

# Mustang Message

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[www.mcps.k12.md.us/schools/potomaces](http://www.mcps.k12.md.us/schools/potomaces)

## Mark Your Calendar

### May

24 Band Concert, 7:30-8:30p.m.

28 Memorial Day, No School

### June

4 SGA Elections, 9:30a.m.

6 Field Day, Grades 3-5

7 Field Day, Grades K-2

11 Fifth Grade Promotion, 10:00a.m. Potomac Elementary School (Note Change!)

12 Last Day of School, Early Closing, 1:00p.m.

## Instrumental Music Concert, 7:30p.m.

Join us tonight for the fourth and fifth grade instrumental music concert. Students will be warming up at 7:00p.m. We had a preview this morning, and you are in for a treat!

## Caps Off to the Aveda Program, 5/14 - 5/25

Brownie Troop 272 ends their project tomorrow. There is a special collection recycle bin in the cafeteria for bottle caps. When the students finish drinking their drink with lunch, they can place the caps in a specially labeled container for bottle caps only. Tomorrow is the last day!

## Media Center - Books Due

Due to new software for the media center, books are due tomorrow!!

## Curriculum 2.0 Implementation for 2012-2013

### School Year

### Article for School Newsletter

For the past three years, Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) has been implementing our exciting elementary school curriculum, called Curriculum 2.0. All students in kindergarten and Grade 1 and most students in Grade 2 have been taught using Curriculum 2.0 this year and the feedback from students, parents, and staff members has been very positive. In 2012-2013, we will begin using Curriculum 2.0 in all third-grade classes and we will improve our

current report card to give parents more information about how students are performing in specific areas. Curriculum 2.0 is designed to make sure our students not only have the academic knowledge they need, but also develop the important skills they will need to succeed in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. There are three major elements of Curriculum 2.0:

- **Internationally driven standards in math, reading, and writing:** Instruction in these key areas is based on the strength of the Common Core State Standards, adopted by Maryland and 45 others states as the foundation for what students need to learn and know in math, reading, and writing.
- **Renewed focus on teaching the whole child:** Curriculum 2.0 puts more focus on subjects like the arts, science, social studies, and physical education by connecting these areas with core subjects.
- **Critical thinking and creativity:** Curriculum 2.0 is designed to develop academic, creative, and critical thinking skills that build confidence in students and prepare them for a lifetime of learning.

The report card for students in Grades K-3 will be improved to give parents more information about what a student knows and is able to do in relation to grade-level expectations. This "standards-based report card" will break subject areas into groups of related skills or topics and provide specific information about how a student is doing in each area. The report cards for Grades 4 and 5 will not be changed next school year.

Much more information will be shared with parents at the beginning of the new school year, but if you have questions about Curriculum 2.0 or the new report card, visit the MCPS website at <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/curriculum/2.0/>.

