Dear Garrett Park Families,

Please find our school updates contained in the message below. 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 or Melanie at Melanie\_S\_Bachrach@mcpsmd.org

**Updates from GPES Administration:**

This is such an exciting time of year for everyone! There are many activities to plan for, schedules to adhere to, celebrations of accomplishments, the list goes on. One thing we all have to remember is there is still half a marking period of instruction left for students. We, the staff and parents of Garrett Park, all need to remain committed to the learning of our children during this busy time. I’ve had to check myself recently at home with my daughters and at work with students and staff to ensure my actions were consistent with this goal. It’s all too easy to get distracted by the hectic nature of the season, but teaching and learning is still the priority. We thank you all for your support and resolve in striving for excellence each day.

Field Day is Wednesday, May 30 and is quickly approaching. Garrett Park's field day celebrates the return of spring weather and outdoor fun!  The girls and boys have an entire morning or afternoon to choose exciting, challenging, fun, and silly activities that promote health and fitness. They freely choose their own groups or teams and develop their ability to cooperate. **This can't happen without your help!**  Please consider donating some of your time and energy to assist the school staff in providing a great day for the kids. This year, we have slots broken into 45-minute increments, so hopefully it will be easier to sign-up for one or two time slots. Please visit the Sign-up genius link to volunteer. Many thanks for all you do!

Here's the field day sign up: [https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c094cabac28a75-field](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__www.signupgenius.com_go_10c094cabac28a75-2Dfield&d=DwMFaQ&c=fgAH0TEak9hSJygxoVsafg&r=-H88A-nqVig4iJU0dnj9DZdbRw670-V-qbBcDiUgz1s&m=o__iOIZKLo9v48IQROOOnuNZw3ZYeOt34C7BYP-wv40&s=CWX3mnkvO8xg5kFn_nAQoqsBpM8S-CnYq72ZyRyhAXY&e=)

A huge shout out to all PTA volunteers who helped make Teacher Appreciation Week a special time for staff. They truly enjoyed the delicious treats, nice messages, and warm reminders of how much they are appreciated for what is done for children each day. Garrett Park is truly a warm and caring community and we thank you all for making us feel special!

LAST CALL for picking up Lost and Found items! All items are being donated this Friday, May 18th.

Great job to our 4th grade classes (Mr. Vogel, Ms. Trubic, Ms. Ziegler) who students’ artwork was selected to be on display at the First Annual MCPS Shed Show Art and Film Festival on Friday, May 4th at the AFI Silver Theatre and Cultural Center. Way to go 4th graders and Ms. Blitgen!!

**Teaching and Learning:**

MCPS is seeking feedback from parents on the new elementary curriculum process and plans. The district wants to hear your thoughts on the most important aspects of a new curriculum; the benefits of an externally purchased curriculum; any concerns the district should consider when reviewing curriculum products; and the most important factors for a successful rollout of a new curriculum. Parents can offer their feedback **until May 18.** The transition to a new elementary curriculum will take place over multiple years, beginning with a group of schools and selected courses in 2018–2019.

[http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/curriculum/curriculum-review.aspx](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=http-3A__www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org_curriculum_curriculum-2Dreview.aspx&d=DwMFaQ&c=fgAH0TEak9hSJygxoVsafg&r=-H88A-nqVig4iJU0dnj9DZdbRw670-V-qbBcDiUgz1s&m=o__iOIZKLo9v48IQROOOnuNZw3ZYeOt34C7BYP-wv40&s=lPU6osvekSMmQJ58ct8n_HimXrjO4GN25ex2SLMg67Q&e=)

**Safety and Security:**

**Operation Safe Ride to School Initiative Follow-up…**

On April 24, 2018 a police officer monitored our arrival patterns and noticed a few violations. Of the 64 cars that entered carpool there was one adult on a cell phone and five students not wearing seatbelts. We are striving for zero violations to ensure the safety of all students and parents. Please make sure to follow and obey traffic laws at all times. An officer will be back to monitor at a future date and time. Thanks you for your attention to this!

**Important Dates:**

May 15                  Patrol Picnic

May 16                  Grade 5 Panoramic Picture

May 18                  Grade 4 Stained Glass Project

                                PTA Allies Dance

May 22                  Grade 3 Field Trip to the Zoo

May 24                  Instrumental Music Concert

May 30                  Field Day

**MCPS Updates:**

**2019–2020 Calendar Survey (English and Spanish)**

MCPS has launched the 2019–2020 Calendar Survey. This survey includes questions regarding school closure on various days, including religious and non-religious holidays. The data will be analyzed and reviewed as context for the development of the 2019–2020 school year calendar.

The survey will include questions seeking input from MCPS staff, families, students and the broader community regarding school closure on various days, including religious and non-religious holidays. The data will be analyzed and reviewed as context for the development of the 2019–2020 school year calendar.

You will receive survey invitations through e-mail or by a postcard sent via U.S. mail with instructions to access the survey. Parents and guardians also will receive information about how and where to access the secondary students (Grades 6–12) survey with their invitation. This will allow parents and guardians to moderate access to the survey for their child(ren).

The survey is translated into Amharic, Chinese, French, Korean, Spanish, and Vietnamese. All participants will have the option to choose one of these languages at the start of the online survey. Paper copies also are available in English and in the translated languages. Send requests for paper copies of the survey to calendarsurvey@mcpsmd.org. **The survey window closes May 22, 2018.**

Participation in the survey is voluntary and data collected will be anonymous and confidential. More information is available at [www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/calendar/survey2018/](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=http-3A__www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org_calendar_survey2018_&d=DwMFaQ&c=fgAH0TEak9hSJygxoVsafg&r=-H88A-nqVig4iJU0dnj9DZdbRw670-V-qbBcDiUgz1s&m=o__iOIZKLo9v48IQROOOnuNZw3ZYeOt34C7BYP-wv40&s=hKh7jkgEsFPLoeG6NI7XweJvMpaXD-Vl60NhP2ZVB-s&e=)

**Encuesta sobre el Calendario Escolar 2019–2020**

MCPS ha lanzado la Encuesta sobre el Calendario Escolar 2019–2020. Esta encuesta incluye preguntas relacionadas con cierres de escuelas en diversos días, incluyendo feriados religiosos y no religiosos. Los datos serán analizados y revisados como contexto para el desarrollo del calendario escolar 2019–2020.

La encuesta incluirá preguntas que solicitan el aporte del personal de MCPS, las familias, los estudiantes y la comunidad en general, respecto a cierres de escuelas en diversos días, incluyendo feriados religiosos y no religiosos. Los datos serán analizados y revisados como contexto para el desarrollo del calendario escolar 2019–2020.

Usted recibirá invitaciones para la encuesta por correo electrónico o por tarjeta postal enviada por correo regular, con instrucciones para acceder a la encuesta. Con sus invitaciones, los padres y guardianes también recibirán información sobre cómo y dónde acceder a la encuesta para los estudiantes de nivel secundario (Grados 6–12). Esto permitirá a los padres y guardianes controlar el acceso de sus hijos a la encuesta.

La encuesta ha sido traducida a español, amárico, chino, coreano, francés y vietnamita. Todos los participantes tendrán la opción de elegir uno de estos idiomas al inicio de la encuesta en línea. También hay copias en papel disponibles en inglés y a las traducciones en los distintos idiomas. Envíe su pedido de copias de la encuesta en papel a calendarsurvey@mcpsmd.org. **El período de la encuesta cierra el 22 de mayo, 2018.**

**Move More Montgomery Festival Set for May 12 (English and Spanish)**

Montgomery County Recreation (MCR) will host the third annual Move More Montgomery Festival on Saturday, May 12, from 12 noon to 4:00 p.m. at Bohrer Park at Summit Hall Farm, located at 506 South Frederick Avenue in Gaithersburg.

Move More Montgomery is an initiative designed to encourage residents to get up and get moving for better health and wellness. This comprehensive program endeavors to inform and enhance the health and wellness of all county residents.

The Move More Montgomery Festival, a field day type of festival, will feature a community walk, sport and fitness demonstrations, active performances and mini-classes, interactive wellness booths, children’s activities including a play area, and the Fido Fitness Arena. The event will be held rain or shine.

The Move More Montgomery Festival also is the culminating event for the Move More Montgomery 100 Mile Challenge. Residents who completed the challenge by walking or running 100 miles in 100 days will be recognized at the event.

For more information, visit the Move More Montgomery Festival’s [website](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=http-3A__links.govdelivery.com-3A80_track-3Ftype-3Dclick-26enid-3DZWFzPTEmbWFpbGluZ2lkPTIwMTgwNDI1Ljg4OTU1OTYxJm1lc3NhZ2VpZD1NREItUFJELUJVTC0yMDE4MDQyNS44ODk1NTk2MSZkYXRhYmFzZWlkPTEwMDEmc2VyaWFsPTE3MjY4MTkzJmVtYWlsaWQ9Z2JveWluZGVfb25pamFsYUBtY3BzbWQub3JnJnVzZXJpZD1nYm95aW5kZV9vbmlqYWxhQG1jcHNtZC5vcmcmZmw9JmV4dHJhPU11bHRpdmFyaWF0ZUlkPSYmJg-3D-3D-26-26-26102-26-26-26http-3A__www.montgomerycountymd.gov_rec_MMMFestival.html&d=DwMFAA&c=fgAH0TEak9hSJygxoVsafg&r=DIcOoOXEvfHi6VS2kfSCMpRQOIeGnWzvvQXx6FPM324&m=fwz3BmVEyMnjrWkOcAFJOwGedQXjA0ljxdqXvYjgOhs&s=nZGNtLz30DQ_jITxG8GRwEdPgNdvYUsYsKy49f1FKFk&e=) or call 240-777-6946.

**Festival A Moverse Más Montgomery Programado para el 12 de Mayo**

El Departamento de Recreación del Condado de Montgomery (Montgomery County Recreation–MCR) presentará el tercer Festival Anual Move More Montgomery (A Moverse Más Montgomery), el sábado, 12 de mayo, desde las 12 del mediodía hasta las 4:00 p.m., en Bohrer Park en Summit Hall Farm, ubicado en 506 South Frederick Avenue, en Gaithersburg.

Move More Montgomery es una iniciativa para motivar a los residentes a que se levanten y se muevan para una mejor salud y bienestar. Este programa integral tiene como intención informar y mejorar la salud y el bienestar de todos los residentes del condado.

El Festival Move More Montgomery, un festival que ofrece un día de actividades deportivas, destacará una caminata para la comunidad, demostraciones de deportes y de acondicionamiento físico, actuaciones activas y mini clases, mesas con materiales interactivos sobre bienestar y Fido Fitness Arena. El evento se llevará a cabo con o sin lluvia.

El Festival Move More Montgomery también es el evento culminante del Desafío de 100 Millas Move More Montgomery. Los residentes que completaron el desafío caminando o corriendo 100 millas en 100 días recibirán reconocimiento durante el evento.

Para más información visite [la página web](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=http-3A__links.govdelivery.com-3A80_track-3Ftype-3Dclick-26enid-3DZWFzPTEmbWFpbGluZ2lkPTIwMTgwNDI1Ljg4OTU1OTYxJm1lc3NhZ2VpZD1NREItUFJELUJVTC0yMDE4MDQyNS44ODk1NTk2MSZkYXRhYmFzZWlkPTEwMDEmc2VyaWFsPTE3MjY4MTkzJmVtYWlsaWQ9Z2JveWluZGVfb25pamFsYUBtY3BzbWQub3JnJnVzZXJpZD1nYm95aW5kZV9vbmlqYWxhQG1jcHNtZC5vcmcmZmw9JmV4dHJhPU11bHRpdmFyaWF0ZUlkPSYmJg-3D-3D-26-26-26102-26-26-26http-3A__www.montgomerycountymd.gov_rec_MMMFestival.html&d=DwMFAA&c=fgAH0TEak9hSJygxoVsafg&r=DIcOoOXEvfHi6VS2kfSCMpRQOIeGnWzvvQXx6FPM324&m=fwz3BmVEyMnjrWkOcAFJOwGedQXjA0ljxdqXvYjgOhs&s=nZGNtLz30DQ_jITxG8GRwEdPgNdvYUsYsKy49f1FKFk&e=) del Festival Move More Montgomery, o llame al 240-777-6946.

**Ananya Tadikonda Elected as Next Student Member of the Board**

Ananya Tadikonda, a junior at Richard Montgomery High School, has been elected the Student Member of the Board of Education (SMOB) for the 2018–2019 school year. Ms. Tadikonda’s term begins on July 1, 2018.

Ms. Tadikonda currently serves as the Montgomery County Regional (MCR) Student Government Association Vice President. She also serves on the executive board for the Maryland Association of Student Councils and as Co-President of MoCo EmpowHER.

The SMOB is a voting member of the Montgomery County Board of Education. The SMOB can vote on matters related to collective bargaining, capital and operating budgets, and school closings, reopenings, and boundaries. The SMOB cannot vote on negative personnel actions.  The SMOB is not paid, but receives a $5,000 college scholarship, student service learning hours, and one honors-level social studies credit.

Ms. Tadikonda will replace the current SMOB, Matthew Post, a senior at Sherwood High School who will graduate in May. For more information, visit the Student Member of the Board [website](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=http-3A__www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org_departments_student-2Dleadership_&d=DwMFaQ&c=fgAH0TEak9hSJygxoVsafg&r=-H88A-nqVig4iJU0dnj9DZdbRw670-V-qbBcDiUgz1s&m=o__iOIZKLo9v48IQROOOnuNZw3ZYeOt34C7BYP-wv40&s=9vv_zc-XTy6dzkvXZBdtDyT7nJCSUWnL1CiGXSIwKeA&e=).

Have a great week!
Dan