



BRADLEY HILLS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

240-204-5210

Great Teaching, Great Learning, Every Child, Every Day

May 1, 2020

Principal's Corner



By Karen Caroscio

It is hard to believe that it is over a month since we launched our online distance Continuity of Learning. Although there are many challenges that come with distance learning, our students, parents, and staff are persevering and doing their best to continue to learn and engage with each other in a safe manner. Please make sure that students are logging in daily to view the video lessons, complete their assignments, and attend the online meetings with their teachers.

We have received many emails asking teachers to provide students with additional work above and beyond what is being provided on myMCPS Classroom. Because there are many students throughout MCPS who have not engaged in online learning and because of the number of emails the Superintendent has received about the stress online learning has created for families, we are being directed by MCPS not to go above and beyond what is being provided through myMCPS Classroom. We do not want to create inequities across schools and within our own neighborhoods.

MCPS continues to reiterate at this time that the focus for teachers and students in mathematics is the weekly math engagement that is occurring. Ensuring that the students are engaging in the full cycle of independent and collaborative experiences is their work. However, if you would like to add to your child's math experience, MCPS has recommended [zearn.org](https://www.zearn.org). Zearn.org is highly rated by EdReports, demonstrating its alignment to the Common Core State Standards for Mathematics, as well as the Maryland College and Career Ready Standards. Using [this link](#), families can explore how you would like to use the aligned math materials with your child.

Some other ideas for online learning are in the chart below.

Site	Website Address
Bradley Hills Media Center	https://sites.google.com/mcpsmd.net/bhesmedia/home
Audubon for Kids	https://www.audubon.org/get-outside/activities/audubon-for-kids
Beanstalk	https://beanstalk.co/collections/classes
FunBrain: Online Educational Games	https://www.funbrain.com/
PBS Kids	https://pbskids.org/



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Time for Kids: Free Digital Resources for This School Year	https://www.timeforkids.com/
National Geographic for Kids	https://kids.nationalgeographic.com/
The Old Farmer's Almanac	https://www.almanac.com/kids
Food Literacy Center	https://www.foodliteracycenter.org/curriculum
Go Noodle	https://www.gonoodle.com/good-energy-at-home-kids-games-and-videos/
Kid Lit	https://kidlit.tv/
You Tube Learning	https://learnathome.withyoutube.com/
NASA at Home	https://www.universe-of-learning.org/universe-at-home/tag/Elementary
San Diego's Children's Discovery Museum	https://www.sdcdm.org/blog
Scholastic Learn at Home	https://classroommagazines.scholastic.com/support/learnathome.html

KINDERGARTEN ORIENTATION CANCELED, NEW ENROLLMENT PROCESS OPEN FOR ALL STUDENTS

Due to the extended school closure, our Kindergarten Orientation sessions on April 30 and May 1 have been cancelled. Instead, Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) has launched a new online registration/enrollment process to support families who wish to enroll their children. Families who are enrolling their children in Prekindergarten/Head Start programs and kindergarten for the 2020-2021 school year, as well as new K-12 and international enrollments for the 2019-2020 school year, can complete the process in three ways:

1. Online, starting with this [Registration Survey](#)
2. Over the phone by calling 240-740-5999
3. By paper forms. Complete the [Registration Survey](#) or call 240-740-5999 to request forms to be mailed to your home.

MCPS COMMUNITY TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT HELP LINE

Any student or parent who needs technical support during distance/remote learning can call **240-740-7022**.



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OVERDRIVE/SORA

Students can now connect their [MCPS SORA account](#) to the MCPL library without a library card. The connection will share MCPL titles at the level of the student (Juvenile –ES, etc.) The [Use SORA app](#) guide provides directions for how to do this. The link to the guide is also provided below. https://docs.google.com/document/d/1tB8yIN0CNDPWpg--T3jzgWBJM_FEDUP0gFVL5mmR6ws/edit?usp=sharing

NEW VIDEO SERIES TO HIGHLIGHT HEALTH AND WELL-BEING RESOURCES

MCPS has launched a new video series, Waymaking, which highlights mental health and well-being resources for staff and students as families adapt to the evolving changes in daily life caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. The show is being hosted Dr. Christina Conolly, director of psychological services for MCPS.

The first episode features a discussion with Gillian Huebner, chair of the School Climate and Safety Subcommittee of the Montgomery County Council of PTAs. They talk about the signs of stress and anxiety in children and offer parents strategies to help their kids cope.

Watch the first episode [here](#).

PARENT ACADEMY OFFERING RESOURCES, WEBINARS TO FAMILIES

The MCPS Parent Academy has cancelled its spring 2020 workshops due to COVID-19. However, plans are in the works to create a series of Parent Academy To-Go videos that families can view at home.

Stay updated by frequently checking the [Parent Academy website](#).

This website also has links to webinars and resources available to help families. These resources are being offered by two community partners—the Parent Encouragement Program and Common Sense. They are:

- [Parenting Support During the Coronavirus](#) (registration required to access the free videos in this series)
- [Why Don't My Kids Listen to Me?](#) (registration required for free access to video)
- [Tech Balance: Family Engagement Tools to Talk Tech and Media Habits with Parents](#) (available in English and Spanish)
- [Wide Open School](#)



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- [Tips and Advice for Families During the Coronavirus Pandemic](#) (available in English and Spanish)
- [Distance Learning Plans for K-2 Families](#)
- [Tech Balance for Parents of 3-to-8-year-olds](#) (available in English and Spanish)

SIGN UP FOR ALERT MCPS

MCPS has expanded its use of the Alert MCPS system to send systemwide messages of significant importance to the community, in addition to information about emergency closings and delays. Notices come in the form of emails and text messages. Alert MCPS is part of the Montgomery County Alert system.

[Here's how you sign up in English and Spanish.](#)

Learn more [here](#).