

GREAT SENECA CREEK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
13010 Dairymaid Drive
Germantown, Maryland 20874
Phone: 240-740-4380



Office of the Principal
August 5, 2022

Dear Bullfrog Families,

I would like to welcome you back to an exciting year at The Creek. This letter provides information about many topics to help you prepare for the start of the school year. Those topics include:

- Back-to-School Resource Bank
- Breakfast and Lunch
- Find Out Your Teacher Night
- Kindergarten Orientation
- Open House
- Back to School Night
- PTA Back to School Picnic
- Staffing Changes at GSCES

I am very excited to welcome our new kindergarten students and newly enrolled students to Great Seneca Creek. I am also eagerly awaiting the return of all our Bullfrogs. Our focus continues to center on providing all students and their families a high-quality instructional program that prepares them to be career and college ready and prepared for the 21st century. Our students' success is built upon strong instruction, personal attention, and the strong support of our PTA. We have the best PTA in MCPS. This year our PTA will again be led by Mr. Michael Lacy. They are focused on continuing to provide our school with wonderful programs, events, and opportunities for all students to experience an amazing school year.

BACK TO SCHOOL RESOURCE BANK

Once again, we will be using our Back-to-School Resource Bank (located on the school's website) which includes important information to help you and your family prepare for a successful start to the 2022-2023 school year. This resource provides information about the parent handbook, bus routes, supply lists, and the MCPS calendar. The Back-School Resource Bank will be live by Tuesday, August 9. I will send a community email when this resource is live. As resources become available, we will continue to update this page. Please check this page often.

BREAKFAST AND LUNCH

Unlike the past two years, there will be a charge for school breakfast and lunch:

- Breakfast: \$1.30
- Lunch: \$2.55

Families should go to www.myschoolbucks.com and click on "Sign up today!" to set up a lunch account for your students. Families can find more information about MCPS Food and Nutrition at <https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/food-and-nutrition/meal-payments/>.

Students may qualify for free or reduced-price meals based on household size and income. Families can apply at <https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/food-and-nutrition/meal-payments/#FARMS>.

FIND OUT YOUR TEACHER NIGHT

On Thursday, August 18, families are invited to join other families on the GSCES playground where they can pick up their child’s postcard to find out their teacher for the year. The PTA has arranged for Kona Ice to be there for families to purchase a treat. This is a fun and simple way to kick off the year, find out your child’s teacher, and talk to other Bullfrog families. The event will begin at 5:00 and run until 7:00. Any postcards not picked up that night will be put in the mail Friday and mailed to families.

KINDERGARTEN ORIENTATION

We will be holding Kindergarten Orientation for families and students on Friday, August 19. Families will be able to sign up for an hour block during the day where they will hear information about their child’s kindergarten experience. Families and students will also be able to meet their child’s kindergarten teacher. More information, including the sign-up link, has been shared with kindergarten families.

OPEN HOUSE

Our annual Open House will be held again this year on Thursday, August 25. The schedule for Open House is as follows:

- 1:30 Kindergarten families only
 - Families that have a kindergarten student and an older sibling will be able to visit the older siblings’ classroom(s) at 2:00.

2:00 Students in grades 1-5 can visit their classroom.

BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT

Families will have the opportunity to visit their child’s classroom to learn more about their child’s school experience for the 2022-23 school year. The dates for Back to School Night are listed below:

- Wednesday, September 7 – grades 1-3 from 6:30-8:00
- Thursday, September 8 – grades 4-5 from 6:30-8:00

More information about this event will be coming out once the school year starts.

PTA sponsored BACK TO SCHOOL PICNIC

Our incredible PTA will again be sponsoring a Back to School Picnic for families and students on Thursday, September 15 from 6:00-8:00. Food will be available for purchase, as well as fun and games for the kids. Makes plans to join us for this celebration of a successful start to the 2022-23 school year.

STAFFING CHANGES AT THE CREEK

We welcome several new staff members to our team, including some with new assignments. Ms. Harrington is moving into a role as a special education teacher after working as a 3rd grade teacher. Ms. McGovern is moving from teaching 4th grade to 5th grade. Those staff members new to Great Seneca Creek include:

Ms. Caitlin Ravida Attendance Secretary	Ms. Kristen Barnett School Counselor	Ms. Gail Valle Part-time school counselor
Ms. Denisha Smith Grade 1	Ms. Shelby Teets Grade 3	Ms. Lauren Loeb Grade 3
Ms. Adria Johnson Grade 4	Ms. Lisa Mondesir ESOL	Ms. Kayleigh Waters SESES
Ms. Krystin Buckmaster Part-time art	Ms. Amy Gardiner Part-time music	Mr. Peter Franklin Instrumental music

GSCES GRADE LEVEL TEAMS

Kindergarten	Ms. Armstrong	Ms. Berney	Ms. Perry	Ms. Redman	
1 st Grade	Ms. Carneal	Ms. Lipsman	Ms. Raleigh	Ms. Smith	Ms. Voiner
2 nd Grade	Ms. Brock	Ms. Cajul	Ms. Montgomery	Ms. White	
3 rd Grade	Ms. Dell	Ms. Loeb	Ms. Kenst	Ms. Teets	
4 th Grade	Ms. Carranza	Ms. Cooley	Ms. Johnson	Mr. Obendorfer	
5 th Grade	Mr. Fidotta	Ms. Hall	Ms. Lynott	Ms. McGovern	

I'm looking forward to seeing everyone at our Open House on Thursday, August 25!

Sincerely,



Scott Curry
Principal

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