

## Sunday Screamer, October 24, 2021

Good evening, Westover Families. This is Mrs. Wilson with your Sunday Screamer.

Please see below for a few important reminders and updates:

### **PARENT MEETINGS/CONFERENCES**

Updated MCPS policy states that the default for parent conferences and IEP meetings are **virtual**. We will hold in-person meetings for families who do not have access to the technology required for meetings. Please let your teacher know if an in-person conference is required.

### **SAFETY DRILLS**

Each year, schools in MCPS are required to practice safety drills with students and staff; such drills include sheltering in place, locking down, evacuating, preparing for severe weather, and responding to an earthquake. We will be practicing how to shelter in place and how to lockdown this week. Shelter is a term used to alert staff that an emergency exists at or near an MCPS facility. It requires all students to be accounted for and under supervision. Outside doors are locked and classroom instruction continues. When there is life-threatening imminent danger, a lockdown is a viable response to implement. When a lockdown is implemented, the classrooms doors are locked, the room is made to look unoccupied by turning off the lights, closing and/or covering the windows and blinds, and moving away from the line of sight from the doors and windows. Students and staff remain silent and 911 is called. You are encouraged to discuss these two drills with your children and to underscore the importance of listening to the adults and following directions. We appreciate your help!

### **ONLINE CONSENT FORM**

MCPS teachers may utilize a variety of supplemental online digital tools to reinforce the district's instructional program. In the form linked below, you will find supplemental tools that may be used by teachers. These tools have been evaluated to be safe for student use and are consistent with federal laws on student data privacy. MCPS requests your consent to allow your student to use the supplemental tools listed above, as these tools may collect personally identifiable student information, such as first and last name, classroom teacher, or grade level. This information is typically collected by online digital tools to enable use of the tool and to track student progress. Please provide consent using the following form:

<https://forms.gle/xLVaQ9V4X7eFms5M6>

### **COVID SCREENING TESTING**

Our school began COVID screening testing last week. We have been assigned **every Tuesday between 1:00-2:45 pm**. Our state-contracted vendor, CIAN Diagnostics, will be conducting the screening tests for eligible students in PreK-5th grade. We currently have approximately 102

students who have opted in for testing. To accommodate the large number of students who are eligible, we will test students in PreK, K, 3 and 5 (Group A) one week and students in grades 1, 2 and 4 (Group B) the following week, alternating weeks for the remainder of the year. Students will be called down by the main office to a designated location for testing. Parents/guardians will receive an email directly from CIAN Diagnostics containing negative result information. Any positive results will be shared directly with principals. The turnaround time for results has been averaging two days.

A reminder that one significant mitigation tactic that MCPS is using this fall is random COVID-19 screening tests and rapid testing across grades. Please 'say yes to the test'!

[https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/uploadedfiles/coronavirus/sayyestotest/MCPS\\_Testing-Outreach\\_2021\\_ENGLISH-FINAL.pdf](https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/uploadedfiles/coronavirus/sayyestotest/MCPS_Testing-Outreach_2021_ENGLISH-FINAL.pdf)

## **WEATHER**

As the weather begins to change, please make sure your children are dressed for cooler temperatures, possibly in layers. We are continuing with outdoor lunch and recess and want to ensure children are comfortable.

## **PTO SPONSORED TRUNK OR TREAT**

The PTO is sponsoring a festive Trunk or Treat event on Friday, October 29th from 5:00-7:00 pm in the parking lot of the Robin Hood Swim Club! See the linked flyer below for more details! Sign up to host a trunk or to participate!

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1rSc3yoVyL4\\_TpxGomhWVk87LXOPtkhr/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1rSc3yoVyL4_TpxGomhWVk87LXOPtkhr/view?usp=sharing)

Sign up genius: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080A49A9A82FA6FD0-westover>

## **PTO BULB SALE**

The PTO has you covered for your fall planting needs. Check out the flyer linked below to order your spring bulbs for fall planting and to help fundraise for our school!

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1EDqmmCb2MTTP41atimSyygKLqv9\\_pvto/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1EDqmmCb2MTTP41atimSyygKLqv9_pvto/view?usp=sharing)

## **AFTER SCHOOL ENRICHMENT PROGRAMS**

The PTO would like to ask for parents' interest in the types of After school enrichment programs starting January 2022. Please click this link here: <https://forms.gle/RRkNEYj3ax4Q8SfV8>

That's all for now!

Have a great night,

Mrs. Wilson and Ms. Young