



Bobcat Bulletin

September
2018

Mr. Kirby Bryson, Principal
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Principal's Corner

The new school year is here and I welcome all of our new and returning families to Delmar Elementary School. Hopefully, the summer months have been filled with fun and excitement and the children are relaxed and energized for another exciting school year.

Our administrative team, along with our entire staff, are excited for the new school year. Throughout the year, I will continue to share my leadership vision with our staff, students, and parents. I firmly believe that schools should not only have a strong educational program that meets all student's needs, but one that focuses on developing positive relationships among staff, students, and parents. In order for our students to be successful, we all must work together. I also believe in strong communication between the school and home and welcome our families to be involved in the school in any way they can. If at any time you have questions, concerns, or good news to share, please do not hesitate to stop by the school, email, or call me.

Over the summer, we were able to review student data and I am extremely proud of the work that our students and staff accomplished last year. Instruction and curriculum continue to change and our teachers and students have the monumental task of meeting the state and county expectations. The tasks in front of us will be challenging but with your support, we will meet these challenges.

As we look forward to the 2018-2019 school year, teachers will continue to focus on analyzing student data to monitor progress towards meeting the Maryland College and Career Readiness Standards. Students in grades K-4 will expand on implementing the EM4 math series and we will have a much greater focus on writing in all grade levels.

I appreciate those families that have stopped in over the summer to see us and I look forward to those that I will meet throughout the year. Please take the opportunity to say hello at our Back to School Night on September 11th.

Please feel free to contact me if I can assist you in any way throughout the school year.

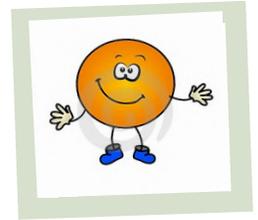
Facebook:
www.facebook.com/wcboedes

Website: <http://deswcboe.org>



New Faces In Our Building

We have a few new faces at Delmar Elementary School this year. We are pleased to welcome the following new staff members to our teaching team; Ashley Mallory (2nd grade), Hayley Barlow (2nd Grade), Caitlin Trombetta (2nd grade), Juli Bradford (PE), Stephanie Rush (Music), Aje Bramble, (Music-B-day), and Stacy Trader (Math PD Coach). We also are pleased to welcome the following new staff to our support team; Matt Bell (SPED IA), Shannon Rathel (SPED IA), Noreen Wagner (SPED IA), DeAngelo Contee (SPED 1:1), and Andrew Wilkinson (SPED 1:1).



Please take the opportunity to stop by and make them feel a part of the Delmar family.

Back to School Night

On Tuesday, September 11th please join us for Back to School Night from 5:30-7:00 PM. The evening is planned as our opening PTA meeting with the introduction of our new executive team and presentation of our annual events.

Following the business meeting, teachers will conduct two presentations (6:00-6:25, 6:35-7:00) in their classrooms focusing on the curriculum and classroom procedures and expectations. This will allow parents an opportunity to visit other classrooms or grade levels if you have more than one child enrolled at Delmar. Unfortunately, time will not allow for teachers to conduct individual conferences during this time but time will be allotted at the October PTA meeting.



Needed Documents

Personal Data Sheet—NEW PROCEDURE THIS YEAR

In order to reduce the amount of paperwork that parents are asked to complete during the first week of school, we will be sending a copy of the most recent data form that we have on file and ask that you just update any addresses, phone numbers, emergency contacts, etc. directly on the form. Please remember to sign the data form and return to your child's teacher. If no changes are needed, please just sign and return.

Please remember if changes occur throughout the year, you are required to notify the office and complete a new data form. Also, when changes regarding guardianship and other legal matters are involved, copies of court orders must be supplied to the school immediately. The school cannot honor any changes of this nature unless the proper legal documentation is in hand.

School Meal Benefit Application

Included with information being sent home this week is the Student Meal Benefit Application form. It is imperative that each family complete the form as guidelines have changed which may make families now eligible.

Please return the completed application to the school by September 14th.

All information you provide is strictly confidential.

Car Rider Drop-off & Dismissal Procedures



Drop Off: In the Car Loop Off of Foskey Lane Only!

- Parents are asked to use the east and middle lanes in the south parking lot to form lines for drop off. Vehicles will alternately take turns to move toward the drop off area along the sidewalk. Cars are to move as far forward as possible, making room for as many other vehicles as they can. Staff will then receive your children from the vehicle. **Please only allow your children to open and exit from car doors along the sidewalk. Never allow your child to exit the car from a door on the parking lot side or in a lane of traffic.**
- Follow all traffic laws on streets surrounding the school. Reports have been made that cars are double parked on Foskey Lane before entering the parking lot. This is blocking traffic on Foskey Lane. Also, some east bound traffic is cutting across the line of cars waiting to enter the lot. Obviously, these are illegal maneuvers and drivers need to follow all traffic laws for their own safety and the safety of others. Please adhere to all traffic laws.
- **Do not drop students off on Second Street.** The only drop off location is in the drop off circle as described above and located off of Foskey lane.
- **If you wish to enter the building with your child in the morning please use the parking spaces designed for visitors in front of the school. Please do not occupy these very limited spaces to use as a drop off area as traffic is already congested on our narrow road in front of the school and will greatly inconvenience families in need of entering the building. Please note all traffic signs along Second Street** as the Wicomico County Sheriff's Department has communicated that they will be monitoring these areas throughout the year.
- **Never let your child out in the street or allow them to cross the street. This is an accident waiting to happen. Use the drop off circle off of Foskey Lane for all student drop off in the morning.**

Dismissal:

- All students who are "car riders" will be dismissed to the "circle", off of Foskey Lane in the south parking lot, where they will meet their parents waiting in their cars to be dismissed.
- Students will not be dismissed from the car rider area or off of a bus to a parent who walks up to get their child without being notified by the school office. Parents will be asked to report to the office first, at which time the office personnel will notify faculty members supervising the car rider or bus area of the change. **Please do not go to the car rider or bus area to retrieve your child. Your child will come to you in the office after they are signed out.**
- **If a child is to be dismissed any other way on a given day than the way they normally go home from school, parents will need to send a letter or note to school that morning with your child outlining the dismissal changes to be made for that day.** For safety purposes we will **not accept phone calls or emails to change up a student's dismissal once the day has started.** Do not email teachers or office staff with this request as they may not have an opportunity to check their email throughout the course of the day and prior to dismissal. Please remember to **plan ahead and send a note in on the morning of your requested dismissal change. Anyone other than the custodial parent picking a student up from the main office must be named in this note and have a valid form of identification to show before signing out a student. They should also be listed as an emergency contact on the personal data form.**
- **The North parking lot behind the school is not to be used for student pickup.** Please do not park in this area to sign students out of the building. Bicycle riders and staff exiting the lot are at risk with the narrow passage and potentially congested traffic area.
- Parents wishing to enter the building to pick up their child will need to **sign them out first in the cafeteria. Parents are to wait in the cafeteria** for their child to be called after they have signed them out. **Please do not block the hallways during our bus and car rider dismissal times as this hinders passage ways and teacher monitoring of their students.**

Car Rider Dismissal Tags



In order to expedite our car rider dismissal and maintain the safety of our students, we will once again utilize a car tag system for students who will be car riders each day. The procedures are listed below.

- Parents must complete a CAR RIDER INFORMATION FORM and return it to the school by September 4th so that your child will be able to be picked up in the car rider circle on the first day of school. The office is open between 7:45 AM-3:15 PM daily for your convenience. The form may also be brought to the registration table at open house on Aug. 30th.
- All car riders in your family must be included on the same form so they are assigned the same ID number.
- Each parent/guardian may receive up to 2 color-coded rearview mirror car tags at no cost for their family and each student will be given one backpack tag. Each tag will have a matching ID number to identify your child/family. **TAGS ARE RED THIS YEAR—PLEASE DISCARD ALL YELLOW TAGS USED LAST YEAR.**
- Parents/guardians wishing to purchase additional tags for other family/friends may do so at a cost of \$3.00 per tag. Parents must also list these individuals on the WCBOE Emergency Data Form.

Daily Procedures:

- Upon entering the car rider area each day, the car tag must be placed on the rearview mirror of the vehicle. Students must keep their backpack tag attached in a visible location.
- As cars approach the student pick-up area, a staff member will alert the student(s) by calling his/her tag number and children will be monitored by an adult as they walk to your car. Parents are asked to remain in their cars and not signal for their child to come to them so that the flow of traffic can continue.
- Students should exit and enter on the right side of the car to avoid walking into traffic.
- As in the past, we ask that all cars turn right out of the parking lot, so a back-up does not occur.

Additional Information:

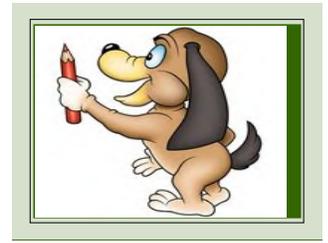
- Please keep car tags in a safe place for daily use. **Cars without rearview mirror tags will have to park and report to the cafeteria to pick-up your child.**
- Parents who must pick students up early from school must still report to the main office to sign the student out.
- Daycare providers who pick up children from multiple families each day will be provided with a car tag that lists all ID numbers of children they have permission to pick up. This is only done after documentation is provided by the parent.
- If you lose your car tag or your child loses their backpack tag, it must be replaced at a cost of \$3.00 each.
- Failure to replace lost tags will result in you having to sign out your child each day from the cafeteria.
- Parents/Individuals will only be permitted to pick up children with matching car/backpack tags. If a parent wants another car rider parent to pick up their child, a note must be sent to school. We ask that this not occur often.

Student Handbook

Please take some time to read the updated Student Handbook for the 2018– 2019 school year. This booklet will serve as an information source and hopefully answer questions you may have regarding school or county practices and procedures. Please feel free to call the office should you need clarification or have questions regarding a topic that may not be listed in our handbook.



Attendance, Tardies, and Early Dismissals



Attendance

It is extremely important that good attendance habits form early, beginning in pre-kindergarten. There is distinct research showing the fact that higher student achievement is directly linked to good attendance. Therefore, we are asking that all students be at school each day possible.

We do recognize that children get severe colds, flu, ear infections, and other childhood ailments that prevent them from attending school. In those cases, we ask that a written note be sent to school explaining the absence or send in a doctor's note if your child is seen by a pediatrician or dentist. You will receive an absence call from the Wicomico County Board of Education each day your child is absent from school. Also, Mrs. Basch, our Home School Liaison, will be contacting families when a child is absent for three or more days in a row.

Tardies

Any student arriving to school after 8:15 AM or 12:15 PM (afternoon Pre-K) must be signed in at the office. Students will not be permitted to enter their classroom without a tardy slip.

Student Dismissal:

Notes are required for students who are to go home in a different way from how they arrived to school and for any child being picked up that is not normally a car rider. This is necessary for all students' safety as we are unable to take a student's word. Also, if your child will be leaving for an appointment, please send in a note regarding who will be responsible for picking them up from school. No phone call requests will be granted.

AHERA Policy

In October 1986, the U.S. Congress enacted the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA). Under this law, comprehensive regulations were developed to address asbestos problems in public and private elementary and secondary schools. These regulations require most schools to inspect for friable and non-friable asbestos, develop asbestos management plans that address asbestos hazards in school buildings and implement response actions in a timely manner.

These regulations assign schools many new responsibilities. Our program for fulfilling these responsibilities is outlined in our asbestos management plan. This plan contains information on our inspections, reinspections, response actions and post-response action activities, including periodic surveillance activities that are planned or are in progress.

You can review this plan during normal business hours without cost or restriction.

If you have any questions about reviewing our management plan please contact:

Blair Todd at (410) 677-4411
(WCBOE Designated Person for AHERA)

INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT PROGRAM



Dear Parent/Guardian or Staff Member:

Legislation was passed in 1998 which requires public schools to adopt Integrated Pest Management (IPM) plan and to develop parental and staff notification programs by the 1999-2000 school year for any school that applies pesticides in school buildings during the school year. In addition, legislation was passed in 1999 which requires public schools to expand the IPM plan to include parental and staff notification for pesticide applications made to school grounds during the school year.

At the beginning of each school year, each school must notify all parents/guardians, staff, and new students, regarding the Wicomico County Board of Education Integrated Pest Management Plan.

A. *What is the Integrated Pest Management Plan?*

Integrated Pest Management, or IPM, is a plan of controlling pests that does not depend on automatic application of pesticides. Instead, pests are monitored by regular and careful inspections. The inspections also identify conditions contributing to pest problems. It is then decided what actions are necessary, if any, based on the biology and habits of the pests involved. Priority is given to non-chemical pest management techniques, particularly those that can prevent a recurrence of the problem. Pesticides are used when necessary, but only in a way that minimizes potential exposure to people and the environment. Records are kept to track problems, prevent recurrences, and evaluate the results of pest management actions.

B. *What are the names of the pesticides and bait stations that may be used on school property. This includes but is not limited to:*

Fipronil	Hydroprene	Indoxacarb	Dithiopyr
Boric Acid	Pyrethrin	Propoxur	Trifuralin
Delamethrin	Cyfluthrin	Imidacloprid	Isoxaben
Foramsulfuron	Allethrin	Amorphous Silica	Glyphosate
Brodifacoum	Permethrin	Isopropylamine salt	Imazapyr
Chlorfenapyr	Methoprene	Cyhalothrin	Pendimethalin



Who is the person that I may call if I have any questions?

Mr. David Fulton

Environmental/Safety Specialist

Wicomico County Board of Education

(410) 677-4593

Mr. Fulton, identified above as the contact person, will also have the product labels and Material Safety Data Sheets for all pesticides and bait stations that are listed above. In addition, product labels and Material Safety Data Sheets for any newly introduced pesticides not currently included on the pesticide list, but used on school property will also be kept by Mr. Fulton. This information is available at your school and at the following location: Facilities Department, Wicomico County Board of Education, 900 Mt Hermon Road, Salisbury, Maryland 21804 and is available for your review at any time. Mr. Fulton is also available for any additional information you may need and will be happy to listen to any comments you may have.

D. *Notifications before pesticide use*

Additional notifications throughout the school year will be sent to all students, parents/guardians and staff members in an Elementary school before any application of a pesticide are made in a school building or to school grounds. These written notices will be sent home with each student and provided to each staff member at least 24 hours before each application, and within 24 hours after an emergency pesticide is applied. Please remember that the concept behind an Integrated Pest Management Plan is to utilize all other non-chemical means to eliminate pests before a pesticide is used. It is our intention to continue to adhere to this practice.

Wicomico County Attendance Policy

Wicomico County Attendance Policy

There is an adopted Attendance Policy in Wicomico County Public Schools that will be enforced this year. A few highlights are shared below.

Kindergarten through Grade 4

- A student is counted as present for a full day if the student is in attendance for 4 hours or more of the school day. A student is counted as present for a ½ day if the student is in attendance for at least 2 hours of the school day, but less than 4 hours.
- If a student is tardy or dismissed early for a doctor’s appointment, the tardy will be mark as “unexcused” unless a doctor’s note is provided to the school.

- Parents will receive excessive attendance letters once students amass 4, 6, and 10 days of unexcused absences.
- Once a child amasses 10 days of unexcused absences, a conference must be held with the parents, our home/school liaison, and an administrator.
- If a child amasses 13 days of unexcused absences, a conference with a Pupil Personnel Worker must occur and at 15 days, a referral to Truancy Court will be completed.
- Students with excessive absences at the elementary level will now be considered for retention.

Pre K

- A student is counted as present for a full day if the student is in attendance for 2 hours or more of the school day. A student is counted as present for a ½ day if the student is in attendance for at least 1 hours of the school day, but less than 2 hours.
- If a student is tardy or dismissed early for a doctor’s appointment, the tardy will be mark as “unexcused” unless a doctor’s note is provided to the school.
- Once students in Pre K have amassed 5 days of unexcused absence, they may be considered for dismissal from the program.



Breakfast Procedures

Students that wish to purchase breakfast at school may do so if they arrive to school and enter the cafeteria between the times of 7:30 and 8:05 AM. Students arriving to the cafeteria after 8:05 AM will not have time to make it through the cafeteria line, have their breakfast eaten and be unpacked for instruction by 8:15 AM. PLEASE make certain that your child arrives to school in time each morning if you wish for them to have breakfast here. Please see the breakfast guidelines below:

- The Main front door by the office will be opened at 7:30 AM for all walkers and car riders wishing to purchase breakfast at school. Students not wishing to purchase breakfast should not be dropped off until 7:45 AM and will not be allowed to enter the building until then.
- The doors by the bus ramp will be opened for all bus riders whose buses are waiting in the parking lot for morning drop off and who are wishing to purchase breakfast. Students not purchasing breakfast will be dismissed from the buses at the normal school opening time of 7:45 AM.
- At 7:45 AM all students will be allowed to enter the building. Those entering at this time must report directly to the cafeteria if they wish to purchase breakfast. Those not wishing to purchase breakfast are to go directly to their classrooms. Students wishing to purchase breakfast must not go to their classrooms first. Once students report to their classrooms, they are not permitted to leave and access other parts of the building unless it is to use the grade level rest room facility. If you wish for your child to eat breakfast, remind them to go directly to the cafeteria first!
- At 8:05 AM the cafeteria doors will close. Students remaining in the serving line at this time will already have precious little time to get through the line and eat their breakfast before their first class at 8:15 AM. Thus the reason we are trying to open the cafeteria doors earlier than 7:45 AM for as many students that are interested in making a breakfast purchase. **If you wish for your child to have breakfast at school, please make certain they are in the cafeteria well before the cutoff time so that they will be ready for instruction.**



Nurse's Niche

Welcome back! Hopefully this finds you and your child settling into healthy routines for the start of the school year. Usually the first couple of days of school I see children who complain of stomach aches or headaches. When a student comes to me with these kinds of complaints early in the morning, the first thing I do is take their temperature. If there's no fever, they are asked if they ate breakfast. You'd be surprised at how many students say no because 'they were running late at home'. We understand the 'beat the clock' philosophy, however, we cannot stress enough to encourage your children to eat a healthy breakfast.

One of the other healthy habits we hope you've fallen into is encouraging your child to go to bed early. Studies suggest that pre-teenagers actually require as much sleep as an infant. It's due to the growth spurts they're going thru just like an infant does. Even if your child is pre-adolescent, they still need the proper rest. It should be no less than 8 hours of sleep a night. Without proper rest and nutrition, students are going to tire out by early morning. Students who start the day out tired and sleepy have little to no energy left by the 3pm.

Again, please help with this and encourage your children to get to bed early and eat healthy meals at least three times a day. Please be sure that this includes eating a healthy lunch. A lot of students like to snack on chips and high sugar foods at lunch. Neither of these selections has protein in them and won't carry them long at all.

If your child will need to take medications during school this year, please stop by and pick up a blank copy of the medication order form your child's primary care provider will need to fill out. **All medications, including over the counter ones like Tylenol and cough drops must have a doctor's order form filled out first before it can be administered here at school.** Any medication administered here at school **must be brought in by an adult.** If your child shows up to school with authorized or unauthorized medications in their possession, it will be confiscated and held here in my office until an adult can pick up the medication.

Finally, please keep the office informed of any telephone numbers that change during the course of the school year so that we can contact you in an emergency.

Have a Healthy and Great start to your 2018-2019 school year!!!!

New Visitor Sign-In System

Wicomico County Public Schools has instituted a new visitor sign-in system called Raptor Visitor Management System. In order for any guests to visit in our building, they must first sign-in at our front office and receive a visitor badge.

In order to do this, you **MUST have a valid picture ID with you.** ID's can either be a valid driver's license, military ID, or passport. If you do not have a valid ID with you, you will not be permitted to visit throughout the school so please do not leave your ID at home or in your vehicle. We apologize that this may be an inconvenience but there will be no exceptions.

At first, the process will take a minute but once you are initially approved in the system, future visits will take just a few seconds to receive your visitor's badge.

We appreciate your support and understanding as we transition to our new system. In the end, our goal is to maintain the utmost safety for our students and staff.





School Fundraiser

Unfortunately, fundraising is a part of back to school events but it is our hope that we will only have one school fundraiser this year. This year’s fundraiser will be held from September 5-19 and include kitchen gadgets, Tervis tumblers, and many more useful household items to complement the Yankee Candles. Last year, as a result of your generous support, we were able to purchase our new piece of playground equipment.

Our goal this year is to help buy a new electronic school sign, buy additional sets of reading intervention materials, and updates for technology to be used with and by students in the instructional setting and after school.

Please look for the fundraiser brochures when they are sent home on September 5th. Inside will contain information about this fundraiser as well as some special motivational incentives students can earn for their sales. Deliveries will be made in November so start your holiday shopping now!

Please feel free to contact the school office if you have any questions regarding our DES school fundraiser this year.

Changes Throughout the Year

If at any time throughout the year you have changes in your address, phone numbers, emergency contacts, etc., it is extremely important that you notify Mrs. Green in the office. We must have current information on each child in the event of an emergency. Updated proof of residency forms are required to be submitted for any change in addresses.

Parent Portal Returns

Shortly, all grade 1-4 parents will be able to access “real time” information regarding their child’s grades and attendance. Parents will be able to access the Parent Portal through a child specific ID number. In order for your child to receive the ID number, we must have the most up to date information for them. The best way to do this is by returning the Personal Data Form being sent home this week. If a form is not returned, we cannot generate your child’s ID number. More information about receiving the student ID number will be shared in the near future.

Important Dates for September

Sept. 5	Fundraiser Begins
Sept 11	Back to School Night @ 5:30 PM
Sept 19	Fundraiser Ends



PTA News

Welcome to the 2018-2019 School Year! The PTA is excited to get started on a great year filled with many activities that focus on our purpose as a PTA which is to:

- To promote the welfare of children and youth in home, school, community, and place of worship
- To raise the standards of home life
- To secure adequate laws for the care and protection of children and youth
- To bring into closer relation the home and the school, that parents and teachers may cooperate intelligently in the education of children and youth
- To develop between educators and the general public such united efforts as will secure for all children and youth the highest advantages in physical, mental, social and spiritual education.

What a great team to be a part of! You can join the PTA at the general meetings. In addition, applications will be sent home with each child. You can simply fill these out and return the application to school with your child to become a part of this wonderful organization. We are hoping for 100% participation this year and we will be offering some fun incentives for our kids who have adults joining the PTA.

Our officers this year are as follows:

Ashley Hearn – President

Erin Basch—Vice President

Olesya Taylor—2nd Vice President

Christine Brumbley– Treasurer

Betsy Jackson– Secretary

We can be reached at delmarbobcatspta@gmail.com and on Facebook at www.facebook.com/delmarbobcatspta/.

Please support our PTA by becoming an active member. The membership form is included in this month's newsletter. Please send in completed forms and fees to the school office.

Please plan on attending our Back to School Night on September 11th at 5:30 PM to visit with the teachers and to learn more about the fun activities planned for this year!

Join us for Back to School Night on September 11th at 5:30 PM!!!



