

HAWK HAPPENINGS

Runnymede Elementary November 2011

Tammy M. Richards, Principal
Debra H. Benner, Assistant Principal
<http://www.carrollk12.org/rue/>

The mission of Runnymede Elementary School is for staff and parents to take responsibility for building a foundation for students to become lifelong learners, while supporting differences to meet the needs of the community.

Dear Runnymede Families:

As the weather cools down, activities are heating up at Runnymede Elementary! Thanks to all the parents who have already joined us for Parent Conferences and we are looking forward to meeting with even more this month.

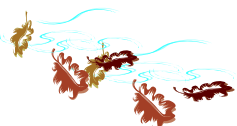
Parents do make a difference in their children's education and here is another way for you to get involved. Please plan to visit your child's classroom during **American Education Week, November 14th through November 18th**. Parents are welcome on any of the days. As always, thank you for beginning your visit by stopping in the office to **sign in and get a visitor's badge**. To limit classroom disruptions, we ask that you do not bring your preschool children with you when you visit. If you cannot join us during that week, you are welcome to visit the school whenever your schedule allows. ***** If you would like to join your child for lunch during the visit and would like to purchase an adult lunch from the cafeteria, we ask that you phone the office the morning of the visit and place your order.*****

- On **Wednesday, November 9**, all students in grades 1-5 will be bringing home their first **report card*** of the school year. Parents can use the report card as a positive learning experience. Just remember the three "P"s:
- **Preparation.** Before the report card comes home, ask your child, "What do you think your report card will tell us?" Then let your child tell you if he expects any problems.
- **Perspective.** A report card is just one small measure of your child. A child who gets all "A"s still has plenty to learn. A child with poor grades still has plenty of strengths.
- **Positive Action.** Think of the report card as a chance to take positive action. Find something to praise. Then focus on areas that can lead to improvement. Ask how you can help.

***Please note:** Kindergarten children only receive report cards in January and June.

Working together, we can improve student learning and make school a positive and productive place for each child.

Wishing you and your family a wonderful Thanksgiving!



Sincerely,

Tammy M. Richards
Debra H. Benner

Calendar of Events November - December 2011

| | |
|------------------|--|
| Nov 1 | PTO Fundraiser- Salsaritas |
| Nov 3 | Early Dismissal Day -1:00 pm |
| Nov 3 | Marking Period Ends |
| Nov 4 | Spirit Day! |
| Nov 4 | 5 th Grade Field Trip-Philadelphia 6:30 am – 6:00 pm |
| Nov 6 | Daylight Savings Time Ends |
| Nov 7-11 | Project Linus Week |
| Nov 8 | Student Banking |
| Nov 9 | Report Cards Go Home |
| Nov 9 | Parent Conferences 4:15-7:45 pm |
| Nov 9 | Volunteer Training -6:30 pm- Media |
| Nov 10 | Veterans' Luncheon & Celebration |
| Nov 11 | Project Linus assembly |
| Nov 13-19 | American Education Week |
| Nov 14 | Early Dismissal Day -1:00 pm |
| Nov 14-18 | School Psychology Week |
| Nov 15 | Parent Conferences 4:15-7:45 pm |
| Nov 15 | Volunteer Training -6:30 pm- Media |
| Nov 17 | 4 th Grade Field Trip-Science Center |
| Nov 17 | PTO Fundraiser- Chick-Fil-A |
| Nov 17 | 3 rd Grade Musical- 7:00 pm |
| Nov 18 | Yankee Candle Fundraiser pick-up 5-8 pm- Cafeteria |
| Nov 21 | Parent Conferences 4:15-7:45 pm |
| Nov 21 | Volunteer Training -6:30 pm- Media |
| Nov 22 | Student Banking |
| Nov 23-25 | Schools/Offices Closed- Thanksgiving Holiday |
| Nov 28 | Market Day pick-up 7-8 pm- Cafeteria |
| Nov 30 | PTO Meeting-7pm- Media Center |
| Dec 2 | Spirit Day! |
| Dec 5-9 | National Inclusive Schools Week |
| Dec 7 | PTO Fundraiser-Country Kitchen- 4-8 pm |
| Dec 9 | Early Dismissal Day (1:00) |
| Dec 10 | PTO Holiday Breakfast |
| Dec 12 | Interim Reports sent home |
| Dec 13 | Student Banking |
| Dec 15 | PTO Fundraiser- Chick-Fil-A |
| Dec 23 | Early Dismissal Day (1:00) |
| Dec 24- Jan 2 | Schools/ Offices Closed- Winter Holiday |

Welcome New Students!

Pre-K
Brooke Barbour

Fifth Grade
Steven Keeney

Second Grade
Kaylee Marinelli
Hailey Strine



Presidential Academic Fitness Award Criteria 2011-12

All elementary principals will use the following criteria for the 2011-12 school year:

- Grade 4 MSA - ADVANCED in either reading or math
- Math Benchmarks – 90% on each subtest (not average) in January and spring **grade 4** and January **grade 5**
- Grade Point Average– 3.5 G.P.A. (Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies) for **all of grade 4** and the first two marking periods in **grade 5**

Emergency Cards

If you have an update for your child's emergency card (new phone number, new contact person, etc.), please put it in writing and send it into school. This will help us immensely if we need to contact you in case of an emergency. Thank you!

Volunteers

Per CCPS volunteer guidelines, if you volunteer in a Runnymede Elementary classroom, please remember not to bring small children with you. Small children can be distracting in the classroom. Also, our workroom has various types of equipment, which can be unsafe for small children. We appreciate all your hard work and hope you understand that safety is our number one priority.

2011-2012 School Calendar Early Dismissal Dates

Please take notice of the nine (9) early dismissals, which are built into this year's calendar. The following dates are scheduled to have **2 hour and 45 minute early dismissal (1:00)**:

| | |
|--------------------|--------------------------|
| November 3 | System-Wide |
| November 14 | System-Wide |
| December 9 | Elementary Students Only |
| December 23 | System-Wide |
| February 10 | Elementary Students Only |
| March 5 | System-Wide |
| May 11 | Elementary Students Only |
| June 14 | System-Wide |

****There will be no Pre-K on these dates.**

MSA

Please place our testing dates on your calendar and avoid planning activities during testing.

The Reading and Math Maryland School Assessments (MSA) will be given to students in **grades 3, 4, and 5 on March 14, 15, 20 and 21**. The Science MSA will be given to students in **grade 5 on from April 16th - May 4th**. In planning ahead, please do not plan appointments or vacations during this time.

Report Cards

Here are a few suggestions that may help you and your child use the information on the report card to improve his/her progress.

- ❖ **Set aside time to talk** with your child. Ask your child why she thinks she earned the grades she did. It is important to help her to see the connection between the things she did and the grades she earned.
- ❖ **Ask your child** whether he did his best. What is important is not that your child be the best, but that he did his best.

- ❖ **If grades are unexpectedly low**, you may need to talk to the teacher. Now is the time to find out about, and correct, any problems that may be interfering with your child's learning.
- ❖ **If the report card** is disappointing, try to find something positive to say. Children need to know that they are loved even when they make mistakes.
- ❖ **Set specific goals** for the next grading period. Help your child make plans to improve in at least one area. Write out an action plan to achieve the goals.

Remember to keep in mind the ultimate purpose of any report card. It is meant to communicate to student and parent how the student has progressed during a specific marking period. While the report card is designed to communicate information, there may still be areas that need further explanation. If you feel that you are still unclear regarding your child's progress, please make sure you contact the school for a conference.

From the Health Room

Mrs. Mayne

I just wanted to review a couple of Carroll County Public School health policies:

1. If your child has a fever of 100 degrees or greater, they cannot return to school until they are fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever reducers such as Tylenol or Motrin.
2. If students are found to have evidence of a lice infestation, they will be sent home for treatment. Once treated, they can be driven to school and MUST show proof of treatment (empty bottle, box, etc.). The nurse will check them upon their return. They can return with nits, but removal of nits will help ensure against re-infestation. They will be rechecked in 7 -10 days to make sure there is no evidence of re-infestation. If there is a NEW infestation, they will be sent home again.

The cold and flu season is rapidly approaching. Please consult your child's doctor regarding flu shots to protect your child this year if they didn't receive the Flu-Mist through the school in October. Please consider getting one for yourself as well.

A number of parents have needed to be called to provide additional clothing for their children who had had torn clothing, large food/drink spills or bathroom accidents. Please send a weather appropriate change of clothing for your child to keep in their locker so we will not have to call you at work. Even older children occasionally have the need to change their clothing, and the clothing supply at school is minimal.

Also, if your child has outgrown sweatpants which are still in good shape, please consider donating them to the health room. We try to keep a small supply on hand in case of emergencies.

For your child's safety, please be sure they are wearing sneakers or other appropriate closed toe shoes with non-skid soles while in school.



Bullying

Carroll County Public Schools has taken a strong stance against bullying, harassment, or any act of intimidation in the schools. The State Legislature passed the Safe Schools Reporting Act of 2005 which provides parents, students and close adult relatives the opportunity to file a written report about bullying or intimidation that occurs on school property or a school sponsored event. The following definition helps clarify what bullying, harassment, or intimidation is:

Harassment and intimidation (bullying) means conduct, including verbal conduct, that creates a hostile educational environment by substantially interfering with a student's education benefits, opportunities, or performance, or with a student's physical or psychological well-being, and is motivated by an actual or a perceived personal characteristic such as race, national origin, marital status, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, or disability or is threatening or seriously intimidating.

If a student, parent or close adult relative reports an act of intimidation, harassment or bullying, he/she will be asked to fill out a form. School staff may assist in completing the form, if needed. Administrators will investigate the situation as they

have in the past and report their findings to the Central Office.

Reports can be found in our school office or on the CCPS Website. If you have any questions regarding the reporting of these incidents, please contact Mrs. Richards or Mrs. Benner at the school or Dana Falls, the Director of Student Services at 410-751-3120.

IMPORTANT

Over the past several years much emphasis has been put on the importance of setting high standards for academic excellence. In January 2002, President Bush signed into law the “No Child Left Behind Act.” The central feature of this law requires the states to adopt a specific approach to testing and accountability, intended to lead to higher achievement for all children. This federal law required changes at the state level, which in turn required Maryland educator to revamp the Maryland School Assessment Program.

As part of its new assessment program, Maryland instituted a new look at achievement levels of early readers (students in grades Kindergarten through Third Grade).

At the County level, administrative procedures have been established to guide the implementation of new Board of Education policy that deals with the placement, promotion, intervention and retention of students. Implementation of this policy for grades 1, 2, and 3 reads as follows:

“Grades 1, 2, and 3: To be promoted to the next grade, students must be approaching, at, or above grade level in reading as measured by a Rigby Reading Assessment and another reading assessment instrument, such as Advancing Early Literacy or CTBS.

- A student who is more than one year below grade level in reading will be retained.
- If the student attends a summer school reading program and reaches the approaching, at, or above grade level equivalent in reading, he/she will be promoted.”

“Grades 4 and 5: To be promoted to the next grade, students must pass Integrated Language Arts (ILA) and math.

- A student who fails ILA and/or math for the year (as determined by the average of the

grades over the four marking periods) will be retained.

- If the student attends summer school and satisfactorily completes the course(s) which were failed, he/she will be promoted.”

Students who are at risk of not meeting this criteria will be provided with an intervention program prior to being considered for retention.

If you have any questions, please contact and/or discuss this with your child’s teacher.



ATTENTION: ALL STUDENTS!!!

GOOD REASONS WHY ATTENDANCE COUNTS!!!

1. You can’t learn what is being taught if you’re not here!
2. It may be hard to understand what’s going on when you return, because the teacher can’t always re-teach the entire lesson just for you. You may get the big points, but miss lots of the helpful and interesting details. It’s like watching a movie, leaving in the middle, and then trying to figure out the ending.
3. Your friends miss you when you’re not here!
4. Your teachers and other staff members miss you when you aren’t in school.
5. Being late to school, or absent from school a lot, starts a habit that is hard to break. When you grow up, it will be pretty hard to find a boss who doesn’t mind his employees being late or not showing up for work. Develop responsible behaviors now and they’ll stay with you!
6. Being in school on time every day that you are healthy shows that you respect yourself

and are determined to get a good education in order to have a good future.

7. It's the law! You may only stay home for sickness, emergencies, religious holidays, or when the principal approves a request from your parents. Staying home because you're tired or it's your birthday is not a reason.



REGIONAL VOLUNTEER TRAINING SCHEDULE

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.**

| | | |
|---------------|------------------------|---------|
| Nov 2 | Spring Garden Elem | 7:00 pm |
| Nov 8 | Spring Garden Elem | 7:30 am |
| Nov 8 | Oklahoma Road Middle | 6:00 pm |
| Nov 9 | Runnymede Elementary | 6:30 pm |
| Nov 10 | Cranberry Station Elem | 6:00 pm |
| Nov 10 | West Middle School | 6:30 pm |
| Nov 15 | Mt. Airy Middle | 6:00 pm |
| Nov 15 | Runnymede Elementary | 6:30 pm |
| Nov 16 | Eldersburg Elementary | 9:30 am |
| Nov 16 | Mechanicsville Elem | 6:30 pm |
| Nov 16 | Mt. Airy Elementary | 6:30 pm |
| Nov 21 | Runnymede Elem | 6:30 pm |
| Nov 21 | Northwest Middle | 7:00 pm |
| Nov 22 | Elmer Wolfe Elem | 7:00 pm |

For a more complete list please refer to the Carroll County Public School website. Also, check with the training location to verify there have been no changes in the schedule.

PTO Highlights

Michele Patterson
PTO President

WOW! The PTO would like to thank everyone who supported our Yankee Candle Fundraiser. We

were able to raise \$7400.00, our goal was \$5500.00. We had 142 families help us reach our goal. The proceeds raised are used to help fund our budget, family social events, and assemblies for our students. This year we will be raising money to help the school purchase a new sound system. This is a very costly item, so it may take several years before it can be purchased.

I wanted to update you on our Market Day fundraising totals. In October our school earned \$127.53, so far this year we have raised 233.74. We had a total of 20 customers that purchased product. Market Day pick up will be on Friday November 4 and November 28.

The PTO would like to thank everyone who attended the Fall Fest social event. It was a success and everyone had a wonderful time!! We would especially like to thank all of our volunteers who worked really hard to make this event happen. Thank you for taking the time to complete the surveys; we use this information to help us plan future events.

Survey forms went home in your children's take home folder asking for feedback on Yankee Candle, upcoming consignment sale and ideas for a spring fundraiser. Please take the time to fill these out, we value your opinion and suggestions.

Don't miss our General PTO Meeting on November 30 @ 7:00 pm. Cyd Pecoraro, our Reading Specialist will be there to share information on helping our children become better readers. This is something you don't want to miss!

NEW SPIRIT WEAR!!!! Place your order before it's too late! Deadline to order is **November 4th**. Send your order form back to school or order online at www.teamzila.com/runnymede

Country Kitchen in Taneytown has offered to help us with our monthly restaurant fundraiser. Country Kitchen will be opening the restaurant for Runnymede families on Wednesday, December 7th from 4 to 8 pm. You will be able to dine in or carry out. Please come out and join us!

Thank you for your support!

Important dates to remember

November 1 – Salsarita's restaurant fundraiser (11 am-9 pm)

November 4 - Market Day pick up at 7:00 pm (Friday)-in the cafeteria

November 4 - Spirit Wear orders due

November 17 - Chick-Fil-A restaurant fundraiser-valid all day

November 18 - Yankee Candle pick-up from 5-8 pm in the cafeteria

November 28 - Market Day pick up at 7:00 pm (Monday)- in the cafeteria
November 30 - General PTO Meeting at 7:00 pm in the Media Center
December 7 - Country Kitchen restaurant fundraiser from 4:00 pm- 8:00 pm
December 10 - Save the date!
Look for information coming soon about the Warm Holiday Breakfast and Craft making event.

CARROLL COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS **ADA ACCESSIBILITY 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. Persons needing auxiliary aids and services for communications 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 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, MD 21157, (410)751-3177, Carey Gaddis, Supervisor of Community and Media Relations, 125 North Court Street, Westminster, Maryland 21157, (410)751-3020.

Notice of Non-Discrimination

The Carroll County Public Schools (CCPS) is firmly committed to creating equal employment and educational opportunities for all persons with regard to its employment practices and in the provisions of services, programs, and activities.

The CCPS does not discriminate on the basis of age, color, genetic information, marital status,

mental or physical disability, ancestry or national origin, race, religion, sex, or sexual orientation. The CCPS provides non-discriminatory 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.

Cafeteria News

Mrs. Farkas

Important Information for Parents Pre Paying for Meals

- **You are actually purchasing meals, breakfast is \$1.25, and Lunch is \$2.00, please write on your check which type of meal you are buying.**
- **The money you are sending in is not an account to be used as needed**
- **Meals may be purchased in increments of 5 or more, but no more than 30 at a time please.**

As a convenience to our Parents, please remember that you may purchase meals direct from the Cafeteria either daily or in advance. Advance meal purchases are most helpful to avoid the lost and forgotten money, and they help to speed up our lunch lines too! We accept cash or personal checks. For advance meals please make the check amount for an exact number of meals you wish to purchase, as it is sometimes difficult to return change to the students, (example: 20 meals x \$2.00 = \$40.00). Advanced Meals may be purchased in increments of 5 but no more than 20 at a time per child. Parents, it's important to remember and understand that when you send money into the cafeteria that you are actually **purchasing meals** and **not** sending money into an account, for the student to use as needed. Please indicate on your check or in a note, if you are purchasing advance Breakfast or Lunches, due to the difference in price. Reduced meals may be purchased in advance as well. Meals once purchased are **non-refundable** and cannot be switched to a different type of meal (example: Lunch credits cannot be used for Breakfast or snack). Please give me a call if you

have questions, I will be happy to help! Please use the form included below to place your order.

Elementary Prepaid Meal Form
(Limit – 20 meals per line)

Student's Name _____

Student's Grade _____

Regular Lunch _____ x \$2.00 = \$ _____

Reduced Lunch _____ x \$.40 = \$ _____

Regular Breakfast _____ x \$1.25 = \$ _____

Reduced Breakfast _____ x \$.30 = \$ _____

(Only available at breakfast serving schools)

Prepaid meals purchased are non-refundable and are not carried over from year-to-year. Your child's cafeteria manager will take reasonable care to prevent a large number of unused prepaid meals for your child.

2012 Carroll County Chamber of Commerce Outstanding Teacher Awards

The Carroll County Chamber of Commerce would like to reach out to all the students, parents, peers and school administrators and encourage them to nominate a deserving teacher for one of the eight awards given at the Outstanding Teacher Awards.

Attached to this newsletter you will find the Outstanding Teacher Awards Nomination Form. If you would like to nominate a deserving teacher please complete this form and return it to the Carroll County Chamber of Commerce at the mailing address on the bottom of the form.

The Carroll County Chamber of Commerce and Carroll County Public Schools have worked together for over Twenty-three years to recognize our county's teachers for the work they do! The awards reception will be on March 28, 2012 at Winters Mill High School. These eight teachers become candidates for CCPS's Carroll County Teacher of the Year.

Soaring Toward A Bright Tomorrow

