

The Road to Kindergarten



Presented by
The Office of Early Childhood Programs
Howard County Public School System

This event is brought to you by the
Howard County
Transition to Kindergarten Workgroup

- Educational consultants
- HCPSS Office of Early Childhood Programs
- HCPSS Pre-K and Kindergarten teachers
- HC Office of Children & Families
- HC Library System
- HC Head Start
- HC Office of Child Care
- HC Family Child Care Association
- The Judy Center at Cradlerock
- Variety of community-based, private child care/preschool programs

Please Be Considerate

- Cell phone ringers should be turned off.
- You are encouraged to check children (2 years+) into the childcare room.
- If children remain here in the auditorium, please be considerate of other audience members and take your child into the hallway if he/she needs to move around or “be noisy”.

Tonight's Agenda:

- ✓ Welcome
- ✓ School Readiness
- ✓ HCPSS Kindergarten Program
- ✓ Registration/Transition Information
- ✓ Q & A

Why Are We Here Tonight?



Because we believe...

**All families want the best
for their children.**

**Going to kindergarten is
a developmental milestone.**

**The transition to kindergarten is
not a one-time event.**

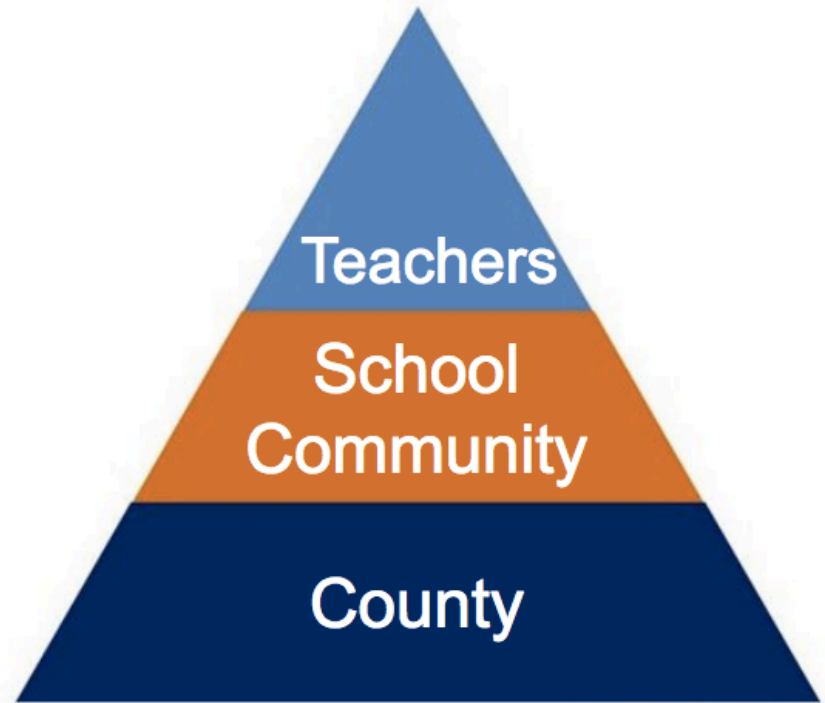
**Not all children have the same
readiness for kindergarten.**

**Schools must be ready for
children and families.**

**Kindergarten is the first step on the way
to college and career readiness.**

Welcome to the **Class of 2030!**

HCPSS is here to support your family during your child's educational journey.



What Does
“Ready for School”
Mean?

“Ready for School” Means...

RReal-life experiences

EEarly vocabulary and literacy exposure

Areas of competence/strengths

Developmentally appropriate activities

Young, curious minds

Support Readiness

Family and Community Resources

These resources have been created to provide parents with support in English / Language Arts instruction.

- Pre-Kindergarten
- Kindergarten
- Grade 1
- Grade 2
- Grade 3
- Grade 4
- Grade 5


Curriculum for Grades K–12

Curriculum for Grades K–12

Early Childhood Beginnings Ages 3 to 5

HOWARD COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

When are Children "Ready" to Start School?



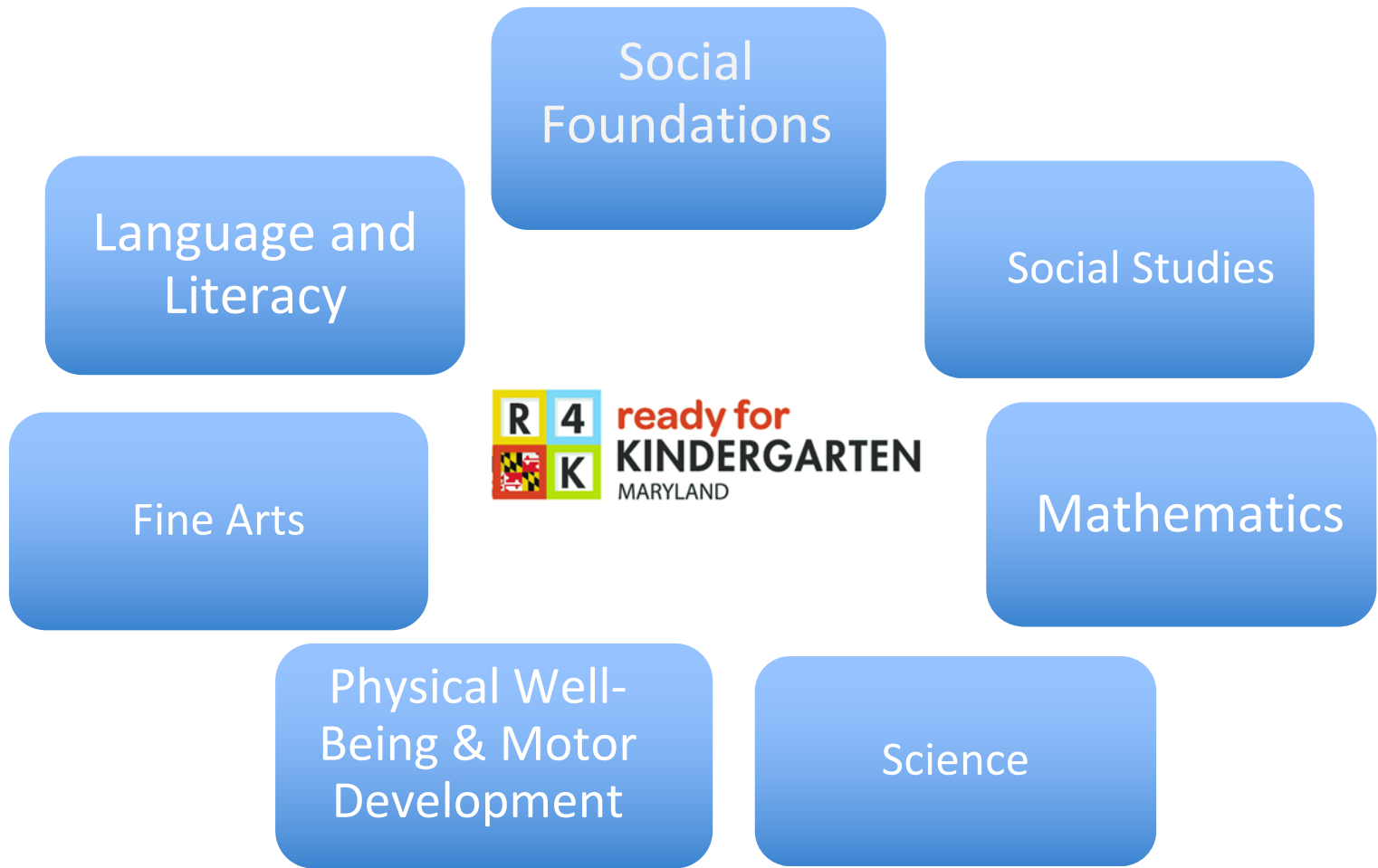
A child's readiness for school depends on many things. In Maryland a child is considered ready for school when he/she is five years old (by September 1) and has the abilities and the knowledge to successfully learn in kindergarten.

The Maryland Model for School Readiness (MMRSR) helps parents, teachers, and early childhood providers understand what children need to know and be able to do when they start school. It includes seven areas:

- 1. SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT**
Does your child get along with other people, show concern for others, and participate in group activities? Is your child curious? When facing a problem, does he keep trying? Is your child a risk-taker? Is she able to work independently on given tasks?
- 2. LANGUAGE AND LITERACY**
Does your child speak clearly, and listen to and understand others? Does she know the difference between written and non-written information? Does she understand stories that she has heard or read? Can she sequence events from a story? Can she retell a story?
- 3. MATHEMATICAL THINKING**
Is your child able to sort things by color or shape or other characteristics? Can she recognize patterns? Does he understand such ideas as "top," "bottom," "first," "second," etc.? Can she represent relationships between numbers by showing "more than" or "less than" or comparing groups of objects?
- 4. SCIENTIFIC THINKING**
Does your child explore and make guesses (predictions) based on things he observes? Does she understand cause and effect? Does he use all of his senses to gain information?
- 5. SOCIAL STUDIES**
Does your child use the word "I" to express knowledge about herself? Does she understand her role and the roles of others in the family and the community?
- 6. THE ARTS**
Does your child express himself by trying artistic activities? Does he understand different kinds of art (visual art, music, drama, etc.)? Does he use different kinds of materials (chalk, buttons, string, etc.) to make art? Does he look for new ideas?
- 7. PHYSICAL WELL-BEING AND MOTOR DEVELOPMENT**
Does your child have the physical basics (food, clothing, shelter and regular health and dental care) so that she can focus and participate in school? Is she able to run, jump, play ball and climb stairs? Can he use scissors appropriately? Can he draw with a pencil?

Additional resources, activities and materials for parents with young children provided by the Office of Early Childhood, www.hcpd.net/oe

Path to School Success



Our Vision



We strive to ensure that instruction at the kindergarten level:

- prepares students for success as lifelong learners by developing the academic, social and emotional knowledge, strategies, and skills needed to participate responsibly in a diverse and changing world...
- utilizes a child-centered approach to ensure that each child develops a love of learning
- and supports adjustments to the social setting of a formal classroom so that students can actually attain the skills and knowledge of the curriculum while learning how to function effectively in the classroom setting.

Every Day in Kindergarten...

Developmentally Appropriate Practices

Expressive Language Opportunities

Social/Emotional/Behavioral Skill Development

Integrated Instruction



What Might a Day in Kindergarten Look Like?

Arrival/Morning Work

Opening/Morning Meeting

Language Arts

Science/Social Studies/Health

Recess/Lunch

Quiet Time

Mathematics

Related Arts

Student-Selected Activities

Arrival/Morning Work



Opening/Morning Meeting



Language Arts



Science/Social Studies/Health



Lunch/Recess



Take Ten/Quiet Time



Mathematics



Related Arts



Art
Music
P.E. (Physical Education)
Library Media
Technology

Student Selected Activities



Kindergarten Instruction
= Differentiated Instruction



www.hcpss.org

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR...

Services & Information

School Calendar

Stay up-to-date on system-wide events and closings.

HCPSS Connect

Access your student's information and classroom instructional tools

Enrollment and Registration

How to enroll your child in the school system

Food Services

View menus, meal prices, and make online payments

HCPSS Forms

Health, medication, athletic, and application forms

HCPSS Mobile Apps

Aggregate district news and events, check menus, view grades in Canvas

School & Bus Locator

Find your child's school and view bus pickup times

Staff Hub

The daily launchpad for HCPSS employees and departments

Trending Topics

Emergency / Weather Closings

Stay up-to-date on weather-related school closings.

FY 2018 Proposed Budget

View the Superintendent's Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2018.

School Start and Dismissal Times

Compare models and provide feedback to the committee.

2017-2018 Academic Calendar

Board of Education is reviewing a new proposal for the 2017-2018 Academic Calendar.



HCPSS News

[Sign-up \(Non-HCPSS
Parents/Guardians\)](#)

[Sign-Up \(Staff Only\)](#)

[Review Account \(Non-HCPSS
Parents/Guardians & Staff Only\)](#)

[HCPSS News FAQs](#)

Parent Subscriptions

Parents/guardians of enrolled HCPSS students do not need to sign up for, or manage an HCPSS News account. All subscription information comes directly from the [HCPSS Connect](#) system.

Text Messages

To comply with wireless carrier requirements, parents/guardians must opt into receiving HCPSS text message alerts. Standard data fees and text messaging rates may apply based on your mobile plan. If you are unsure if you have already opted in, text the word "YES" to 67587 from the [cell phone number on file in HCPSS Connect](#).

Please contact your child's school if you have questions regarding your information in HCPSS Connect.

School & Bus Locator

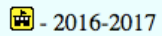
Search Again

Address: **10910 CLARKSVILLE PK**
(Planning Polygon # 1175)

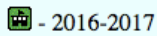
School Year	School Level	Assigned School	School Hours	Bus/Route Info
2016-2017	Elementary	Longfellow ES	08:55 AM-03:25 PM	Call (410) 313-6732
2016-2017	Middle	Harpers Choice MS	08:05 AM-02:50 PM	Call (410) 313-6732
2016-2017	High	Wilde Lake HS	07:25 AM-02:10 PM	Call (410) 313-6732

Legend:

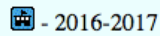
(Click school icon for more info.)



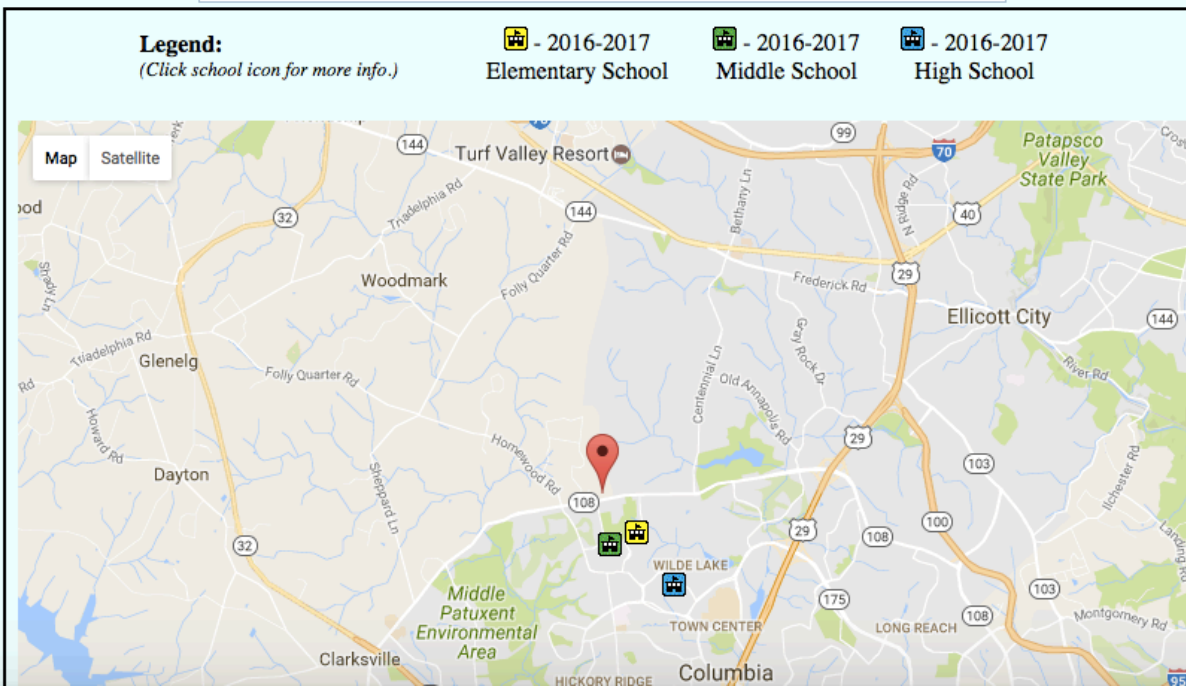
- 2016-2017
Elementary School



- 2016-2017
Middle School



- 2016-2017
High School





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High Schools
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Athletics Weather-Related
Procedures
Athletic Contacts
Athletics Forms

Student Handbook
Visiting Schools
Safe Schools
School Planning (Maps)
Use of School Facilities

[View all of our schools →](#)

Elementary Schools

[School Directory](#)

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[Middle Schools](#)

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[Education Centers](#)

[Charter Schools](#)

[Enrollment Reports and Class Sizes](#)

[School Planning](#)

[Opening and Closing Times](#)

[School Visitation](#)

For an overview of all of our elementary schools, including accomplishments, facts and figures, and test scores, please view [All HCPSS Elementary School Profiles](#) 📄.

Atholton Elementary School

9:15 a.m. – 3:45 p.m.



Principal – Shawna Holden

6700 Seneca Drive, Columbia, MD 21046 ([Google map](#))

410-313-6853

410-313-7410, fax

- [HCPSS Individual School Profile](#) 📄
- [MSDE Individual School Performance Report*](#) 📄
- [Walk Area Map](#) 📄
- [Web Site](#) 🌐
- [MD Green Schools Portfolio](#) 🌐



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Utilize our Services

Enrollment and Registration
Transportation
Food and Nutrition Services
Before and After Care

Special Education
Health Services
School Counseling Services
Psychological Services
Pupil Personnel Services

International Services
Academic Intervention
Home and Hospital

Our Bus Services

Howard County Public School System (HCPSS) provides safe, reliable, and efficient transportation to and from school for enrolled students living beyond a one-mile walking distance from elementary and middle schools and a one and one-half mile walking distance from high schools.

 [Find your student's bus route →](#)



New School Year Readiness and Responsibilities

Families with younger children should practice walking to their assigned bus stops together and help their children memorize their bus numbers and school name. Parents should also write down their child's stop location and school name and place it in a safe location accessible to the student. Ensure that your child knows their bus number and school name.

Find out more about:



- [Parent Responsibilities](#)
- [Student Responsibilities](#)

We serve more than 4 million high-quality meals per year

What's on the menu?

HCPSS students and their families can now view menus and nutrition and allergen information for meals served in all HCPSS schools through **Nutrislice**, a website and free smartphone app.

 [VIEW MENUS](#)

Download the Nutrislice app for  iOS or  Android.



Paying for meals

Parents may prepay for student meals by setting up an online account at myschoolbucks.com. There is a \$2.25 processing fee for each transaction. Each transaction can be up to \$120.00 in total.

[CREATE A NEW ACCOUNT](#)

OR

[LOG-IN TO EXISTING ACCOUNT](#)

Students also have the option of paying with cash on a daily basis. Each student has been issued a PIN to use when purchasing meals with cash or prepayment. If a student has forgotten their PIN, cashiers can look the PIN up by student name. This PIN allows HCPSS to receive reimbursements from the National School Lunch Program. Meals purchased without a PIN are not reimbursable.

Before and After School Care

Agencies That Serve Howard County Public Schools

Below is the contact information for the 2 agencies that serve Howard County public schools. The elementary and middle schools that are aligned with these programs, are listed after the agency.

Columbia Association

Before and After School Care – School Age Services

Contact: 410-715-3164 or SAS@ColumbiaAssociation.org

Howard County Recreation and Parks

Before and After School (for elementary children)

Contact: 410-313-7275



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Explore our Academic Programs

English/Language Arts

Mathematics

Science (Elementary)

Science (Secondary)

Social Studies (Elementary)

Social Studies (Secondary)

Career Academies

Career and Tech Education

Digital Education

ESOL

Fine Arts

Health Education

Library Media

Physical Education

World Languages

Alternative Education

Elementary School Model

Grow Strong Middle Schools

Gifted and Talented

Instructional Technology

Kindergarten Readiness

Pre-K Program

Section 504

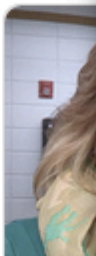
Service Learning

Special Education

Testing

Title I

[Get an overview of our curriculum →](#)



Staff
MRH
spor

Getting Ready for Kindergarten

[← Back to Enrollment and Registration](#)

Registration for new 2017-18 Kindergarten students.

Countywide Kindergarten and New First Grader Registration **begins the week of February 27-March 3**. During this week, no appointment is required for registration. Please [bring needed documents](#) to your [assigned school](#).

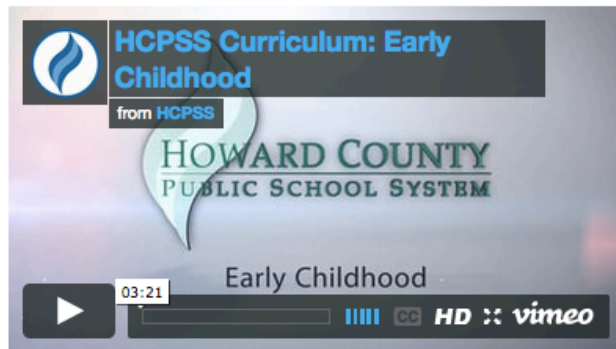
Prior to kindergarten there are many things parents can do to support their child's transition to school. From making sure appropriate documentation is gathered, to playing and reading with and listening to their child, the year before Kindergarten is a great opportunity to develop school readiness!

- **New to the area? Was your student a Kindergartener in a different district?** [Fill out enrollment forms and make an appointment with your child's upcoming school](#) →

Kindergarten teachers are prepared for children to enter school with varying abilities, strengths and needs. Each child is taught at his/her appropriate level through differentiated instruction.

Readiness Resources

- [What does Ready for School Mean?](#) 📖
- [Tips for Turning Everyday Activities into Learning Activities](#) – Talk, Listen, Read, Play – Getting Ready for School Begins at Birth
- [Road to Kindergarten Booklist](#) – Partnership between the Howard County Library and the HCPSS
- [What your child will learn](#) in kindergarten



Contact the Office of Early Childhood Programs, 410-313-5693, with any additional questions.

<http://www.hcpss.org/enroll/>

Register your Child for School

Step 1 – Assess Eligibility and Needs

New Students

Students who have never attended a HCPSS school must be registered by their custodial parent (biological, adoptive, legal guardian).

New Kindergarten Students

Children must be 5 years old by September 1 in order to enroll in kindergarten. Every child who is 5 years old by September 1 must be enrolled in a kindergarten program this fall or have an approved waiver.

New Pre-Kindergarten Students

HCPSS offers a half-day prekindergarten program. Students must be four years old by September 1, 2016 to be considered for enrollment.

Unlike enrollment for K-12, parents must apply for admission to pre-kindergarten. [Learn more →](#)

Seeking Early Admission?

[Find out more and see if your child qualifies →](#)

Current Students

Current HCPSS enrolled students moving between schools within the system

- Moving over the **summer**? Find and contact your child's **upcoming school** to begin the transfer process. [Verify your child's upcoming school →](#)
- Moving **during the school year**? Contact your child's **current school** and they will assist you with the transfer process.

Current HCPSS pre-kindergarten students do not need to be re-registered for kindergarten because they are already enrolled as an HCPSS student.



Students who need ESOL services or parents who need language support should contact an International Student Registration Call Center.

Kindergarten Registration begins

February 27-March 3, 2017!

You will need:

- Picture I.D. (driver's license, military I.D., or passport)
- Current lease or deed (to show address, valid dates, signatures)
- Current utility bill with name and address
- Child's proof of birth (birth certificate/registration, baptismal or church certificate, hospital certificate, passport/visa, parent's affidavit, physician's certificate)
- Child's current proof of immunizations
- Proof of custody, if applicable

Kindergarten Registration begins

February 27-March 3, 2017!

Language support is available at the International Student Registration Center.

Children already enrolled in a HCPSS school as a prekindergarten student DO NOT need to re-enroll for kindergarten. Parents will receive information from child's current school and records will be transferred.

Events At YOUR School May Include:

- Registration
- Visitation/Tours
- Parent Information Session
- Spring Picnic
- Summer Playdates
- Orientation
- Back-to-School Night



This Might Be of Interest to You!

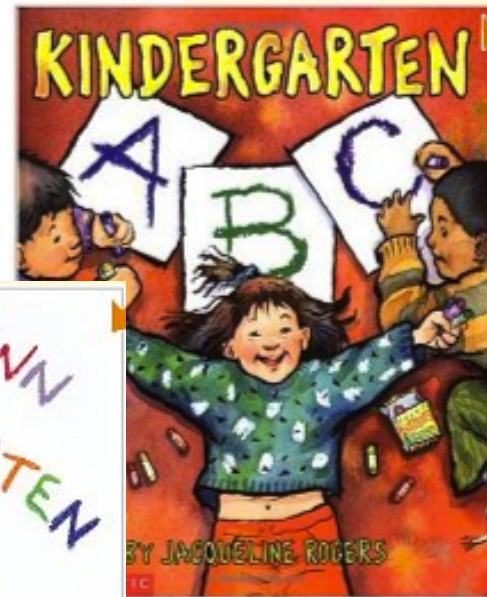
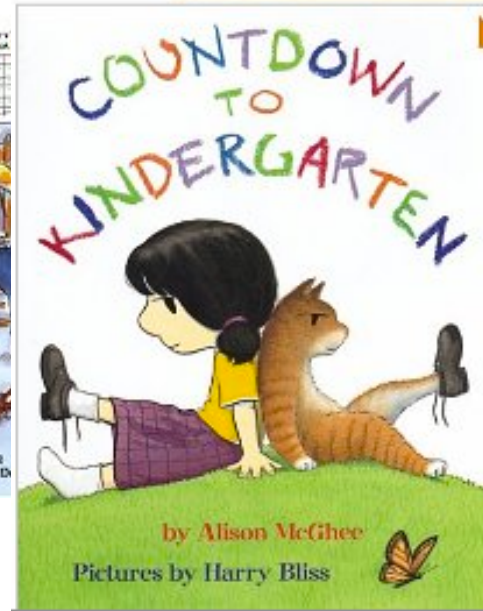
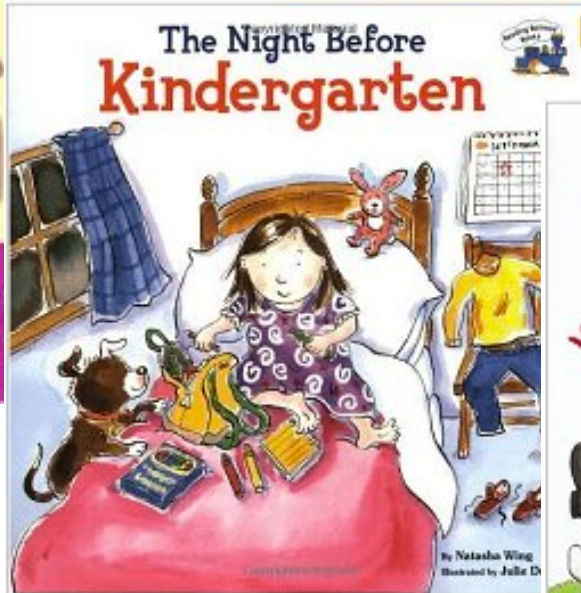
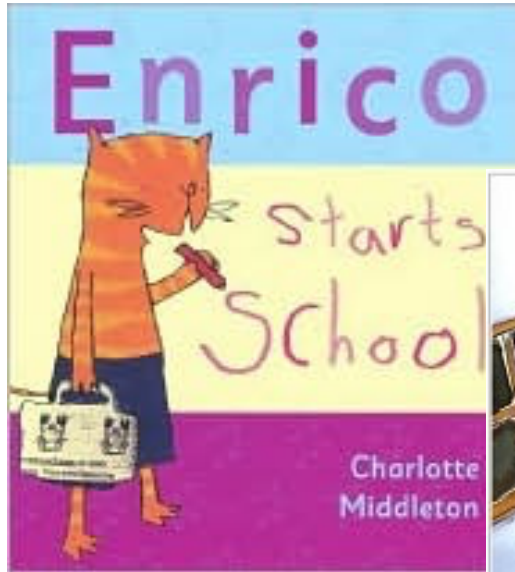
Annual Children's Discovery Fair

April 1, 2017 from 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
At Cradlerock Elementary School

"Kindergarten Here We Come" classes

At your local HC Library in August
Dates/times to be determined

Read Stories About School With Your Child!



Advice for Kindergarten Parents

- Become involved in your school- find ways to volunteer, join the PTA, go to school events!
- Sign up for email or text alerts!
- Get to know other parents!
- Never be afraid to ask questions!
- Know that it's *normal* to feel a wide range of emotions!
- Share your excitement and curiosity with your child (not your anxiety)!


“School Readiness Toolkits”

Please turn in your feedback form as you leave in order to receive your toolkit.

Early Childhood Beginnings Ages 3 to 5

HOWARD COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS SYSTEM

When are Children “Ready” to Start School?



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A primary resource for parents with young children created by the State of New Hampshire. See www.readyforthe.org/ for more information on school readiness.

Path to School Success



Questions?

Office of Early Childhood Programs

410-313-5693

Lisa Davis

Kym Nwosu

Amy Raymond

Kris Woodson

Have a great next stop in **KINDERGARTEN!**

