

# Harper's Choice Middle School

## PROFILE

5450 Beaverkill Road • Columbia, MD 21044 • 410-313-6929 • hcms.hcpss.org/



Harper's Choice Middle School is committed to meeting the needs of our diverse learning community. Our students bring with them a rich mixture of cultures and talents that contribute to a dynamic school community.

HCMS students have access to a rigorous academic program including a variety of enrichment opportunities. Enrichment opportunities at HCMS include 3 Lego Robotics Teams, Tri-M Music Honor Society, and a number of athletic and academic intramural programs including Wiffle Ball, Girls on the Run, Dance, Volleyball, Basketball, and Drama which are offered throughout the year. Students may participate in a multitude of curricular enrichment programs including HCTV, Speech and Debate, Filmmaking, and the Green Team. Students may also participate in our CATS (Cougar Academic Tracks for Success) after school program, a partnership with Howard County Recreation and Parks. In addition to our wide variety of academic activities, the HCMS staff, students, and community promote a safe and nurturing environment through our award-winning Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) Program.

The success and stability of Harper's Choice is directly related to our highly qualified and dedicated staff as well as the involvement and the support of our parents and community. The wide variety and number of opportunities for students at HCMS is made possible through the active support of our PTA.

Established in 1973, Harper's Choice Middle School has been serving the community for over 40 years. Our staff, students, and community are proud of the rich history of HCMS and focused on continuing to prepare our students for participation in a diverse, challenging, and increasingly competitive global society.

### Fast Facts

**Facility opened:** 1973

**Additions/Renovations**  
2001 (R)

**School Capacity:** 506  
*(This does not include additional capacity provided by 5 portable classrooms.)*

**Total Enrollment:** 503  
*Official count 9/30/18*

<b>Ethnicity FY19</b>	
American Indian/Alaskan	≤5.0%
Asian	8.4%
Black/African American	50.1%
Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	≤5.0%
Hispanic/Latino	15.9%
White	18.1%
Two or more races	7.2%

### Students Receiving Special Services FY18

Free/Reduced Lunch	45.2%
Ltd. English Proficient	5.5%
Special Education	10.2%

**PTA members:** 187

### Administrators:

Adam Eldridge, Principal  
Rashmi Bury, Assistant Principal  
Kristin Terry, Assistant Principal

*Updated January 2019*

## Achievement Data

### HCMS Performance on State Tests – FY18

Measure	Results
Percent Proficient Mathematics	35.9%
Percent Proficient English Language Arts	35.1%

State accountability information for HCMS can be accessed at <https://hcpssne.ws/hcms-reportcd>

## Special Programs / Partnerships

- Alternative Education Program
- BSAP Program
- Drama Program
- Environmental Education Week at NorthBay Camp
- Extended Day Program – Bridges Grant (21st Century Community Learning Centers) for Academic Intervention and Enrichment
- Girls on the Run
- History Day Competition
- Maryland Meals for School Achievement
- “Our Voice” Literary Magazine
- Student Enrichment Activities: Research Design Class, Book Club, Debate Team, HCTV Television Production, Film, Photography, and Lego Robotics Teams
- Sweet Serenades (a performing arts evening sponsored by Music Boosters)

### Educational Partnerships

- A-OK Mentoring-Tutoring, Inc.
- Harper's Choice Community Association
- Howard Community College, Admissions and Advising Office
- Howard County Department of Recreation and Parks
- Howard County General Hospital, A Member of Johns Hopkins Medicine
- Howard County Library, Central Branch
- Howard County Office on Aging and Independence, Florence Bain Senior Center
- Howard County Police Department, Harper's Choice Village Center
- McDonald's, Harpers Farm Road
- No Kid Hungry, Share Our Strength
- Safeway, Harpers Farm Road
- Salazar Catering Services/Boardroom Café
- Winter Growth

## Accomplishments

- Maryland Green School, Certified
- Maryland PBIS Silver Award, 2017–18
- Maryland Fine Arts Grant provides Shakespeare Residency Program, 2012–18
- Bright Minds Foundation Grant
- 2 National Board Certified Teachers
- Recognized a Carson Scholar, 2017–18
- Professional Development School in partnership with Towson University to support education interns.
- State Qualifier in Lego Robotics Competition
- Students selected for Howard County Honors Band, HC GT Honors Orchestra, HC 6th grade Honors Chorus and HC GT Jr. High School Chorus