

# College Gardens Elementary School

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Principal's Updates from School: 11-23-11

This is one in a series of updates from College Gardens ES. Our "Principal's Updates from School" are scheduled for distribution weekly on Friday afternoons.

## **Happy Thanksgiving!**

MCPS Schools & Offices are closed Thursday, November 24 and Friday, November 25 for Thanksgiving.

During this holiday season, many families will spend the day together, watch a parade or a football game or two, go for a walk or for a hike, toss the football around outside, or maybe kick a soccer ball around and then enjoy a bounty of family favorites. However, some of our families will not.

During this time of Thanksgiving, I hope you will join me and take some time to discuss with your family, and most importantly your children, what you are thankful for.

As the principal of College Gardens Elementary School, I am very thankful for the partnership we share in the education of our students.

Enjoy the time away from work and school with your family and friends. From our College Gardens family to your family, Happy Thanksgiving!

## **Superintendent's Book Club**

Dr. Joshua P. Starr, Superintendent, is planning three Book Club events. These events provide an opportunity for the community to learn more about his educational philosophy and approach to leading MCPS. His first book club is scheduled for Tuesday, November 29, 2011 from 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. at Carver Educational Services Center (CESC), 850 Hungerford Drive, Rockville, MD. For this Superintendent's Book Club event, Dr. Starr has selected Mindset: The New Psychology of Success, by Carol Dweck. Each of the Book Club events are scheduled to be available for audience participation at CESC and via Webinar.

## **Get Ready for Winter Weather**

Winter weather is coming soon. Stay on top of school closures, delayed openings or early dismissals by subscribing to the MCPS QuickNotes email news service, Alert MCPS or Twitter. Learn more about weather decisions on the MCPS emergency information website.

## **How to Receive MCPS Emergency Information**

### **MCPS Web: Home page**

<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org>

Weather-related messages are posted in English and Spanish.

### **Email: QuickNotes**

Weather-related messages are sent in 6 languages (English, Chinese, French, Korean, Spanish, and Vietnamese).

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## **Text and Email: Alert MCPS**

Alert MCPS provides you with emergency information about school operations via text messages (i.e. SMS text or email messages) to devices you register. Signing up for Alert MCPS is free, but your wireless carrier may charge you a fee to receive text messages. This service is provided in collaboration with the Montgomery County government. Weather-related messages are sent in English and Spanish.

## **Text and Web: Twitter**

A Twitter account allows you to follow MCPS text-message updates on your computer or on your cell or other mobile device. Twitter updates will include emergency message and other school system news.

**<http://twitter.com/mcps>**

## **TV: MCPS Cable Channels**

Emergency announcements are posted on the following cable channels.

Comcast Channel 34

Verizon Fios Channel 36

RCN Channel 89

## **Telephone Information Line: 301-279-3673**

Recorded emergency information.

## **Telephone: Ask MCPS: 301-309-6277**

Staff takes calls from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Mondays through Fridays, in English and Spanish.

## **Web: MCPS Newsfeed**

Receive alerts and news on your computer.

## **TV and Radio: Local Stations**

Tune in to local TV and radio stations for information.

## **MCPS Parent Academy Nights for Curriculum 2.0**

The MCPS Parent Academy is holding 9 information nights to answer parents questions about the new and exciting Curriculum 2.0 that is being implemented in all kindergarten and first grade classes and in some second grade classes.

Curriculum 2.0 has been developed to create a more exciting learning experience for our students in Grades K-5. Built upon the existing Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) curriculum, Curriculum 2.0 blends reading/language arts and mathematics instruction with lessons in science, social studies, music, art, and physical education in a way that spurs creativity and critical thinking skills. Come learn about the new curriculum at one of the following sessions:

### **Thursday, December 1—7:00-8:30pm**

Sligo Creek ES, 500 Schuyler Rd., Silver Spring 20910

### **Thursday, December 15—7:00-8:30pm**

Roscoe R. Nix ES, 1100 Corliss St., Silver Spring 20903