

JACKSON ROAD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

900 Jackson Road
Silver Spring, Maryland, 20904
240-740-0800 (Office) (Fax)301-879-1054



August 15, 2025

Dear Jackson Road Families:

Welcome back to a brand-new school year! I hope you and your family had a joyful and restful summer filled with time to connect, recharge, and create memories together. As we step into the 2025–2026 school year, our team is filled with excitement and dedication to making this year a truly rewarding one for every student.

This year, we remain committed to fostering a safe, inclusive, and engaging learning environment where all students can grow academically, socially, and emotionally. Our teachers and staff have been hard at work preparing classrooms, planning meaningful learning experiences, and ensuring our school is ready to welcome our students with open arms.

We value our partnership with you and believe that strong family-school connections are key to student success. Throughout the year, we encourage you to stay involved, join in school events, and communicate openly with us. Together, we can make this year a memorable and impactful one for your child.

Communication between school and home is a key component to our success. There are many ways in which you can communicate with the school. We hope you'll take some time to explore some of the ways we like to share our great work with you!

- Our school website: <https://www2.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/jacksonroad/>
- Twitter: @velasquez_mcps @JacksonRoadAP
- Sunday Messages: messages are sent via ParentSquare to your email and phone numbers listed in ParentVue
- Monthly Teacher Newsletters
- Thursday Folder Communication each week
- Teacher ParentSquare Messages

Equally important is how we communicate with each other. As a school, we are dedicated to being respectful, responsible and safe. We strive to do the same as adults! We ask that if you have any concerns, that you please share them with your child's teacher first. They will provide you with their email at Open House, and the best way to communicate with them. Please know that you can also communicate with the school administration:

Rosario P. Velasquez, Principal
Rosario_Velasquez@mcpsmd.org

Jason Reinke, Assistant Principal
Jason_R_Reinke@mcpsmd.org

We will be transitioning from the Remind App to ParentSquare which is a platform similar to Remind that we will use to communicate with families and students. Messages will go directly to your emails and/or sent via text to your cell phones. Please do not opt out of receiving these messages as this will be the main means of communication.

Upcoming Dates

- August 25-Transition Day & Open House from 1:45-2:45
- August 26- First Day of School for ALL K-5 Students
- September 1- Holiday: Schools and Offices Closed
- September 9- Back-to-School Night Grades 3-5
 - 6:00-7:30
- September 10- Back-to-School Night PEP/PREK-Grade 2
 - 6:00-7:30
- September 23-Non-Instructional Day: No School for Students and Staff
- September 26-Early Release Day: Students Dismissed at 12:55 p.m.
- October 2- No School for Students and Staff

Open House

Our Open House is scheduled for Monday, August 25, 2025 from 1:45-2:45 p.m. This is an opportunity to visit your children's classrooms, meet their teachers and navigate the school. Class assignments will be mailed to your home via postcard. You will also get an email from the teachers with your child's assignment. The postcards should arrive by Friday, August 22, 2025. Please check your mailbox! If you cannot attend Open House, send your children to school on the first day of school and staff will be available to meet students and help them find their classes. **The first day of school for ALL students in on Tuesday, August 26, 2025.**

Transition Day

On Monday, Aug. 25, MCPS will hold its first-ever Student Transition Day, an all-day, non-instructional school experience designed to ease the transition for students entering new school levels or buildings. It is a day for all Kindergarten and students new to JRES to try out our school routine and get prepared before all students return to school. Please see the attached schedule for more details. You can also click on the link below to learn more about Transition Day. If you have any questions, you may call the main office at 240-740-0800.

[Learn more](#)

Arrival and Dismissal

Our first day of school is August 26, 2025 and it will be a regular full day of school for Kindergarten through Grade 5 students. Buses will begin their regular routes. Our school hours are 9:00 a.m. to 3:25 p.m. daily. Students should arrive no earlier than 8:40 a.m. Students who arrive earlier than 8:40 a.m. will need to remain with their parents/guardians since staff are not available to supervise students until 8:40 a.m. Students who arrive after 9:00 a.m. will be marked tardy. All students will report to their classrooms upon arrival at school. Parents will not be permitted to escort their children to their classes.

Bus Routes and Information

Bus routes for JRES have not been finalized by the Department of Transportation as of yet. Once they are finalized and communicated to us, we will send them out via email.

Route numbers, not bus numbers, will continue to be used this year and will be displayed in the second window on both sides of all buses. JRES will be served by many different MCPS buses for school-age students in addition to numerous buses for Prekindergarten/PEP students and several daycare/aftercare vans. We assign each route number a color to help students remember their assigned bus. Parents should also be aware that road construction, poor weather conditions, accidents and general traffic are a challenge, so buses may be delayed when picking up students in the morning and at dismissal. We recommend that you arrive with your student to the bus stop 10 minutes early to allow for weather or traffic related issues. Please review bus behavior with your child. Students are expected to line up in an orderly manner when waiting for the school bus. All Kindergarten and Pre-K students must be supervised by an adult while waiting for pick up and when buses return the students at the end of the school day. The rules on the bus are exactly the same as in the classroom. Respectful, responsible and

safe behavior is expected at all times. A child may lose privileges if behavior is unsafe and disruptive. Finally, changing buses or last-minute changes to your child's end-of-day routine are difficult for students and staff. Any changes to your child's day need to be in writing for the classroom teacher and also communicated with the main office. Changes to that day's dismissal cannot be honored after 3:00 p.m. If you have any questions regarding transportation, please call the transportation office at 240-740-1851.

Car Loop

If your child will be a car rider, please make sure to stay in your vehicle when picking up your child. You may not leave your vehicle unattended while in the car loop, as it causes a delay in moving the vehicle along the car loop. Car rider dismissal procedures will be the same as in previous years. Each student will be assigned a number that is communicated to the teachers informing them that their student's caregiver is at the school ready to pick him/her up. Siblings receive the same number. Numbers will be assigned on the first day of school and will be given to the parent/guardian when they pick up their child. A returning JRES student will keep the number from the previous school year. Please make sure to memorize their assigned number.

There is only one car loop. The parking lot next to the cafeteria is NOT a place where families can pick up their child. These are for backdoor walkers ONLY. Please refrain from using this parking lot as a car pick up/drop off as this parking lot is only for use by JRES staff members. Adherence to this policy is greatly appreciated by all JRES staff.

Free Breakfast and Lunch for the 2025-2026 school year

Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) will be providing free breakfast and lunch at Jackson Road ES in the 2025-2026 school year. Households do NOT need to complete Free And Reduced-price Meal (FARMS) applications in order to receive free meal benefits at our school*. We encourage students to enjoy breakfast and lunch at school, please check out [menus here](#). Breakfast will be served in the classroom at 8:40 a.m. Instruction begins promptly at 9:00 a.m.

*Households with students at other MCPS schools should check directly with those schools to determine if a FARM application is needed.

Supply List

Please see the attachment. The supply list is also available on our main school website at <https://www2.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/jacksonroad/es/>. This is a recommended list of school supplies. Please note that all students are eligible to receive a backpack with basic supplies at Open House. Most school supplies are provided by the school for students.

Synergy/ParentVUE

The parent portal, Synergy ParentVue, will serve as the primary tool for all schools to share information regarding grades, attendance, scheduling and more. Returning students should already have an account. Parents of new students will receive an activation email or letter in the mail soon. Please enroll so we can share important school and community information in a secure way. If necessary, you will be able to update your contact information in the portal. If you need assistance signing up, please contact the main office at 240-740-0800.

Technology Information

All students will continue to have access to Chromebooks for classroom instruction. Chromebooks will not go home with students.

The staff and I are looking forward to the start of the 2024-2025 school year and welcoming back our students! We hope you enjoy the rest of the summer. See you soon!

PTA

We have a wonderful partnership with our PTA. They support our students and teachers in various ways. They also plan events throughout the year that our school community enjoys. Please consider joining the PTA. Our President is Kristi Maeng and she can be reached at jacksonroadelempta@gmail.com if you have any questions or would like to sign up.

I am truly excited about the year ahead and all the opportunities it holds for our students. With your partnership and support, I know we will make the 2025–2026 school year a time of growth, achievement, and lasting memories for every child. Thank you for being an essential part of our school community, I look forward to working together to make this a successful and inspiring year!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rosario Paola Velasquez', with a stylized flourish extending from the end.

Rosario Paola Velasquez
Principal