



STUDENT HANDBOOK

***Long Reach High School
6101 Old Dobbin Lane
Columbia, MD 21045
P: 410-313-7117***

Long Reach High School

Vision: Every student and staff member embraces diversity and possesses the skills, knowledge and confidence to positively influence the larger community.

Mission: HCPSS ensures academic success and socioemotional well-being for each student in an inclusive and nurturing environment that closes opportunity gaps.



Ms. Lynnette Moore, Principal

Mr. Malcolm Anderson, Assistant Principal

Mr. Michael Cometa, Assistant Principal

Mrs. Tiffani James, Assistant Principal

Mr. Daniel Sageman, Assistant Principal

Mr. Joseph Thomas, Athletic and Activities Manager

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Calendar



2025–2026 School Year Calendar Key Dates and School Closings

Date	Calendar Event
August 14, 2025	First day for staff
August 25, 2025	First day of school for K–12 students
August 28, 2025	First day of school for Pre-K/RECC students
September 1, 2025	Schools and offices closed*
September 17, 2025	Schools close 3 hours early – Prof. Learning/Work & Wellness Day. No half-day Pre-K/RECC.
September 23, 2025	Schools and offices closed
October 2, 2025	Schools and offices closed
October 17, 2025	Schools closed for students – Professional Work Day/MSEA Convention
October 20, 2025	Schools and offices closed
October 31, 2025	Schools close 3 hours early – Professional Work Day. No half-day Pre-K/RECC.
November 12, 2025	Schools close 3 hours early – Prof. Learning/Work & Wellness Day. No half-day Pre-K/RECC.
November 24–25, 2025	Schools close 3 hours early – ES/MS Parent/Teacher Conferences. HS Professional Learning (11/24). No half-day Pre-K/RECC.
November 26, 2025	Schools closed for students – Parent/Teacher Conferences
November 27–28, 2025	Schools and offices closed*
December 24, 2025–January 2, 2026	Schools closed* – WINTER BREAK
December 24–25, 2025	Schools and offices closed
January 1–2, 2026	Schools and offices closed
January 19, 2026	Schools and offices closed*
January 22, 2026	Schools close 3 hours early – Professional Learning Day. No half-day Pre-K/RECC.
January 23, 2026	Middle and high schools only close 3 hours early. No half-day Pre-K/RECC.
January 26, 2026	Schools closed for students – Professional Work Day
February 4, 2026	Schools closed for students – Countywide Professional Learning Day
February 5–6, 2026	Elementary schools only close 3 hours early – Parent/Teacher Conferences. No half-day Pre-K/RECC.
February 16–17, 2026	Schools and offices closed*
March 3, 2026	Schools close 3 hours early – Prof. Learning Day/Work & Wellness Day. No half-day Pre-K/RECC.
March 20, 2026	Schools closed for students – Professional Work Day
March 30–April 6, 2026	Schools closed – SPRING BREAK
April 3 & 6, 2026	Schools and offices closed*
April 15, 2026	Schools closed for students – Professional Work/Learning Day
May 14, 2026	Schools close 3 hours early – School-Based Professional Work Day – Articulation. No half-day Pre-K/RECC.
May 25, 2026	Schools and offices closed*
May 27, 2026	Schools and offices closed
June 8, 2026	Schools close 3 hours early – Professional Work Day. No half-day Pre-K/RECC.
June 11, 2026	Schools close 3 hours early – School-Based Professional Learning Day. No half-day Pre-K/RECC.
June 12, 2026	Schools close 3 hours early – Professional Work Day. No half-day Pre-K/RECC.
June 15, 2026	Schools close 3 hours early – Last Scheduled Day of School. Professional Work Day. No half-day Pre-K/RECC.
June 19, 2026	Schools and offices closed

*State-mandated public school holiday

Grace's Law 2.0: Maryland's Anti-Bullying Law

Bullying is unwanted, demeaning behavior among students, employees, or third parties that involves a real or perceived power imbalance. The behavior is repeated, or is highly likely to be repeated, over time. To be considered bullying, the behavior must be intentional and include: 1) an imbalance of power (students who bully use their physical, emotional, social, or academic power to control, exclude, or harm others), and 2) repetition (bullying behaviors happen more than once or are highly likely to be repeated based on evidence gathered).

Cyberbullying is bullying that takes place over digital devices like cell phones, computers, and tablets. Cyberbullying can occur through texting, apps, or online via social media, forums, or gaming where people can view, participate in, or share content. Cyberbullying includes sending, posting, or sharing negative, harmful, false, or hurtful content about another person. It can include sharing personal or private information about someone else causing embarrassment or humiliation.

Enacted in 2013 and strengthened in 2019 by Maryland advocates and legislators to address the ever-changing digital landscape, Grace's Law makes the malicious use of internet-based communications with the intent to intimidate or harass a minor, a criminal offense. The law prohibits electronic communications or conduct that may cause physical or emotional distress, including inducing a minor to commit suicide. A single incident may violate the law. A person who is found guilty of violating this law is subject to imprisonment and/or fines up to 10 years and \$10,000.

DANGERS OF BULLYING

There are potential health risks for the targeted student, the bully, and those who witness bullying, which may include:

- Irritability or anger
- Nightmares
- Headaches
- Stomachaches
- Inability to concentrate
- Multiple joint and muscle pains
- Weight gain or loss
- Depression
- Self injury (i.e., cutting)
- Difficulties in falling and/or staying asleep
- Impulsiveness
- Suicide attempts
- Homicidal thoughts

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Grace's Law 2.0: Maryland's Anti-Bullying Law

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HOW YOU CAN PROTECT YOURSELF AND OTHERS

In Maryland's public schools, if you feel you are being bullied, you have the right to report your concerns and the school has the responsibility to investigate those concerns.

- Ask your teacher, counselor, or administrator if you can speak privately about a personal problem. Tell the adult what is happening or making you feel uncomfortable and how long it has been going on.
- **Report bullying, cyberbullying, harassment, or intimidation using the HCPSS online reporting tool at stopbullying.hcpss.org/report/bullying. Include as much information as possible to help with the investigation. There are also hard copies of the reporting form available in your school (front office, counselor's office, etc.).**
- Additional information about bullying can be found at stopbullying.hcpss.org. You may also call the Maryland State Department of Education at 410-767-0306 if you have further questions or concerns.
- Ask the administrator to investigate allegations, develop a plan of support, and schedule a meeting. Tell your parents and ask them to attend.
- If you are being bullied on a social media site, **screen-shot and save** the content to share with parents, police and the school administration. Fill out a report as often as you need to.
- Change your password, use privacy settings, and block people who send negative messages, texts, tweets or photos.
- Ask your friends not to share negative media with you or pass it on to others.

Stand Up...when you hear or see hatred and meanness.

Speak Out...tell them it's not OK. Show support or befriend the mistreated.

Get Help, Report It...tell a responsible adult and fill out a bullying report.

Reporting bullying is not snitching or tattling, it is helping to keep you and others safe. For more information, visit **www.stopbullying.gov**.

If you or someone you know is thinking about suicide, take it seriously and get help. **Contact the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention at 1-888-333-AFSP.**

Long Reach High School Honor Code

Long Reach High School is a place where learning and knowledge are based on the core values of respect, excellence, accountability, consideration, and honesty. (REACH). We hold our students to the highest standards of performance and integrity and expect each student and staff member to maintain those standards and strive for continuous improvement. We expect Long Reach students to take responsibility for their actions and thus maintain academic honesty and a positive learning environment.

Types of Violations:

- Cheating: Using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information, or study aids in any academic exercise.
- Facilitation: Helping or attempting to help another student violate any provision of the Academic Integrity Policy.
- Falsification: Making up information/data or a citation in any academic exercise.
- Plagiarism: Representing the words or ideas of another as one's own in any academic exercise.

Violations:

1. Copying another student's homework, class work, or ideas without the instructor's permission. (Cheating/Plagiarism)
2. Allowing another student to copy homework or class work without the instructor's permission. (Facilitation)
3. Cheating on exams, tests, or quizzes, include failure to follow behavioral and procedural guidelines before, during, and after testing situations. (Cheating).
 - a. Obtaining information about the content of an exam, test, or quiz from a student who has already taken the exam/quiz. (Cheating)
 - b. Providing information about the content of an exam, test, or quiz to a student who has not yet taken the exam/quiz.
4. Copying or buying an essay, lab report, or project and submitting it as one's own. (Cheating/Plagiarism)
5. Using an assignment from a student who previously took the class and submitting it as one's own (cheating). Providing that assignment to a current student. (Facilitation)
6. Using a computer translator in a World Language class without the teacher's permission (Cheating).
7. Not acknowledging another writer's ideas or direct words within a given assignment. A list of resources alone is not sufficient (Plagiarism).
8. Copying or paraphrasing an excerpt from the Internet or any other resource without citing the source (Plagiarism).
9. Making up a source to use as a citation in an assignment (Falsification).
10. Any academic integrity violation not listed.

Consequences for Violations:

- Teacher confers with the student and notifies the parent.
- 0 on assignment

*A student's disciplinary record is considered during the application process for all Honor Societies. A violation of the Academic Integrity Policy may impact a teacher's choice to complete recommendation letters for colleges, scholarships, and other programs.

**Students in leadership positions may be disciplined according to the organization's Constitution and or By-Laws.

Parts of this policy are adapted from Dr. Andrea Goodwin, Associate Director, Office of Student Conduct, Univ. of Maryland presentations and the UM Code of Academic Integrity (Instituted 1990-91) and the River Hill High School Academic Integrity Policy & Honor Pledge and the Atholton High School Academic Integrity Policy.



Long Reach High School Policies

Attendance (Policy 9010)

The Howard County Board of Education recognizes its responsibility to provide an education for each student who is enrolled in the school system. Students are required to be in school or to be attending a school activity each day school is in session.

This policy affirms the relationship among regular attendance, academic achievement, and the completion of a school program. Furthermore, it fosters the universal value of education as a means of fulfilling individual and social needs.

The Board of Education encourages parental support for regular school attendance. Close communication and cooperation between the home, school, and community will help to ensure that students will complete their education and become productive members of society. A positive attitude on the part of school staff will help students to develop a sense of responsibility, self-discipline, and good work habits. Regular daily attendance is vital to the continuity of classroom instruction and participation in school activities.

Lawful (Excused) Absence: An absence for any portion of the day will be excused under the following conditions:

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| • Death in the immediate family | • Observance of a religious holiday |
| • Illness of the student | • State emergency |
| • Court summons | • Suspension |
| • Hazardous weather conditions | • Lack of authorized transportation |
| • Work approved or sponsored by the school | • Other emergency or sufficient circumstances |

Unlawful (Unexcused) Absence: An absence, including absence for any portion of the day, for any reason other than those cited as lawful, are presumed as unlawful and may constitute truancy.

Truancy:

A student who is absent without the knowledge of his/her parent/guardian is truant. This is an unexcused absence, and the student will not be readmitted to the school unless there is parental contact. Truancy will be cause for disciplinary action, suspension, or legal action. You are truant if you:

- Leave school without school authorization.
- Are absent from school without prior permission from your parent/guardian.
- Are absent from class without permission (cutting).
- Obtain a pass but do not report to the indicated area.
- Become ill and go home or stay in the rest room instead of reporting to the Health Room.
- Come to school but do not attend classes.

Prearranged Absences:

The definition of a prearranged absence follows: An absence requested by the parent/guardian and proceeded by the completion of an Absence for Religious Observance - Extended Absence- Discretionary Absence form, which has been approved by the principal at least 10 days in advance and may not exceed a TOTAL OF THREE DAYS. Students may be granted up to 3 days of excused prearranged absences

for college visits or family commitments that cannot be scheduled at another time. Please be aware that students are required to make up work within the same number of days absent.

Returning from Absence:

The student will present a written statement signed by a parent or guardian to the attendance secretary the morning following the absence. This note should state the date and reason for the absence.

Making Up Work:

When a student is legally absent from school (which includes suspension), he/she is permitted to make up the missed work. However, it is the student's responsibility to make arrangements for making up the work. THE STUDENT IS ALLOWED A PERIOD OF TIME EQUAL TO HIS/HER LEGAL ABSENCE(S) IN WHICH TO MAKE UP WORK. He/she is not allowed to make up work for credit if he/she has been illegally absent from school or cutting class.

Early Dismissal:

Permission to leave school will be granted only upon written request given to an office secretary before school on the morning of the early dismissal. A phone number with which a parent or guardian can be contacted for confirmation of the early dismissal must be included on the note along with the designated time for the early dismissal. **Student notes will not be accepted after the fact.** Students who leave school early but are here for at least 2 hours, but less than four hours are to be charged with a one-half day absence.

Lateness to School:

Attendance accounting will be completed at the end of period one. Students who arrive after 8:00 am should report to the attendance secretary for a pass to the class in session. Students should have a written note from their parents with the date and reason for the lateness.

Lateness to Class (Periods 2-6):

A major responsibility of students is to be on time for their classes. If unexcused lateness to class does occur, teachers will pursue effective remedial actions to include: a conference with the student, assignment of before or after school detention, a call to parents/guardians, and/or, in chronic cases of lateness, referral to the appropriate administrator for disciplinary action.

Cutting Class:

It is considered a cut if you miss any time from class without the permission of your teacher. You will be referred to your administrator for any of the following:

1. Absent from class/school without permission from his/her parent/guardian.
2. Absent from class without permission from the teacher.
3. Leaving school without permission.
4. Obtaining a pass for a particular destination and not reporting there.
5. Becoming ill and staying in the rest room instead of going to the health room.
6. Going to guidance, the office, another teacher's class, etc. without obtaining permission from the teacher whose class the student is in at that time.
7. Coming to school and not attending classes.

*When a student cuts class, he/she will automatically lose credit for the class work, any tests or quizzes taken, and homework given that day.

Hall Passes:

Each classroom/department has student hall passes. Students should not be in the hallways unless they have a pass from a staff member. While in the hallways, students are expected to exercise good manners. Running, shouting, or general roughhousing is not permitted.

Out of Assigned Area:

Students are responsible for being in their assigned area at all times. Students are expected to have a hall pass when leaving the assigned area (classroom, cafeteria, etc...).

Behavior and Discipline Policies**Bullying, Cyberbullying, Harassment, and Intimidation:**

(Policy 9460) The purpose of this policy is to establish expectations for maintaining a safe and respectful school climate where bullying, cyberbullying, harassment, and intimidation on school property, at school-sponsored activities, or has a connection or nexus back to the school setting, are not tolerated. The policy provides standards for what to do when a student is the target of bullying, cyberbullying, harassment, or intimidation and for identifying and preventing bullying, cyberbullying, harassing, or intimidating behavior.

Reporting forms are available in all HCPSS main offices, school-counseling offices, the media center, and health services office. It can also be found on the HCPSS website. See Policy 1060 for additional information. [Visit HCPSS](#) for a reporting form and a copy of the Student/Parent Handbook.

Discipline:

Disciplinary referrals are handled by the following Administrators:

Mr. Malcolm Anderson, Assistant Principal, (incoming 9th graders)

Mr. Michael Cometa, Assistant Principal, (A-F)

Mrs. Tiffani James, Assistant Principal (G-M)

Mr. Daniel Sageman, Assistant Principal (N-Z)

Dress Code:

While student dress and appearance are the responsibility of students and their parents, the Board believes that dress and appearance should not interfere with any aspect of the educational process and expects that dress and appearance are consistent with all Board policy (Policy 9210). Student attire may not interfere with the health or safety of any student, nor contribute to a hostile or intimidating atmosphere for any student.

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines, standards, and implementation procedures for student dress during the school day and during other school-related activities.

Students are not permitted to wear attire, including wearable technology that is disruptive to the school environment, that promotes illegal or harmful activities, or that could endanger the health or safety of that student or others during school hours and school-related activities. Prohibited attire includes, but is not limited to:

- Attire that depicts profanity, hate speech, obscenity, the use of weapons, or violence

- Attire that promotes use of tobacco, drugs, alcohol, or other illegal or harmful products
- Attire that promotes, implies or contains sexually suggestive messages
- Attire that exposes or reveals the chest, midriff, pelvic/groin area, and buttocks
- Visible underwear or bathing suits (Visible waistbands or straps on undergarments worn under other clothing are not a violation.)
- Helmets or headgear that obscure the face, except as a religious obligation, observation of a religious holiday, or for a school-related activity
- Attire that depicts gang affiliation
- Attire that contains language or symbols that demean an identifiable person or group or otherwise infringes on the rights of others
- Attire that causes or is likely to cause a material disruption, a substantial disorder to school activities or the orderly operation of the school, or an invasion of the rights of others
- May damage school property
- Wearable technology and other attire when it interferes with instruction or student safety.

Student violations will be handled in the following manner:

- Administration and staff address violations by case
- Teacher contacts front office if a violation exists in their classroom setting
- Shirt/attire assigned to student if necessary - Parent Contact
- Teachers contacted if violation occurs that requires attire for remainder of the day
- Parent conference scheduled for repeat offenders

Drugs and Alcohol: (Policy 1050)

The presence of illegal or harmful drugs or alcoholic beverages in the Howard County Public School System poses a serious threat to the health, safety, and well-being of students and staff. Therefore, alcoholic beverages or illegal or harmful drugs are prohibited on school property by the Howard County Public School System.

The Board of Education believes that a cooperative approach between the school system and the parent/guardian is necessary to eliminate drug and alcoholic beverage use among our students, including education, counseling, and parent and peer support. Continuing efforts will be made to improve programs of teaching students the dangers of drugs and alcohol use. Students are encouraged to seek counseling and will be reminded that there is a public law that provides confidentiality for students who seek counseling.

Fighting: (Policy 9200)

Long Reach High School seeks to maintain a safe, orderly environment for all students. There is zero tolerance for fighting. Students are encouraged to talk to an adult with concerns in an effort to resolve issues that could result in fights.

Standard of Conduct at School Events:

Student conduct at school events should reflect the respect, honor, and dignity expected of Long Reach High Students whether they are at their home game or representing Long Reach High School at another school or activity.

- Food and drink are not permitted in the gym. Drinks purchased off school property are not permitted in the stadium.

- Backpacks may not be brought into the stadium or gym during events.
- Students are expected to leave school grounds immediately after school unless they are there for educational or extracurricular reasons.
- Students may not bring signage or display symbols unless otherwise approved by the school administration prior to the event
- The student dress code policy is in effect during athletic events and activities

Weapons:

The Board of Education believes that the presence on school property of weapons poses a serious threat to the safety and well-being of students and staff. It is unlawful for any person to carry or possess any rifle, gun, knife or deadly weapon of any kind on any public school property of the State of Maryland. **The presence on school property of any weapon is strictly forbidden.**

Campus Operations and Procedures

Cell Phone Use: (Policy 8080)

Effective March 3, 2025, HCPSS' policy on student personal device use is as follows:

- Students will keep personal technology devices away and silenced and ensure they are not a distraction during the student day.
- Smart watches may be worn during the student day but may not distract instruction or be used for reasons other than checking the time.
- A staff member on a school-sponsored field trip may permit the use of a personal technology device by a student in limited situations where capturing a picture or video may be appropriate or contacting a parent/guardian is necessary.
- School administrators and school administrators' designees may authorize use of a personal device in rare instances such as an emergency for communication purposes, and when allowed as described in a student's Individualized Education Program (IEP), Section 504 Plan, or Health Plan.
- Personal laptops may be used for instructional activities in high school.

Long Reach High School along with all HCPSS high schools requests that our parents and families utilize the main phone lines of Long Reach to communicate with their children. The front office can be reached at 410 313 7117.

Closed Campus:

The LRHS campus is a closed campus. Once students arrive at school, they may not leave the campus without parent/guardian ("parent") permission and an early dismissal cleared through the front office.

Lunch:

Food/drink (except water) **must be consumed in the Cafeteria and Cafeteria Patio.** All students are expected to behave appropriately in the cafeteria and throw away or recycle their trash when they are finished eating. Students may not throw food or drinks. A violation of these expectations may result in a consequence. During lunch, students will remain in the cafeteria or outside in the courtyard.

School Visitors:

All visitors to the school must check into the main office, and present an ID, upon arrival and wear a visitor's I.D. badge. Visitors may not attend classes unless prior permission has been granted by the principal.

Eligibility

Athletic Eligibility: (Policy 9070)

Students must maintain a 2.0 GPA and have no more than one failing grade (E) to participate in extracurricular activities. See Policy #9070 "Academic Eligibility for Extracurricular Activities" in the Student Handbook for official policy regulations.

***Update 2025-26 - students making progress towards graduation, by being promoted from the prior grade level in the summer before the current school year, who are not eligible, may receive a one-time waiver to participate in any one season of athletics or extracurriculars. They must complete a request including why they are ineligible and what they will do to become eligible in the future. HCPSS staff will review the request and make plans with the student and their parents for one time eligibility.*

Grades/Honor Roll

Grading Policy: (Policy 8020)

Formula for computing Grade Point Average (GPA):

1. Multiply each grade earned by its numerical value to get grade points. A=4, B=3, C=2, D=1, E=0
2. Add all grade points together
3. Add credits attempted (every class you took whether you passed it or failed it.) .5=semester, 1.0=full year
4. Divide total points by attempted credits to produce your GPA

Formula for computing final grades:

1. For a one credit class, write down each quarter, midterm, and final grade.
2. Transpose each grade to its numerical equivalent.
A=4, B=3, C=2, D=1, E=0
3. Multiply each quarter grade by two and each exam grade by one.
4. Add all the numbers together to get the total.
5. Divide the total by 10.
6. Translate the number using the chart below:

3.5-4.0 = A

2.5-3.4 = B

1.5-2.4 = C

.75-1.4 = D

.00-.74 = E

Note: Students must pass at least one quarter of each semester or the last two quarters in order to receive credit for the course.

Honor Roll:

Each quarter, honor roll lists are posted on the Long Reach High School website as follows:

Principal's Honor Roll = 4.0 GPA

Gold Honor Roll = 3.4 – 3.99 GPA

Silver Honor Roll = 3.0 – 3.39 GPA

Health Room

A student who complains of illness is to be given a pass by his/her classroom teacher. The teacher will call the health room to notify the health assistant before sending the student for treatment. Except in emergency cases, students cannot be admitted to the Health Room without a pass issued by the sending teacher.

Students should not go to the restroom for the entire period—the health assistant should be aware of all student illness. The health assistant will determine whether the student will be returned to class, be sent home after contact with a parent/guardian, remain in the health room, or be sent by ambulance to an emergency room for serious situations.

Parking Regulations

[Student Parking Permits](#)

[Application Link](#)

Students wishing to receive a parking permit throughout the school year must complete all of the proper paperwork per school year.

You must submit the signed parking permit application and proper paperwork. Students will need to present their valid Maryland driver's license and vehicle registration, along with \$15.00 fee when securing their permit. Also, all outstanding obligations must be cleared prior to receiving their parking permit.

Permits will be issued on a first come, first serve basis.

All outstanding obligations must be CLEARED prior to the application deadline. If the obligation is not paid, the parking permit application WILL NOT be considered.

LRHS PARKING REGULATIONS

1. Parking Permits must be displayed at all times when the car is parked on school property.
2. Student drivers who leave school grounds without administrative approval may lose their parking permit in addition to disciplinary action.
3. The student driver will abide by Long Reach High School and Howard County Public School Systems' regulations and policies.
4. The student driver will drive responsibly on school grounds at all times and will park his/her car in the appropriate lot/space upon arrival at school.
5. Student drivers are not to go to their vehicles during the school day. If a student must go to their car during the school day, he/she must receive approval from the front office.

6. The school assumes no responsibility for vehicles on Board of Education property since all students are provided free public transportation.
7. The student driver must immediately notify the school of any change of vehicle or license plate numbers.
8. If a permit is lost or stolen, the student MUST secure a new permit and pay a \$15.00 fee.
9. The permit issued is for the assigned vehicle(s) only. It is not to be duplicated, traded or sold to other drivers. The permit number and vehicle license must agree with the school's records. If your permit is found in another person's vehicle, you will lose parking privileges for the remainder of the school year unless prior approval was granted for carpooling purposes.
10. If you are late to school multiple times, your parking status may be assessed and you could lose your permit.
11. Students parking without a valid parking permit, parking in a designated staff space, or fire lanes will receive a consequence for every violation. Violations on multiple vehicles registered to the same person, count as one vehicle.
12. Forged or fake permits found in vehicles will be referred to their administrator.
13. Students who have had their permits suspended or revoked for any of the above reasons will not have their permit fee refunded.
14. Students are to enter the school upon their arrival. Students are not to wait in their car or congregate in the parking lot.

Students who violate these regulations will be subject to administrative consequences which may include suspension/revoking of their parking privilege. If your privilege is suspended or revoked, the fee will not be refunded.

School Property

Students are responsible for the proper care of all books, supplies, and furniture supplied by the school. Students who vandalize property or equipment will be required to pay for the damage done or to replace the item. Disciplinary action will be taken as well.

Student Searches (Policy 9260)

Every Principal, Assistant Principal, or authorized security officer of a public school may conduct a reasonable search of a student on the school premises if there is a reasonable belief that the student has in his/her possession an item which constitutes a HCPSS policy violation or criminal offense.

Occurring at any time, these searches are essential to the security, discipline, and sound administration of the school. Searches may be conducted for items such as vapes, cigarettes, pornography, drugs, and any other item which is against school board rules or policies. These items may not necessarily be criminally illegal. In an effort to ensure drug-free schools, periodic searches of students' purses, backpacks, lockers and cars on the school premises may be conducted by a school official. Every effort is made to conduct searches and seizures of a student's possessions in a manner which will minimize disruption to the normal school routine, minimize embarrassment to students affected, and respect students' rights.

Student Services

Students are encouraged to use the services of the Long Reach High School counseling center. They should make an appointment to see a counselor. Appointments can be made in the morning, between classes, during Lightning Time, or after school.

Transportation (HCPSS Transportation)

Bus Regulations and Conduct:

- Students have the same behavior expectations while on the bus and at the bus stop as they do in the classroom and in the school.
- Students are not to ride with hands or arms extended out of the bus windows.
- Students must respectfully obey the drivers' directions concerning methods of boarding and discharging, seating assignment and other regulations intended to ensure safety of all.
- Students should not eat or drink on the bus, or leave litter on the bus.
- Students should go directly home after being discharged at their bus stop.
- Students may not talk to the bus driver while the bus is in motion.
- Students must ride the assigned bus to and from school. No exception for riding a bus other than the one assigned will be with the approval by the Principal or Supervisor of Transportation without 48 hours notice in writing.

Bus Video Surveillance Equipment:

A bus video surveillance system may be in operation to help monitor student behavior on Howard County Public School buses. Bus safety is a top priority and bus drivers may not be able to watch the road and closely monitor students at the same time. The surveillance system can be helpful in monitoring student behavior and permit the bus driver to concentrate on safe driving.



HCPSS High School Bell Schedules

Daily Schedule

7:50am – 8:45am	Period 1
8:50am – 9:40am	Period 2
9:45am – 10:40am	Period 3
10:45am – 12:45pm	Period 4
10:45 – 11:15 A lunch	
11:15 – 11:45 B lunch	
11:45 – 12:15 C lunch	
12:50pm – 1:40pm	Period 5
1:45pm – 2:35pm	Period 6

3-Hour Early Dismissal (11:45 Dismissal)

7:50am – 8:20am	Period 1
8:25am – 8:55am	Period 2
9:00am – 9:35am	Period 3
9:40am – 10:10am	Period 4
10:15am – 10:45am	Period 5
10:55am – 11:20am	Period 6
11:20am – 11:35 am	Break

During 6th period (Grab and GO Brunch/Dismissal)

LIGHTNING Time Schedule

7:50am – 8:35am	Period 1
8:40am – 9:25am	Period 2
9:30am – 10:20am	Period 3
10:20am – 10:50am	Lightning
10:55am – 12:55pm	Period 4
10:55 – 11:25	A lunch
11:25 – 11:55	B lunch
11:55 – 12:25	C lunch

1:00pm – 1:45pm	Period 5
1:50pm – 2:35pm	Period 6

2-Hour Delayed Opening

9:50 -10:20am	Period 1
10:25am – 10:55am	Period 2
11:00am – 11:30am	Period 3
11:35am – 1:35pm	Period 4
11:35 – 12:05	A lunch
12:05 – 12:35	B lunch
12:35 – 1:05	C lunch

1:40pm – 2:05pm	Period 5
2:10pm – 2:35pm	Period 6

Midterm & Final Exams

11:45 Dismissal

7:50am – 9:30am	Exam 1
9:30am–9:45 am	Brunch
9:50am – 11:35am	Exam 2

School Calendar

August 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
The HCPSS academic calendar is subject to change. Additional HCPSS calendars can be found online at www.hcpss.org/calendar . This document was updated for the final time May 23, 2025. Any further updates will be reflected in the online calendar.						
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11 NEW EDUCATOR ORIENTATION	12	13	14 First Day for Staff	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
31	24 First Day for K-12 Students	25	26	27	28 First Day for Pre-K/ RECC Students	29
						30



September 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Schools & Offices Closed* Labor Day	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17 Schools Close 3 Hours Early No half-day pre-K/RECC Professional Learning / Work & Wellness Day Last day to withdraw from 1st sem. HS credited course without penalty	18	19	20
21	22	23 Schools & Offices Closed Rosh Hashanah	24	25	26	27
28	29 Last day to withdraw from full year HS credited course without penalty	30 *State-Mandated Public School Holiday The HCPSS academic calendar is subject to change. Additional HCPSS calendars can be found online at www.hcpss.org/calendar . This document was updated for the final time May 23, 2025. Any further updates will be reflected in the online calendar.				

October 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
The HCPSS academic calendar is subject to change. Additional HCPSS calendars can be found online at www.hcpss.org/calendar . This document was updated for the final time May 23, 2025. Any further updates will be reflected in the online calendar.			1	2 Schools & Offices Closed Yom Kippur	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17 Schools Closed for Students MSEA Convention Professional Work Day	18
19	20 Schools & Offices Closed Dussehra	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31 Schools Close 3 Hours Early No half-day pre-K/RECC Professional Work Day End of 1st quarter	

November 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
<i>*State-Mandated Public School Holiday</i>						
The HCPSS academic calendar is subject to change. Additional HCPSS calendars can be found online at www.hcps.org/calendar . This document was updated for the final time May 23, 2025. Any further updates will be reflected in the online calendar.						
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	Report cards issued		Schools Close 3 Hours Early No half-day pre-K/REDC Professional Learning / Work & Wellness Day			
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
AMERICAN EDUCATION WEEK						
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	Schools Close 3 Hours Early No half-day pre-K/REDC ES/MS parent-teacher conferences HS Professional Learning	Schools Close 3 Hours Early No half-day pre-K/REDC Parent-teacher conferences	Schools Closed for Students Parent-teacher conferences	Schools & Offices Closed* Thanksgiving	Schools & Offices Closed*	

December 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
			WINTER BREAK - Schools Closed*			
			Schools & Offices Closed Christmas Eve	Schools & Offices Closed* Christmas		
28	29	30	31	<i>*State-Mandated Public School Holiday</i>		
WINTER BREAK - Schools Closed*				The HCPSS academic calendar is subject to change. Additional HCPSS calendars can be found online at www.hcps.org/calendar . This document was updated for the final time May 23, 2025. Any further updates will be reflected in the online calendar.		

January 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<i>*State-Mandated Public School Holiday</i> The HCPSS academic calendar is subject to change. Additional HCPSS calendars can be found online at www.hcps.org/calendar. This document was updated for the final time May 23, 2025. Any further updates will be reflected in the online calendar.				1 — WINTER BREAK — Schools & Offices Closed*	2 — Schools Closed — Schools & Offices Closed	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	Schools & Offices Closed* Martin Luther King Jr. Day			Schools Close 3 Hours Early No half-day pre-K/RECC Professional Learning Day	MS/HS Only Close 3 Hours Early No half-day pre-K/RECC End of 2nd quarter	
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
	Schools Closed for Students Professional Work Day					

February 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
		Report cards issued	Schools Closed for Students Countywide Professional Learning Day	ES Only Close 3 Hours Early No half-day pre-K/RECC Parent-teacher conferences	ES Only Close 3 Hours Early No half-day pre-K/RECC Parent-teacher conferences	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	Schools & Offices Closed* Presidents Day	Schools & Offices Closed Lunar New Year				
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	Last day to withdraw from 2nd sem. HS credited course without penalty					

*State-Mandated Public School Holiday

March 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3 Schools Close 3 Hours Early No half-day pre-K/RECC Professional Learning / Work & Wellness Day	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20 Schools Closed for Students Essential Professional Work Day	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30 — SPRING BREAK —	31 Schools Closed —	The HCPSS academic calendar is subject to change. Additional HCPSS calendars can be found online at www.hcps.org/calendar . This document was updated for the final time May 23, 2025. Any further updates will be reflected in the online calendar.			

April 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
*State-Mandated Public School Holiday The HCPSS academic calendar is subject to change. Additional HCPSS calendars can be found online at www.hcps.org/calendar . This document was updated for the final time May 23, 2025. Any further updates will be reflected in the online calendar.			1 — SPRING BREAK — Schools Closed —	2	3	4
5	6 Schools & Offices Closed* Easter Monday	7	8	9	10 Schools & Offices Closed* Good Friday	11
12	13	14 End of 3rd quarter	15 Schools Closed for Students Professional Work Day	16	17	18
19	20	21	22 Report cards issued	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

May 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<i>*State-Mandated Public School Holiday</i>					1	2
The HCPSS academic calendar is subject to change. Additional HCPSS calendars can be found online at www.hcpss.org/calendar . This document was updated for the final time May 23, 2025. Any further updates will be reflected in the online calendar.						
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14 Schools Close 3 Hours Early No half-day pre-K/RECC School-Based Professional Work Day (Innovation)	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 31	25 Schools & Offices Closed* Memorial Day	26	27 Schools & Offices Closed Eid ul-Adha	28	29	30

June 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8 Schools Close 3 Hours Early No half-day pre-K/RECC Professional Work Day	9	10	11 Schools Close 3 Hours Early No half-day pre-K/RECC School-Based Professional Learning Day	12 Schools Close 3 Hours Early No half-day pre-K/RECC Professional Work Day	13
14	15 Last Scheduled Day - Schools Close 3 Hours Early No half-day pre-K/RECC Professional Work Day	16 MAY BE USED AS inclement weather makeup day #1	17 MAY BE USED AS inclement weather makeup day #2	18 MAY BE USED AS inclement weather makeup day #3	19 Schools & Offices Closed Juneteenth National Independence Day	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

Important School Resources:

www.hcpss.org Central Office information and resources

<http://LRHS.hcpss.org/> Long Reach High School information

<https://lrhs.hcpss.org/athletics> Long Reach High School Athletic information

www.hcpssnews.org to sign up to be notified of all the HCPSS and LRHS news you need to know

Youth Crisis Hotline 1-800-422-0009

NEW National Suicide & Crisis Lifeline

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