to shop throughout the day - just mention YBES, so we are sure to get credit for a portion of your purchase!

