

Good Evening Snowden Farm Families,

Our students had a wonderful first week of school! It has been a joy to see them learning new routines, getting to know their teachers and staff, making new friends, and diving into learning with enthusiasm.

A huge thank you goes out to our amazing staff, who worked hard to ensure that every student felt welcomed, cared for, and supported throughout this important first week. Their dedication has set the stage for a positive and successful school year.

New: Cluster Night at Clarksburg High School on 09/05

Join us for the Third Annual Clarksburg Cluster Night as Clarksburg takes on Seneca Valley! Families should arrive beginning at **5:30 p.m. for check-in at Coyote Canyon**.

Our school will march together in the parade around the track starting at 5:50 PM, behind our school banner. Each student will receive a pom-pom and spirit bracelet (while supplies last at CHS) to use during the parade. Be sure to wear your **school spirit wear or purple** to show your pride!

After the parade, families are welcome to stay for the game. Please note: all attendees must **exit Coyote Canyon and re-enter** for the game. **Elementary and middle school students get in free** but must be accompanied by a paying and staying adult. Adults may purchase tickets (\$5) through **GoFan**.

For questions please contact, please contact Clarksburg Cluster Coordinators, Nadia Syahmalina at nadia.syahmalina.pta@gmail.com or Arti Varanasi at artivpta@gmail.com or CHS PTSA at clarksburghighschool.ptsa@gmail.com.

- Please see the attached flyer and sign-up under **Snowden Farm ES** (<https://bit.ly/ClarksburgClusterNight2025>) for more information.

We can't wait to see you there! Let's make this a fun-tastic Cluster Night!

New: Car Rider Updates

Thank you all for your patience as we continue to refine and improve our car rider process.

- To help us move the cars along in a timely manner, please stay in your vehicle at all times and continue to move forward as we are loading students.

- If you need to assist your child with getting into a booster/car seat, please pull forward to the front of the line to continue to allow the cars to pass through or please find a place to park your car.
- To assist with safety, students should exit or enter out of the passenger side door.

New: Updating Yellow Emergency Cards

Please return the yellow sheet, *with your signature on the back*, whether you have made changes or not. You can make edits directly in ParentVUE or make updates on the yellow sheet itself (please write legibly). The link below will take you to support for your ParentVUE account.

- Please return the forms by next Friday, September 5th
- <https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/parents/tech-info-support>

New: NAACP Representative

We are looking for an NAACP representative for our school, please email Mrs. Fortune or your child's teacher if you are interested.

- The Formation of the Parents' Council of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) came about as an outgrowth of ideas put forth during the 1995 and 1996 NAACP Youth Summits.
 - The Parents' Council is one of the vehicles created to empower African American and other minority parents to take a more proactive role in the education of their children.
 - The Council is made up of parents, guardians and grandparents of minority children enrolled in the Montgomery County Public School System (MCPS) and residents who may not have children in school but who share the goal of equal education for all children, particularly minority children.
- The Purpose of the Parents' Council is to provide a forum through which interested citizens may offer assistance, guidance and support to African American parents and students of Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) to pursue the highest qualified education possible through encouragement, information sharing, positive motivation, critical evaluation and advocacy.

New: Don't Miss Back-to-School Night Back to School Night on 09/11

All schools are holding Back-to-School Nights in the upcoming weeks. This can be a wonderful opportunity to meet teachers and staff, find out more about what your student will be learning in class and sign up for volunteer opportunities.

New: Important Information from MCPS

New: Are School Immunizations Required to Attend Schools? Answer: Yes!

The Now You Know video series explains everything you need to know, including the deadline. Watch here: [English](#) / español / 中文 / français / Português / 한국어 / tiếng Việt / አማርኛ (remaining languages will be posted in the [Google Sheet](#), Friday, Aug. 29)

Preparing for Emergencies—What's New?

MCPS is now using an enhanced security protocol to effectively and efficiently respond to emergency and crisis situations that may impact students, families and staff. Here's what you need to know:

The Standard Response Protocol (SRP) includes five directives: **Hold, Secure, Lockdown, Evacuate and Shelter.**

[Learn more about what's new.](#)

Refrigerator Curriculum's First Quarter Documents Now Available

MCPS has introduced the Refrigerator Curriculum—a one-page overview of what students will learn each marking period. Designed to post on the fridge, these guides help families stay informed about key themes and texts, stay engaged in their student's education, and, if needed, request alternative assignments if a text conflicts with religious views. [See the documents for the first quarter of the 2025-2026 school year.](#)

More Opportunities for Every Student: Secondary Program Updates

As MCPS continues to consider changes to secondary programs, the district realizes that families and students may have questions. MCPS is considering changes to make programming more abundant, accessible and equitable across the county. The move would allow every student the same opportunities to engage in high-quality programs, no matter where they live.

Read [Frequently Asked Questions](#) and [learn more](#).

Be Aware of Safety Updates Ahead of Fall Sports Opening Night on 09/03

MCPS is committed to promoting a safe and welcoming environment for student-athletes, coaches, spectators and our communities. Opening night for the fall sports season is Wednesday, Sept. 3. The MCPS Athletics Safety Plan drives operations and procedures for athletic events. The fall season will open in Tier 1 status of the safety plan for all varsity football games and other large events. [Learn more.](#)

Nourish a Mind; Fuel a Future

Imagine the relief a child feels when they can choose their favorite school meal, knowing it's already paid for. For many of our students, this simple dignity is a daily concern. By donating to the MCPS Educational Foundation's Dine with Dignity campaign, you directly provide a vital lifeline for students, ensuring no child goes hungry or feels anxious about a financial responsibility in the school lunch line.

Help the Foundation reach its \$500,000 goal this year, ensuring every MCPS student has the fuel they need to succeed. [Donate today.](#)



All You Need to Know for Lunch

The Department of Food and Nutrition Services has made it easier than ever to see your school's [breakfast and lunch menus](#) and get nutritional details. Visit the [MealViewer webpage](#).

Families can also learn how to add money to your child's account through MySchoolBucks. This optional online service is for parents/guardians to make prepayments with a credit or debit card to a student's cafeteria account for breakfast, lunch and à-la-carte items. Learn more.

Free and Reduced Meals (FARMS) Applications Are Now Open

Every year, students must apply and be approved to receive FREE breakfast and/or lunch. The Division of Food and Nutrition Services (DFNS) is excited to provide regular meal services during the 2025-2026 school year.

- Students in Maryland who qualify for reduced-price meals will not be charged for meals!
Breakfast: Regular Price: \$1.30; Reduced Price: No Cost, Lunch: Regular Price: \$2.55,
Reduced Price: No Cost
- Apply before school starts. One application covers the entire HOUSEHOLD.
Translations in other languages are available through the online application.
- Apply now at www.MySchoolApps.com or <https://www.myschoolapps.com/Application>
- Here is a video about how to apply:
 - English Video:  [MySchoolApps Free Reduced Meals Tutorial](#)
 - Video en Español:
 [Paso a paso - ¿Cómo completar la solicitud de Alimentos Gratis o a Precio ...](#)

Additional Back to School Information

- [Annual MCPS Pest Management Notice](#)
- [Annual MCPS Asbestos Notice](#)
- [Bullying, Harassment, and Intimidation Reporting](#)
- [25-26 Supply List](#)

- [Menus - Department of Food & Nutrition Services - Montgomery County Public Schools, Rockville, MD](#)
- School Cash Online- <https://mcpsmd.schoolcashonline.com/>
- Maryland Anonymous Tip Line - 1-833-632-7233- Report threats or situations that put your safety, or others' safety, at risk.
- More MCPS Resources
 - [School calendar](#)
 - [Parent resource page](#)
 - [Remind, ParentSquare, ParentVUE](#): What's the difference?
 - [Student Code of Conduct](#): [Read the revised document](#) and [watch the video](#).

Upcoming Important Dates

- Monday, September 1st- No School
- Friday, September 5th- Cluster Night at CHS
- Thursday, September 11th-PTA Meeting at 5:30 and Back to School Night starting at 6:00 PM
- Monday, September 15th- Stallion Meet Ups

We are grateful for your partnership and look forward to all the growth and accomplishments ahead. Thank you for sharing your children with us each day—we are off to a fantastic start!

With Gratitude,

Mrs. Michelle Fortune, Principal