



Wayside News

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Principal's Update



Dear Wayside Families,

While we have hopefully seen the last of any snow this year, temperatures are still a bit chilly at times. Please be sure to send your children to school with jackets, hats, and gloves. We plan to have the students go outside for recess whenever possible, and we want to be sure everyone is dressed appropriately!

Our fifth grade students will take the Maryland School Assessment (MSA) in science on Tuesday and Wednesday, March 8th and 9th. This annual exam is administered throughout Maryland to fifth and eighth graders. The exam given to fifth grade students tests knowledge of general scientific processes, data analysis, and content specific to the fourth and fifth grade curricula. Students will take this test on Chrome-books. It will include both multiple choice and written responses as well as "technology enhanced" items such as drag-and-drop. Sample items that have been publicly released can be found at: http://mdk12.msde.maryland.gov/instruction/curriculum/science/assessments_msa.html. Testing will begin immediately after the announcements. Please be sure students arrive on time, well rested, and having eaten a healthy breakfast.

Earlier this year, all second grade students took the InView assessment as part of the process for identifying students as gifted and talented. Students in third through fifth grades who are new to MCPS, or those being rescreened, also took this assessment. During the first week of March, all parents of second grade students will receive a parent input form in the mail. All other parents of students who took the InView should expect this form to come home with their child. Forms should be filled out and returned to school within one week from the time they are received.

Thank you for staying informed by reading this newsletter and signing up for [Wayside Waves](#).

Kind Regards,
Donna Michela
Principal



Wayside Kindergarten Registration

Kindergarten Orientation will be held on Friday, April 29 for children entering kindergarten for the 2016-2017 school year. There will be NO SCHOOL for current kindergarten students on April 29th.

Please call our main office at 301-279-8484 to begin the enrollment process with our school registrar, Mrs. Guevara.

Visit the Wayside website to access all [enrollment documents](#).

Visit the MCPS website for additional information about [Kindergarten Registration](#).

The FY 2017 Operating Budget—A Call to Fund Our Future

On March 1, the Board of Education transmitted its \$2.5 billion Fiscal Year 2017 operating budget request to Montgomery County Executive Isiah Leggett and the Montgomery County Council. The county executive is expected to release his FY 2017 operating budget recommendation by March 15. The County Council will consider the budget this spring, with final approval happening in late May. After eight years of challenging economic times and a local educational investment of \$1,200 less per student than in 2009, MCPS is asking for a budget this year to strengthen our foundation and accelerate efforts to close the achievement gap. Anything less than full funding would likely require further cuts that could impact every school. It is critical that we use this period to make our voices heard to ensure that our county leaders understand the needs of our students and support the budget.

Your voice matters. Visit the budget webpage at www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/budget/ to learn how you can get involved and advocate.



MCPS Annual Report to the Community

The 2015 *Annual Report to the Community* tells the story of MCPS—the factors that are driving change in our district; the strategies we are using to close the achievement gap and prepare our students for success in the 21st century; and the operational and student performance data we use to monitor our progress. The online report features photos, charts, and video and audio segments that help portray how MCPS is fulfilling its vision and mission. [Read the report](#) to learn more and meet some of the district’s outstanding students and staff.



Wayside @ Grosvenor



During construction we are housed at Grosvenor Center. Grosvenor Center is located at 5701 Grosvenor Lane, Bethesda. Wayside is scheduled to move into a newly built facility in August 2017.

[Henley Construction Co., Inc.](#) is onsite preparing the building for demolition and construction. Community members are cautioned to monitor their children's activity around the site. All areas of the property (fields and playgrounds) will be closed for use during construction.



Saturday School to Offer PARCC Exposure Series

In collaboration with MCPS, Saturday School is pleased to offer MCPS families the opportunity to participate in **PARCC Exposure**, a series of Saturday sessions, beginning March 12, designed to help students become more familiar with taking the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) exams this spring. Beginning Saturday, March 12, in addition to the strong literacy and math support teachers deliver, students will be exposed to the PARCC assessments on computers and Chromebooks. Certified MCPS teachers will use publicly released items as part of their literacy and math tutoring sessions to reinforce what students are learning during the week.

Your child can be a part of this exciting opportunity by registering for Saturday School at www.SaturdaySchool.org. Registration is \$40 for students who receive Free and Reduced-price Meals (FARMS) and \$70 for non-FARMS students. Parents are invited to the March 12 parent training at all 12 Saturday School centers to learn more about the PARCC assessment. can attend sessions at one of 12 locations across Montgomery County.



News and Information for the MCPS Community

Sign up to receive information by email from Montgomery County Public Schools. As a QuickNotes subscriber, you will receive emergency announcements and a monthly newsletter with the latest school system news and information.

<http://news.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/quicknotes-home/>

Wayside Elementary School

@Grosvenor Center

5701 Grosvenor Lane
Bethesda, MD 20814

Phone: 301-279-8484

Fax: 301-279-3326

www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/waysidees/



Upcoming Events

Fri, March 11

Bingo Night—Hoover Middle School

Thu, March 24

Professional day for teachers; No school for students

Fri, March 25—Fri, April 1

Spring Break - schools and offices closed




Marking Period Dates Revised!

Due to the loss of instructional days caused by emergency weather closures, MCPS has revised the schedule for the end of the third marking period, the distribution date for third marking period report cards and the start of the fourth marking period. As a result, the third marking period will end on Friday, April 8 and the fourth marking period will begin on Monday, April 11. Third quarter report cards will be distributed on Friday, April 22.

The Wayside Elementary School community builds successful, life-long learners through its commitment to the highest standards of teaching and learning.

Stay Connected



All the school information you need from calendar updates to lunch menu choices is available at the Wayside website

www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/waysidees/

If you are unable to access the website, please don't hesitate to contact your child's teacher or the main office at 301-279-8484.

The Wayside News will be published at the beginning of each month to share information relevant to school happenings. Other sources of important information include the [Wayside website](#), [PTA website](#), and Wayside Waves. Please remember to [join the PTA](#) and sign up for [Wayside Waves](#) so that you can stay informed of all important information. If you have any questions regarding school or classroom policies and procedures, please feel free to ask your child's teacher.

Lunch account information can be found at www.myschoolbucks.com

Wayside Staff members names and email addresses—

<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/waysidees/staff/directory.aspx>

Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) Website—

<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/>

New to MCPS? Check out the Parents Guide to MCPS at—

<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/parents/>