Dear Parents:

We are excited to welcome families to WFES tomorrow, Friday, August 27th. **Kindergarten and New Student Orientation begins at 1:00pm**, and **Open House for ALL grade levels takes place at 2:00pm**. Students are welcome to bring their school supplies with them tomorrow so they will not have so much to carry on the bus Monday morning. Also, we encourage 1st grade students who have Chromebooks to bring the device and charger with them to Open House as they will not be needing them on an individual basis this coming school year. We will have a collection area set up.

To promote safety and minimize crowding, please read and adhere to the following directions for your visit to school tomorrow:

* Everyone over the age of 2 must wear an appropriate fitting face mask in the building at all times.
* Minimize the number of family members who attend. For example, if possible, leave younger siblings and older siblings at home. Please try to limit to one parent/adult per school-aged child.
* **Families are to visit only their child/ren’s homeroom teacher’s classroom**. Do not visit past teachers or related arts areas. We are hoping to provide students with the opportunity to visit their teacher from last year during a school day in September.
* For contact tracing purposes, please ensure that your family uses the sign-in sheet in the teacher’s classroom.
* Do not linger or congregate in the hallways within the building to talk with other families. You may visit with friends outside after exiting the building.
* So that we can continue our preparations for the first day of school, families are requested to leave the building promptly at 3:00pm.

**Find Your Child's Bus Stop**

[Bus Locator](https://versatransweb06.tylertech.com/HowardCounty/elinkrp/Students/BasicTransBoundarySearch.aspx)  
Get your bus routes and times

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.
* 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**. You may bring this information to orientation/open house. In addition, **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**. You may turn in this information during orientation/open house.
* 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**.

**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](https://nam10.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Ftrack.spe.schoolmessenger.com%2Ff%2Fa%2F2hUlo2JYEdzqcLIjIEh5kA~~%2FAAAAAQA~%2FRgRjBWAvP0RkaHR0cHM6Ly9kb2NzLmdvb2dsZS5jb20vc3ByZWFkc2hlZXRzL2QvMVJwalpZM0Yxa05MRjBnZjJndE5icUxMVjZPdmhHODF0dEVQWWlwOFFMcVUvZWRpdD91c3A9c2hhcmluZ1cHc2Nob29sbUIKYSOvLCRhzu7Vr1IVcGVubnlfam9uZXNAaGNwc3Mub3JnWAQAAAAB&data=04%7C01%7CPenny_Smith%40hcpss.org%7C6fab4c30283540d221ad08d9668c448b%7C96a9ac4c477e4dada2b28ad3fc46790b%7C1%7C0%7C637653574899136608%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=vwduBqjKz3MVvFaIp6zAMP6HtjJPgTvOIyES%2BV0GvNg%3D&reserved=0)
* Related Arts Color Schedule
  + [21-22 Related Arts Color Schedule](https://nam10.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Ftrack.spe.schoolmessenger.com%2Ff%2Fa%2FPgQSyCAj0d5whQ2jwK7j7w~~%2FAAAAAQA~%2FRgRjBWAvP0RSaHR0cHM6Ly9kcml2ZS5nb29nbGUuY29tL2ZpbGUvZC8xbFpfR1pwVkl6S0xuOWlRS09sVjN5N3JGVnRPT3c0OTIvdmlldz91c3A9c2hhcmluZ1cHc2Nob29sbUIKYSOvLCRhzu7Vr1IVcGVubnlfam9uZXNAaGNwc3Mub3JnWAQAAAAB&data=04%7C01%7CPenny_Smith%40hcpss.org%7C6fab4c30283540d221ad08d9668c448b%7C96a9ac4c477e4dada2b28ad3fc46790b%7C1%7C0%7C637653574899146576%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=j9jrAGr0VYhPA2A1xbODKlus19%2BqhOT%2F89tyIB2GbLk%3D&reserved=0)
  + 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

**Family File & Student Emergency Card Update**

It is time to update your student's Family File information in [HCPSS Connect](http://track.spe.schoolmessenger.com/f/a/Zp1JD-4nQuNddY1lDrWE-Q~~/AAAAAQA~/RgRi9njKP0QeaHR0cHM6Ly93d3cuaGNwc3Mub3JnL2Nvbm5lY3QvVwdzY2hvb2xtQgphFUpFFWFEe9J7UhRwZW5qb24xOTY1QGdtYWlsLmNvbVgEAAAAAQ~~)! Family File provides emergency contact and other important information for students within the Howard County Public School System. Completing Family File also ensures you are receiving importation information and updates for HCPSS and MRHS. **This information must be updated EACH school year for EACH student.**

A video tutorial that explains the Family File process and written directions can be found below:

    Video Tutorial [at this link](http://track.spe.schoolmessenger.com/f/a/GrEOu96teDXh3G9xdbUYiw~~/AAAAAQA~/RgRi9njKP4QHBWh0dHBzOi8vbmFtMTAuc2FmZWxpbmtzLnByb3RlY3Rpb24ub3V0bG9vay5jb20vP3VybD1odHRwJTNBJTJGJTJGdHJhY2suc3BlLnNjaG9vbG1lc3Nlbmdlci5jb20lMkZmJTJGYSUyRnhsc0RrNkZjZUd4eW12ampUb3NERHd-fiUyRkFBQUFBUUF--fiZkYXRhPTA0JTdDMDElN0Nsb3JpX2FfbWlsbGVyJTQwaGNwc3Mub3JnJTdDZDc2YmYzYjdjNmY1NGI0YzZhYWQwOGQ5NWQ5MDUzYWQlN0M5NmE5YWM0YzQ3N2U0ZGFkYTJiMjhhZDNmYzQ2NzkwYiU3QzElN0MwJTdDNjM3NjQzNjk2NzM5MzI3OTAzJTdDVW5rbm93biU3Q1RXRnBiR1pzYjNkOGV5SldJam9pTUM0d0xqQXdNREFpTENKUUlqb2lWMmx1TXpJaUxDSkJUaUk2SWsxaGFXd2lMQ0pYVkNJNk1uMCUzRCU3QzEwMDAmc2RhdGE9VE9KWTczN1V3biUyQiUyRk9vNnBpJTJGeUgxcGtmZ2clMkZJVCUyRlZmTWM4NU1ST1dpazAlM0QmcmVzZXJ2ZWQ9MFcHc2Nob29sbUIKYRVKRRVhRHvSe1IUcGVuam9uMTk2NUBnbWFpbC5jb21YBAAAAAE~)  
    Family File Directions [at this link](http://track.spe.schoolmessenger.com/f/a/XX6PpQhB9YZVEOftF-MwkQ~~/AAAAAQA~/RgRi9njKP4Q9BWh0dHBzOi8vbmFtMTAuc2FmZWxpbmtzLnByb3RlY3Rpb24ub3V0bG9vay5jb20vP3VybD1odHRwJTNBJTJGJTJGdHJhY2suc3BlLnNjaG9vbG1lc3Nlbmdlci5jb20lMkZmJTJGYSUyRjlfdHR4LWNmenhRWlAwYzVFNERkcFF-fiUyRkFBQUFBUUF-~)  
    Spanish Version [at this link](http://track.spe.schoolmessenger.com/f/a/hyTxLNupXWcPnBjdbkf0vQ~~/AAAAAQA~/RgRi9njKP4RNBWh0dHBzOi8vbmFtMTAuc2FmZWxpbmtzLnByb3RlY3Rpb24ub3V0bG9vay5jb20vP3VybD1odHRwJTNBJTJGJTJGdHJhY2suc3BlLnNjaG9vbG1lc3Nlbmdlci5jb20lMkZmJTJGYSUyRkRNaDVSUHltaExDc0Z0OGhhZ0JvM3d-fiUyRkFBQUFBUUF--JmRhdGE9MDQlN0MwMSU3Q2xvcmlfYV9taWxsZXIlNDBoY3Bzcy5vcmclN0NkNzZiZjNiN2M2ZjU0YjRjNmFhZDA4ZDk1ZDkwNTNhZCU3Qzk2YTlhYzRjNDc3ZTRkYWRhMmIyOGFkM2ZjNDY3OTBiJTdDMSU3QzAlN0M2Mzc2NDM2OTY3MzkzMzc4NTglN0NVbmtub3duJTdDVFdGcGJHWnNiM2Q4ZXlKV0lqb2lNQzR3TGpBd01EQWlMQ0pRSWpvaVYybHVNeklpTENKQlRpSTZJazFoYVd3aUxDSlhWQ0k2TW4wJTNEJTdDMTAwMCZzZGF0YT1Cb1Q4ZjAwbFJtVW5vdUQyU2F0R2pRT29BR1RWMmtsd2xFUk83SVVSREdnJTNEJnJlc2VydmVkPTBXB3NjaG9vbG1CCmEVSkUVYUR70ntSFHBlbmpvbjE5NjVAZ21haWwuY29tWAQAAAAB)

Please note, updating your Family File is the only way families will be able to view teacher assignments for the upcoming school year. This information will be available August 25th, 2021. **In addition, the school needs this critical information prior to the first day of school.**

If you have already completed your Family File, we thank you! If you have not completed your Family File for the current school year, please complete the following as soon as possible:

[Log in to HCPSS Connect Synergy](http://track.spe.schoolmessenger.com/f/a/Zp1JD-4nQuNddY1lDrWE-Q~~/AAAAAQA~/RgRi9njKP0QeaHR0cHM6Ly93d3cuaGNwc3Mub3JnL2Nvbm5lY3QvVwdzY2hvb2xtQgphFUpFFWFEe9J7UhRwZW5qb24xOTY1QGdtYWlsLmNvbVgEAAAAAQ~~) 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

Once logged in, parents/guardians will be asked to provide or update the following information:

    Student information  
    Parent/guardian contact  
    Emergency contacts  
    Medical information  
    Arrival/dismissal procedures  
    Media release (photo approval)  
    Data confidentiality  
    PTA/PTSA directory

Parents who have forgotten their login credentials for Family File may click the “Forgot Password” link on the sign-in page. If you need additional assistance, please call the school or complete the [Connect Help Form](http://track.spe.schoolmessenger.com/f/a/Rq1iX_mo-cWgoWJc8L9q5w~~/AAAAAQA~/RgRi9njKP4SVBWh0dHBzOi8vbmFtMTAuc2FmZWxpbmtzLnByb3RlY3Rpb24ub3V0bG9vay5jb20vP3VybD1odHRwJTNBJTJGJTJGdHJhY2suc3BlLnNjaG9vbG1lc3Nlbmdlci5jb20lMkZmJTJGYSUyRkhiWWR0MXpBbjd1d09IWmNKcjM3ZVF-fiUyRkFBQUFBUUF-).

**Important Note: A change of address cannot be made through Family File**. If you have recently moved, please call the school at 410-313-5568 to make arrangements to send updated documents to staff.

**Parents new to the Howard County Public School System** will receive a welcome email with instructions on how to activate an account.

Parents may also check a variety of student information and classroom instructional tools offering personalized communication and timely, relevant, and easily accessible information relating to their student through [HCPSS Connect](http://track.spe.schoolmessenger.com/f/a/Zp1JD-4nQuNddY1lDrWE-Q~~/AAAAAQA~/RgRi9njKP0QeaHR0cHM6Ly93d3cuaGNwc3Mub3JnL2Nvbm5lY3QvVwdzY2hvb2xtQgphFUpFFWFEe9J7UhRwZW5qb24xOTY1QGdtYWlsLmNvbVgEAAAAAQ~~)

**Yearbooks**  If you ordered at yearbook and have not picked it up, you may do so at tomorrow’s Open House. Any yearbooks not picked up will be sent home with students when they return to school next week.

**Important Dates**

**Friday, August 27th**

1:00-1:50pm Kindergarten and New Student Orientation

2:00-3:00pm Open House for Grades 1-5

**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!