



HCDrugFree
Empowering the Community

Welcome Back to School!

**HC DrugFree's team
wishes you a safe and memorable year.**

MDOT: STOP ON RED



With **Howard County public schools back in session on Monday, August 25**, more school buses will be back on the road. Now is a good time to remind young drivers, friends and family about the importance of stopping for a school bus.

BE ALERT especially in school zones, near school bus stops, and during times of the day that students will be going to and coming

from school.

STOP FOR THE BUS because passing a school bus is illegal when its red lights are flashing and the stop-arm is extended while stopped to load and unload students.

REMEMBER students of all ages are unpredictable. It is your job as the driver to obey traffic laws.

[Learn More](#)

Safe Schools Maryland

Safe Schools Maryland is an anonymous and free reporting system available to students, teachers, staff members, parents, and the general public to report any school or student safety concerns, including mental health concerns.



Safe Schools Maryland is Maryland's only official anonymous reporting system. Safe Schools Maryland operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and 365 days a year. Your anonymous report can be submitted by calling the tip line (**1-833-MD-B-SAFE / 1-833-632-7233**), [completing an online form](#) or downloading the free Safe Schools Maryland app from the [App Store](#) or [Google Play](#).

All students should feel comfortable in Maryland's schools. Children and young adults are stronger students when they feel safe and secure. Strong students go on to serve as the foundation for strong communities.

Safe Schools Maryland exists to ensure that our schools and our students remain safe and secure. With Safe Schools Maryland, all interested members of our communities are able to report their school and student safety concerns anonymously and securely.



[Watch Video](#) to learn more about the reporting system.

[Learn More](#)

The Howard County Public School System's Policy 1050 – Alcohol, Drug, and Tobacco Free Environment establishes the educational and disciplinary parameters needed to maintain an alcohol, drug, and tobacco free environment. For more information and to review the policy click the button below.

[Learn More](#)

HCPSS Calendar

[Click here](#) to access the Howard County Public School System's 2025-26 calendar.

Adult & Student Volunteers Needed

HC DrugFree needs several adult and student volunteers!! Can you spare an hour on **Thursday, August 28, Wednesday, September 3 or Thursday, September 4** starting at 5:30 p.m. or 6 p.m. (time is based on your availability and our need)?

HC DrugFree is looking for **several adults of any age** or student volunteers for these dates. Must have transportation. Community Service Hours available to Howard County students. Bring your friends or family to help.

Please email Admin@hcdrugfree.org if you can help us or want more information. When emailing, please let us know if you are an adult or student. Thank you for your support and time!!!

Summer Is Over, Time to Get Back to Work!

HC DrugFree is looking to hire a self-motivated Howard County professional with a heart for people of all ages in our great community. All candidates must pass a background check and possess strong organizational skills, writing skills, and computer skills.

[Learn More & Apply](#)

September 29: Teen Advisory Council Meeting

HC DrugFree invites **all Howard County students in grades 8-12** to join our Teen Advisory Council (TAC.) Members of TAC meet once monthly during the academic year and act as student ambassadors in their schools and in the community.

Why join TAC?

- Earn community service hours
- Gain experience for job & college applications
- Volunteer opportunities year round
- Be a leader and role model in Howard County!

Join us for our first meeting of the 2025-26 school year on **Monday, September 29** from **5:30 to 7:00 p.m.** via Zoom to learn more about TAC and to see how you can get involved.

Previous (and new) members, please remember to submit your [2025-2026 TAC Registration](#) so we can update your contact information.

To RSVP/receive the unique Zoom link for the Monday, September 29 meeting, [click here](#).

[Learn More about TAC](#)

Connect with Us

Join our social media community for more content and easy ways to share important and potentially life-saving information with your friends and network.

Remember: **Knowledge is Power** and together we can help keep our community *informed, safe, and IN THE KNOW!*

Follow us on [Facebook](#), [X](#), [Instagram](#) and [LinkedIn](#)!

For more information, contact:

Joan Webb Scornaienchi

Executive Director

HC DrugFree

Admin@hcdrugfree.org

www.hcdrugfree.org



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