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Principal



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Assistant Principal

**West Friendship E.S.**  
12500 Frederick Road  
West Friendship, MD 21794  
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**Web Site:** <http://wfes.hcps.org/>  
School Hours: 9:15 a.m. - 3:45 p.m.

August 27, 2021

## From Our Administrators

Dear West Friendship Families,

It was wonderful to meet and greet so many of you today. It was nice to open our doors and have visitors in our building once again! We promised our Kindergarten and new to WFES parents that we would post of PowerPoint presentations on our school website. The presentations will also serve as great reminders for our returning parents. Please take a few minutes and review our presentations by visiting <http://wfes.hcps.org/>.

The West Friendship Elementary PTA will be hosting a coffee social on Monday morning at Tous We look forward to greeting our students on Monday morning.

## Steps for Success on the First Day

- Students must wear a mask on the bus and in the building.
- Bus stop locations and times can be found on the [HCPSS Bus Locator](#). Please arrive at the bus stop 10 to 15 minutes early.
- Students will be able to enter the building at 9:00 am
- Free Breakfast will be available in the cafeteria from 9:00 to 9:15 am
- Free lunch is also available to all students

## WFES School Information

- Hours:
  - 9:00am Students can enter the building
  - 9:15am Student Instructional Day Begins
    - After 9:15am, students must be signed in at the Office by an adult
  - 3:45pm Student Dismissal
- Master Schedule:
  - [21-22 WFES Master Schedule](#)
    - Specific Classroom Schedules will be shared 8/30
    - Students should dress for PE every day and for outdoor recess
- WFES Phone/fax
  - Office: 410-313-5512, Fax: 410-313-5514
  - Health Room: 410-313-5515, Fax 443-973-5518

## Bus Information & Dismissal Information

### Helpful Reminders:

- All WFES students are assigned to a bus, and we encourage all students to ride the bus. **Please send them to school on the bus on the first day (and every day) so we can get accurate bus lists and tag backpacks.** This is helpful to the bus drivers in timing their bus runs, and will also help the students with routine.
- All students will be sent home on their assigned bus unless they have a note with alternate arrangements, signed by their parent/guardian. Students will not be permitted to ride any bus other than the bus which they are assigned.
- Students will get a Bus Tag on their backpack indicating their transportation - Bus Number, Before/After Care, etc. Please do not remove these tags.
- Please try to keep PM transportation consistent - multiple “ways” a child leaves school in a week can be challenging to students and staff
- If your child must be a car rider, **you must send a note to school with them in the morning advising the teacher of this arrangement.** Please DO NOT email this information during the day. Staff may be too busy with instruction to check email and we will not have this vital information prior to dismissal. If this is a permanent arrangement, **please provide the school office with this information in writing.**
- We ask that **you place a sign (8½' x 11") on your front dash with your student(s) name and grade** when picking them up from school.
- If your child attends a **daycare program that provides transportation to/from school, please provide the school office with this information in writing.** If you did not turn in this information during orientation/open house, please send a note to school with your child.
- All students will be sent home on their assigned bus unless they have a note with alternate arrangements, signed by their parent/guardian. Students will not be permitted to ride any bus other than the bus which they are assigned.
- Remember that **masks must be worn on the bus and inside the school building.**

## Car Rider - Follow Staff Directions

- Side access road “Circle Drive” - Pull all the way up to end of sidewalk
- Be **READY** to unload and load
- **DO NOT** get out of your car
- Student should be able to fasten seat belt independently - staff cannot secure children in their car-seats or seats
- **DO NOT** pass cars in line

## Update Your Family File!

A total of 91% of our students have completed Family File! If you need to update yours, please complete the following as soon as possible:

[Log in to HCPSS Connect Synergy](#) using parent/guardian credentials

Select “More Options” from the left navigation

Select “Family File” at the top of the page

Complete each page of Family File

On the last page, select the blue Submit button

## K and 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Chromebook Return

As communicated by HCPSS earlier this week, students in prekindergarten, kindergarten, and first grade will have access to Chromebooks at school when needed for instruction. These devices will not be assigned to individual students. Students at these grade levels who currently have Chromebooks assigned to them should return them to the school.

You can return previously assigned devices by returning them to school next week.

## Important Dates

### Monday, August 30

9:15am – 3:45pm First Day of School for Grades K-5

**Monday, September 6** Schools & Offices Closed – Labor Day

**Tuesday, September 7** Schools & Offices Closed – Rosh Hashanah

### Wednesday, September 8

6:00pm Band/Strings Back-to-School Night in the Cafeteria

### Monday, September 13

6:00pm Kindergarten & Grade 1 Back-to-School Night

### Tuesday, September 14

6:00pm Grades 2 & 3 Back-to-School Night

**Wednesday, September 16** Schools & Offices Closed – Yom Kippur

### Monday, September 20

5:30pm Gifted/Talented Information

6:00pm Grades 4 & 5 Back-to-School Night

**Tuesday, September 28** School Picture Day!

## Learning Together Program – Prekindergarten

The Bushy Park Regional Early Childhood Center (RECC) prekindergarten programs are preparing for classes for the upcoming 2021-22 school year. These classes include children with and without disabilities. The program's focus is helping all children develop communication, literacy, math, problem solving, motor, and social skills. Parents of children who will be 3 by September 1st or are already 4 may learn more about the program by reviewing the [Learning Together Program \(LTP\) Flyer](#) (English). We are still accepting applications.

- [Learning Together Program \(LTP\) Flyer](#) (Chinese)
- [Learning Together Program \(LTP\) Flyer](#) (Korean)

- [Learning Together Program \(LTP\) Flyer](#) (Spanish)

If you need assistance to complete the application, please contact Early Intervention Services at [earlyinterventionservices@hcpss.org](mailto:earlyinterventionservices@hcpss.org) or at 410-313-7017.

**HCPSS is committed to providing instruction based on the statewide Early Learning Standards which are in alignment with Kindergarten Readiness. The fees listed in the application will be collected monthly regardless of the learning model determined by HCPSS throughout the upcoming school year (virtual, hybrid, or in person). If you have any additional questions, please contact [kathryn\\_hereh@hcpss.org](mailto:kathryn_hereh@hcpss.org) or (410) 442-2448.**

## Girls on the Run

Registration for Girls on the Run opens today at noon! Girls on the Run is a program for 3<sup>rd</sup> -5<sup>th</sup> grade girls which encourages girls of all abilities to recognize their individual strengths and celebrate connections with others. Trained coaches use physical activity and dynamic discussions to build social, emotional, and physical skills in every girl while encouraging healthy habits for life. We focus on confidence, friendship, and fun! You don't have to be a "runner" to be a part of our team. This fall we will be meeting at WFES on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 3:45-5:00pm beginning September 21<sup>st</sup>. We'd love to have your daughter join us! Follow this link for registration and scholarship information. Please don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions!

<https://www.pinwheel.us/register/index/Fall2021GOTRRegistrationCentralMD>