



Dear Hanover County Online School Community, Please accept my sincere wishes for a wonderful holiday season. As we continue to navigate through what has been an extraordinary and challenging year, I hope you will find time over winter break for relaxation and recharging. I can't say enough about how proud I am of the Online teachers and students for successfully and positively navigating uncharted waters this fall. I am also deeply grateful for the entire Online Community - including parents, face-to-face school colleagues, community partners, and my colleagues at the division level. Our school is a true story of team work!! I feel so fortunate to be a part of this magnificent team!

Gratefully - Dr. Gresham

#### [Online School Website](#)

Updates for the Week of 12/14/2020

Important Resources
Phone numbers, team member names, and other important information about Hanover Online School may be <a href="#">found here</a> .
Information for Everyone
<p><b>Winter Break Information</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All schools will close for winter break beginning on December 21st. Schools will reopen on January 4th.</li> <li>• The OWL school phone will not be answered during this time. While the Online Leadership Team will be taking some vacation time, please forward any urgent messages to <a href="#">our email addresses</a>, and we will respond as soon as possible.</li> <li>• Please be aware that all school and county offices will be closed on Dec 24-25 and January 1.</li> </ul> <p><b>Become a Techspert!</b></p> <p>This week's episode, Episode 6 will be broken into three parts so that you can watch all or parts of it!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Part 1: How to Take a Screenshot Using Your Chromebook</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Part 2: How You Use the Camera and Video on Your Chromebook</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Part 3: How to Insert a Photo into a Google Doc/Slides</a></li> </ul> <p>Don't forget to subscribe to the Techspert YouTube Playlist <a href="#">here</a>.</p> <p><b>Counseling Resources for Parents:</b> As we dive deeper into the school year and are approaching the holidays, the school counseling team wanted to share an AMAZING resource for our parents, developed by a BCMS school counselor. <a href="#">Click here</a> to find information to support your student, yourself, and your family. Topics include: local counseling services, social emotional resources (anxiety/stress management), college and career support, and more!</p> <p>Additionally - please remember that our awesome OWL counselors as well as the home school counselors are</p>

always available to assist students and parents.

**OWL Counselors:**

- Christina Freeman (K - 2) - [cmfreeman@hcps.us](mailto:cmfreeman@hcps.us)
- Jennifer Gray (3 - 5) - [jwgray@hcps.us](mailto:jwgray@hcps.us)
- Kathryn Shapiro (6-12) - [kshapiro@hcps.us](mailto:kshapiro@hcps.us)

**Home School Counselors**

**Share your pics :** Snap your photos/ videos and email them to: [owlmedia@students.hcps.us](mailto:owlmedia@students.hcps.us)

Make sure to include a description of the event & the student's name involved. Note: by uploading to this email you are granting permission for the media team to use.

**Hanover Online PTO:** Use [this form](#) to make sure that the PTO has your email address to keep you up-to-date on everything that is happening. Use this form to [get involved with our committees](#) (students and families!). Mark your calendars for the next PTO meeting on January 11.

Join us for a [Chipotle Virtual Spirit Night](#) Wednesday, December 16 from 5 pm - 9 pm at the Bell Creek Road location. 33% of all purchases go to hands-on materials for our OWL students.

*Virtual Supply Closet* These items are made available to students in need. Please help us keep supplies in stock for our owls by [donating items](#). Headphones and earbuds are always in high demand! If you have a student in need of virtual supplies [please complete this form](#) and we will be following up with you about arranging pickup.

**Information for the Elementary OWLs**

**Elementary Spirit Week:** Join in on some festive fun as we count down to winter break! [OWL Elementary Spirit Week](#)

**Attendance Reminders:** Daily attendance is crucial for student learning. We ask your cooperation in ensuring your child is logged in and engaging in all components of the synchronous day. If your child is experiencing technical difficulties or will be absent from class, please submit notices in the [parent attendance portal](#).

**Literacy Footprints:** Students in grade K-5 will be using the Literacy Footprints Digital Reader in small groups and for independent reading time. The site can be accessed through ClassLink. Please take a few minutes to practice logging on with your child. [Click here for an overview of the student dashboard, and links to tutorials for the students.](#)

**Report Card Information:** Just a friendly reminder that you do NOT have to sign and return your child's report to your teacher. The paper copy of the report card is just for parents' information.

## 5th Grade Parents

Information for Middle School Registration: At this time (stay tuned for any changes), the timeline for signing up for middle school electives is the following:

- Parent Portal will be open February 15 - March 1 (More information to come after Winter Break)
- Registration will take place from March 1 - April 23
- Verification forms will be sent home on June 4th

Below is the link for the Program of Studies. If you want a hard copy, you can get them from your home schools around mid-January.

If you have questions, please contact the 5th grade OWL school counselor, Mrs. Jennifer Gray, at [jwgray@hcps.us](mailto:jwgray@hcps.us).

- [Middle School Program of Studies Link](#)
- [High School Program of Studies Link](#)

## Information for the Middle School OWLs

**Home Middle School Newsletters:** Keep in the loop with activities from your home school by reviewing their respective weekly newsletter! Students can see updates from their school on their Schoology page. Be sure to check these frequently to stay up to date on activities, events, and important dates from your home schools!

- [Bell Creek Middle School](#)
- [Chickahominy Middle School](#)
- [Liberty Middle School](#)
- [Oak Knoll Middle School](#)
- [Owl Middle School](#)

**Attendance Reminders:** It is very important to review the [daily schedule](#) with your middle school child. Students are expected to be in their seat and ready for learning at the start of each class. Students will be marked as tardy if they arrive 7 minutes past the start time of class. Daily attendance is taken in each of the four blocks. If a student is experiencing technical difficulties or will be absent from class, please submit notices in the [parent attendance portal](#). When teachers are absent from class, they use warm-ups and exit tickets to account for attendance. Students are expected to attend all blocks every day. Beginning 2nd quarter, teachers will be checking in with students throughout the block to ensure they are present. Students must respond to the teacher via chat, by speaking, or by turning on the camera to be marked present.

**Teacher Support Time** Teachers are available for small group work or 1:1 support time with students every day from 3:30-4:00. Teachers may designate different days for different subjects or courses, so please look at the course syllabus or touch base with the teacher for specific information.

**"Middle of the Nest"** - This week our theme is HOLIDAYS! Come with your favorite holiday gear on, talk about traditions and celebrations that your family celebrates! Presentation and Sign-up Link - [click here!](#)

### Make-up Pictures:

BCMS - 12/16 4:15-6:15 pm - must sign up in advance ([www.pickatime.com/candidcolor/bellcreek](http://www.pickatime.com/candidcolor/bellcreek))

LMS - 12/15 3:45-5:00 pm - must sign up in advance ([www.pickatime.com/candidcolor/liberty](http://www.pickatime.com/candidcolor/liberty))

OKMS - 12/16 4-5:30 pm - must sign up in advance ([www.pickatime.com/candidcolor/oakknoll](http://www.pickatime.com/candidcolor/oakknoll))

**Online Middle & High Winter Wonderland Week!** - [Click here to see details!](#) Our fun begins on Monday!

## Information for the High School OWLs

**January 2021 High School SOL Testing:** Please [click here for the division email](#) sent out recently regarding January 2021 SOL administration for high school students. An additional FAQ document will also be coming out very soon. We realize there is a great deal of information to sort through as you make decisions for your students. Because every situation is so different, it's impossible to address each one in any single document. Therefore, families are encouraged to reach out to either the OWL School Test Coordinator or their home school Test Coordinators as they can help work through the intricacies of individual student situations. Please know that it is the desire of the division to help families make a choice about January SOL testing that best fits with their situations and concerns.

- Online High School: Matt Vuiller (mvuiller@hcps.us)
- Atlee High School: Tricia Moran (pmoran@hcps.us)
- Hanover High School: Janice Massey (jmassey@hcps.us)
- Mechanicsville High School: Bonita Reynolds (breynolds@hcps.us)
- Patrick Henry High School: Kelly Day (kday@hcps.us)

**Home High School Newsletters:** Keep in the loop with activities from your home school by reviewing their respective weekly newsletter! Students can see updates from their school on their Schoology page. Be sure to check these frequently to stay up to date on activities, events, and important dates from your home schools!

- [Atee High School](#)
- [Hanover High School](#) (12/9 Mid-Week Message)
- [Mechanicsville High School](#)
- [Patrick Henry High School](#)

**Attendance Reminders:** It is very important for students to be logged in and active in their Zoom classes each day. Daily attendance is taken in each of the four blocks (except study halls). If a student is experiencing technical difficulties or will be absent from class, please submit notices in the [parent attendance portal](#). When teachers are absent from class, they use Google forms, warm-ups, etc. to account for attendance. Students are expected to attend all blocks every day. Beginning 3rd quarter, teachers will be checking in with students throughout the block to ensure they are present. Students must respond to the teacher via chat, by speaking, or by turning on the camera to be marked present.

**2020-2021 Senior Scholarship Application/Scholarship Opportunities:** Attention Seniors, the 2020-21 Senior Scholarship Application is now open for you to access! Completing this application will qualify you to be considered for scholarships provided by several area businesses. The deadline to complete the application is Thursday, December 31, 2020, at 11:59 p.m. See the following links to access the Senior Scholarship Application, a checklist of information you will need to complete your application and the Scholarship Opportunities Spreadsheet, a listing of local, national and community scholarships that you can start searching and applying for today! Please contact your home school's Career Counselor with any questions. Thank you!

AHS and PHHS - Contact Ms. Edwards ([spedwards@hcps.us](mailto:spedwards@hcps.us))

HHS and MHS - Contact Ms. Corbin ([acorbin@hcps.us](mailto:acorbin@hcps.us))

- <https://bit.ly/HCPSSeniorScholarshipApp2021>
- [http://bit.ly/SeniorScholarshipAppChecklist\\_2020-21](http://bit.ly/SeniorScholarshipAppChecklist_2020-21)
- <http://bit.ly/ScholarshipOpportunitiesHCPS>

#### **Upcoming Virtual College Visits:**

- University of Virginia's College at Wise – Tuesday, December 15
- College of Mount Saint Vincent (NY) – Wednesday, December 16
- Jacksonville University – Thursday, December 17
- National Technical Institute for the Deaf – Thursday, January 7
- Johnson & Wales University – Friday, January 8
- United States Naval Academy – Monday, January 11
- Les Roches Global Hospitality Management – Tuesday, January 12
- Mary Baldwin University – Wednesday, January 13
- Texas A&M University (College Station, TX) – Thursday, January 14
- Full Sail University (FL) – Friday, January 15

Sign up for Virtual College Visits: <http://bit.ly/VirtualCollegeVisits2020>.

If you haven't already done so, you can sign up for Virtual College/Military Visits by clicking on the following link: <http://bit.ly/VirtualCollegeVisits2020>. You can also view our recent virtual visits this past week at [College Visits Playlist!](#)

Virtual College/Military visits will take place from 12:30 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. with the exception of National Technical Institute for the Deaf which will begin at 12:00 p.m. Following each virtual visit, we will send out a pre-recorded presentation on Schoology about the college/military visit for those that were unable to attend the live session. All students who registered for a career or college/military event will receive a Zoom meeting link at the email provided when registering. Students are asked to register at least 48 hours in advance of the virtual event.

**Online Middle & High Winter Wonderland Spirit Week!** [Click here to see details!](#)

Remember to make sure you are signed up to receive email messages from both Online School as well as your home school. Email subscriptions can be managed [here](#).

Please use [this page](#) to access information about **Elementary** Home School events. If you have questions about any of these events, please reach out to the elementary school.

**Secondary students** can see updates from their schools in their Schoology courses and in the home school newsletters (please see sections above). Please make sure to check these frequently to stay up to date on activities, events, and important dates from your home schools.

**Elementary school picture day information** will be entered into [this document](#). Please contact home schools with questions.