

***Mechanicsville Elementary School
School-to-Home Connection
3838 Sykesville Road, Sykesville, MD 21784
Phone: 410-751-3510 / Fax: 410-751-3516***

<http://www.carrollk12.org/mes/>

9/24/09

Principal: Nicholas Shockney

Assistant Principal: Natalie Crist

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Our students and staff continue to work very hard as we have almost passed the half-way point of the first quarter. Starting this year, teachers and staff are utilizing a new technique to reinforce positive behavior. When a student is observed demonstrating "Top Quality" behavior, they are awarded with a "Magnificent Mustang" Ticket. When your child comes home with a ticket, be sure to have them share how they earned the recognition!

We would like to thank Mrs. Thelma Moeller and the MES PTA for hosting the back-to-school Ice Cream Social at MES earlier in September. This was a fantastic evening for our students and their families. What a great way to kick-off the new school year! We encourage all of our parents and guardians to become actively involved with our PTA. Our September PTA meeting was very well attended. Our next meeting will be on November 18th at 7:00 PM in the Media Center. We hope to see you there!

We would also like to extend a special thank you to both Mr. Dennis Duerbeck, one of our evening custodians, and his wife Nadine for donating the American flag we are proudly displaying outside of MES. This flag flew at Fort McHenry on June 19th, 2009. We are very thankful for their kind donation.

Please visit the MES or CCPS website for a complete list of volunteer training dates. Please remember that all volunteers must participate in volunteer training seven (7) school days prior to volunteering or chaperoning a field trip. This window allows time for the screening process and data entry. Due to changing information and updates regarding Volunteer Program Standards and Safety and Security Issues, volunteers are required to attend annual training. Volunteer training may be obtained at any Carroll County Public School or sanctioned training location. All volunteer training from the 08-09 school year will remain valid until September 30th.

In addition to the training sessions listed on the CCPS Volunteer Training Schedule, the following training sessions will be offered at MES. Please note that these sessions are not posted on the CCPS master schedule. We will post more dates as the year progresses. Parents and guardians can attend any volunteer training session at any school in Carroll County to meet the requirement.

October 8th, 2009 @ 6:30 PM
October 22nd, 2009 @ 6:30 PM
November 5th, 2009 at 9:30 AM
November 18th, 2009 @ 6:30 PM

The Carroll County Health Department informed us this week that the supply of Flu Mist for grades 2-5 will not be received in time to continue our Flu Mist program originally scheduled for Thursday, September 24, 2009. The Health Department has been informed that it may be two weeks until the next shipment of Flu Mist is received. Please be assured that when the next supply is received, we will continue the Flu Mist program for the remaining students who are signed up to receive the vaccine. The remaining students will be vaccinated when the Carroll County Health Department receives the next shipment. We will inform you of the new schedule when we have more information.

CARROLL COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
ADA COMPLIANCE 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, MD 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 advance of the date the special accommodation is needed.

Homeroom Parents Needed - Update

We are currently looking for Homeroom Parents for two teachers: **Mrs. Blank and Ms. Dorsey**. This program was started last year and was a great success. Basically the Homeroom Parents work with the teachers on special events and projects. These events and projects often can be done at home and communications are usually done through e-mail. If interested and for more information please contact Karen Kohr at 410.552.6777 or skkohr@verizon.net.

Fall Fundraiser Reminder

Thank you so much to those of you who have already sent in monetary donations or Wolfgang orders. For those of you who have not been able to yet, please remember the fundraiser ends Friday, 9/25. All orders are due then, and can simply be sent in with your student to their HR teacher. This fundraiser helps MES students in many aspects, keeping our school current and allowing us to provide the best classrooms we can. Please support your students by participating in the fundraiser. As always, we appreciate your support! Any questions, please contact Dawn Bainbridge at dawnbainbridge@yahoo.com or Carolyn Boggs at carolyn@sligo.com.

Hello Prior Instrumental Music Parents!

If your son or daughter is now in middle or high school and is no longer playing his/her instrument, MES could benefit from the leftover items that may be hanging around your house. Things like cork grease, rosin, valve oil, slide grease, unused reeds, and even our band or strings book can be utilized by students. You can place items in Mrs. Anastasion's mailbox in the front office.

Volunteer Program - Making a Difference Together

Level II Volunteers (classroom helpers, tutors, chaperones, mentors, etc) are required to attend an annual training session at least seven (7) school days prior to volunteering. School Days are defined as days when schools are open for students. Many schools include volunteer training sessions with other school activities/events, so look for dates and times in school newsletters and e-school updates. Volunteer training obtained during the 2008-2009 school year is valid through September 30, 2009. Plan to attend a volunteer training session before October 1, 2009 to avoid a break in your volunteer service. Listed below are the training dates/times for Mechanicsville:

October 8th @ 6:30 p.m. October 22nd @ 6:30 p.m.
November 5th @ 9:30 a.m. November 18th @ 6:30 p.m.

Thanks in advance for supporting student achievement by volunteering in our schools. Additional information about the school system's volunteer program can be obtained by contacting Jane Farver, CCPS Volunteer Program Coordinator at ejfarve@carrollk12.org or 410-386-1536.

Cafeteria News

Please remember to return any borrowed lunch money the **NEXT SCHOOL DAY**.

Starting Monday, October 5th, the cafeteria will serve breakfast. The cost is \$1.25 and will be served from 8:15 to 8:30 a.m. in the cafeteria. Both breakfast and lunch menus for the month of October are included with this week's newsletter.

Cafeteria Lunch Menu: 9/28 – 10/02

Mon. 9/28 – NO SCHOOL

Tues. 9/29 – Chicken nuggets, baked beans, roll, applesauce, cookie

Wed. 9/30 – Hard/Soft taco with cheese, shredded lettuce, corn, fruit, pretzel twists

Thurs. 10/1 – Chicken patty on roll, vegetable soup, peaches, fruit juice bar

Fri. 10/2 – Cheese pizza or fiestada, tossed salad, fresh fruit, cookie

Important Dates

9/28: School Closed

10/8: Volunteer training at MES @ 6:30 p.m.

10/13 -26: Scholastic Book Fair

10/22: Volunteer training at MES @ 6:30 p.m.

10/26: Book Fair Family Night 4 – 7 p.m.

SEPT. 28 – OCT. 2ND IS A BLUE WEEK FOR SPECIALS

Parent Pick-Up/Drop-off Area

Please allow all delivery trucks into the dock area so they can make the deliveries. Thank you for your help.

News from the Media Center

Here are our subscription databases that we have subscribed to this year. Feel free to use the usernames and passwords to explore these websites with your child.

SIRS

<http://discoverer.sirs.com>

Username: MD13925

Password: elem

World Book

<http://online.k12.carr.org/worldbook/index.html>

Username: ccps

Password: media99

Culture Grams

<http://online.culturegrams.com>

Username: carrollcps

Password: carrollcps

Tumblebooks

<http://www.tumblebooks.com>

Username: Mechanicsville

Password: books

PebbleGo

<https://www.pebblego.com>

Username: mechanicsv

Password: school

We are also starting an online blog this year. Each fourth and fifth grade class has been introduced to the blog and every two weeks a new question will be posted. This is a great new way for kids to talk about books and learn from one another. When posting please have your child only use their first name for safety reasons. Also it asks for an email address – which is not published, but if you feel uncomfortable providing that, please use mine.

The web address for the blog is:

http://blogs.carrollk12.org/mes_media/

If you have any questions please let me know.

Stacey Kahler

Media Specialist

slkahle@k12.carr.org

Consent And Release - 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 relation 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 audiotape, 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.

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