



# BRADLEY HILLS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

240-204-5210

*Great Teaching, Great Learning, Every Child, Every Day*

*September 1, 2021*

---

## Principal's Corner



*By Karen Caroscio*

---

Welcome back! It was so exhilarating to see all of our students and staff back in the school building for in-person learning! As always, we are committed to providing our students with the best educational experiences while ensuring that they feel safe and comfortable in their classrooms.

Bradley Hills follows the three R's: be respectful, be responsible, and be ready to learn. We have examples of what these three rules look like virtually. These examples will help students understand the expectations of what it means to be respectful, responsible, and ready to learn in a remote learning environment.

### **Be respectful**

- Listen to others when they are speaking.
- Be kind in your words and actions.
- Stay on mute.
- Raise your hand or click "raise hand" button and wait for permission.

### **Be responsible**

- Complete your assignments on time.
- Stay focused and do your best work.
- Use materials appropriately.

### **Be ready to learn**

- Find a quiet place to work (no distractions).
- Have materials ready and organized.
- Be on time.

Any support you can provide to reinforce these expectations will be greatly appreciated!

Please remember to check the Bradley Hills website often. This newsletter will be posted on the first school day of each month. Additionally, the News and Announcements section on the homepage will be updated continuously as we have important information to post. Classroom pages, pictures, and links to Parent Portal pages will be updated during the first few weeks of the school year.

A HUGE thank you to Jillien Meier and Audrey Adams for organizing and hosting PTA Chalk and Talk for our kindergarteners!



---

---

## BRADLEY HILLS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

240-204-5210

*Great Teaching, Great Learning, Every Child, Every Day*

*September 1, 2021*

Thank you to the PTA for providing lunch for the staff during pre-service week. Everyone appreciated the delicious Greek food!

### **ABSENCES FROM SCHOOL**

---

If your child is absent, report the absence by 9:00 a.m. by completing the online form-  
<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/bradleyhillses/about/absence-form.aspx>

### **VOLUNTEERS UPDATE**

---

Montgomery County Public Schools encourages and welcomes school volunteers. The academic achievement and educational experiences of all students are enhanced by a community invested in their learning.

We invite parents, families, and community members to engage in volunteer activities in our schools—from kindergarten to high school—and become partners in teaching and learning. Our volunteer activities vary from school to school, and volunteers can help with a wide variety of activities.

**Interested in becoming an MCPS Volunteer?** There are a few steps to complete before beginning your service as a volunteer in our schools.

1. Complete the mandatory online [Recognizing Child Abuse and Neglect Training](#). This training is required for any volunteer who regularly supports schools, chaperones a field trip, etc. and is available in multiple languages. When the course is completed, a report is created to serve as proof of satisfying the training requirement. Instructions on accessing the course is available [here](#).
2. Read through the following information.
  - [Parent/Guardian Volunteer Information](#)
  - [BHES Lunch Volunteer Information](#)
  - [BHES Recess Volunteer Information](#)
3. Be sure to complete the BHES Volunteer Agreement located at this [link](#).

For additional information, visit: <https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/student-leadership/volunteer.aspx>



---

---

## BRADLEY HILLS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

240-204-5210

*Great Teaching, Great Learning, Every Child, Every Day*

*September 1, 2021*

### **BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT**

---

Back-to-School Night will be held virtually on Thursday, September 2, 2021 from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. Parents will log onto the Zoom meeting. A message from the superintendent, principal, the PTA President, and the Bradley Hills Parent Foundation President will be televised in each classroom from 6:30 – 6:50 p.m.

To enable families with more than one child to attend different classrooms, teachers will conduct two identical Back-to-School Night sessions. The first classroom session will be held from 6:50 – 7:20 p.m. At 7:20, parents will either transition to another classroom or leave the building. Classroom teachers will conduct Session 2 of their presentation from 7:25 – 7:55 p.m.

Art, Music, and P.E. specialists will also provide two sessions of information during Back-to-School Night via Zoom.

Over the summer, parents with children who are new to MCPS should have received a letter from MCPS with an access code and password to activate their ParentVUE account associated with their child's account. If you have several children, each child will have a different account and you should have received a letter for each child. Interim grades and finalized report card grades can be found on ParentVUE once they are posted. Parents who cannot find the letter from MCPS about their ParentVUE account can contact Ms. Schultz at [Xuan.L.Schultz@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Xuan.L.Schultz@mcpsmd.org).

Please remember, the purpose of this evening is to provide parents with a general overview of the grade level curriculum, how you will receive information about your child's classroom, etc. Teachers will not be able to discuss individual students during this time. It is never appropriate for a teacher to discuss your child with other parents or students present.

### **FREE AND REDUCED-PRICE MEALS SYSTEM (FARMS) ELIGIBILITY AND APPLICATION PROCESS**

---

FARMS eligibility from the 2019–2020 and 2020–2021 school years that was extended due to the COVID-19 pandemic will expire after the 30th scheduled school day, unless a new 2021–2022 application is processed. Once the 2021–2022 applications are processed, that eligibility determination carries through the school year or until another application is processed. After October 13, 2021, **all students without a current year approved meal application will default to full paid status.**



---

---

## BRADLEY HILLS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

240-204-5210

*Great Teaching, Great Learning, Every Child, Every Day*

*September 1, 2021*

### Application Process:

- **ONLINE APPLICATIONS** are the fastest and safest way to apply for FARMS. Households are encouraged to apply online at [www.MySchoolApps.com](http://www.MySchoolApps.com). The online application and instructions will be available in various languages.
- **SCANNED PAPER APPLICATIONS:** Paper application will be available in English and Spanish. Paper applications are electronically scanned. Only ORIGINAL applications can be processed.
- Use only one application (online or paper) for all children in a household who attend Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS), even if the students attend different schools.
- As federal government information on the application changes every year, **only the 2021–2022 applications may be used. Please immediately discard all application forms from previous years.**
- Students may apply for meal benefits **at any time** during the school year.
- Applications **cannot** be approved over the telephone per program regulation.

**Who Should Apply:** Households are not required to apply for meal benefits. However, all households who think they may be eligible are encouraged to apply. Income eligibility information is listed on page two of the application. **A new application is required for each household applying for free or reduced-price meals.** Households complete an application only if they wish to apply for free or reduced-price meals.

**Direct Certification:** Some students are eligible for free meals through direct certification because their household receives the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) or Temporary Cash Assistance (TCA) benefits. **Students who have been identified as directly certified should still submit an application to DFNS.**

### **Online Field Trip Payment**

---

Did you know that you can pay for your child(ren)'s field trip online? You can click on the link below for Bradley Hills' online school payments and add the appropriate field trip to your cart. <https://osp.osmsinc.com/MontgomeryMD/BVModules/CategoryTemplates/Detailed%20List%20with%20Properties/Category.aspx?categoryid=BY108>

### **MCPS Give BACKpacks**

---

Over 61,000 MCPS students receive free & reduced-price meals and many families struggle to afford basic necessities like school supplies. Now more than ever, in recovering from the global pandemic,



---

---

## BRADLEY HILLS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

240-204-5210

*Great Teaching, Great Learning, Every Child, Every Day*

*September 1, 2021*

more students are going to need help accessing school supplies. Your donation plays a critical role in helping ALL students thrive academically, while helping to support beginning of the school years costs for a parent in need.

For just \$10, you can provide a student in need with a backpack filled with school supplies, which could include paper, pencils/pens, crayons/colored pencils, a glue stick, binder, and more. Your donation will help provide students with the necessary supplies to engage successfully in their lessons.

Read [the Frequently Asked Questions](#) about the MCPS GIVE BACKpacks campaign.

Learn more at [www.mcpsgivebackpacks.org](http://www.mcpsgivebackpacks.org).

### **BULLYING, HARASSMENT, OR INTIMIDATION**

---

Bullying, harassment, and intimidation means intentional conduct, including verbal, physical, or written conduct or an intentional electronic communication that creates a hostile educational environment by substantially interfering with a student's educational benefits, opportunities, or performance, or with a student's physical or psychological well-being. It is motivated by an actual or perceived personal characteristic, threatening or seriously intimidating, and occurs on school property, at a school activity or event, or on a school bus.

Bullying, harassment, and intimidation are serious and will not be tolerated. Student victims, parents/guardians of student victims, or close adult relatives who wish to report an incident of alleged bullying, harassment, or intimidation should complete the following form and return it to the principal: <https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/forms/pdf/230-35.pdf>.

### **GANG-RELATED ACTIVITY**

---

MCPS believes that academic achievement and social growth occur when students and staff feel safe. Gangs, gang activity, and other similar destructive or illegal group behaviors (gang-related behaviors) interfere with the safe operation of schools. Students who are gang members, who are involved in gang activity, or who participate in similar destructive or illegal group activities, as well as students who are exposed to these activities, are at risk of experiencing a range of negative health, safety, and educational outcomes.



## BRADLEY HILLS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

240-204-5210

*Great Teaching, Great Learning, Every Child, Every Day*

*September 1, 2021*

Therefore, MCPS students are strictly prohibited from participation in gang activity. Use the following form if you have reliable information about an act of gang activity or similar destructive and illegal group behavior which occurred on school property, on school buses, at school-sponsored events, or on the way to/from school:

<https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/forms/pdf/230-37.pdf>.

### RESPECTING RELIGIOUS DIVERSITY

MCPS is committed to promoting respect and appreciation for the religions, beliefs, and customs of our diverse student population. MCPS believes that multiculturalism is one of our greatest strengths and should enrich our community as we learn together in our schools. Respect is a core value of MCPS, and therefore, fostering a culture where all families feel respected is of the utmost importance.

The *MCPS Guidelines for Respecting Religious Diversity* provides answers to frequently asked questions about the accommodation of students' religious beliefs and practices in MCPS, as well as additional resources related to ensuring safe learning environments for students:

[https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/uploadedFiles/students/rights/1373.16\\_ReligiousDiversityGuidelines\\_ENG\\_web.pdf](https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/uploadedFiles/students/rights/1373.16_ReligiousDiversityGuidelines_ENG_web.pdf).

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Date	School Events
September 2, 2021	Back to School Night (Virtual)– 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.
September 6, 2021	Holiday
September 7, 2021	Non-Instructional Day - No School for Students and Teachers
September 16, 2021	Non-Instructional Day - No School for Students and Teachers
September 16-24, 2021	PTA Scholastic Fall Book Fair
October 5, 2021	Virtual PTA Meeting – 7:30 p.m.
October 8, 2021	Early Release Day for Students
October 19-20, 2021	Fall Pictures
October 29, 2021	Halloween Parade – 2:00 p.m.
October 29, 2021	Halloween Parties – 2:30 p.m.