

Calendar Notes

11/5-PTA Meeting-7pm

11/8-End of MP1-Early
Release for students

11/11-11/12-Early
Release for Students

11/14-Grade 5 MS
Magnet Test

11/15-Gr. 1 Field Trip
to MD Science Center

11/15—PTA Basket
Night-6:30 p.m.

11/20-Reports Cards
sent home

11/27—Early Release
for students

11/28-29-No School

The Bulldog



“Learning today, leading tomorrow”

November, 2019

Dear Belmont families,

We have had a great first two months of school thanks to our wonderful students, great staff, and all of your amazing support! This is the time of year the weather begins to get chilly, so please be sure to begin sending students with coats to wear for when they are outside, and be mindful we go out for recess unless the temperature *feels like* it is below 32 degrees, raining, or snowing.

We had a very exciting October! We were happy so many family members were able to attend our Open House. We also held our volunteer trainings. Thank you to all who attended. If you were unable to make it and do begin volunteering, please see Ms. Butler, our administrative secretary, for important information regarding volunteering. Also, if you plan on volunteering regularly, please watch the Recognizing and Reporting Child Abuse and Neglect training on the MCPS website at <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/childabuseandneglect/>, and let the office know you have completed the training. These trainings are good for three years.

Additionally, thank you to all who came out for our Halloween Parade and for putting on fun parties! Everyone had a great time, including those who do not celebrate Halloween, doing alternate fun activities with staff.

A big thanks to our awesome PTA for another successful Book Fair and an amazing International Night. Next month we will again get the opportunity to come together to support Belmont with our annual Basket Night.

November brings us to the end of the first marking period. In addition to receiving report cards this month, we will hold parent-teacher conferences for grades 1-5. Please be sure you have secured a conference time with your child's teacher. When you meet with the teacher, we hope you gain a clear picture of how your child is progressing academically and interacting social-emotionally with his/her peers. You are able to share with the teacher your unique knowledge of your child. This improves the strong home-school partnership we strive to create and promotes success for your child. If you are unable to schedule a mutually agreeable time, please make an appointment for a telephone conference. Kindergarten conferences will be scheduled towards the end of January, but of course, please contact your child's teacher if you have a question or concern.

Please note November 8th, 11th, 12th, and 27th are Early Release days and we will dismiss at 12:55 p.m. There is no school for students on November 28th and 29th. As always, feel free to contact me with comments or questions. I am here to hear all the great things happening, and work with you when there are concerns. Have an enjoyable weekend!

Sincerely, Mr. Pinkowitz, Principal

Equity and Achievement Framework

MCPS is committed to addressing disparities in student outcomes by closing gaps in opportunity and achievement for all students, in all classrooms, in all of our schools. The MCPS All In: Equity and Achievement Framework provides the purpose, path, and plan to ensure success for all students. For more information, visit www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/evidence-of-learning-framework/all-in-equity-and-achievement-framework.aspx.

County to Host Free Flu Clinics in October and November

The 2019 flu season is upon us. There are simple steps you and your child can take to stay healthy and help prevent the flu. That includes getting a yearly flu vaccine.

The Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services will conduct free injectable flu vaccine clinics on Tuesday, November 12 from 1:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. for children 18 and under at John F. Kennedy, Northwest, and Rockville high schools. These clinics will be open to any school-aged child. The clinics are free, but **registration is required due to limited vaccine supplies**. For more information, visit apps.montgomerycountymd.gov/FluVaccine/.

Additional flu clinics for all county residents will be held on Monday, November 18, from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Universities at Shady Grove in Rockville. Appointments are required. For more information and to make an appointment visit www.montgomerycountymd.gov/resident/flu.html.

Additional flu prevention information can be found at the following websites:

Centers for Disease Control: www.cdc.gov/flu/protect/preventing.htm

Montgomery County: www.montgomerycountymd.gov/resident/flu.html

MCPS Seeking Feedback on 2020–2021 School Year Calendar Scenarios

During the regular business meeting on Tuesday, October 8, the Board of Education reviewed calendar scenarios for the 2020–2021 school year. As a result of legislative action in last spring's Maryland General Assembly, school districts in Maryland have the authority again to start school before Labor Day and end the school year after June 15th. As a result, MCPS has developed three calendar scenarios that reflect different start and end dates for School Year 2020–2021. To view the draft calendar scenarios, please visit www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/calendar/proposed-calendar-2020-21.aspx.

All draft scenarios for the calendar include:

- 182 student instructional days;
- Full spring break;
- Full professional day for grading and planning at the end of the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd quarters; and
- Possible make-up days both during the school year and extending the school year.

The Board is seeking feedback on the calendar options in the comment box on the website. The Board is scheduled to adopt a final school calendar later this year.

NAACP Parents' Council Kickoff Event to Take Place November 19

The NAACP Parents' Council kickoff meeting will be held from 5:00 to 9:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 19 at Northwest High School. This event will bring together parents/guardians, MCPS teachers, principals, and administrators to share ideas on how to champion equity and excellence in education. Participants will have an opportunity to attend a resource fair and various breakout sessions. John B. King Jr., former U.S. Secretary of Education, will be the keynote speaker. The event is free. Register today at: www.eventbrite.com/e/2019-2020-naacp-parents-councilmcps-kick-off-tickets-75534215873?aff=erelexpmlt.

MCPS to Host Mental Health Fair November 9 (English and Spanish)

MCPS is hosting a Mental Health Fair from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, November 9, at Gaithersburg High School. Students, staff members, and the community will be able to learn about community and school resources that support students' physical, social, and psychological well-being.

Celeste Malone, associate professor and coordinator of the school psychology program at Howard University, will deliver the keynote address. She will speak on the topic, *Breaking Barriers to Access Youth Mental Health Care*.

The event is being sponsored by the Office of Student and Family Support and Engagement and the Montgomery County Psychologists' Association.

MedStar Montgomery Medical Center and Farquhar Middle School PTA Present

The Dangers of Youth Vaping

Wed., Nov. 13 | 7 p.m.

Farquhar Middle School
17017 Batchellors Forest Rd.
Olney, MD 20832

Speaker:

Dr. Marilou Tablang-Jimenez, Director of Behavioral Health

Free event. Open to the public.

**For more information, contact MedStar Behavioral Health
at 301-774-8800.**

Montgomery County Executive to Host Budget Forums

Montgomery County Executive Marc Elrich is holding several budget forums to seek input from residents about Fiscal Year 2021 (FY 21) Operating Budget priorities. The forums are scheduled for:

- **Monday, October 21 – 7:00 p.m.** – Bethesda-Chevy Chase Regional Services Center, 4805 Edgemoor Lane, Bethesda, Maryland 20814
- **Wednesday, October 30 – 7:00 p.m.** – Silver Spring Civic Building, in the Buffalo Soldiers Great Hall, 1 Veterans Place, Silver Spring, Maryland 20910
- **Thursday, November 7 – 7:00 p.m.** – BlackRock Center for the Arts, 12901 Town Commons Drive, Germantown, Maryland 20874
- **Wednesday, November 13 – 7:00 p.m.** – Eastern Montgomery Regional Services Center, 3300 Briggs Chaney Road, Silver Spring, Maryland 20904

The County Executive will announce his Recommended FY21 Operating Budget on Monday, March 16, 2020. The County Council approves the operating budget at the end of May. Join Montgomery County's conversation about the FY21 Operating Budget on social media and help raise awareness by using #MoCoBudget21.

SHERWOOD POMS TO HOLD POM DAY CAMP

The Award-winning Sherwood High School Pom Squad will hold a Pom Day Camp for participants from grades Kindergarten through High School. The Day Camp will be held at Sherwood High School on Saturday, November 9, 2019 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Registration will be at 8:30 a.m. in the gymnasium. The cost of the camp will be \$25.00 if pre-registered, and includes poms, snacks, photo souvenir, and instruction in pompon skills, techniques, and a dance routine. At 11:30 a.m., parents and fans are invited to a recital to showcase the girls' work, as well as a performance by the 2019-2020 Sherwood High School Pom Squad. To pre-register send a check for \$25.00 made out to Sherwood High School and the following information; child's name, address, phone, age, and grade in school to Mrs. Jeanne D. Laeng, Pom Sponsor, Sherwood High School, 300 Olney-Sandy Spring Road, Sandy Spring, MD 20860. Walk-in Registrations will be accepted at 8:30 a.m., Saturday, November 9, 2019 at \$30.00



MC Youth Programs presents

BLACK ROCKET

Saturday, December 14, 2019

on the
Montgomery College
Germantown Campus

For All Students
in Grades 4th–7th

Black Rocket provides unique enrichment and educational programs to children and young adults offering distinct programs in Creative Sciences, Digital Arts, and Leadership.

Each course emphasizes self-empowerment, cognitive reasoning, and divergent thinking through hands-on learning.

Black Rocket's mission is to help ignite, unleash, and enhance these distinct talents.

Instructors are from the Montgomery College faculty and staff, Montgomery County Public Schools, and the Montgomery County community. Black Rocket accepts students on a first-come, first-served basis.

The cost for this one-day program is \$100. Although students are escorted between classes, staff members are available to assist students in locating their assigned classrooms.

Montgomery College and the Montgomery County Public Schools are cooperatively presenting this enrichment opportunity for interested and able students to explore topics outside the school curriculum.

240-567-7917

Asistencia en Español Disponible

Saturday, December 14, 2019

8:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m.

Montgomery College
Germantown Campus

20200 Observation Drive • Germantown, MD 20876

Report to: Globe Hall in the High Technology and Science Center to check in.

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|-----------------|---------------------------------|
| 8:30–8:45 a.m. | Check In |
| 8:45–8:55 a.m. | Welcome/Opening Remarks |
| 9 a.m.–12 p.m. | Morning Session |
| 12–12:30 p.m. | Lunch
(Bring your own lunch) |
| 12:30–3:30 p.m. | Afternoon Session |