Dear Arcola Staff, Students and Parents,

I am writing with mixed emotions to let you know that, at last night’s MCPS Board of Education meeting, I was appointed as the principal of Sligo Middle School. This position change is effective July 1, 2013.

It is a difficult thought for me to leave Arcola, as I have enjoyed incredible success these past six years as your principal. Together we created the culture and spirit of Arcola from the ground up, and I have grown personally and professionally from the kindness and sincere approach each of you have toward children. The Arcola Elementary School staff is, without a doubt, the most focused, caring, and skilled group of people I have ever had the pleasure of working with and my future goals will include building a learning community using the mold established here back in 2007.

Moving to middle school will be a promotion for me, and I am very proud to be offered this position and feel privileged to be considered for such a challenge. I am mindful of the trust granted with such a task and thank each of you for the roles you have played in preparing me for this opportunity. Together we have learned from one another and have grown for the sake of the children. My appointment is a tribute to each member of this community who believe that children are the center of our work and that Arcola Elementary School will continue to improve each and every day. Arcola is a very caring community that has lived up to my vision of providing every child, every day, with opportunities to feel valued, respected, and challenged. I will always hold this community and the people here near and dear to my heart.

Details regarding the selection process for the new principal will be coming shortly. I will work closely with our Community Superintendent, Ms. Bronda Mils, to ensure a smooth transition throughout this process and I am confident she will continue to support the needs of Arcola Elementary School as she has all along.

I am grateful for your endless support and wish each of you continued success as a model school of excellence.

With Warm Regards,

Eric A. Wilson,
Principal
News from the Parent Community Coordinator

Our last coffee of the year included the visit of a representative of Priority Partners, a healthcare provider in our community that serves many of our families. May is women’s health month and in honor of that theme Ms. Emily Boulin presented our Arcola mothers (and fathers) with an eye-opening session on the kinds of health issues that specifically affect women, especially in reference to our roles as mothers and caregivers. The main message was preventive care and annual check-ups. It is important that women be proactive when it comes to their health so that they can be around for their family for a long time! If you would like more information on how and where to go take better care of your health, please contact Magda Ochoa and she will be happy to give you a list of community health resources that you can contact to help you take charge of your health! We held our traditional end of the year book giveaway for to encourage student summer reading and also held a raffle for our fantastic parents. Congratulations to the lucky winners! We wish you a great and relaxing summer and we look forward to coming back next Fall with new speakers and topics of interest for you to help you along on your parenthood journey: the best one you will ever take!

MEDIA NOTES

In May, we had a very special visit from the Wheaton Library! Please make sure to check out all the great things they have to offer over the summer. It is free to get a library card and then you can check out books, movies, CDs, and more! Visit their website to see the schedule of events and to sign up for their summer reading program, Dig Into Reading: http://montgomerycountymd.libguides.com/kidsite

Make sure you also check out some of this year’s award winning children’s books:

Cat’s Secrets – winner of the Black Eyed Susan Award

This Is Not My Hat – Caldecott winner

Creepy Carrots – Caldecott Honor

Extra Yarn – Caldecott Honor

One Cool Friend – Caldecott Honor

The One and Only Ivan – Newbery Medal Winner

Hand in Hand: Ten Black Men Who Changed America – Coretta Scott King Award winner

Ellen’s Broom – Coretta Scott King Illustrator Honor
Arcola is proud to announce that we recognized sixteen ESOL award winners in a ceremony held June 4 at school. Students were selected based on their academic success, participation and leadership skills. These students have shown exceptional improvement in their English language development and/or demonstrated leadership qualities by setting a good example of effort and persistence in learning another language.

We have so many hardworking ESOL students that this was a very difficult decision. We are only permitted to give a limited number when we have over 300 ESOL students!

This year's award winners are:

DON’T FORGET TO READ, READ, READ THIS SUMMER!

Summer is the perfect time to read for the sheer fun of it. Challenge yourself to see how many books you can read in 10 weeks! Join the Summer Reading Program at the public library and keep track of your reading accomplishments. You will discover a whole new world through books without leaving the comfort of home. Jump in! Visit this link for some good book ideas to get you thinking. Book lists are at the bottom of the left column. Check it out!

YOU WON’T WANT TO MISS....

Don’t forget to register your child in the Extended Learning Opportunity (ELO) Summer Program. ELO is scheduled for July 9 through August 2, 2013 at Arcola Elementary School for current Headstart through grade 4 students. The program provides our students a “preview” of the first units of instruction for next year. Our youngest students have the opportunity to learn our routines and begin to establish relationships with their teachers. Breakfast and lunch will be served to all students. Registration forms were sent home with your child. Please return the form as soon as possible. If you have any questions please contact the school at 301-649-8590.
Food prices keep going up?

Come to the TESS Center for information about FSP
(the Food Supplement Program, formerly known as Food Stamps)
First and third Tuesdays
9am - 11:30am
The TESS Center
8513 Piney Branch Rd
Silver Spring, MD 20901

- Learn if you may qualify for Food Supplement Program (FSP/food stamps) benefits to help pay for groceries.
- Get help filling out an FSP application.
- Get your questions answered by friendly English and Spanish speaking Maryland Hunger Solutions staff.

Questions?
Contact Audrey Brooks
410-528-0021 x30
abrooks@mdhungersolutions.org

This message is funded in part by the USDA, an equal opportunity provider and employer.