

The Dino Dispatch

Eldersburg Elementary School
410-751-3520; 410-795-1702 Fax: 410-751-3553
www.carrollk12.org/ees

Michael O. Eisenklam—Principal
Melanie P. Laffer—Assistant Principal



Principal's Message

Welcome Back Students and Parents! I wanted to take this opportunity to welcome our returning students and families, as well as those new to EES! We are ready for another fabulous year!!!

We have received some great news this summer. I am honored to announce that in July, I, along with several members of our Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) committee attended a state training. In only our first year of full implementation we were recognized as an **Exemplar School by the state of Maryland**. A few weeks later, we received yet another honor. EES was selected by the **Maryland Center for Character Education for the MCCE School of the Year Award for 2008-09**.

There have been a few personnel changes here at EES. Mrs. Gist has remarried, and her new name is Mrs. Warner. Mrs. Warner will still be our full-time vocal music teacher. We would like to welcome Mrs. Buenger as our new PE teacher. She is excited to teach here after spending several years at different levels. Mrs. Buenger was also the 2008 National Physical

Education Teacher of the Year. Mrs. Basford will also join us one day per week teaching vocal music. She comes to EES with much experience in teaching music in CCPS. Ms. Dougherty will be joining our third grade team. Ms. Dougherty comes to EES after spending last year at Mechanicsville Elementary. Mrs. Wright will be our new School Psychologist. Mrs. Wright has been a School Psychologist in the county for many years and is very excited to join our team.

We wish the best of luck to the following staff who will be leaving EES: Mrs. Wilson has taken on a new role in CCPS as a Media Specialist. Ms. Ready has been able to take a music position in another CCPS school on a full-time basis. Mr. Rubin has decided to leave the teaching field and start a non-profit organization.

Our first newsletter is packed full of information. PLEASE take the time to read it thoroughly. Remember our newsletters can also be found on our website at <http://www.carrollk12.org/ees>.

I hope to see students and parents at our Open House on

Thursday August 20th from 2-3pm. I'm also looking forward to seeing our parents at our Back to School Night on Thursday, August 20th at 7:00pm.

Once again, I welcome all of you and know that we are ready for a great year. As always, my doors are open to each and every one of you. Please stop by to say hi and let me know if I can do anything to make the start of the year smooth for you and your families. All of our staff have worked really hard to plan a highly rigorous and enjoyable year for our students. If you have any questions or suggestions, please feel free to contact me at school.

Michael O. Eisenklam
Principal

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Calendar

- Aug. 20 – Open House 2:00-3:00pm (School Bus Rides for K & Pre-K, 2:00 to 3:00 p.m.)
- Aug. 20 – Back to School Night 7:00-8:30pm
- Aug. 25 – First Day of School (K-5)
- Aug. 31—First Day Pre-K
- Sept. 7 – Schools Closed (Labor Day)
- Sept. 8 – Market Day Pickup
- Sept. 8 – PTA Meeting 7:00pm
- Sept. 18—School Closes at 12:50pm/No Pre-K
- Sept. 25 – Dance-A-Thon
- Sept. 28 – Schools Closed
- Sept. 30—Fall Portraits

"Working Together; Learning Forever"

EES New and Improved Mission and Vision

Parent Pickup/Drop off

Please remember that our parent pick-up/drop-off area is in the back of the school. **Please remember to drive slowly through the parking lot. Parents and students are walking through this area to get to their vehicles, so safety is critical.**



AlertNow

The Carroll County Public School System is now using the *AlertNow Rapid Communication Service* to provide parents with information from their child's schools and the school system. AlertNow replaces eSchoolnews-letter and is capable of delivering both e-mail and phone alerts at no charge to parents. You do not have to sign up for the new system. All information is taken from emergency procedure cards. AlertNow was piloted in six schools last year and we have had very positive feedback. We are excited about the new capabilities AlertNow offers, and believe it will greatly enhance our communication with parents and our school communities.

EES Vision

Our vision is to work together to educate the whole child with high standards in a safe and nurturing environment.

EES Mission

The mission of EES is to empower all our students to become Respectful, Responsible citizens who are Ready to succeed in the global community.

"Working Together; Learning Forever"

Volunteer Program

In Carroll County, volunteers have strengthened ties to the community by involving all citizens in the critical matter of educating our youth. **Volunteers are those who offer their time, effort, and/or talents without receipt of monetary compensation or student/learning hours to benefit students in our school system.** Volunteers are recognized as a valuable resource and play an important role in the education of all students.

The volunteer program in Carroll County Public Schools utilizes the skills of Level I and Level II Volunteers. Level I Volunteers (guest speakers/readers, business representatives, concession stand operators, etc.) must register as a school site before volunteering. **Level II Volunteers, (classroom helpers, chaperones, mentors, etc.) are required to attend an annual training session at least seven (7) school days prior to volunteering.** In addition, Level II Volunteers who plan to chaperone an overnight trip/activity must submit a background check request thirty (30) days prior to the scheduled event. Training sessions are held at school sites and regional locations throughout the year. **All volunteer training is valid until September 30th of the following school year.**

Carroll County's volunteer requirements are an outgrowth of concern and necessity, and are not intended to minimize the positive impact/rewards of volunteering. We acknowledge the dedication of our volunteers, and recognize how their involvement in the school system helps students achieve.

We are offering volunteer training at EES on these dates:

- Aug. 27—9:30 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.
- Sept 2nd—9:30 a.m.
- Sept. 8th— After PTA mtg.
- Oct 1st 9:30 am & 7:00 p.m.

Additional dates and times for volunteer training will be published monthly in the newsletter and are posted on the CCPS website.

"Working Together; Learning Forever"

The Top 5 Reasons Why My Child Should Ride the Bus to School

1. *It's safer than driving him/her to school in the family car.*
2. *It relieves congestion and makes the school parking lot safer.*
3. *I can spend quality time with him/her while waiting at the bus stop.*
4. *My child really likes his/her bus driver.*
5. *My child gets to ride to school with many of his/her friends.*

While we cannot guarantee that you will spend quality time at the bus stop, your child will really like his/her bus driver (we would hope so), or that he or she will ride to school and sit with his/her friends, we do know that the top two reasons for your child to ride the bus are statistically verifiable.

The most important reason for you to choose for your child to ride the bus to school is his/her safety. Statistically, the school bus is by far the safest

form of ground transportation in the United States. Students are 70 times more likely to be fatally injured riding in a passenger vehicle during school hours than they are by riding in a school bus. Over a 10 year period, there have been an average of 700 children (ages 5-18) fatally injured annually during normal school transportation hours while riding in passenger vehicles. By comparison, over the same 10 year period, an average of 10 children have been fatally injured annually while riding on the school bus. On a daily basis, school buses transport over 25 million children to school, traveling over 4 billion miles. Annually, school buses complete over 10 billion trips, traveling 1.46 trillion miles. The safety record of the school bus is unmatched.

The second most important reason to make the informed choice for your

child to ride the bus is to reduce traffic congestion on the school parking lot and on the roadways near the school. The biggest factor contributing to this congestion is the number of parents driving their children to and from school. If parents would participate in parent pickup/drop-off *only when necessary*, this problem could be reduced significantly. Also, the less traffic there is on the school parking lot while students are present, the safer all of the children will be.

Kindergarten Parents

Kindergarten will be on the same schedule as the rest of the school – there will be no staggered start. When you attend the August 20th Open House, and/or Back to School Night, be sure you have provided the following information to your child's teacher:

- Child's name
- Street address and phone number where the child will be going at the end of the day.
- Bus number
- Any other changes since registration
- Pick up a bus tag for your child to

wear for the first two weeks of school.

If you are unable to attend, please get in touch with the school.



Emergency Procedure Cards

One (1) Emergency Procedure Card will be sent home the first day of school. This card is a carbonless, two part form. It is important to complete and return this document immediately. The information on the cards is essential in helping our school personnel provide prompt emergency care for your child in case of illness or accident.

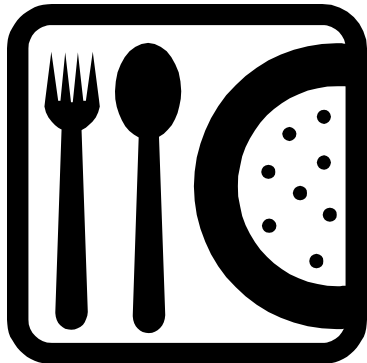
Please notify the school immediately, **in writing**, if the information on this card changes. It is imperative that there is always someone to call in case of emergency.

Enrollment in CCPS Schools

Attendance in Carroll County Public Schools is only for bona fide residents of Carroll County. A child is a bona fide resident if that child actually lives within Carroll County with a parent or other person who has legal custody or legal guardianship of the child. Those families who live outside of the county, or who may move outside of the county during the school year, may continue to attend Carroll County Public Schools only with payment of tuition. In addition, any falsification of residence is subject to referral to the office of the state's attorney for prosecution.



From the Cafeteria



To help alleviate a long wait in the lunch line, Mrs. Hankinson has suggested **pre-paying** for your child/ren's lunches. This will help save time, as the cashier will not have to open and close so many change purses. Lunch prices are:

1 wk/5 lunches \$10.00 3 wks/15 lunches \$30.00
2 wks/10 lunches \$20.00 4 wks/20 lunches \$40.00

Please send either cash or a check, made payable to *Eldersburg Elementary School Cafeteria* in an envelope marked with your child's name, grade, and teacher's name. A tally sheet will be kept at the cash register. The above prices do not include "extras". Extras are an additional \$.75 for ice cream. Please send in cash on the days your child/ren would like to buy extras.

If your child forgets his/her lunch or lunch money, the cafeteria is more than happy to provide lunch. A slip will be sent home that day indicating the amount of money owed to the cafeteria. Please be sure to send the money in to school in an envelope marked with your child/ren's name(s) the next day. Thank you!

Gifted and Talented Program

The CCPS Gifted & Talented Program is designed to meet the needs of highly able learners and maximize student achievement. Gifted and Talented teachers, in collaboration with classroom instructors, will continue to provide a continuum of services designed to meet the needs of Gifted & Talented Education Program participants. This may include in-class instruction, pullout groups, and/or resource development with classroom teachers. A Referral and Review Team will determine student eligibility for services. Indicators for participation include observational checklists, standardized test scores, work samples, and classroom performance. Although students are not formally identified until the beginning of third grade, Gifted & Talented teachers will continue to provide a range of services for grades K-5, including the Primary Education Thinking Skills for grade 2. Look for more information concerning the upcoming Gifted & Talented Education Program Orientation Night.

From the School Improvement Team

We continue to be involved in the school improvement process. The initiatives and goals that the staff has promoted since 1991 through this process have had a profound effect on Eldersburg. While a variety of strategies and activities have contributed to our school improvement efforts, our primary objectives have not changed. We continue to focus on improved school climate, increased student achievement, and improved home, school community relations. The school improvement team for 2009-2010 will include staff

and community members. S.I.T. members will work together to facilitate our school improvement efforts and to serve as liaisons to other staff members and parents. Future editions of this newsletter will provide additional information. The Eldersburg staff continues to support our mission, which provides a clear direction for our school and identifies those concepts and ideas which we embrace.

EES School Website

The Eldersburg Elementary School website, <http://www.carrollk12.org/ees> can be used to access a wide variety of information about our school.

Medication for Students While In School

It is preferred that alternative plans be made to avoid the administration of medication while a child is in school. Parents are encouraged to consult with their physician to discuss the possibility of administering medication either before or after school. When alternative plans cannot be made, parental consent and instructions must be given before the school can administer any medication. Please note the following guidelines:

Medicine may be administered to a student by the school nurse or nurse substitute. All medications (prescription and over-the-counter), excluding Ibuprofen (Advil), and Acetaminophen (Tylenol) must have a Doctor's Order and Parent Permission for the medication to be administered in school. Parents can still bring in Acetaminophen (Tylenol) and Ibuprofen (Advil) for administration in school without a Doctor's Order. Nurses will continue to administer Acetaminophen and Ibuprofen in packages' recommended dosage with only parent permission. A "Medication Consent Form" (posted on our school website) must be on file in the Health Room for *any* medication to be administered.

Medication must be in the original container and if prescription medication, must have the completed pharmacy sticker on the package.

*Each medication requires a separate form.

*Send only the amount of medication that will be needed in school.

*Medication (prescription and over-the-counter) may not be transported by students. The parent is responsible for dropping off/picking up all medications at school (including cough drops and lozenges). *Carroll County Schools' policy regarding medication requires a school suspension for students transporting medication.*

*Check with your pharmacist to see if you can obtain two containers, one for home and one for school.

Permission to Photograph, Videotape or Audiotape

Throughout the school year, the Carroll County Public School System frequently covers school activities and may use your child's photograph, video image, or voice for educational, informational, or public relations purposes, with or without identification by name.

If you do not wish to have your child's voice reproduced on tape or to have his/her image appear in such things as a video, a photograph, or the school website, please notify the school principal in writing. It is assumed that parents and guardians consent to their children being audiotaped, photographed, videotaped, or having their image placed on a school website by the school system **unless such notification is received.**

There are also occasions when the media cover certain school events (such as when a government leader visits a school). If you do not wish to have your child's name or likeness published by the media, you should address your concerns directly to the school involved so that the media is so advised. Please be advised that the school system has no control over the media when they are covering activities such as sporting events and musical programs that are open to the public.

Use of Student Work on Websites or in Publications

There may be times throughout the year when the Carroll County Public School System wishes to display student work on school websites or in publications. If you do not wish to have your child's art, poetry, writing, etc. appear on school websites or in publications, please notify the school principal in writing. It is assumed that parents and guardians consent to their child's work being displayed on school websites or in publications unless such notification is received.

Bus Rides

Many of our incoming Kindergarten and Pre-K students will be riding a school bus for the first time. To help these students feel comfortable on a bus, Kindergarten and Pre-K students will be offered a short bus ride on Thursday, August 20, during our Open House. Rides are scheduled at 2:00, 2:15, 2:30, and 2:45 p.m. More information will be available that day.

Back to School Night

Parents will have an opportunity to meet their children's teachers on Thursday, August 20 at 7:00 p.m. Parents will attend sessions in the teaching areas which will inform them of the exciting instructional programs that are being implemented with our children.



Arrival and Dismissal Procedures

Arrival:

- **Walkers and Car Riders may not arrive before 8:35 a.m.** The doors will remain locked until that time. There is no supervision available by staff members until 8:35 a.m.
- **Car Riders must be dropped off in the rear of the school.** The front is reserved for school buses only.
- Student drop off will be at the playground gate marked "Parent Drop-Off."
- Students will cross the blacktop play area and enter the building using the outside door leading to the play area. A staff member will be on duty in that area.
- No cars, except those with office business, will be allowed to enter the front parking lot between 8:35 a.m. and 9:05 a.m. due to bus arrivals.
- By 9:05 a.m. all doors, with the exception of the front door and doors leading to portables, will be locked.
- Students arriving after 9:05 a.m. must be accompanied by their parent/guardian through the front entrance to the office to sign in.

Dismissal:

Bus dismissal will be from 3:35 p.m.– 4:05 p.m.

- No cars will be allowed to park in the bus loop during this time. The area must remain clear for the school buses.
- Permission will not be granted for students to ride a bus other than the regularly assigned bus or to change bus stops.

ABC Day Care and Day Care vans (Kindercare, TLC, Deb's Place, Goddard, Sunshine) will be dismissed at 3:35 p.m.

- ABC students will go directly to the cafeteria, unless otherwise announced.
- Students riding the Day Care vans will be dismissed to the front bus loop and escorted to the vans by staff members.
- Please dress your child appropriately for the weather.

Car Riders and Walkers will be dismissed at 3:40 p.m. Safety procedures require parents/guardians of car riders to:

- Park in a designated legal parking space in the back lot.
- Walk to the back outside door leading to the play area, and meet your child to escort him/her to the car.
- Never call or signal your child to cross the parking lot or lane of traffic to reach the car.
- Staff members have been instructed to keep children safe and will not allow any student to enter or cross the lot unescorted.
- Do not remain at the playground once you have met your child. This makes it difficult for the staff on duty to supervise students who have not been picked up.
- Drive gently while in the parking lot. Be mindful of the safety of others.
- **Please be prepared to show identification to the adult on duty when picking up your child.**

Safety procedures require that all walkers:

- Walk directly home and report to their parents or guardians.
- Remain on the sidewalks.
- Do not accept a ride from anyone unless you have your parent's permission.

Please remain courteous to the staff members who supervise during arrival and dismissal. They work very hard to keep all children safe. Traffic cones are set up to help prevent drivers from creating a hazardous situation that could place students and staff at risk for injury. If you have any questions or concerns, please speak to an administrator. **You cooperation is needed and appreciated.**

Procedures for students leaving prior to the 3:35 p.m. bell:

- This must be for a valid reason and a note should be sent in prior to the dismissal.
- The student must be released through the office: the adult may not go to the classroom to pick up the child.
- The student must be signed out in the office by an authorized adult indicated on the student's emergency card or the parent/guardian note.
- **The student's attendance record will reflect all early dismissals as tardy or absent, whichever is appropriate.**

Students leaving school other than via their regularly assigned method must have **written permission** from home indicating the change. **Students will be sent home via their regularly assigned method if they do not have a note.**

ONE A.M./ONE P.M. BUS STOP POLICY

The county has established a policy which allows for one (1) A.M. and one (1) P.M. stop location for each transported student. This policy gives parents the following two responsibilities:

1. determining a set schedule for bus riding.
2. making provisions for a set schedule for bus riding.

The safety of your child is at the heart of this policy, since it provides for consistency in the child's schedule. Accommodations by the school and/or bus drivers cannot be made for a flexible bus riding schedule for any child.



Late Arrivals/Early Dismissals

Whenever your child is absent from school, the teacher must receive a note from you on the day that he/she returns to school. This note should indicate the specific reason(s) for your child's absence from school, which is essential information for our school records.

A child who arrives at school after 9:05 a.m. must report to the school office and be signed in by a parent before going to his/her class so that the attendance card can be properly marked.

When your child must be dismissed from school prior to the end of the school day (3:35 p.m.), the teacher should receive a note indicating the time of departure from school and the name of the person who will be taking your child from school. No child will be directly dismissed from a teaching area. The person who is removing the child from school will be expected to sign a school form as well as show photo identification before leaving the school office.

CCPS policy states that children who come to school late or leave early will be marked as either AM or PM tardy. A question that is frequently asked is, "Why is my child being marked PM tardy even if she leaves at 3:34pm.?" EES's cutoff in the morning is 9:05am, and in the afternoon is 3:35pm, because that is our official school day for students.

Notice

The Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (A.H.E.R.A.) management plans for all buildings owned or leased by the Board of Education of Carroll County are available for review at the individual Carroll County school locations, and at the Office of Plant Operations located at 191 Schaeffer Avenue, Westminster, Maryland, 21157. Management plans are required by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and depict the location, amount, condition, and response action projected for any asbestos-containing materials, if any are located in the school building.

ADA Statement

The Board of Education of Carroll County does not discriminate on the basis of disability in employment or provision of services, programs or activities. Information concerning the Americans with Disabilities Act is available from the Director of Facilities, 410-751-3177. Persons needing auxiliary aids and services for communication should contact the Office of Community and Media Relations at 410-751-3020 or publicinfo@carrollk12.org, or write to Carroll County Public Schools, 125 North Court Street, Westminster, Maryland 21157. Persons who are deaf, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability, use Relay or 7-1-1. Please contact the school system at least one (1) week in advance of the date the special accommodation is needed.

Integrated Pest Management Program

The Integrated Pest Management (IPM) program employed by Carroll County Public Schools uses inspection, monitoring, employee education, and sanitation practices to minimize the use of pesticides in our schools.

Maryland law requires that parents of all elementary students be notified automatically prior to the application of any pesticide. Parents of secondary students must request to be placed on a pesticide notification list.

Carroll County Public Schools notifies **all** students and staff 24 hours prior to scheduled applications of pesticides on school property. If an emergency pest control situation arises and a pesticide is used, notification will be made within 24 hours. Space spraying of a pesticide throughout an entire room or area by fogger or aerosol device requires one week advance notice to all students and staff.

Copies of material safety data sheets (MSDS) and product labels for each pesticide and bait station used on school property are maintained in the Department of Plant Operations. Persons wishing to review this information should contact the Office of Plant Operations, at 410-751-3470. For additional information about the Integrated Pest Management Program, please contact the Director of School Support Services, at 410-751-3179.



August, 2009

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28
31				
Chicken Patty Tater Tots Fruit Graham Crackers	Hamburger or Cheeseburger Green Beans Fruit Cookie	Chicken Nuggets w/ Roll French Fries Fruit Pudding	Soft or Hard Shell Taco Corn Fruit Pretzel Twists	Pepperoni or Cheese Pizza Tossed Salad Fruit Cookie

½ Pint of Milk served with each menu. Jelly Sandwich or Hot Dog served each day as an entree choice.

Lunch - \$2.00
Milk - \$.50

Most extras are \$.75



September, 2009

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	Cheese Sticks w/Dipping Sauce Green Beans Fruit Apple Crisp	Grilled Cheese Tomato Soup Fruit Jell-O	Breadsticks w/ Meat Sauce Tossed Salad Fruit Cake	Pepperoni or Cheese Pizza or Corn Fruit Cookie
7 SCHOOLS CLOSED	Chicken Tenders or Chicken Patty French Fries Fruit Cheddar Whales	Grilled Cheese or Pizza Bob Pizza Soup Fruit Fudge Bar	Barbeque Chicken or Cheeseburger Mashed Potatoes w/ Gravy Fruit Brownie	Pepperoni or Cheese Pizza Tossed Salad Fruit Cookie
Cheese Sticks w/ Dipping Sauce or Pizza Pocket Green Beans Fruit Fruit Juice Bar	Popcorn Chicken or Chicken Patty Tater Tots Fruit Graham Crackers	Pizza Casserole or Grilled Cheese Vegetable Fruit Orange Cream Bar	Soft or Hard Shell Taco or Cheeseburger Corn Fruit Rice Pudding	Pepperoni or Cheese Pizza Corn Fruit Cookie
Steak & Cheese or Pizza Pocket Seasoned Fries Fruit Rice Krispy Treat	Pancakes or Waffles Scrambled Eggs Apple or Orange Juice Baked Cinnamon Apples Cinnamon Roll	Meatball Sub or Grilled Cheese Chicken Noodle Soup Fruit Teddy Grahams	Spaghetti w/ Meat Sauce or Cheeseburger Vegetable Fruit Jell-O Cake	<i>Early Dismissal</i> Pepperoni or Cheese Pizza Tossed Salad Fruit Cookie
28 SCHOOLS CLOSED	Chicken Tenders or Chicken Patty Green Beans Fruit Apple Crisp	Hot Ham & Cheese or Grilled Cheese Potato Smiles Fruit Pudding		

½ Pint of Milk served with each menu. Jelly Sandwich or Hot Dog served each day as an entree choice.

Most extras are \$.75

Lunch - \$2.00

Milk - \$.50