



BRADLEY HILLS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

240-204-5210

Great Teaching, Great Learning, Every Child, Every Day

October 1, 2021

Principal's Corner



By Karen Caroscio

Our students and teachers had a great first month of school in September. Everyone is getting to know each other and learning new routines, classroom procedures, and school rules. It has been wonderful to have students in the school building every day for in-person learning.

We are in the process of finishing up the Measures of Academic Progress for Primary Grades (MAP-P) and MAP Reading Fluency (RF) to students in kindergarten through second grade to gauge their current abilities in mathematics and reading. For students in grades three through five, the Measures of Academic Progress in Reading and Mathematics (MAP-R and MAP-M) are used to determine students' current abilities and for instructional planning. In addition, MCPS also uses the data to see how well individual schools are doing to help their students meet grade level benchmarks.

We are also in the process of administering the Maryland Comprehensive Assessment Program (MCAP) English language arts/Literacy and Mathematics for our fourth and fifth grade students.

Our virtual Back to School Night was held on September 2nd. Each grade level team shared their expectations for this school year and provided an overview of the curricula. Parents/guardians also had an opportunity to meet with the specialists and ESOL teacher to learn about their programs. Many parents/guardians shared their appreciation for the information that was shared with and the wonderful job their children's teachers are doing.

On October 29th, we will have an outdoor Halloween parade around the block at 2:00 p.m. weather permitting, of course. Please make sure that your children have their costumes in the morning when they arrive at school. We will **not** be accepting any drop-off items during the school day.

Classroom parties will begin at 2:30 p.m., with limited number of parent volunteers in each classroom: four in kindergarten and two in first through fourth grades. Fifth grade party will be held partially outdoors. Contact your child's room parent for more specific information.

The BHES PTA would like to thank the 27% of families now signed up as members! Remember, your membership dues are what makes it possible for the PTA to put on and pay for the many events and programs throughout the year. We hope your child is enjoying the hat the PTA purchased!



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Please register and become a member! For more details, please see: <https://www.bhespta.com/how-to-help>

One final note, parent conferences can be held in person this year. If it is more convenient for you to attend virtually, please let your child's teacher know.

WEATHER REMINDERS

The fall season has begun, and even though we have been enjoying the warm weather in the last several weeks, it is going to be colder soon. Please have your children dress appropriately for the weather, as we will continue to have outdoor lunch and recess unless it rains. We want our children to be dressed in warm clothing when they are outside in cold weather, so they do not experience discomfort.

PERSONAL BODY SAFETY LESSONS

Montgomery County Public Schools is taking an active role in the prevention of child abuse and neglect through early prevention and intervention education.

During the first semester, our counselor will be presenting lessons on the topic of child abuse and neglect. The lessons are known as Personal Body Safety Lessons and their purpose is to help students:

- Develop knowledge, decision making skills, and behaviors which promote safe living in the home, school, and community;
- Learn skills for self-protection and identifying child abuse and neglect;
- Learn skills for asking for help for self and others and practice reporting to a trusted adult; and
- Engage in positive and appropriate interactions with peers and adults.

If you have any questions or concerns about the topics that will be covered, please contact the school counselor, Ms. Vicki Pike.

SIGN UP FOR MCPS QUICKNOTES

MCPS QuickNotes is a bimonthly newsletter that provides MCPS families with important news and information about MCPS programs and activities, plus emergency information. *MCPS QuickNotes* is offered in seven languages: English, Spanish, French, Korean, Chinese, Vietnamese, and Amharic. Visit news.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/ to read the latest edition.



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REPORT CARD AND INTERIM DATES

Elementary school mid-quarter progress reports and marking period grades for Marking Periods 1-4 will be available for parents and students on StudentVUE/ParentVUE on the following dates listed below.

Marking Period	Interims Available	End of Marking Period	Report Card Dates
1	10/14/21*	11/03/21	11/12/21
2	12/15/21	1/21/22	02/02/22
3	03/07/22	04/15/21	04/11/22**
4	05/18/22	06/15/22	06/24/22**

*There will not be elementary interim reports during the first quarter.

**Report cards will be mailed centrally.

Did you know that A, B, C, D in elementary school does not mean the same as grades in middle and high school? Elementary schools use a rubric to determine a student's understanding of the content. Students are then assigned a letter grade that corresponds to their understanding of the grade level standard. There are several different kinds of grades: assignment grades, measurement topic grades, and final grades. Assignment grades are provided on assignments that are graded.

The meaning of assignment rubric scores is:

Grade	Interpretation of the Assignment Grade
A	Demonstrates <i>thorough</i> understanding of the grade-level standard.
B	Demonstrates a <i>general</i> understanding of the grade-level standard.
C	Demonstrates <i>partial</i> understanding of the grade-level standard.
D	Demonstrates <i>limited</i> understanding of the grade-level standard.

Measurement topic grades are a combination of assignments that align to standards that were taught that quarter. The overall grade is an average of measurement topic grades and provides information about how students are doing overall within the content area (e.g. math, reading). The descriptions for measurement topic and the overall grade are below.



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Grade	Description
A	The student <i>consistently</i> demonstrates mastery of the grade level standards taught this marking period.
B	The student <i>frequently</i> demonstrates mastery of the grade level standards taught this marking period.
C	The student <i>occasionally</i> demonstrates mastery of the grade level standards taught this marking period.
D	The student <i>rarely</i> demonstrates mastery of the grade level standards taught this marking period.
M	Missing data – no grade recorded.
NEP	Not English Proficient – no grade recorded. Students is at the beginning level of English language proficiency. NEP may be used for level 1 or 2 ESOL student for no more than two marking periods.

Teachers meet weekly to discuss student work and plan for instruction. If you have questions about your child's grades, contact your child's teacher. And remember, the students should complete their work as independently as possible to ensure we have a good idea about what support they may need now and in the future.

TIPS FOR HELPING YOUR CHILD AT HOME

Helping your child at home is more than just homework help! Besides practicing the academic skills they learned in school, students are also learning organization, planning, time management and study skills. Parent involvement in homework has shown to have a positive influence on student achievement. The amount of homework varies based on the age of the child. This year, Bradley Hills' homework policy includes the following time allotments: No more than 30 minutes per day for students in K-Grade 2 and no more than 45 minutes per day for students in Grades 3-5. In addition to homework, reading at home is equally important. The more children read, the better readers they become! Each child should spend 20 minutes with a book: either reading to themselves or listening to someone read to them.

Following are some tips to help your child:

1. **Set up a homework routine.** This includes a quiet location, access to needed materials, time of day, a plan to complete homework. This work space should be clear of other distractions to help the child be organized.



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2. **Make sure kids do their own work.** If your child has a question, help him or her through it, but don't do the work. It's okay for students to make mistakes. They will learn how to overcome mistakes, ask for help in school, be independent and demonstrate to the teacher if they need more support in a specific area.
3. **Set a good example.** While your child is doing homework, you might be doing activities related to those skills: balancing a checkbook, read a book.
4. **Praise their effort and work habits.** The teacher will support the students if they are struggling with a specific skill. Your job is to help them persevere through difficult tasks and keep going without giving up.
5. **Stay in touch with the teacher.** If you see your child continually struggling over something, contact the teacher. Together, you can come up with a plan to help your child be successful.

STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES AND CODE OF CONDUCT

In order to ensure a safe, productive, and positive learning environment, MCPS publishes two documents that help students, parents/guardians, and staff understand school rules and regulations; the expectations for student conduct; and the possible consequences for violating the rules. *A Student's Guide to Rights and Responsibilities* is an overview of the rights and responsibilities students enjoy in MCPS and a summary of the laws and regulations that affect students.

The *MCPS Code of Conduct* provides an overview of discipline procedures and protocols and the range of consequences students could face for violating various policies, regulations, and rules. The guide also discusses the MCPS philosophy toward discipline.

All families received copies of these documents and are encouraged to review them with their child(ren). The documents are available online at www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/students/rights/.

WAYS TO REPORT BULLYING, HARRASMENT

Bullying, harassment (including sexual misconduct and sexual harassment), intimidation, hazing, incidents of hate-bias, and concerning issues involving student gender identity are not tolerated in MCPS. We are committed to ensuring our students feel safe, valued, and respected in our schools.

Please see the multiple ways you can file a report below.



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- To file a Bullying Form online, click [HERE](#)
- To file a Child Abuse & Neglect Form online, click [HERE](#)
- To contact the MCPS Title IX Coordinator, click [HERE](#)

How You Can Report

- ✓ Contact school principal, counselor, student welfare liaison, or any MCPS staff member.
- ✓ Contact the Montgomery County Police Department, 301-279-8000.
- ✓ Submit [MCPS Form 230-35, Bullying, Harassment, or Intimidation Reporting Form](#).
- ✓ Contact the **MCPS Title IX Coordinator** at TitleIX@mcpsmd.org. Reports and allegations concerning MCPS employees will immediately involve the Department of Compliance and Investigations. They can be reached at DCI@mcpsmd.org.
- ✓ [Safe Schools Maryland Tip Line](#) is an anonymous reporting system used to report threats to the safety and/or well-being of students. Call 1-833-MD-B-SAFE or download the App.
- ✓ Contact the [Victim Assistance and Sexual Assault Program \(VASAP\)](#) for support. VASAP provides information, referrals and advocacy, as well as crisis and ongoing counseling for victims of sexual assault.
- ✓ Contact the **Montgomery County Hotline** at 240-777-4357. A trained staff member or volunteer will provide supportive listening and information, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
- ✓ Send a text to **EveryMind** hotline telephone number, 301-738-2255, daily between noon and midnight.
- ✓ Use the MCPS Student Reporting Phone Application (*Currently In Development*)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Date	School Events
October 1, 2021	5 th Grade – 4 th Grade MCAP ELA Section 2
October 4, 2021	4 th Grade – 3 rd Grade MCAP Mathematics Section 1
October 5, 2021	4 th Grade – 3 rd Grade MCAP Mathematics Section 2
October 7, 2021	5 th Grade – 4 th Grade MCAP Mathematics Sections 1 & 2
October 7, 2021	Five Guys Night – 5:00 p.m.
October 8, 2021	Early Release Day – 12:55 p.m.
October 8, 2021	Birthday Bash – 2:30 p.m.



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Date	School Events
October 11-22, 2021	4 th & 5 th Grade Makeup MCAP Tests
October 15, 2021	Virtual PTA Meeting – 7:30 p.m.
October 19, 2021	Fall Pictures – Grades K-3
October 20, 2021	Fall Pictures – Grades 4-5
October 20, 2021 – Addition	5 th Grade In-House Field Trip - Strathmore
October 21, 2021 – Correction	Bingo Night (Virtual) – 6:00 p.m.
October 22, 2021 – Correction	Birthday Bash (October birthdays) – 2:30 p.m.
October 28, 2021 – Addition	4 th Grade Agricultural Farm Park Field Trip
October 29, 2021	Halloween Parade – 2:00 p.m. (around the block, weather permitting)
October 29, 2021	Halloween Parties (Limited to four parents for Kindergarten, two parents for first to fourth) – 2:30 p.m.
November 3, 2021	End of Marking Period 1
November 4, 2021	Professional Day for Teachers - No School for Students
November 12, 2021	Report Cards Distributed
November 12, 2021	Birthday Bash – 2:30 p.m.
November 18, 2021	Geography Bee – 7:00 p.m.
November 22-23, 2021	Early Release Day – 12:55 p.m. Parent Conferences
November 24, 2021	Early Release Day – 12:55 p.m.
November 25-26, 2021	Holiday – Schools and Offices Closed