

NORTH CHEVY CHASE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
3700 JONES BRIDGE ROAD
CHEVY CHASE, MD 20815
North Chevy Chase Elementary School
3700 Jones Bridge Road
Chevy Chase, MD 20815

Principal's Post
September 13, 2019

From the Principal's Desk

It seems like we just left for summer break a few days ago, but we're back and better than ever! It was great seeing new smiling faces, new backpacks and lunch boxes, and eager children. School opened on Tuesday, September 3rd to over 266 smiling faces, some new, some old, but all filled with the prospect of another great year. The new school year holds the promise of increased academic achievement for all of our students.

To our new families, we welcome you to North Chevy Chase and invite you to become involved in the many activities we have here. We are excited you are here and look forward to a year filled with rich, diverse, and meaningful learning opportunities. We feel strongly about parent involvement at our school. Research has shown time and time again that students whose parents are involved in their child's education have a better chance of academic success. We look forward to working with you and your child as partners to ensure a great year.

All students are now settled into daily routines and we have succeeded in reducing class sizes at all grade levels. Thanks for working with us as partners in your child's education.

Back To School Night

Just a reminder to join us for Back to School Night! This year Back to School Night will be on Wednesday, September 18th from 6:30 – 8:00 pm. By the end of the evening the staff and I hope that you will have a better understanding of the teaching and learning that is going on in your child's classroom. There will be many opportunities to further your knowledge about the school and county programs throughout the year.

The Principal's Coffees are a great way to meet me, other staff, and parents to learn all about North Chevy Chase. The coffee is also a great place to ask questions about the NCC community, learn about resources that can help families get connected and find opportunities to get involved at school. The first coffee will be for third grade parents and parents of students new to NCC on Wednesday, September 25th at 9:30 a.m. in the All Purpose Room.

Thank-you

Have I told you that our PTA is fabulous? Many thanks and appreciation to our parents for providing the delicious and delightful “Welcome Back” lunch for the staff during our first week of work. We continue to be in awe of your thoughtfulness and generosity. It was a great way to start the year.

Welcome

Please extend a heartfelt welcome to our newest staff member. **Mrs. Krystle Kogami – Third Grade Teacher**

We are happy to have her join our North Chevy Chase family. Her first day at NCC is today: Friday, September 13th. Special thanks to Mr. Erlich for assuming the role of substitute during her absence.

Student Agenda Books

As a whole-school initiative, our school has once again provided a student agenda book that is available for student purchase for \$4.00. This agenda book is used to help your child track his/her assignments and to let you know of assignments that are due. While this is a voluntary purchase, we strongly believe a student agenda book is a valuable organizational tool to help you and your child monitor completion of assigned tasks. If you do not want your child to purchase the school's agenda book, please provide a tool your child can use for the same purpose.

Keeping You Informed

Remember to check backpacks every day. Mrs. Mosley-Ramsey is the webmaster for the NCC webpage. Please visit the North Chevy Chase Website for up to date news and upcoming activities.

Connect- Ed/ Communication Update

North Chevy Chase has been using the computerized telephone calling system (Connect-Ed) as an additional way of communicating messages to families. The system allows us to notify parents and staff about important issues and events. Please provide the office with your current phone number to ensure that you are receiving announcements in a timely manner. I will also use connect ed to communicate upcoming events with families on Sunday evenings.

Dismissal Procedures:

- The end of the day is a very busy time in the classroom, with teachers giving final homework and instructions and students packing up for departure. If a student needs to leave school early for a doctor's appointment, travel, etc. , we are asking that parents pick up the student prior to 3:30 p.m. Once we begin dismissing students it is very difficult to have interruptions to the classroom.
- Please make all play dates and after school arrangements prior to coming to school. Children should have a note signed by parents when going home with another student.
- **Remember not to enter the bus circle during student arrival and dismissal!**

Safety Drills

Schools are required to practice emergency drills throughout the school year. Fire drills are practiced once a month. We also have; Shelter and Lock Down with Options drills. Shelter is a term used to alert staff that an emergency exists at or near an MCPS facility. Students are to be accounted for and under supervision during the drill. Lock Down with Options is a term used to alert staff that imminent danger exists inside or outside of the building and requires moving to an immediate lockdown mode. The county has now added options of Avoid, Deny or Defend as possible options to Lockdown. All require that students are accounted for and under supervision as well. We have now added an Active Assailant and Active Shooter Drill. During one of these drills we will review our Parent/Child Reunification Plan. All schools have a plan in place to reunite students with their parents/guardians in the event of an emergency at school. We routinely practice all of these drills during the school year so that students will know what to do in case of an emergency. Please make sure that the school has on file who is authorized to pick up your child in case of an emergency. We would also like for you to discuss with your child the seriousness of these drills.

Please note that in case of an emergency that requires moving our students, our Parent Reunification site is the North Chevy Chase Christian Church located at 8814 Kensington Parkway Chevy Chase Maryland 20815.

How to Receive Emergency Information from MCPS

MCPS parents can receive emergency information from the school system in a variety of ways including MCPS QuickNotes, Alert MCPS, Twitter, the MCPS website, MCPS TV, and a recorded telephone information line. Please visit www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/emergency for more information on how to keep in touch with Montgomery County Public Schools and stay informed in times of emergencies.



The Question Box

Question: *Whom do I ask about my child's learning program, placement and academic progress?*

Answer: If you have a question about your child's placement, performance or classroom procedures, please contact the teacher first by email, telephone or a note. If the situation is not resolved to your satisfaction then email me, Renee. D Wallace-Kimbrue, and I will meet with you and the teacher to facilitate the problem solving process.

Question: *Will my child be able to bring in birthday treats for the students in his/her class to celebrate their special day?*

Answer: While we recognize that every birthday is special to both students and adults, because of the increased number of students with food allergies as well as the increased awareness on Healthy Eating Habits, we are asking that parents **NOT** bring in food items as treats for birthdays. If you are interested in sharing a treat with your child's classmates, please consider bringing pencils, erasers, stickers or other non-food items (be creative!). Teachers will allow students to pass items out during homeroom.

In addition, if your child is having a birthday celebration, please do not send invitations to school for distribution unless the entire class is invited. This prevents the staff from dealing with tears and hurt feelings for those not included.

Question: *Will students be able to use the office phone to call home for forgotten items?*

Answer: Phone calls are Allowed **Only** if the student is not sure how they get home or emergencies at teacher's/principal's discretion. No phone calls will be made for the following: Instruments, assignments, play dates (must have a note) or missing lunch. Students who forget their lunch will be provided a meal through the cafeteria.

Question: *Is my child allowed to have a cell phone at school?*

Answer: Students are allowed to have cell phones but they must remain in the child's backpack in the off position or turned into the office during the school day. Cell phones may not be used on school property or on the school bus.

Question: *What is the procedure to be followed if I would like for my child to go home with another student?*

Answer: Please send a note with your child stating permission for him/her to go home with the friend or if there is any change in routine. Notes are given to the classroom teacher in the morning. The teacher will then send the note to the office along with the attendance. Students will not be allowed to go home or on a play date without written permission.

Open House

October 14th

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Open House, or Parent Visitation Day, is on Columbus Day, **Monday, Oct 14, 2019**, which is a holiday for many government workers. All MCPS schools have scheduled open houses for their parent communities on this day. Parents and guardians are welcome to visit NCC between the hours of 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. to observe students in the classroom.

Nut Allergies: PLEASE READ CAREFULLY!

We have many students who attend North Chevy Chase with Anaphylaxis reactions to peanuts and peanut butter products. Students *may* eat peanuts and peanut products at lunch because we are able to control student contact with peanut products by having Peanut Free tables for students to sit. Parents, please be mindful of allergies when providing treats for class parties. As a school community, it is important to be sensitive to the needs of all children and to do our best to ensure the safety and health of all. Thank you for your consideration!



Please Mark Your Calendar

October –

- 7 – Fourth Grade Field Trip Flag Ponds
- 9 –No School for Students
- 10 – Fourth Grade Parent Coffee 9:30 AM
- 11-18 - NCC Scholastic Book Fair
- 14 – Columbus Day MCPS Open House for parents 10:00 am – 12:00 pm :Book Fair Media Center; 5th Grade Artifact Museum
- 16 - Literary Café 6:30 PM
- 17 – Fifth Grade Parent Coffee 9:30 AM
- 23 –PTA Board Meeting 7:00 PM
- 31 – Halloween Parade and parties 2:40 – 3:45 p.m.

November

- 8 – STEAM Day/First Marking Period Ends
- 11- Veteran's Day; Donuts for Dads/ Early Release Day; Parent Conferences/ Second Marking Period Begins

12 – Early Release Day; Parent Conferences
20– Report Cards Distributed/PTA Board Meeting
26 – Geo Bee
27 –Early Release Day
28 -29 - Thanksgiving Holiday No School

December

2 – PTA Sponsored Holiday Shopping
11 – Third Grade Field Trip Imagination Stage/ PTA Board Meeting 7 – 8:30 PM
16 – Second Marking Period Ends
18 – Instrumental and Vocal Winter Music Concert
23 –Jan 1 - Winter Break

MCPS Announcements

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 the with their child(ren). The documents are available online at www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/students/rights/.

Derechos y Responsabilidades del Estudiante y Código de Conducta

Con el fin de asegurar un ambiente de aprendizaje seguro, productivo y positivo, (MCPS) publica dos documentos que ayudan a estudiantes, padres/guardianes y el personal a entender las reglas y regulaciones de la escuela; las expectativas para la conducta del estudiante; y las posibles consecuencias por violar las reglas. La Guía de Derechos y Obligaciones del Estudiante es un resumen de los derechos y responsabilidades que los estudiantes disfrutan en MCPS y un resumen de las leyes y regulaciones que afectan a los estudiantes.

El Código de Conducta proporciona un resumen de los procedimientos y protocolos de disciplina y la gama de consecuencias a la que los estudiantes podrían enfrentarse por violar diversas políticas, reglamentos y normas. La guía también comenta sobre la filosofía de MCPS para disciplinar.

Todas las familias recibieron una copia de estos documentos y se les anima a revisarlas con su hijo(s). Los documentos están disponibles en línea en

www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/students/rights/.

Preview Nights Set to Explain High School Programming Options

MCPS has developed a long-range strategic plan for high school programming. The plan will be implemented in phases during the next six years, with new programs available to Grade 9 students in fall 2020. MCPS will host four preview nights to discuss these options with students and their families.

The preview nights will be held:

- Thursday, September 19, at Richard Montgomery High School
- Wednesday, September 25, at Watkins Mill High School
- Thursday, September 26, at John F. Kennedy High School (Parents/guardians and students who attend this preview night will also receive information on the Choice process.)
- Wednesday, October 2, at James Hubert Blake High School (Parents/guardians and students who attend this preview night will also receive information on the Choice process.)

Each preview night is designed for specific high school clusters. All preview nights will begin at 6:30 p.m. and will be live streamed on the MCPS website.

More information is available [here](#) or on the Options webpage at www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/career-readiness/options.aspx.

Noches de Presentación Preliminar Programadas para Explicar las Opciones de Programación de las Escuelas Secundarias

MCPS ha desarrollado un plan estratégico de programación a largo plazo para las escuelas secundarias. El plan será implementado en fases durante los próximos seis años, comenzando con los nuevos programas que estarán disponibles para los estudiantes del Grado 9 en el otoño del 2020. MCPS sostendrá cuatro noches de presentación preliminar para discutir estas opciones con los estudiantes y sus familias.

Las noches de presentación preliminar tendrán lugar:

- Jueves, 19 de septiembre, en Richard Montgomery High School
- Miércoles, 25 de septiembre, en Watkins Mill High School
- Jueves, 26 de septiembre, en John F. Kennedy High School (Padres/guardianes y estudiantes que asistan a esta noche de presentación preliminar, también recibirán información sobre el proceso Choice)
- Miércoles, 2 de octubre, en James Hubert Blake High School (Padres/guardianes y estudiantes que asistan a esta noche de presentación preliminar, también recibirán información sobre el proceso Choice)

Cada noche de presentación preliminar está diseñada para escuelas secundarias específicas en el grupo de escuelas. Todas las noches de presentación preliminar comenzarán a las 6:30 p.m. y serán transmitidas en vivo en el sitio web de MCPS.

Más información está disponible aquí o en la página web de Opciones en

www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/career-readiness/options.aspx

Saturday School

The George B. Thomas, Sr. Learning Academy, Inc. kicks off its 2019–2020 season of Saturday School on Saturday, September 21. Saturday School is a low-cost tutoring and mentoring program that provides a sixth day of learning and helps MCPS students enhance their mastery of core academic subjects. Students who are in need of additional academic support can attend sessions at one of 12 locations across Montgomery County. Classes begin on **Saturday, September 21** and will end in May 2020. More information can be found at www.saturdayschool.org/.

Escuela de los Sábados

La Academia de Aprendizaje George B. Thomas, Sr. (George B. Thomas, Sr. Learning Academy, Inc.) lanza su temporada 2019-2020 de la Escuela de los Sábados el sábado, 21 de septiembre. La Escuela de los Sábados, es un programa de tutoría y mentoría a bajo costo, que ofrece un día más de aprendizaje y ayuda a los estudiantes de MCPS a mejorar su dominio de las materias académicas básicas. Los estudiantes que necesitan apoyo académico adicional pueden asistir a sesiones en una de las 12 localidades disponibles en todo el Condado de Montgomery. Las clases comienzan el sábado, 21 de septiembre, y terminarán en mayo 2020. Se puede encontrar más información en www.saturdayschool.org/

Stay Informed with 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.

Manténgase Informado con el Boletín Informativo de MCPS, QuickNotes

MCPS QuickNotes, es un boletín informativo bimensual que ofrece a las familias de MCPS información y noticias importantes acerca de los programas y actividades de MCPS, además de información de emergencia. MCPS QuickNotes se ofrece en siete idiomas: inglés, español, francés, coreano, chino, vietnamita y amárico. Visite news.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/ para leer la última edición.

