

# HHA Herald – Wednesday, November 4, 2020

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Hi, this is Principal Hornbeck with your weekly HHA Herald. At this time, we still don't quite know the outcome of yesterday's Presidential race but an unprecedented number of voters cast their ballots, which is good news for our City, State, and Country. Thank you to everyone who made their voice heard by voting. Please let your child know that exercising the right to vote matters and elections and ideas and policies matter. Many congratulations to Baltimore City Mayor-elect Brandon Scott, who is a friend of teachers, principals, public education and of Hampstead Hill Academy. Mayor-elect Scott has visited and spoken with our students and parents a number of times. We look forward to his leadership with great hope. Also, I want you to know that grades for the first quarter close this Monday, November 9th. So if there are any assignments that need to be completed, make sure your child gets those turned in to teachers! In other news, a very small number of HHA students are recommended for retention each year - usually fewer than 10 students, all younger grades. The district recently changed its retention policy to require that a student fail two or more subjects in order to be recommended for retention. That is not the way HHA supports students working significantly below level, so we are asking for a waiver from this new district policy. We want to continue to give students a passing grade even if they are not working on grade level. We have found this approach to be much more successful in getting more kids working on grade level faster. Please contact me at [principalhornbeck@hha47.org](mailto:principalhornbeck@hha47.org) if you would like more information about this waiver request. Meanwhile your riddle of the day is: What word becomes shorter when you add two letters to it? Email me your answer and I will let you know if it's correct. Have a good evening and we'll talk next week.