



## Rock View Elementary School

---

3901 Denfeld Avenue  
Kensington, Maryland 20895  
Tel: 240-740-0920 • Fax: 301-962-5986

August 2018

Dear Rock View Families:

As we approach the beginning of the 2018-2019 school year, I would like to take this opportunity to welcome all of you. If you are new to the school, I am Ms. Kris Alexander, your very proud principal. As summer comes to a close, I hope that you have enjoyed the summer months and have had an opportunity to rest and relax before the start of the new school year. Rock View has been busy this summer – we held our summer school improvement team meetings, completed a major painting project, had our technology updated and replenished, completed a total replacement of our fire sprinkler system, collaborated with the PTA to plan for our exciting events throughout the year, and our building service team has been working hard to prepare the building for the start of a new school year!

This summer mailing is just one of the ways we will utilize to communicate upcoming school events, as well as other educational information. In addition to our monthly newsletter, The Roadrunner, I will send weekly event updates through e-mail. I also use our ConnectEd telephone calling/emailing system to communicate important information when needed. Please make sure we always have your most current contact information (especially email addresses and phone numbers) so that you receive these updates and information! We also post information on our school website, [www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/rockviews](http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/rockviews) and on Twitter at @RVESRoadrunners.

Since our students left for the summer, we have a few staffing changes. Here are the newest updates:

Position	New Staff Member
Assistant Principal	Ms. Joan Stump
Part time PE	Mr. Brian McCarty
Part time speech-language pathologist	Ms. Maya Ekus

I would like to extend a very special thank you to our PTA for their support and commitment to our school community. I look forward to this school year as I continue work with the PTA leadership to support the success of our students. If you are not an active member of the PTA, I encourage you to become involved.

We are looking forward to another great year at Rock View! I know that we will continue our collaborative work to create a positive school environment that promotes the highest levels of teaching and learning. If there is ever anything that we can do to help your child be more successful in school, please feel free to contact us.

Please take some time to carefully read the information in this mailing. I am looking forward to continuing to work together to ensure that Rock View is a “Great Place to Learn.”

Sincerely,

Ms. Kris Alexander  
Principal

**FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL:** Tuesday, September 4<sup>th</sup> is the first day of school for students in Kindergarten – 5<sup>th</sup> grade. Students in prekindergarten will begin school the week of September 10. On the first day of school, students in Kindergarten – 5<sup>th</sup> grade should arrive between 8:40 and 8:55 a.m. **Please note: Students will be marked as tardy if they are not in their classrooms by 9:00 a.m.**

**CLASS LISTS:** Class lists that identify each student's homeroom teacher will be posted in the main hallway by 1:25 p.m. on Thursday, August 30<sup>th</sup> (right before Open House).

**OPEN HOUSE:** Our Annual "Open House" will be Thursday, August 30<sup>th</sup> from 1:30 to 3:00 p.m. We hope you can stop by during this timeframe for this opportunity for you and your child to walk through the building, locate classrooms, and say "hello" to the teachers and other staff members. As mentioned previously, the class lists will be posted immediately before Open House on August 30<sup>th</sup>.

**\*\* NEW SUPPLY LISTS:** Included in this mailing is a list of supplies your child will need to start the school year. The supply lists are formatted differently this year. All MCPS schools are using this format beginning this year. You will note that ALL grades are included on the same page. To identify what is required for your child, find his/her grade level across the top of the chart and look down the column for boxes marked with "X." The boxes marked with "X" indicate what should be brought in for that grade level. You will also note that this new format still includes required materials and requested donations. Your child should bring the required materials on the first day of school. Please feel welcome, but not obligated, to donate any of the requested items to your child's classroom.

**DISMISSAL/AFTER-SCHOOL INFORMATION FORM:** We have included the Dismissal/After-School Information Form in this mailing. It is important that your child's teacher has the correct dismissal information. **Please complete this form and return it to your child's homeroom teacher at Open House on Thursday, August 30<sup>th</sup>.** If your child's dismissal plans change, please inform the teacher and the office. This is for permanent and periodic changes. In case of an emergency, you can call the office to inform us of a dismissal change. Please note – it is important that you inform us of dismissal changes before 2:30 p.m. Your help with this will help us ensure that dismissal is orderly for all students. Thank you!

**SCHOOL HOURS:** All students should be lined up outside of their classrooms by 8:55 a.m., but no earlier than 8:40 a.m. The warning bell rings at 8:55 a.m. The late bell rings at 9:00 a.m.

Grades Kindergarten-5	9:00 a.m. – 3:25 p.m.
Morning Pre-Kindergarten	9:00 a.m. – 11:40 a.m.
Afternoon Pre-Kindergarten	12:45 p.m. – 3:25 p.m.

### **ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL PROCEDURES**

*Arrival* – Students may begin lining up outside of their classrooms at 8:40 a.m. All students in Kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade will line up in the hallways by their classrooms.

*Dismissal* – At dismissal, all bus riders will be dismissed to the All Purpose Room to wait for their busses to arrive. Students in Grades 1 – 5 who walk home ("Walkers") will be dismissed from the building exit located near the All Purpose Room. Students in Grades 1 – 5 who will be picked up in a car ("Car Riders") will be dismissed from the building exit located near the Main Office. All Kindergartners who are "Walkers" or "Car Riders" will be dismissed from external doors of Kindergarten classrooms located by the small playground near the parking lot.

### **Safety Reminders – PLEASE SEE THE ENCLOSED SAFETY REMINDER LETTER FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Please keep these important points in mind to help us ensure a safe and orderly arrival and dismissal for our students:

- For arrival – the external doors will be opened at 8:40 a.m. for students to enter the building. Students should arrive to school between 8:40 a.m. and 8:55 a.m. **Staff are not available to supervise students until 8:40 a.m.**
- For the first week of school, Sept. 4 – 10, students and families are welcome to make their way to the classrooms. We are adjusting our arrival procedures for the first week of school so that parents have an opportunity to help their children find their classrooms and to begin to build their classroom community. In order for our teachers and students to begin their routines, we ask that all parents say their goodbyes and exit the building by 9 a.m.
- **PLEASE NOTE** - After the first week of school, beginning the week of September 10, all external doors will be secured while students are in the building, beginning at 8:40 a.m. through dismissal. All students are to make their way to their classrooms unaccompanied by their parents/guardians, saying their good-byes at the external doors. We will have many staff on hand to help students make their way to their classrooms if they need assistance.
- There is a sidewalk around the parking lot near Connecticut Avenue to provide a safe pedestrian route. After pedestrians cross Connecticut Avenue during arrival, patrols will direct them to use the sidewalk around the parking lot. During dismissal, pedestrians will be directed to leave our campus via the sidewalk. This pedestrian route significantly decreases the number of students and adults who need to use the crosswalks on the Denfeld Ave. side of our building. Please support our safety efforts by using this pedestrian route!
- Follow information on all posted signs.
- To support a safe flow of traffic for cars and busses, **students should not be dropped off or picked up in the bus loop during arrival and dismissal** (please refer to hours posted on the signs located at the bus loop entrance).
- If you need to leave your vehicle during arrival and dismissal, and you are unable to find a parking space in the parking loop, please park on Denfeld Ave. or in the neighborhood (follow all posted signs).
- Remain alert for pedestrians at the bus and parking loop entrances and exits – there are crosswalks at each entrance and exit.

- When dropping off your child in the car loop during arrival, please have your child exit from the passenger side of the car. Patrols will assist you by opening and closing your car door.
- If you need to cross Denfeld Ave. on foot, please use the crosswalk located at the intersection of Connecticut Ave. and Denfeld Ave. Our patrols will remind pedestrians of this important point.
- Please support our student patrols and crossing guards. They are trained to assist with the safety of our students and other members of our community.
- When exiting at the bus loop exit, please follow the painted arrows – there are two marked exit lanes, one for right turns and one for left turns. During our busy arrival and dismissal times, our school busses are on a tight schedule between their school routes. Please assist them by yielding to them in the bus loop when possible.

**ACCESS CONTROL SYSTEM and VISITOR MANAGEMENT SYSTEM:** In order to access our Main Office and school building, you must use our Access Control and Visitor Management systems. This initiative to enhance school-based security is a component of the Montgomery County Public Schools six-year capital improvements plan. This initiative is provided to ensure the safety and security of the learning and working environment. As part of our security systems, all visitors are asked to enter the school through the Main Office entrance on the Connecticut Ave. end of our building. If you attempt to enter the building at the entrance on the Denfeld Ave. side, you will be directed to come to the Main Office entrance. As you approach the doors, please push the red button located to your right. The door will be unlocked for you remotely by a staff member in the Main Office. Once in the Main Office vestibule, please enter directly into the Main Office through the door located immediately to your left. If it is your first time visiting our school, you will be asked to produce your driver's license or state-issued identification card. Your identification will be scanned into our Visitor Management System computer system, and you will receive a visitor's sticker. Once your identification has been scanned, we can look up your information by your last name for subsequent visits. Thank you for your continuing support to ensure the safety and security of our school building!

**IMMUNIZATIONS/MEDICATIONS:** It is very important that your child is up-to-date on his/her immunizations. If you are not sure about your compliance, please check with your child's doctor. State law mandates that children not be admitted to school without the proper immunizations. **Medications must be brought to school in the original container by an adult along with MCPS Form 525-13 (Authorization to Administer Prescribed Medication) completed by your physician. Medication will not be administered without proper authorization.** Please contact our Health Room Tech if you have any questions. Please note: Medications must be picked up by a parent by the last day of school (June 13, 2019). Any medications that are not returned will be destroyed.

**LUNCH/BREAKFAST PROGRAM:** Students may bring lunch from home or purchase one at school. Enclosed is a detailed description of our SNAP lunch program, including a price list. The menu for the first week of school is also enclosed.

I am pleased to share that all Rock View students will continue to have the opportunity to eat breakfast at school in their classrooms each morning at no charge! The program, Maryland Meals for Achievement (MMFA), is funded through the federal School Breakfast Program and the Maryland State Department of Education. Please see the enclosed letter regarding this program.

**BACK-TO-SCHOOL NIGHTS:** We will host three Back-to-School Nights again this year. This format helps with parking and overall attendance. Kindergarten will have its Back-to-School Night on Wednesday, August 29<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. Hosting the event prior to the start of school helps to answer questions and ensure a successful first day. First and Second grades will host their Back-to-School night on Thursday, September 13<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. Third, Fourth, and Fifth grade, and Learning Center (K-5) Back-to-School night will be on Thursday, September 27<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. Back-to-School night is an important event, and your attendance helps build the partnership with your child's teacher and ensures a successful school year. Please make every effort to attend this important event.

**FIRST DAY PACKETS:** On the first day of school, September 4<sup>th</sup>, your child will bring home a packet of items including a lunch account application, emergency contact information sheets, PTA letter, and insurance information, among other information. Please review these items carefully and return the appropriate forms to school immediately. Keep in mind that we must have an emergency number at all times. ***Therefore, as your telephone number, email, and address changes over the year, please keep the school informed.*** Additional information regarding school policies and procedures can be found in the Rock View Elementary School Parent-Student Handbook, which is available on our school's website.

**Important Beginning of School Year Dates:**

- |                           |                                                                                       |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ➤ Wednesday, August 29    | Kindergarten Back-to-School Night, 7:00 to 8:30p                                      |
| ➤ Thursday, August 30     | Open House from 1:30 to 3:00p                                                         |
| ➤ Tuesday, September 4    | First day of school for kindergarten – fifth grade students, 9:00 a.m. to 3:25 p.m.   |
| ➤ Friday, September 7     | Summer Language Arts and Math Calendars due to teachers (Grades 1-5)                  |
| ➤ Friday, September 7     | Back to School Picnic, 5:30 to 8:00 p.m.                                              |
| ➤ Week of September 10    | School begins for prekindergarten students                                            |
| ➤ Monday, September 10    | Holiday, no school for students and teachers                                          |
| ➤ Thursday, September 13  | First and Second Grade Back to School Night, 7:00-8:30 p.m.                           |
| ➤ Wednesday, September 19 | Holiday, no school for students and teachers                                          |
| ➤ Thursday, September 27  | Third, Fourth, and Fifth Grade & Learning Center Back-to-School Night, 7 to 8:30 p.m. |
| ➤ Tuesday, October 2      | PTA Meeting, 7 to 8:30 p.m.                                                           |
| ➤ Friday, October 5       | Early Release Day, dismissal begins at 12:55p                                         |