

Murray Hill Middle School

PROFILE

9989 Winter Sun Road • Laurel, MD 20723 • 410-880-5897 • mhms.hcpss.org/ • Twitter @hcpss_mhms



At Murray Hill Middle School, staff, students, families and community members work together to create a supportive and intellectually stimulating school environment for all. We promote personal growth, academic excellence, cultural sensitivity, service to our community and the development of skills that will foster lifelong learners. Our motto of *Believe, Belong, Become* serves as a driving force for all that we do, for we know that if we **BELIEVE** in ourselves, in one another, in our students and in the strength of our school community, we will create a culture in which each individual feels as though they **BELONG** and are valued, and we will **BECOME** all that we want to be.

We encourage our students to think critically and creatively by providing rigorous academic classes, as well as a variety of related arts courses. Our talented staff recognizes the unique needs of adolescents and is dedicated to providing learning opportunities that foster the intellectual, social, emotional and physical development of our students. Staff work to prepare students for their future in an environment that values responsibility, respect, readiness and safety. Our students prepare for their own personal success by utilizing cognitive strategies, applying key content knowledge, demonstrating academic behaviors, using appropriate technology tools, and developing positive and collaborative relationships.

Murray Hill Middle School strives to ensure our families and community are engaged and supported through timely and informative communication. And our school community is supported by our outstanding PTA, which strives to provide for many of our school initiatives and programs.

Fast Facts

Facility opened: 1997

School Capacity: 662
(This does not include additional capacity provided by 6 portable classrooms.)

Total Enrollment: 600
Official count 9/30/23

Ethnicity FY24

American Indian/Alaskan	≤5.0%
Asian	18.8%
Black/African American	40.8%
Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	≤5.0%
Hispanic/Latino	22.2%
White	12.7%
Two or more races	5.3%

Students Receiving Special Services FY23

Free/Reduced Meals	43.1%
English Learners	10.7%
Special Education	9.0%

Administrators:

Lisa R. Smithson, Principal
Jennifer Blasko, Assistant Principal
Derek Toth, Assistant Principal

Educational Partnerships:

- Chick-fil-A, Johns Hopkins Road
- Continental Societies, Southeastern Howard/Laurel Chapter
- Five Below, Inc.
- Grassroots Crisis Intervention Center
- Howard County Library, Savage Branch & STEM Education Center
- Howard County MultiService Center
- Prepare for Success, Community Action Council of Howard County

Updated December 2023

Achievement Data

MHMS Performance on State Tests*

Measure	2022 Results	2023 Results
Percent Proficient English Language Arts	41.2%	45.4%
Percent Proficient Mathematics	23.9%	25.9%
Percent Proficient Science	44.4%	21.2%

State accountability information can be accessed at <https://reportcard.msde.maryland.gov/>

Special Programs

- Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) Award
- Towson University Professional Development Center
- Regional Program Services
- Academic Life Skills Classes
- GT Seminars
- Academic Intervention Program
- Beyond School Hours: Academic Program
- After School Program: Intramurals
- After School Program: Drama Program
- Black Student Achievement Program Liaison
- Hispanic Achievement Liaison
- Alternative Education Program
- Licensed Mental Health Therapist
- Student of the Month Recognition
- Howard County Library Spelling Bee
- Memory Book Club
- MHTV student news shows written, created, filmed, produced, and edited by producers and staff

Accomplishments

- Award Winning Music Programs
- HCPSS GT Symphonic Band and Honors Band Participants
- HCPSS Visual Arts Showcase Participants
- National Board Certified Teachers