

NEW HAMPSHIRE ESTATES NOTES



NEW HAMPSHIRE ESTATES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Speak Up and Be Heard!!

You have a great opportunity to make your voice heard on **February 20!** Members of the Montgomery County Board of Education are coming to our part of the county to hear from parents. They will be meeting with parents at Eastern Middle School at 7 p.m. This meeting is open to all parents of students in the Blair Cluster, which includes Blair High School and all of the schools that feed into Blair High School, including New Hampshire Estates. This is an important opportunity that only comes once every few years. I will be there that night, as well as members of our staff who can act as interpreters. But the members of the Board of Education really want to hear from you, the parents.

It is especially important that board members hear from our parents so that they can understand our community. They need to hear about the importance of parents getting all materials in Spanish promptly. They need to hear about the challenges our community is facing due to immigration issues. They need to hear about the value of our Linkages to Learning program, our school-based health center, our Excel Beyond the Bell after-school program, our school counselors, and anything else you would like to make sure they continue to fund. They need to hear what our parents want for our kids and our school. There will be opportunities to talk with board members in small groups or even one-on-one, so if you are shy about speaking in large groups, do not worry. Even if you don't say anything at all, your presence can still be important by letting board members know that we have a lot of parents who really care.

If you would like to go on **February 20**, but you need transportation, contact *Karina Echeverz* at 240-740-1588 to let her know and we will find a way to get you to the meeting.

IMPORTANT DATES

- 02/17 No School - President's Day
- 02/18 Linkages to Learning Parent Coffee, 9:00 a.m.
- 02/20 Board of Education Parent Meeting, Eastern MS, 7:00 p.m.
- 02/25 Principal's Parent Coffee, 9:00 a.m.
- 02/28 Early Release Day, Dismissal starts at 12:55 p.m.

Family Time in the NHE Library

Did you know the NHE library is open to families?

On Tuesdays after school families can stop in to read books, use the Makerspace or use the Chrome-books. Parents can get a library card and check out additional books for students to read at home.

Stop by on a Tuesday and check it out!

DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP

What is digital citizenship? It is using social media and other digital tools in a responsible, respectful manner that allows individuals to communicate freely and share ideas without the threat of intimidation, harassment or abuse. MCPS has partnered with Common Sense Media to bring lessons to students and resources to families. Please see the Digital Citizenship handout for more information about helping your children make good choices online.