



The Stonegate SplashRiding the Waves of Success

THE PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER FOR STONEGATE FAMILIES

STONEGATE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
14811 NOTLEY ROAD
SILVER SPRING, MD 20905
301.989.5668



A Message from Mrs. Glawe

Friday, December 17, 2010

Audra Fladung, Principal

Carla Glawe, Principal Intern

Special Points of Interest:

- **Winter Break: December 24-January 2nd**
- **Return to school January 3rd**
- **January 4 and 5, MOCK MSA for grades 3, 4 and 5**

We have received more information about my transition as Acting Principal. Last week, you received a letter from Ms. Fladung sharing the information. The time period in which I will be the Acting Principal is from January 3, 2011 until February 17, 2011. During this time, Nancy Evans, retired Montgomery County Public School principal, will be the Acting Assistant Principal. As you know, Ms. Fladung will be out of the building during this time working on a project at central office. To ensure a smooth transition, on Wednesday, December 22, 2010, we will hold an assembly to share the six week plan with the students. At this time, Ms Evans will be introduced to the students.

Throughout this time please be sure to communicate any concerns, celebrations or issues with me via email at Carla_Glawe@mcpsmd.org, or call the school. I will be in contact with Ms. Fladung, our Performance Director and Community Superintendent regularly. Ms. Fladung and I will meet weekly away from the building to discuss Stonegate information.

On January 4th and 5th, we will conduct a Mock Maryland School Assessment (MSA) for grades 3, 4 and 5. The simulation will take place in the morning for reading and math. Please ensure that your child is here both days so that he/she is able to participate. Students will take a sample test taken from the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) Website. MSDE provides schools with public release documents to be used for practice. If you attended our Math Family Night in the fall, these press release items were available for you to take. If you would like more information you can go to http://mdk12.org/assessments/k_8/index.html.





Common Core Standards

MCPS has recently adopted the Common Core State Standards for english language arts and mathematics. The Common Core State Standards were developed by a consortium of states and national education groups to ensure that all students are well prepared for a world that increasingly demands college-level skills from every student who graduates from high school.

The Common Core will bring the rest of the state more in line with the expectations MCPS has for its students. As you know, it is our goal to ensure students are college and career ready by the time they leave high school.

These standards define the knowledge and skills students should have within

their K-12 education careers so that they will graduate high school able to succeed in entry-level, credit-bearing academic college courses and in workforce training programs.

The standards:

- Are aligned with college and work expectations;
- Are clear, understandable and consistent;
- Include rigorous content and application of knowledge through high-order skills;
- Build upon strengths and lessons of current state standards;
- Are informed by other top performing countries, so that all students are prepared to succeed in our global economy and society; and
- Are evidence-based.

*<http://www.corestandards.org/>

As you can see our 7 Keys to College and Career Readiness is aligned with the Common Core Standards.

Winter Weather

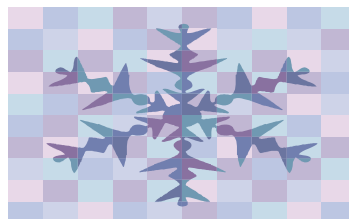
In our last issue information was shared about winter weather. Below is more information for you in case we have more winter weather.

Delayed Opening

A delayed opening means that schools open two hours later than scheduled. At Stonegate Elementary School, the day will begin at 10:50 a.m. Students should arrive no later than 10:45 a.m. All buses operate on the same delayed schedule and, therefore, the pick-up times are two hours later than normal. When schools open on a delayed scheduled field trips are cancelled. Parents should continue to check for radio, television or Web announcements in the event school is cancelled for the whole day.

Early Dismissal

An early dismissal means that schools will close 2.5 hours earlier than scheduled. At Stonegate Elementary School the students will be released at 12:35 p.m. Drop-off times for bus riders are 2.5 hours earlier than normal.





Goal Setting

December provides us with an opportunity to reflect on the year and to set new goals for the future. As your family takes time to relax and enjoy each others company during the winter break, we encourage your children to use the new year to get a fresh start on the 2010-2011 school year.

This is a great time to identify a goal. The goal may be centered

around further developing organizational skills, practice basic math facts, or improve reading fluency. Please work with your child to establish goals, collaborate with his or her teacher(s), and assist with an plan of action.

The Data Notebook your child brings home may be a great resource for you to use and begin your goal setting discussions.



State Testing Around the Corner

The Maryland State Assessment (MSA) is right around the corner. In March students in grades 3, 4 and 5 will participate in standardized state wide assessments. Testing times will be approximately three hours per day and will include periodic breaks. The MSA measures student performance in reading and math and includes multiple choice and brief con-

structed responses (BCRs). The testing will begin the week of March 8th.

In the spring second grade students will take the TerraNova Second Edition. The TerraNova2 or TN2 measures student performance in reading, language, language mechanics, math and math computation. It is imperative that all students be present for

each day of the testing. Both of these assessments are considered “high stakes tests” and are measures of individual student performance. We ask that you schedule any appointments after school or after the testing windows.

Safety and Security at Stonegate!

The new Visitor Management System is up and running at Stonegate. Here are a few tips when you come and visit between the hours of 9:15 a.m. and 2:45 p.m.:

1. You will need to push the button by the front main doors. Once we have been signaled in the office, the door will make a faint click and you will be let in.

Please pull on the right door when you hear the faint click.

2. When you enter the building please go directly to the main office. If you are volunteering or have business in the building, you will be asked to provide us with your driver’s license.
3. You will then receive a visitor’s sticker. Please come back to the

office to check out when you are ready to leave.

There may be times when the system needs adjustment. Please be patient as we work out the kinks.

These procedures are in place to ensure all students are safe during the school day. We ask that you please follow our new procedures.





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SCHOOL HOURS: 8:50 A.M - 3:05 P.M



Core Values

- Respect
- Responsibility
- Collaboration
- Commitment

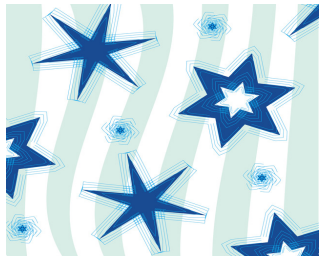
Mission Statement

Stonegate's mission as a caring community is to foster the growth of life-long learners by communicating high expectations and standards through respect, flexibility, and collaboration.

Vision Statement

The Stonegate Community will be committed to a multicultural learning environment that motivates and supports all learners to achieve their greatest potential. We will collaborate respectfully to develop a standard of excellence that promotes high expectations for all learners.

On behalf of the Stonegate staff, we wish you a wonderful winter break and a happy holiday season!



Nominate a Teacher for an Award!

The 2010-2011 school year marks the presentation of the third annual MCPS–Montgomery County NAACP Excellence in Education Principal and Teacher of the Year Awards.

One MCPS principal and one MCPS teacher will be recognized for their commitment to closing the achievement gap through programs meeting the academic and social needs of all students. The awards will be presented at the Sunday, May 1, 2011, Annual Freedom Fund Dinner.

Deadline for the nomination packet is: January 14, 2011. For more information: <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/d>

epartments/clusteradmin/schoolperformance/naacpaward/teacher.aspx

The Agnes Meyer Award

One teacher from Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) will be selected to receive this recognition and an award of \$3,000 from *The Washington Post*. Goals of the program are to recognize excellence in teaching, encourage creative and quality instruction, and contribute in a substantive way to improving education in the Washington metropolitan area. The deadline for nomination packets is January 14, 2011.

The Marian Greenblatt Award

This award is given to those veteran teachers who have taught in the county for five years or “Rising-Star” teachers, teachers who have taught less than 2 years or who have taught as a long-term substitute as long as the total time teaching is two years or less, including full-time and substitute service. This award recognizes Master Teachers who inspire their students to achieve and encourage younger teachers to be the best they can be, and help their school/community.

