Dear Garrett Park families,

We hope you find this email version user-friendly and beneficial for staying informed and planning for upcoming school events. If there is information you would like us to share in upcoming editions, please let us know. You can either call the school at 240-740-0700 or email Dan at [Daniel\_K\_Tucci@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Daniel_K_Tucci@mcpsmd.org) or Melanie at [Melanie\_S\_Bachrach@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Melanie_S_Bachrach@mcpsmd.org)

**Updates from GPES Administration:**

I would like to thank our PTA for helping us host a very successful Kindergarten Orientation! We had 131 families go through the registration process. This is a little more than our projected enrollment of 125. As always, families come and go throughout the summer, so we will see how the final numbers turn out in August. Thank you to the PTA and school staff who helped host our new and returning families through the process. It was so cool to see the smiling wonderment of our rising kindergarteners as they anticipate the start of their Garrett Park schooling! Also, I wanted to thank everyone for their patience and cooperation during the weather emergency last Friday.

Thank you for recognizing the contribution of our staff through Staff Appreciation Week last week. The staff truly appreciated all the treats, Chipotle luncheon, Friday barbeque as well as the special notes and messages from students and families. Thank you so much for recognizing the work we put in for all children!

This week, to coincide with our PTA STEM night on Wednesday, we will be rolling out our new recycling boxes.  You can now recycle K-cups, little creamer containers, coffee lids, and snack wrappers (granola bars, gummies, chips, snack cakes, etc.) right here at school!  These are items that cannot be recycled through regular home recycling, but our partnership with Subaru is allowing us to do collections here at school.  You can bring things from home to recycle here at school, too!  A year from now, Terracycle will use those materials to create something for our school, such as a picnic table.

**Safety and Security:**

**There have been reports of students riding their bikes in the streets surrounding the school during dismissal times. Just a reminder, students are to walk their bikes on the sidewalk on Oxford and Kenilworth for safety purposes. Beyond that, parents are encouraged to speak with their children about how to get home safely if they are bike riders. Please find this helpful link as a resource if you need help to have that conversation.** [https://www.safekids.org/tip/bike-safety-tips](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__www.safekids.org_tip_bike-2Dsafety-2Dtips&d=DwMFaQ&c=fgAH0TEak9hSJygxoVsafg&r=-H88A-nqVig4iJU0dnj9DZdbRw670-V-qbBcDiUgz1s&m=UjZN1xivvmlQfxKgEV2zmCeqxbb3hjzMB412-6ujp14&s=jeNDDrKIulIxZIENbwfRY9cFCzwnkpHgfqdf0sO0tpU&e=)

**Important Dates:**

* **May 15 – STEM Night (APR)                                                         7-8:30 pm**
* **May 23 – Spring Chorus and Instrumental Concert                  7-8:30 pm**
* **May 27 – Memorial Day weekend (no school)                            all day**
* **May 29 – Field Day                                                                        9:30 am – 2:30 pm**

**MCPS Updates**

**Voting for SERT Poster Contest Open to Staff and Students**

More than 150 creative, interesting, and informative entries have been submitted for the 2019 Watts Up? poster contest, sponsored by the School Energy and Recycling Team (SERT) program. SERT staff members have completed the initial round of judging. All MCPS staff and students are invited to help pick the winning entries and can judge via the online form at [bit.ly/2Ztxc6Y](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=http-3A__bit.ly_2Ztxc6Y&d=DwMFaQ&c=fgAH0TEak9hSJygxoVsafg&r=-H88A-nqVig4iJU0dnj9DZdbRw670-V-qbBcDiUgz1s&m=UjZN1xivvmlQfxKgEV2zmCeqxbb3hjzMB412-6ujp14&s=zADm-_yV4M3PLRPsabcRmtgjSlSb-PM4W1c2np4asXM&e=). Voting is open to MCPS students and staff. You must use your @MCPS.net (Google) login in order to participate. The Watts Up? poll is open until 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 15. To see the entries in full-screen format, check out the Google Slides document at [bit.ly/2Un3hK6](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=http-3A__bit.ly_2Un3hK6&d=DwMFaQ&c=fgAH0TEak9hSJygxoVsafg&r=-H88A-nqVig4iJU0dnj9DZdbRw670-V-qbBcDiUgz1s&m=UjZN1xivvmlQfxKgEV2zmCeqxbb3hjzMB412-6ujp14&s=rKbN5a89URfBKqMFXJ6uNbUyzpJiIfGZXIFSgzpS8NM&e=).

Winning posters will be on display at the [Rockville Public Library](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__www.montgomerycountymd.gov_library_branches_rockville.html&d=DwMFaQ&c=fgAH0TEak9hSJygxoVsafg&r=-H88A-nqVig4iJU0dnj9DZdbRw670-V-qbBcDiUgz1s&m=UjZN1xivvmlQfxKgEV2zmCeqxbb3hjzMB412-6ujp14&s=mDwGweR4_E7tmqSQho4_U53x4hUkJTZAVAO__0cNZHg&e=) during the month of June. Visit the SERT website, at   [www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/facilities/greenschoolsfocus/index.aspx](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org_departments_facilities_greenschoolsfocus_index.aspx&d=DwMFaQ&c=fgAH0TEak9hSJygxoVsafg&r=-H88A-nqVig4iJU0dnj9DZdbRw670-V-qbBcDiUgz1s&m=UjZN1xivvmlQfxKgEV2zmCeqxbb3hjzMB412-6ujp14&s=FOI9dk5mqvy_Du9-9IREIoabRwXjG6luPNGvIctKPn0&e=)  for more details about the annual Watts Up? poster contest.

**Don’t Miss the 2019 Gaithersburg Book Festival (English and Spanish)**

The 2019 Gaithersburg Book Festival will take place Saturday, May 18, on the grounds of Gaithersburg City Hall, 31 South Summit Avenue in Gaithersburg. The festival features a great lineup of authors and activities for children of all ages. Several members of the MCPS community will be conducting readings at the festival, and there will be programs, workshops, and activities in the Children’s Village that are designed to promote interest in reading and writing.

More than 100 authors are scheduled to appear. Among the children’s and young adult’s authors attending are: Zeno Alexander; Fred Bowen; Amy Ewing; Jessica Day George; and Monica Hesse. Some of the writing workshops will cover how to build suspense, creative writing in Spanish, and journal writing.

For more information about the festival, visit [www.gaithersburgbookfestival.org](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=http-3A__www.gaithersburgbookfestival.org_&d=DwMFaQ&c=fgAH0TEak9hSJygxoVsafg&r=-H88A-nqVig4iJU0dnj9DZdbRw670-V-qbBcDiUgz1s&m=UjZN1xivvmlQfxKgEV2zmCeqxbb3hjzMB412-6ujp14&s=d67_98ehBuL6KOf_78f3I-FNTlVKDIRsNHFaWFKjZQE&e=).

**No se Pierda el Festival del Libro de Gaithersburg 2019**

El Festival del Libro de Gaithersburg 2019 tendra lugar el sabado, 18 de mayo, en los terrenos de Gaithersburg City Hall, 31 South Summit Avenue, en Gaithersburg. El festival ofrece un programa estupendo con autores y actividades para ninos de todas las edades. Varios miembros de la comunidad de MCPS ofreceran lecturas durante el festival, y habra programas, talleres y actividades en la Villa de los Ninos (Children's Village) disenados para promover el interes en la lectura y la escritura.

Mas de 100 autores estan programados para presentarse. Entre los autores de libros infantiles y libros para jovenes adultos que asistiran se encuentran: Zeno Alexander, Fred Bowen, Amy Ewing, Jessica Day George y Monica Hesse. Algunos de los talleres de escritura cubriran como crear suspenso, escritura creativa en español y escritura en diario personal.

Para mas informacion sobre el festival, visite [www.gaithersburgbookfestival.org](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=http-3A__www.gaithersburgbookfestival.org_&d=DwMFaQ&c=fgAH0TEak9hSJygxoVsafg&r=-H88A-nqVig4iJU0dnj9DZdbRw670-V-qbBcDiUgz1s&m=UjZN1xivvmlQfxKgEV2zmCeqxbb3hjzMB412-6ujp14&s=d67_98ehBuL6KOf_78f3I-FNTlVKDIRsNHFaWFKjZQE&e=).

**Summer School Registration Under Way (English and Spanish)**

Summer school registration is under way for the high school regional summer school program. The high school program is open to all students who are residents of Montgomery County, whether or not they are enrolled in MCPS. The high school program will be offered at four locations: James Hubert Blake, Winston Churchill, Gaithersburg, and Northwood high schools. The first session runs from Monday, June 24 through Friday, July 12; the second session runs from Tuesday, July 16 through Thursday, August 1.

Parents/guardians should contact the summer school coordinator at their child’s school for information on the middle school program. More information is available at, [www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/extendedhours/summerschool/high.aspx#sites](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org_departments_extendedhours_summerschool_high.aspx-23sites&d=DwMFaQ&c=fgAH0TEak9hSJygxoVsafg&r=-H88A-nqVig4iJU0dnj9DZdbRw670-V-qbBcDiUgz1s&m=UjZN1xivvmlQfxKgEV2zmCeqxbb3hjzMB412-6ujp14&s=_it_X6-fOjyW0c3HY-Np-d_HlBMxJZw7I69Wz2hxFDQ&e=).

# ****Ya Estan en Marcha las Inscripciones para la Escuela de Verano****

Ya estan abiertas las inscripciones para el programa de escuela de verano regional para las escuelas secundarias.  El programa de escuela secundaria esta abierto a todos los estudiantes que residen en el Condado de Montgomery, esten o no matriculados en Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS). El programa de escuela secundaria se ofrecera en cuatro lugares: las escuelas secundarias James Hubert Blake, Winston Churchill, Gaithersburg y Northwood. La primera sesion es desde el lunes, 24 de junio, hasta el viernes, 12 de julio; la segunda sesion es desde el martes, 16 de julio, hasta el jueves, 1ro. de agosto.

Los padres/guardianes deberan comunicarse con el coordinador/a de la escuela de verano en la escuela de su hijo/a para obtener informacion sobre el programa para las escuelas de enseñanza media. Hay mas informacion disponible en [www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/extendedhours/summerschool/high.aspx#sites](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=http-3A__www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org_departments_extendedhours_summerschool_high.aspx-23sites&d=DwMFaQ&c=fgAH0TEak9hSJygxoVsafg&r=-H88A-nqVig4iJU0dnj9DZdbRw670-V-qbBcDiUgz1s&m=UjZN1xivvmlQfxKgEV2zmCeqxbb3hjzMB412-6ujp14&s=tQ4Ee2YX8ybZQh13Dd85gW9Bk8Dk9AVQ8W2TJARDjnU&e=).

**LGBTQIA Forum Set for May 18**

MCPS, in collaboration with MCCPTA and community partners, is hosting a forum on Saturday, May 18 to help build, support, and advocate for a stronger and more diverse LGBTQIA school community. The forum will be held at Thomas S. Wootton High School from 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon. To RSVP, visit [mcpsweb.wufoo.com/forms/lgbtqia-rsvp-form/](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__mcpsweb.wufoo.com_forms_lgbtqia-2Drsvp-2Dform_&d=DwMFaQ&c=fgAH0TEak9hSJygxoVsafg&r=-H88A-nqVig4iJU0dnj9DZdbRw670-V-qbBcDiUgz1s&m=UjZN1xivvmlQfxKgEV2zmCeqxbb3hjzMB412-6ujp14&s=rRepVn-FG3GYjc8RbH7zEyVqCo3-774cmaKxPWirBzg&e=).

**MCPS to Host Private Screening of the Film, Circles**

MCPS staff, students, and families are invited to a free, private screening of the film, Circles.  During the event, guests will have an exclusive chance to hear from the star of the film, Mr. Eric Butler, about his implementation of restorative circles both professionally and personally. Circles focuses on the life of Eric Butler, a Hurricane Katrina survivor and pioneer of the Restorative Justice movement. Shot over two years, the film follows Butler's impassioned efforts to nurture troubled youth and keep them in school, fighting racial discrimination by replacing snap suspensions and expulsions with gritty, intimate, and honest mentoring.

The screening will take place on Tuesday, May 28, at 6:00 p.m. at AFI Silver Theatre and Cultural Center in Silver Spring. Admission is free, but tickets must be reserved online, at  [docs.google.com/forms/d/1ky1JSd2C\_zPSISRbSYP3nSVAU-zl11AfBc9x0P-sCcQ/edit](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__docs.google.com_forms_d_1ky1JSd2C-5FzPSISRbSYP3nSVAU-2Dzl11AfBc9x0P-2DsCcQ_edit&d=DwMFaQ&c=fgAH0TEak9hSJygxoVsafg&r=-H88A-nqVig4iJU0dnj9DZdbRw670-V-qbBcDiUgz1s&m=UjZN1xivvmlQfxKgEV2zmCeqxbb3hjzMB412-6ujp14&s=kyrUMMHz1gdmUWFidI4DI5ZtG_9Taz_jGdRuOfTz6n8&e=).

Have a great week!

Dan Tucci