

The HCPSS Curriculum

Fulfilling the Promise of Preparation

About Our Curriculum

The Howard County Public School System (HCPSS) is nationally recognized as a leader in teaching and learning. Our rigorous instructional program engages students through relevant, real-world classroom experiences. The HCPSS curriculum is written by Howard County teachers and is designed to provide students a thorough grounding in essential knowledge and skills that will give them a leading edge in tomorrow's global environment. Our curriculum challenges students to think strategically, solve problems, innovate, collaborate, communicate effectively, and achieve goals.

The HCPSS curriculum is aligned to the Common Core State Standards. These standards for English Language Arts and mathematics education resulted from a state-led effort coordinated by the National Governors Association Center for Best Practices (NGA Center) and the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO). The Standards were developed in collaboration with teachers, school administrators, and experts to provide a clear and consistent framework to prepare our students for college and the workforce.

Additional information about these standards can be found at: www.hcpss.org/academics/common-core.



The HCPSS Curriculum is...

Focused. Mastery of essential skills is emphasized at each level, so students build the skills and confidence to tackle more advanced concepts.

Interdisciplinary. Our curriculum enriches student understanding by connecting and reinforcing skills across content areas. For example, reading, writing, and mathematical reasoning are incorporated into the curriculum of every subject.

Engaging. Content is made meaningful to students through thought-provoking, invigorating, and interactive classroom instruction.




Family Engagement is a major pillar of Vision 2018, and the HCPSS is committed to empowering parents as full partners in the educational process. Parents can find descriptions of the English Language Arts and mathematics curriculum covered in each grade level, and resources for reinforcing and supporting their child's learning at home, at www.hcpss.org/academics.



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