

THE LION'S DEN

Bethesda Elementary / Bethesda Elementary PTA Newsletter

March 6, 2020

Seymour's Shout Out...

A message from MCPS...

Dear MCPS Community,

Tonight, we learned that the first 3 cases of Coronavirus (COVID-19) that were identified in the state of Maryland are from Montgomery County. The patients are identified as a married couple in their 70s and an individual in their 50s. They contracted the virus while traveling overseas. State officials have shared that they do not believe these individuals have had contact with MCPS students. As you know, we have been preparing for this situation through our interagency coordination with the Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services and Office of Emergency Management and Homeland Security. At this time, we are following guidance from the Department of Health and Human Services and **our schools will remain open**. As we move forward, we are preparing for the possibility of school closures in the future should this become necessary. We encourage all MCPS families to remain vigilant through this situation and consult your health provider if you are experiencing symptoms that you may believe are related to the coronavirus.

We will continue to provide updates as this situation develops. [Visit the coronavirus webpage](#) to stay up-to-date on the latest information.

Sincerely,

Montgomery County Public Schools

Multicultural Night is Thursday March 19th 6:30-8:00 PM.

This is an evening of performances (by grade 3 and 4 students), a parade of flags and learning about the diversity that makes our school unique and wonderful. There is a sign up for the Parade of Flags to start our event. Your child must be in the first grade hallway at 6:15 PM on the evening of the event. We will line up alphabetically by country. Students who attend ESOL classes (with Ms. Petrossian, Ms. Pluznik or Ms. Hu) will make their flags in class, all other children who choose to participate will need to make their own flag and bring it with them the evening of the event. Please sign up online at:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0d4ca9ac2aaaf94-beparade>

We are also still looking for some volunteers...sign up online at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/805084ca4a62ba3f85-multicultural>

THANK YOU!

-Lisa Seymour

Mark your calendar...

March 7th– BEPTA Skate Night
(Cabin John Ice Rink)

March 19th– Multicultural Night
(6:30-8 PM)

March 27th– Early Release Day
(students dismissed at 12:55 PM) END OF Q3

April 2nd– STEM Night (6:30-8 PM)

April 6-13– NO SCHOOL—
SPRING BREAK

April 14– Return to school

April 15– Report Card Distribution

April 28th– NO SCHOOL

May 25th– NO SCHOOL

June 15th– LAST DAY OF
SCHOOL– EARLY RELEASE
DAY (students dismissed at 12:55 PM)

Drop Off and Pick Up reminders...

Please remember:

- NO drop offs in the bus circle
- Be a good role model and use the crosswalks and sidewalks on the walk to school and when in the parking lot on school grounds
- Be mindful of your speed in the school parking lot

Bethesda Elementary School

Parent Intention Form

February 7, 2020

Dear Parents or Guardians,

We are already beginning to plan for the 2020-2021 school year. Our projected enrollment is a key factor in this planning. Please indicate your plans for your child(ren) for the 2020-2021 school year. Please complete this form and return it to your child's teacher by **Friday, March 6, 2020**.

Part 1: Current Student(S)

Child's/Children's First and Last _____

Name(s): _____

Grade(s) your child(ren) will be enrolled for 2020-2021 school year:

1. My child(ren) will be returning.
2. My child(ren) will not be returning.
3. We are undecided about our plans for the 2020-2021 school-year.

If you checked either items 2 or 3 above, please respond to the following questions:

- We are moving out of the Bethesda Elementary area.
- We are considering moving out of the Bethesda Elementary area.
- My child will be attending private school.
- We are considering private school for our child(ren)
- We have applied for a transfer to (list school) _____.
- We have been approved for a transfer to (list school) _____.
- Other: _____

Part 2: New Student(s) to Bethesda ES

- I have an incoming kindergartener. Child's name: _____.
- I have registered my child for kindergarten.
- I have an incoming first grader.
- I have a child entering ___ grade from _____ school.

If you have an incoming kindergartener and have not registered him/her, please do so as soon as possible. Also, if you know of a neighbor whose son/daughter is of kindergarten age, please encourage him/her to register the child. Thank you.

Lisa Seymour
Principal

Save the Date for STEM Night!

WHO: All Bethesda Students (aka scientists).

WHEN: Thursday, April 2nd, 2020 from 6:30 pm– 8:00 pm. Students with projects should bring them to the gym on the morning of April 2nd.

**Quiet session - 6:00-6:30 for families with students that are sensitive to noise and crowds.*

WHERE: Bethesda Elementary Gym and Cafeteria.

WHAT: STEM Night (*the event formerly known as Science Fair*) is a showcase of our students' scientific abilities.

Students are encouraged to participate in STEM Night by completing investigations at home as individuals or with friends, siblings, parents, etc. As in prior years, information packets with possible ideas and steps to follow to help guide scientific inquiry are posted on the BE website.

<https://www2.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/bethesdaes/news-index/2019/march/2019-stem-night/>

STEM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics. We are encouraging students to choose topics to investigate that will allow them to incorporate any and all of these areas and skills.

As a convenience to families, the BE PTA will be selling a limited quantity of tri-fold science back boards on Fridays, beginning 2/21, from 8:40 am - 8:55 am in the school lobby (\$5 each, cash only). Boards can also be purchased from most office supply and craft stores.

Please note that during the day ALL students who created projects will have the opportunity to visit with scientists to share their project. In addition, all students will have the chance to visit the gym to see all the STEM projects on display.

