



January 8, 2021

From Our Administrators...

Happy New Year! We hope you enjoyed a relaxing winter break with your family. The start of a new year brings the start of some fun student engagement opportunities among grade levels. This week our staff had Lunch Bunch/Show & Tell with First and Second Graders, made snowflakes with Kindergarten and Third Graders, held interesting "Would You Rather?" conversations with Fourth Graders, and participated in cosmic yoga with Fifth Graders! It was great to see our students and staff enjoy this time together. Be sure to check out the [WFES website calendar](#) for other upcoming grade level activities!!!

Kaye Breon, Principal
Brian Vanisko, Assistant Principal

School News

Synchronous Support Time

WFES continues to provide grade level synchronous support time for students on Wednesday afternoons. These sessions are provided by our wonderful Paraeducators! Synchronous support time allows students in each grade to check in for assistance with their asynchronous assignments.

Synchronous supports will be available using the following schedule and Google Meet Code:

Grade Level	Synchronous Support Time	Google Meet Code
Kindergarten	1:00 – 1:30pm	wfes-support-grk
Grade 1	1:00 – 1:30pm	wfes-support-gr1
Grade 2	2:00 – 2:30pm	wfes-support-gr2
Grade 3	1:00 – 1:30pm	wfes-support-gr3
Grade 4	2:00 – 2:30pm	wfes-support-gr4
Grade 5	1:00 – 1:30pm	wfes-support-gr5

Winter Break Meal Services

Howard County Public Schools will be closed for winter break from Thursday, December 24, 2020 through Friday, January 1, 2021. There will be no meal service during this time. To ensure children have access to essential nutrition during the holiday period, families may pick up additional meals in advance of the break. [Click here](#) for complete details.

Upcoming School Spirit Day

Show your school spirit and join in the fun!

Friday, January 22nd is “Silly Hat” Day ~ Students are encouraged to wear their “silly hats” to class that day!

We encourage students to email pictures so we can tweet them out. Please email photos to Kathleen_Donegan@hcpss.org, then look for all the awesome WFES School Spirit on Twitter!

Future Mount View Middle School Parents

On Wednesday, January 20 at 6:30 PM, we welcome our rising 6th-grade parents to attend our Virtual Orientation to learn about middle school, the 6th-grade schedule, and answer any questions about the transition to middle school. We will be meeting at the code <https://meet.google.com/gzk-kttx-tgn>

Please use your student's username and password (credentials) to access the Google Meet.

Parents are welcome to submit questions prior to the presentation and after the event concerning the HCPSS Middle School Model.

<https://forms.gle/oETt23r8gaLaamsY7>

We look forward to meeting our new Falcon families.

Absence Email Reminder

Please do not send your child's absent note through Canvas. All absent notes must be emailed to WFESabsence@hcpss.org and **include student name, date of the absence, and the reason for the absence.** If this information is not included, the note will not be accepted. This email goes directly to our Attendance Secretary. You may cc: your child's teacher in the same email. Thank you in advance for adhering to our absence reporting procedures.

Family and Student Support

Family Support and Resource Center Newsletter

Do you have a child with an IFSP or IEP? The HCPSS Family Support and Resource Center (FSRC) offers a weekly email just for you! FSRC communications include helpful workshops, resources and community information specifically geared to supporting your journey. As a parent of a child with an IFSP/IEP, you should already be receiving the email, but if not, let us know so we can include your contact information in our database. You can also email specific questions to FSRC@hcpss.org

PLEASE COMPLETE: Free and Reduced Meal Application

Once you have completed your Family File Information, a screen will pop up asking you to complete the Free and Reduced Meal application. Please complete the FARM application if you think you will qualify or if you have qualified in the past. Qualifying for FARMs provides benefits for meals, reduced Comcast internet fees and much more! Please find the [FARM application here](#).

Technology

What happens if I/my child has a connectivity or other issue logging on to class?

We recognize there may be times the applications HCPSS is using for virtual learning may not work as anticipated. This may be due to the nationwide increase in demand on these services or an issue with your local internet provider. HCPSS teachers will be understanding and flexible if interruptions to technology services cause delays in assignment submissions and missed virtual learning sessions.

Additionally, if there is a power outage or other situation out of the student's control that would prevent them from completing an assignment, the student or parent/guardian should contact the teacher as soon as possible to alert them to the issue and determine if the due date can be extended. [More information](#) is available online.

County Information

HCPSS 2020-2021 Inclement Weather Protocols

New inclement weather protocols were shared with staff and the community for the 2020-2021 school year while in virtual, small groups or hybrid instructional models. More information about the [four possible inclement weather decisions](#) are provided on the HCPSS website.

Mark Your Calendars

Mon., Jan. 11	Student Engagement Opportunity: Lunch Q & A w/ Administrators <ul style="list-style-type: none">Kindergarten 11:20 to 11:50, Meet Code: wfes-kindergartenFirst Grade 12:00 to 12:30, Meet Code: wfes-grade1
Tues., Jan. 12	WFES PTA Restaurant Day/Night at E.W. Beck's – 11:30am to 9:00pm
Wed., Jan. 13	Student Engagement Opportunity: Lunch Q & A w/ Administrators <ul style="list-style-type: none">Third Grade 11:30 to 12:00, Meet Code: wfes-grade3Second Grade 12:15 to 12:45, Meet Code: wfes-grade2
Wed., Jan. 13	PTA Meeting via Zoom – 6:00pm
Thurs., Jan. 14	Student Engagement Opportunity: Lunch Q & A w/ Administrators <ul style="list-style-type: none">Fourth Grade 11:30 to 12:00, Meet Code: wfes-grade4
Mon., Jan. 18	Schools & Offices Closed – Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
Tues., Jan. 19	Student Engagement Opportunity: Lunch Bunch w/ Paraeducators <ul style="list-style-type: none">Kindergarten 11:30 to 12:00, Meet Code: wfes-kindergartenFirst Grade 11:30 to 12:00, Meet Code: wfes-grade1
Wed., Jan. 20	Student Engagement Opportunity: Lunch Bunch w/ Paraeducators <ul style="list-style-type: none">Second Grade 11:30 to 12:00, Meet Code: wfes-grade2Third Grade 11:30 to 12:00, Meet Code: wfes-grade3
Wed., Jan. 20	Synchronous Support Time by Grade Level
Thurs., Jan. 21	Student Engagement Opportunity: Lunch Bunch w/ Paraeducators <ul style="list-style-type: none">Fourth Grade 12:00 to 12:30, Meet Code: wfes-grade4Fifth Grade 12:00 to 12:30, Meet Code: wfes-grade5
Fri., Jan. 22	School Spirit "Silly Hat" Day
Wed., Jan. 27	Student Engagement Opportunity: Escape Rooms w/ Related Arts <ul style="list-style-type: none">Fifth Grade 2:00 to 2:30, Meet Code: wfes-grade5
Thurs., Jan. 28	End of 2nd Marking Period
Fri., Jan. 29	Schools Closed for Students – Professional Work Day

PTA News

PTA Meeting

Join the WFES PTA for our virtual monthly meeting on Wednesday, January 13th at 6:00pm via Zoom.

<https://zoom.us/j/94164664824...>

Meeting ID: 941 6466 4824

Passcode: 21794

Dial by phone

1 301 715 8592

WFES PTA Restaurant Fundraiser on Tuesday, January 12th!

The WFES PTA has another Restaurant Night coming up! Restaurant Nights are fun and easy fundraisers. Just dine at or order from the restaurant on the given date and the WFES PTA will receive a percentage of sales! Please mark your calendars for the following date:

- **E.W. Beck's * 7565 Main Street, Sykesville * 410-795-1001**
Tuesday, January 12th at 11:30am to 9:00pm

A portion of sales will be given to the WFES PTA when you present [this flier](#) (paper copy or on your phone)! Order carryout or delivery!!

Please share this information with family and friends!!!

Amazon Smile

Help support West Friendship Elementary Schools PTA by shopping on Amazon through Amazon Smile. You get the same great deals and benefits offered by Amazon while supporting our school! Just go to smile.amazon.com, and login to Amazon using your regular username and password. Search for and select West Friendship Elementary School PTA under charitable organizations, and you are ready to shop! And yes, we know it's spelled wrong on Amazon's page. Unfortunately, we can't change it.

Community News

Please visit the HCPSS website [Community News and Programs page](#) for upcoming events and programs sponsored by non-profit organizations.