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Student Services Newsletter

October 2020

Please contact your Counselor by email if you have any questions.

Dr. O’s Virtual Office Hours

Scheduled as needed.

Send an email or [fill out this form](#) to request an appointment.

Helpful Information: Go to the Atholton website, <https://ahs.hcpss.org/> or to the <https://hcpss.me/> website to get help in resetting passwords for parents, and many other helpful instructions on how to navigate the links and various sites within the school system.

MOVING?

Moving within Howard County: Complete a [Change of Address form](#) and return to the registrar (allison_sultan@hcpss.org) along with your new proofs of address (your new deed or lease and a current utility bill). If your move means your student will be attending a different Howard County high school we will be in touch to help facilitate that process.

Moving outside of Howard County: Complete a [Withdrawal Form](#) and return to the registrar (allison_sultan@hcpss.org) as soon as possible. This will give us a head start on organizing the documents needed to enroll your student at their new school and help make a smooth transition for you and your student.

Virtual College Visits are in full swing now. Students who signed up should have received a notice that the college is coming, along with the date and time. The actual link for the visit will be sent out the day of the meeting. Students must copy and paste the link and log in through their

HCPSS.me account in order to attend. Unfortunately, out of all the colleges and universities you chose from, only 48 responded with dates and times of visits. As this was a first time endeavour for everyone, we will be making a few updates to the process in order to facilitate more students and possibly more colleges. Our first visit was on September 17, 2020 with the University of Maryland, College Park. This is where we learned of the importance of students logging into the HCPSS.me accounts! It is still a learning experience for us, students, parents and representatives. We appreciate your patience and hope that your experience in a virtual meeting is positive.

If you did not have the chance to sign up, or you missed a meeting, do not despair. In today's Covid 19 atmosphere, colleges and universities have gone the extra mile to provide you with information and virtual experiences on their websites. You can conduct your own research and make informed decisions about the school. In my experiences, I have even found the name of the representative covering Howard County, and sent direct emails with questions. You can do this too, but be mindful of the deadline dates for applications. If you contact representatives after that deadline date, you might not receive an answer immediately, because they will be busy reading those applications.

Good luck with your future planning, and if you have any questions, please contact your counselor.

Ninth Grade - Class of 2024

- Ninth graders taking health first quarter received suicide prevention lessons in class the week of October 5th. Please contact your child's health teacher for more information.
- The ninth grade class will meet during Flex Time on October 12 and December 7. More details will be posted closer to these meetings in the Atholton High School Student Resources Canvas course Announcements.

Juniors - Class of 2022

AHS Counselors will present the first lesson of the year in the next few weeks for all juniors. This lesson will center on career exploration, academic success and post-high school planning. Details of dates, times and Google Meet codes will be announced on Canvas and Naviance.

Seniors - Class of 2021

Do you need a transcript? Please use the proper request forms below:

College transcript requests: Transcript request [form](#).

Transcripts for personal use, HCC Dual Enrollment, or single use like scholarships or internships: [Transcripts for personal use](#).

Remember these upcoming college deadlines!

College Deadline	Transcript and Letter of Recommendation Request Forms Due By
November 15, 2020	October 19, 2020
December 1, 2020	November 3, 2020
December 15, 2020	November 17, 2020
January 1, 2021	November 23, 2020

◆ Remember you DO NOT have to wait until these deadlines. The earlier your requests are made, the smoother the process will be!

Read about FAFSA news from HCC [here](#).

Scholarships

Check with the colleges that you have applied to. Most colleges and universities have their own in-school scholarships. Make sure to read the applications thoroughly. More information will be coming later about scholarships.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Interested in applying for the Carson Scholars? This scholarship program applies to students in grades 9-11 who have been involved in community service within the last calendar year and have achieved a 3.75 GPA from their first quarter report card of this school year. Please see <https://carsonscholars.org/> for more information. Watch for more details about Atholton's nomination process in early November and contact Mrs. Wade with any questions.

AP Program Outline for Atholton High School

- **First Semester AP Courses**
 - Sept-Oct: Students register for AP Portal using the join codes that AP teachers provide to students.
 - **By Nov 13:** Students/families complete this [AP Registration Form](#) to register for taking the exam.
 - Nov-Apr: AP Coordinators will invoice students/families based on November 13th form.
 - Apr 16: Last day to submit payment to participate in May testing.
 - May 3-14: [AP Exams](#)
- **Second Semester AP Courses**
 - Feb: Students register for AP Portal using the join codes that AP teachers provide to students.
 - **By Mar 12:** Students/families complete this [AP Registration Form](#) to register for taking the exam.
 - Note: Form will be sent second semester.*
 - Mar-Apr: AP Coordinators will invoice students/families based on March 12th form.

- Apr 16: Last day to submit payment to participate in May testing.
- May 3-14: [AP Exams](#)

If you have specific questions, please contact Nina Dix at Nina_Dix@hcpss.org or Deborah Sauers at Deborah_Sauers@hcpss.org