

Kaye M. Breon
Principal



Brian Vanisko
Assistant Principal

West Friendship E.S.
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Web Site: <http://wfes.hcpss.org/>
School Hours: 9:15 a.m. - 3:45 p.m.

October 9, 2020

From Our Administrators

Dear West Friendship Elementary Families,

We are very pleased with the number of students who completed the MAP Reading Assessment this past Wednesday! We thank all our students and parents for being flexible with the academic schedule and for your continued support. The **MAP Math Assessment will be administered to all students in grades 2 – 5 this coming Wednesday, October 14th**. Please see the information within this newsletter for scheduling details.

West Friendship Elementary's first **School Spirit Day is scheduled for next Friday, October 16th**! We hope students will show their WFES School Spirit in join their teachers' and friends by wearing **PINK** in support of Breast Cancer Awareness. Breast Cancer Awareness Month is a yearly campaign intended to educate people about the importance of early screening, testing, and more. This campaign starts on October 1 and ends on October 31 every year.

Please know that office staff are available, should you have any school related questions or concerns. Please do not hesitate to contact us. We are available by email and by telephone, 410-313-5512.

Principal, Ms. Kaye Breon kaye_breon@hcpss.org

Assistant Principal, Mr. Brian Vanisko brian_vanisko@hcpss.org

Principal's Secretary, Mrs. Penny Smith penny_smith@hcpss.org

Teachers' Secretary (Registration) Mrs. Colleen Green colleen_green@hcpss.org

School Nurse, Mrs. Beth Collora elizabeth_collora@hcpss.org

School Counselor, Mrs. Leslie Schnebly leslie_schnebly@hcpss.org

Yours in Education,

Ms. Breon and Mr. Vanisko

School News

Changes to Asynchronous Assignments for Week of October 12th

MAP Math testing will be administered on Wednesday October 14 at 9am or 1pm. As a result, the following adjustments will be made for the week of October 12th:

- No Dreambox assignments will be assigned on Wednesday
- No Lexia Core5 assignments will be assigned on Wednesday
- No mathematics task will be assigned on Wednesday

No changes will be made to related arts and science assignments

Measures of Academic Progress (MAP)

On Wednesday, October 14 students in grades 2-5 will take the Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) assessment for Math. The data from the MAP assessment will help teachers measure where your child is starting the year academically. We also intend to administer MAP in winter and spring to measure how your child's learning is progressing throughout the year. The MAP test does not affect grades and the difficulty adjusts depending on how your child responds. It is normal for students to only answer about half the questions correctly. To learn more about the MAP assessment, please visit: <https://www.nwea.org/the-map-suite/common-questions-families/>

Schedule:

Wednesday, October 14; 9:00-11:00am and 1:00-3:00pm

Students may choose to attend either the morning or afternoon session. If your child is unable to attend, makeup testing will be offered during asynchronous learning times. Teachers will share Google Meet information. For questions about MAP testing, please contact Mr. Vanisko at brian_vanisko@hcpss.org.

Schedule Adjustments for Scheduled Early Dismissal Days

The HCPSS 2020-2021 calendar includes four scheduled 3-hour early dismissal days:

- Friday, October 16, 2020
- Friday, November 6, 2020
- Monday, November 23, 2020
- Tuesday, November 24, 2020

The virtual schedules have been adjusted for these scheduled early dismissal days to provide students with synchronous learning for each class. Click to view the adjusted [3-Hour Early Dismissal Schedule](#) for elementary students.

Direct Synchronous Teacher Support for Asynchronous Task (M, T, Th., & F)

Kindergarten @ 10:45

1st Grade @ 1:50

2nd Grade @ 3:10 beginning Monday, October 12)

3rd Grade @ 10:45 beginning Monday, October 12)

4th Grade @ 2:10 beginning Monday, October 12)

5th Grade @ 3:10 beginning Monday, October 12)

FREE Virtual Parent Workshop - [Calming the COVID Chaos](#)

West Friendship and Atholton Elementary parents are invited to join us for a FREE Virtual Parent Workshop on Thursday, October 15, 2020 at 6:00 pm: [Calming the COVID Chaos](#). Dealing with the stress and issues that come from living through a pandemic and virtual schooling? Are you juggling conflicting demands? You are not alone. All of us are going through this AND all of us could use some additional support. Parents will be given several resource lists and take-home activities for you and your children. Please select the link for more information.

Google Meeting link: <https://meet.google.com/kyw-cixu-dey>

Presented by Nancy Sheain, LGPC, NCC

Board-Certified Licensed Professional Counselor

Counseling & Therapy for Individuals and Families

Nancy1@SmashingANTs.com

410-707-6288

WFES Upcoming School Spirit Days

Show your school spirit and join in the fun on the following Friday's for School Spirit Days!

October 16th **Wear Pink for Breast Cancer Awareness**

October 23rd **Wear orange for Unity Day-- to unite against bullying**

November 13th **Crazy Hair Day**

November 20th **Jersey Day**

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

Family Survey for Second Semester Planning

HCPSS staff are currently evaluating possibilities for in-person instructional options for the second semester, which begins February 1, 2021.

Early next week, we will distribute a short survey to all HCPSS families to gather data on whether families intend to send their student(s) back to school or continue fully virtual learning through the end of the current school year. No decision has been made regarding the learning format for the second semester. The data from this form will facilitate planning and is not a commitment for the second semester. This information will assist the Board and HCPSS leadership during discussions about possible models for the second semester.

Families will have the opportunity to formally select a learning option following the Board's deliberation and final decision on second semester plans.

School Lunch Week with Additions and Distribution Revisions

National School Lunch Week is October 12-16, 2020, with the theme "Now Playing: School Lunch!" Beginning Monday, October 12, HCPSS Food and Nutrition Services will enhance meal offerings with the addition of snacks, dinner and weekend meals, to provide additional nutritional meals to all children.

A stopgap U.S. government funding bill signed into law last Thursday, which includes almost \$8 billion in nutrition assistance, allows USDA to extend the meal waivers, previously due to expire at the end of December, through the end of the 2020-2021 school year. Thus, **HCPSS will be able to provide meals at no cost to any HCPSS student, and all children 18 and under, through the entire school year**, assuming continued availability of USDA funding.

[Beginning Monday, October 12](#), HCPSS will add a snack and dinner to each weekday meal, in addition to breakfast and lunch already being served. Additionally, weekend meals will be included with meals provided on Fridays, and in pre-ordered meals picked up on Thursdays.

HCPSS also has adjusted the pre-order process. Meals for multiple days need to be pre-ordered at least two days in advance for pickup on Mondays and Thursdays. Pre-order meal pickups will be offered only on those two days, to enable Food and Nutrition Services to improve service and efficiency while balancing staffing and food resources.

[Full details on HCPSS student meal offerings](#) can be found online.

West Friendship Elementary is a food distribution site. The [food services program](#) during the first semester of the 2020-2021 school year will consist of Grab-n-Go breakfasts and lunches served Monday through Friday from 8–9 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.–12:45 p.m.

Mark Your Calendars

Wed., Oct. 14	MAP Math Assessment for Grades 2 – 5
Wed., Oct 14	Virtual PTA Meeting – 6:00pm
Thurs., Oct. 15	FREE Parent Workshop - Calming the COVID Chaos 6:00 to 7:30pm
Fri., Oct. 16	School Spirit Day – Wear PINK to Support Breast Cancer Awareness Month
Fri., Oct. 16	Schools Close 3-Hrs Early – Professional Work Day
Fri., Oct 23	School Spirit Day – Wear ORANGE Unity Day in recognition of National Bullying Prevention Month
Tues., Nov. 3	Schools & Offices Closed – Election Day
Fri., Nov. 6	Schools Close 3-Hrs. Early – Professional Work Day
Mon., Nov. 9	PTA Square 1 Art Fundraiser – Deadline to create & upload art!

PTA News

Get Involved! Join the PTA!

Help support West Friendship Elementary by [joining the WFES PTA](#). The cost of a family membership is only \$15. So many benefits for minimal cost! Thank you for your support!

PTA Meeting

Join us via Zoom for the next virtual PTA Meeting on Wednesday, October 14th at 6:00pm. <https://zoom.us/j/94164664824?pwd=NUs0azBRR1FBclRQZjBYkNFwFZkdz09>
Meeting ID: 941 6466 4824
Passcode: 21794
Dial in 1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)
Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/u/acGK75udIW>

WFES PTA Spirit Wear

We are running our first Spirit Wear sale! This will only run for a week so make sure you purchase soon! We are offering laptop bags to protect your student Chromebooks, Adult Masks and Child Size Masks!! Purchase a bundle and save \$\$!

<https://westfriendship.new.memberhub.store/store>

Square 1 Art Fundraiser

Our PTA is so excited to be able to offer a virtual version of our popular Square 1 fundraiser this fall. This fundraiser allows your child to make artwork that is then printed on a wide variety of items and delivered to you before our winter break. They make fantastic presents, and many can be customized to the gift recipient. (A mug can have your child's artwork, and "I love you Papa!") Our PTA receives a percentage of all sales

made, and it's one of our biggest fundraisers of the year. Here's how the virtual version works.

STEP 1: CREATE ART

- Your child may create art on our [art paper template](#) that you print out, or on a white square of paper that is at least 8 in x 8 in.
- See important [Art Requirements](#)
- See Video [Making Art with Square 1 Art](#) for instructions!
- Need art ideas? See fun [Art Lesson Videos](#), or our [Pinterest!](#)

STEP 2: PHOTOGRAPH ART

- Take a photo of your child's art with your phone or tablet. See video [How to Take a Photo for Upload](#).
- Take photo directly overhead in bright light, even outdoors! Avoid shadows on the art.
- You can edit and crop off any background later in our upload app online.

STEP 3: UPLOAD ART

- Click "[Art Upload](#)" on our website. (Need help? See art upload video instructions [here](#).)
- Enter our state and school name to find your school, click "Continue".
- Enter your child's name, grade and your email address
- Click "Choose File" and upload your child's art from your phone or tablet files.
- You will then see your child's art in the Edit App. You may crop the art, add text, or make other edits.
- Click "Done" and your art is saved to your school's fundraiser!

STEP 4: SHOP

You may begin to shop for keepsakes right away at square1art.com/shop!

Important Deadlines

Please create and upload art by: 11/6/2020

Parent Order Deadline is: 11/20/2020

Troubleshooting

Uploaded your Child's Art but cannot find it?

Just click [Art Search](#) to find your child's art.

Need assistance?

Click [Customer Care](#):

888.332.3294

square1art.com

Thank you so much for your support of the WFES PTA!

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.

Free Food Distribution

See [attached flier](#) for complete details!

Winter Coat Giveaway

With chiller temperatures upon us and winter weather just a couple months away, if you're in need of a winter coat, stop by the park pavilion at Recreation & Park's North Laurel Community Center this **Saturday, October 10th** for Department of Community Resources and Services' (DCRS) MultiService Center (MSC) winter coat giveaway event. From 10:00 a.m. to noon, OR while supplies last, MSC will be giving away FREE winter coats to all ages. This will be a grab n' go event, where face coverings and maintain six feet physical distancing will be required at all times. **For questions, more information, and/or to inquire about donating a coat, contact MSC at 410-313-0220 or email mscinfo@howardcountymd.gov**

Angel Tree

Need a little help this year during the holidays. Applications for the Angel Tree program are **due on Sunday, October 11th**. We just received this updated information.) Please click on the following link for complete details. **This program serves children ages 0-12 years of age thru December 31, 2020.**

- [English](#)
 - <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1KOkO3wK8MCDI14dYXyx1k2h3Ns49NN-UCLXRU4t1Ks/edit?usp=sharing>
- [Spanish](#)
 - <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1MQ6hvvgbzOtgIWq1anLAT0Kougx8v2UBmVeUK2qZgJoo/edit?usp=sharing>