



NEW WINDSOR MIDDLE SCHOOL

December-January 2011-2012

Mr. Erin Brillhart, Principal

Mrs. Linda E. Selby, Assistant Principal

Principal's Message

1000 Green Valley Road
New Windsor, MD 21776
Phone: 410-751-3355
Fax: 410-751-3358

Dear School Community,

With Thanksgiving Break having just passed, we are now well into the second marking period and getting ready for the winter season. During the first marking period New Windsor Middle students were involved in many activities to further their educational and personal experiences. Some of these activities included; The Northrop Grumman Engineering Program, Girls In Motion, a very successful canned food drive sponsored by SGA and the first Honors Reception of the school year.

American Education Week was a great success as a result of parent and grand-parent participation. Thank you for spending time with your child at school.

As winter arrives, we prepare for performance season with our Choral and Instrumental Music programs. Please check the dates for these programs and join us as we celebrate the students' hard work. The Chorus will participate in the annual Tree-Lighting Ceremony on December 7th. ___time___

Please mark your calendar for January 19, 2012. Many of our students will participate in a regional night at Francis Scott Key High School. The purpose of this night is to provide information about transitions between each grade as well as showcase our students' work. There is something for everyone; more information will be provided via Alert Now in January.

Sincerely,

Mr. Brillhart

MSA TESTING TIPS

Although MSA testing does not take place until March 2012, we are preparing students to be ready for the tests. In January we will begin working with students each week to increase test taking skills and provide test practice with feedback. This process will begin with students writing goals. It is extremely important for students to believe in themselves when undergoing standardized testing.

Please talk with your child about his/her goals and the variety of skills learned during these sessions.

Parent Conferences

Our last formal parent conference night is scheduled for January 11, 2012. Appointments can be requested from 4:30 – 7:45 PM. Please call the main office to make an appointment. If you are unable to attend, please feel free to contact your child's teacher to arrange a more convenient time.



Winter Weather

For the most accurate winter weather information:

www.carrollk12.org

WTTR 1470 AM

Dates To Remember:

December

- 6 Northrop Grumman After School Program 2:30-4:30 p.m.
- 7 SGA meets – 2:30-3:30
Tree Lighting _____
- 8 S.H.O.U.T. meets 2:30-3:30
- 12-16 Week Two – Outdoor School
- 12 Interims Distributed
- 16 School Dance – 2:30-4:30 p.m.
- 20 Northrop Grumman After School Program 2:30-4:30 p.m.
- 23 Early Dismissal – Dismissal at 11:45
- 26-30 Schools closed – Winter Holiday

January

- 2 School Closed – Winter Holiday
- 3 School Reopens
- 4 SGA meets – 2:30-3:30
- 11 Parent Conferences 4:30 -8:00 p.m. Call to schedule an appointment
- 12 Instrumental Music Concert 1:30 & 7:00 p.m.
- 12 S.H.O.U.T. meets 2:30-3:30
- 16 School Closed-Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday
- 17 Northrop Grumman After School Program 2:30-4:30 p.m.
- 19 Regional Night at Francis Scott Key High School
- 20 School Dance 2:30-4:30 p.m.**
- 24 Choral Music Concert
- 27 School Closed

OUTDOOR SCHOOL

6th Grade students will be attending Outdoor School right after the Thanksgiving break. Additional detailed information will be provided at a date closer to the event.

Week 1: Nov 28 – Dec 2

Week 2: Dec 5 – Dec 9

VOLUNTEERS



Volunteering is an excellent way for parents and family, community members, and business partners to build and strengthen ties with the Carroll County Public School System. Volunteers offer their time, effort, and/or talents to benefit all students in the school system.

CCPS Volunteer Program Guidelines outline consistent standards for volunteers. **Level I Volunteers** (guest readers, concession stand operators, business representatives, event ticket collectors, guest speakers, etc.) **must annually register at a school site before volunteering.** **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.**

Volunteer training sessions are held at schools and regional locations throughout the school year. By late summer, a comprehensive list of volunteer training sessions will be available by accessing the CCPS website (<http://www.carrollk12.org>), Channel 21, and local newspapers. Additional information may also be obtained by contacting Jane Farver, CCPS Volunteer Program Coordinator, at 410-386-1536 or ejfarve@k12.carr.org.

New Windsor Middle School will offer volunteer training at the following times:

Monday, January 11– 6:30 p.m.

THE SCHOOL COUNSELORS

Regional Evenings

There will be regional evenings for both the Southern and Northwest regions of the county this winter. Students from the southern part of the county, who will eventually transition on to South Carroll High, will have their evening at Century High on December 12th. Students who will continue on to Francis Scott Key will have their evening at FSK on January 19th.

Look for more information on FSK's Regional Evening after the Winter Break.

8th Grade to 9th Grade Transition Events / Dates to Know

SOUTH CARROLL-BOUND 8th GRADERS

Visit from SC Counselors to understand and begin course selections ~ January 18th

- Course Selection Forms go home to be viewed and completed with parent

SC 8th Grade Open House from 7-8pm on January 25th

- Course Selection Forms due to SCHS on Open House Night **OR** to Mrs. Hiner at NWMS no later than Feb. 6th

FSK-BOUND 8th GRADERS

NWMS Counselors help students understand and begin Course Selection Forms ~ January 19th

- Course Selection Forms will not go home, will be returned to FSK
- Parents and students will complete Forms at FSK Conference Evenings on Feb. 9th and 15th

FSK Scheduling Conference Evenings – February 9th and 15th

- Students will complete course selection process for 9th grade schedule

Parent Conference Evenings

Once again, counselors will be available during Evening Conferences in the Main Office with Parent Resources and to help with any questions parents may have.

Lunch & Learn Sessions

Lunch & Learns are held during one day's lunch periods as counselors see a need and students show an interest. Parents may contact counselors if they see a need from their own child for a particular topic.

MEDIA CENTER

Thank you to all of our students and families who came out to shop at our Book Fair October 17-20! It was a huge success! A big thank you to our PTO for giving each New Windsor student a \$7.00 coupon to purchase books at our Book Fair! We would not have been as successful if it weren't for our amazing volunteers who helped all week.

Thank you to...Rita Allen, Patti Rosenberg, Julie Berggren, Jennifer Alexander, Cindy Welker
Carol Norris, Mara Mullinix and Kirsten Evans

BAND NOTES

Students in the 7th and 8th grade band have been invited to perform at Runnymede Elementary School on Saturday December 10th for their Breakfast with Santa. Permission slips have gone out at this time.

Our Winter Concert is Thursday, January 12th, 2012 at 7:00 pm. Our dress for performances is a plain white shirt with a collar suitable for wearing a tie. Gentlemen need to wear black dress trousers and black socks. Ladies need to wear a plain black skirt that is knee length or longer and a neutral shade of hose, or black dress pants. The snow date for this performance is Tuesday, January 17th, 2012. This date is different than the one I sent home at the beginning of the year.

On Thursday, January 19th, 2012 we will be performing as part of the Francis Scott Key Night. Our students will join together with students from Elmer Wolfe, Taneytown, and Runnymede Elementary schools as well as Northwest Middle and FSK instrumental students. More information will come home at a later date.

VOCAL MUSIC

New Windsor Middle's choral ensemble will be performing for the town of New Windsor's Tree lighting Ceremony on Wednesday, December 7th at 6:00 p.m.

If your child is a chorus and/or ensemble member, please mark your calendars for this year's concert. Students will sing on Tuesday, January 24th at 1:30 and again at 7:00 p.m. Dress code for girls is "nice" dresses, skirts or slacks. (Any color) Boys should wear dress slacks (khakis) with a dress shirt and tie. No jeans, please! Ensemble members are requested to wear black bottoms and white tops.

This year's spring musical is Dear Edwina, Jr. Because this musical may be unfamiliar to students, we will do a read-thru on January 31st for interested students. Auditions will then be held on Thursday, February 2nd.

FROM THE HEALTH ROOM

Influenza is a viral infection of the lungs and airways that is also known as “the flu”

Anyone can get influenza. Influenza is spread from person to person through the air by coughing and sneezing or by direct contact with infected people or contaminated objects like door handles or computer keyboards.

Influenza and the common cold both have symptoms that affect the throat and nose, but Influenza symptoms are usually more severe than cold symptoms. These symptoms include a high fever, stuffy or runny nose, sore throat and cough. There may be headache, tiredness, body aches and chills as well. Stomach cramps and diarrhea are not typical symptoms of influenza.

For the quickest recovery from Influenza, get plenty of rest and drink fluids like juice, water, or hot tea. **Never give aspirin to children or teenagers who have flu-like symptoms-and particularly fever-without first speaking with the doctor. Do not give any medication including over-the-counter remedies to a child without first consulting with your pediatrician.**

Emergency warning signs that might need urgent medical attention include:

- High or prolonged fever
- Fast breathing or trouble breathing
- Bluish skin color
- Not drinking enough fluids (dehydration)
- Changes in mental status or seizures
- Flu-like symptoms improve but then return with fever and worse cough

**If you see these warning signs, seek medical care immediately.
Yearly vaccination is the most important way to prevent influenza.**

If soap and water are available, hands should be washed for 15-20 seconds. Hand sanitizers are acceptable alternatives for hand washing and students may carry their own hand sanitizer.

Remember not to send your child to school until they are fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medication.

Parents: Please remember to keep the Nurse aware of any new health problems that Your son or daughter may have in order for the Nurse to give the best health care possible.

Mrs. Melanie A. Imhoff RN

SCHOOL INFORMATION

ARRIVAL TIME:

Students need to be in their homerooms by **7:50** a.m. for morning announcements. Students arriving in homeroom after 7:50 a.m. will be marked tardy to school.

Parents who transport students to and from school are asked to use the north side of the school (facing Union Bridge). Students should **not arrive before 7:25 a.m.** Students will be unsupervised by school staff and will not be permitted into the building until the 7:25 a.m. bell rings.

ATTENDANCE:

Parents are reminded to call the school **by 8:00 a.m.** any day your child is absent. Before 7:30 a.m. call 410-751-3355 ext. 1263 and leave a message. An AlertNow phone call will be made to parents who have not notified the school of an absence.

State law requires documentation of a student's absence. You can send a note stating your child's full name, date(s) of absence and reason. A phone call or an email will also serve as documentation. If documentation is not received within 3 days of the absence; the absence will be coded as unexcused.

TARDINESS:

All students are expected to arrive on time. Students reporting after **7:50 a.m.** are tardy and must report to the main office for a late pass. A written note, signed by a parent, is required for all tardy students. Chronic tardiness will result in disciplinary consequences.

EARLY DISMISSAL:

Parents must send a written note requesting early dismissal. These notes must be brought to the main office **before** morning homeroom. A pass will be issued for the student to report to the main office to sign out before leaving school. **In case of an emergency,** parents may call the school to make an early dismissal request.

Students will **NOT** be excused to leave the school with anyone except the parent/legal guardian. Students needing to leave school with anyone else **must have written permission from the parent/legal guardian.** For safety reasons, authorized person(s) will be required to show proper identification when picking up a student.

VISITORS/VOLUNTEERS:

We welcome visitors to our school. Please remember that all visitors/volunteers are required to sign in at the Main Office and wear a visitor badge at all times. Visitors/volunteers must sign out in the office before leaving.

HOMEWORK REQUESTS:

Students are responsible for getting any missed assignments either from a classmate, the homework hotline or from their teachers upon return to school. If your child is absent from school for three or more days, you may make arrangements for homework by contacting the school office. Requests must be made before 8:00 a.m. and can be picked up between 2:30 – 3:30 p.m.

ALERTNOW

The Carroll County Public School System is using the AlertNow Rapid Communication Service to provide parents with information from their child's schools and the school system. AlertNow 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.

LEGAL CUSTODY OF CHILDREN:

It is extremely important to keep the school informed of any custody agreements concerning your child. An official court order or court document is required to establish guidelines for custody and/or restrictions. Please contact the school immediately if there is a change in the custody situation of your child.

ADDRESS & PHONE NUMBER CHANGES:

Please keep the school informed in writing any time there is a change in a home, cell, work phone number or email address. This up-to-date information is critical in case of an emergency. If you move during the school year, please notify the school in writing and provide proof of residence. The school counselor's office can assist you with the required documentation.

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.

LUNCH INFORMATION:

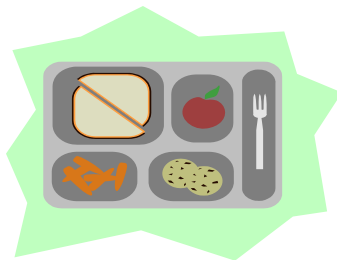
A variety of lunch options are available each day for students. The regular lunch is offered for \$2.25. Students may also choose from alternatives such as hamburgers or pizza, sold at the full lunch cost of \$2.25. Each regular lunch includes a vegetable, fruit, and milk. The cafeteria also offers additional menu items sold at an a la carte price. Students who bring their lunch from home can also buy milk as well as other items. Parents are encouraged to pre-pay the cost of student lunches. Checks should be made payable to New Windsor Middle School. Carroll County Public Schools also offers two different meal plans, an Annual Payment Meal Plan and an Installment Payment Plan. Forms for these two plans can be picked up in the front office. This will ensure that your child has money to pay for lunch, and also ensures that a healthy lunch is provided. Please contact Mrs. Cindy Summers, cafeteria manager, if you have any questions.

LUNCH CHARGES:

At times, middle school students forget to bring their lunch or lunch money. Through the generosity of the PTO, a small lunch fund has been set up. If a student needs to borrow lunch money, a charge slip will be given to him or her to take to the cafeteria. This lunch slip allows a student to buy a regular lunch only. Students who need to charge may not buy additional menu items. ***The \$2.25 charge must be re-paid the following school day, so that funds are available for other students. Until the charge has been paid, the student cannot borrow again without permission from Mr. Brillhart or Mrs. Selby.***

FREE AND REDUCED MEAL PROGRAM:

Applications for free and reduced meals are accepted at any time throughout the year. Please contact Mrs. Selby, Assistant Principal, with any questions.



Battle of the Books Competition

Sponsored by the Taneytown Branch of the Carroll County Public Library

What: Battle of the Books

When: April 20, 2012 from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Where: Taneytown Branch of the Carroll County Public Library

Who: Book competition between Northwest students and New Windsor students

Why: To encourage students to read this year's Black eye Susan nominated books. Students will read the books and form teams of 6-8 students. The teams will work throughout the year questioning each other to prepare for the competition in April. Each team will have a parent or teacher to coach and encourage them to do their best. Students will meet monthly to prepare and practice. Teams must be formed by February 1st.

Other ways students can participate

POSTER CONTEST

Students can work individually or with a partner to produce a poster advertising one of the Black eyed Susan nominated books. The posters must be at least 12 in. by 18 in. and no larger than 18 in. by 24 in. The poster must include the title and author of the book and must entice someone to want to read your book. Put your name, school, and grade on the back of the poster. Posters will be due to Mrs. Fuhrman no later than March 16, 2012.

BOOK TRAILER CONTEST

Students can create a movie trailer of one of the Black eyed Susan nominated books. The trailer should be no more than 4 minutes long. It must include the title and author of the book. Including a photo of the cover of the book in the trailer would be helpful. Be sure that the credits are added at the end of the trailer. Only non-copyrighted material may be used to create the book trailer. Suggested movie-producing software programs students could use are *Windows Movie Maker* or *Microsoft PhotoStory 3*. The book trailer must be saved on a CD or DVD and be able to be viewed using Windows Media Player. All book trailers are due to Mrs. Fuhrman by March 16, 2012.

Prizes and Trophies will be awarded to the winners of the Battle of the Books. Prizes will also be awarded to winners of the Poster and Book Trailer Contests.

_____ has permission to participate in the Battle of the Books on April 20 from 6-8pm at the Taneytown Branch of the Carroll County Public Library. I will provide transportation to and from the event on April 20.

_____ I can volunteer to be a coach

A coach meets with it's team at least once a month at school or at the public library helping them quiz each other about the books and comes to the Battle of the Books to encourage their team.

_____ I can provide refreshments (Prepackaged cookies, chips, or pretzels). They can be brought to the school by April 13.

_____ I can contribute a prize (gift card) or money to help pay for prizes (They can be brought to school by March 15.)

Parent's Name Printed

Parent's Signature

Parent's Phone number or email: _____ Date: _____

ADA ACCESSIBILITY STATEMENT

The Carroll County Public Schools (CCPS) does not discriminate on the basis of disability in employment or the provision of services, programs or activities. 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, may 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.

Information concerning the Americans with Disabilities Act is available from the Director of Facilities or the Supervisor of Community and Media Relations.

Raymond Prokop
Director of Facilities
125 North Court Street
Westminster, Maryland 21157
(410) 751-3177

Carey Gaddis
Supervisor of Community & Media Relations
125 North Court Street
Westminster, Maryland 21157
(410) 751-3020

NOTICE OF NON-DISCRIMINATION

The Carroll County Public Schools (CCPS) does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, ancestry or national origin, religion, sex, disability, or age in its programs and activities. The CCPS provides nondiscriminatory access to school facilities in accordance with its policies and regulations regarding the community use of schools (including, but not limited to, the Boy Scouts). The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies:

Gregory J. Bricca
Director of Research and Accountability
125 North Court Street
Westminster, Maryland 21157
410-751-3068