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Tiger Tales

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School Hours: 9:15 a.m. - 3:45 p.m.

February 13, 2015

From the Principal's Desk

I hope you found your parent conference to be a valuable opportunity to learn about your child's growth and further strengthen your relationship with the teacher. A positive relationship with the teacher is critical to ensure your child feels the important people in their life are working together. Check out this short article for more information on this topic. <http://www.pbs.org/parents/education/going-to-school/parent-involvement/parent-teacher-partnership/> Please take a few minutes to read the information below titled "*Using Data to Target Instruction*". This describes the great effort teachers make on a daily basis to ensure a rigorous program for your child. It also may help you understand why students frequently move in and out of instructional groups throughout the school year.

Junior Achievement in a Day was a huge success! The students had a wonderful day of learning about community, government, business and how these concepts interrelate with each other in the real world. This day would not have been such a success without our amazing volunteers! First, a special thank you to **Hina Naseem** for organizing the event and volunteers! Kudos to these volunteers for all their work in the classroom delivering the JA curriculum: **Dana Keiner (and her mom), Amy Grutzik, Lynne Boerchel, Yvonne Cotto, Pascale Fagerstrom, Linda Benjamin, Mary Beth Eikenberg, Tara Perry, Krista Patterson, Kathy Baur, Jessica Fitter, Alicyn Hodges, Lisa Anderson, Terri Suliga, Maribel Alonso, Sabina Sambat, David Yungmann, Valerie Eshleman.** Thank you, thank you, and thank you!

Using Data to Target Instruction: It is my expectation that teachers continuously assess and collect academic and social data on their students. This data is comprised of teacher observations, anecdotal records, quizzes, exit cards, projects, demonstrations, and teacher and county made tests that can be both formative and summative in nature. A formative assessment is a brief assessment to check in on the progress being made on a concept currently being taught or has recently been taught. A summative assessment tends to be a longer assessment measuring progress with multiple skills and concepts embedded. Each grade level team routinely analyzes this data and then they develop their lessons plans to meet the needs of all students. To meet the needs of all students, it requires teachers to differentiate instruction. Differentiation is a way of teaching; it's not a program or package of worksheets. It asks teachers to know their students well so they can provide each one with experiences and tasks that will improve learning. Differentiating instruction means that you observe and understand the differences and similarities among students and use this information to plan instruction. Here is a list of some key principles that form the foundation of differentiating instruction.

- **Ongoing, formative assessment:** Teachers continually assess to identify students' strengths and areas of need so they can meet students where they are and help them move forward.
- **Recognition of diverse learners:** The students we teach have diverse levels of expertise and experience with reading, writing, thinking, problem solving, and speaking. Ongoing assessments enable teachers to develop differentiated lessons that meet every students' needs.

- **Group Work:** Students collaborate in pairs and small groups whose membership changes as needed. Learning in groups enables students to engage in meaningful discussions and to observe and learn from one another.
- **Problem Solving:** The focus in classrooms that differentiate instruction is on issues and concepts rather than “the book” or the chapter. This encourages all students to explore big ideas and expand their understanding of key concepts.
- **Choice:** Teachers offer students choice in their reading and writing experiences and in the tasks and projects they complete. By negotiating with students, teachers can create motivating assignments that meet students’ diverse needs and varied interests.

Our instructional groups at WFES are flexible within and out of the homeroom classroom. This means that students routinely move in and out of small groups in the classroom and occasionally may move to another teacher at that same grade level to meet their needs. The intent is to continually support, intellectually engage, inspire, and make learning fun for every student.

Follow us on Twitter: @hcpss_WFES It’s fun!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Monday, February 16	Schools Closed: Presidents’ Day
March 2 – 6	Kindergarten Registration – 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Monday, March 2	Interim Progress Reports Issued
Tuesday, March 3	Class/Group and Spring Individual Photos
Tuesday, March 3	PTA Meeting in Media Center – 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday, March 4	Gr. 5 Health Education Parent Preview – 5:30 to 6:30
Friday, March 6	Gr. 1 Author’s Hour – 10:00 to 11:30

What’s for Lunch?

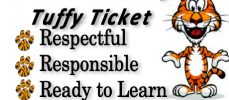
For the latest menus, and information regarding food services, please go to:

<http://www.hcpss.org/food-services> or download the HCPSS App for free

Monday, Feb. 16	Tuesday, Feb. 17	Wednesday, Feb. 18	Thursday, Feb. 19	Friday, Feb. 20
Presidents’ Day Schools and Offices Closed	Breakfast (\$2.00) Cinnamon Toast Crunch® Breakfast Break Fresh Fruit Milk Lunch Entree Choices (\$2.75) Beef Taco w/ Flour Tortilla Yogurt/Fruit/Cheese Combo Cheese Pizza Featured Items: Shredded Lettuce, Diced Tomatoes, Mixed Fruit All lunches include Fresh Apples & Oranges Hot Vegetable: Corn & Refried Beans Milk (50¢): fat free flavored, fat free unflavored, or 1% white	Breakfast (\$2.00) Strawberry Yogurt & Cheese Breakfast Break Fresh Fruit Milk Lunch Entree Choices (\$2.75) Chicken Nuggets w/ Roll Yogurt/Fruit/Cheese Combo Cheese Pizza Featured Items: Romaine Salad, Baby Carrots, Cinnamon Apple Slices All lunches include Fresh Apples & Oranges Hot Vegetable: Mashed Potatoes w/Gravy Milk (50¢): fat free flavored, fat free unflavored, or 1% white	Breakfast (\$2.00) Banana Muffin Breakfast Break Fresh Fruit Milk Lunch Entree Choices (\$2.75) Spaghetti & Meat Sauce w/Bread Yogurt/Fruit/Cheese Combo Cheese Pizza Featured Items: Tossed Salad, Tomato Wedges, Sliced Peaches All lunches include Fresh Apples & Oranges Hot Vegetable: Green Beans Milk (50¢): fat free flavored, fat free unflavored, or 1% white	Breakfast (\$2.00) Frosted Flakes® Breakfast Break Fresh Fruit Milk Lunch Entree Choices (\$2.75) Burger Sliders on Roll Yogurt/Fruit/Cheese Combo Cheese Pizza Featured Items: Shredded Lettuce, Cucumber Slices w/ Tomato Wedges, Diced Pears All lunches include Fresh Apples & Oranges Hot Vegetable: Carrot Coins Milk (50¢): fat free flavored, fat free unflavored, or 1% white
Monday, Feb. 23	Tuesday, Feb. 24	Wednesday, Feb. 25	Thursday, Feb. 26	Friday, Feb. 27
Breakfast (\$2.00) Cinnamon Toast Crunch® Breakfast Break Fruit Juice Fresh Fruit Milk Lunch Entree Choices (\$2.75) Beef Taco w/Flour Tortilla Yogurt/Fruit/Cheese Combo Cheese Pizza Featured Items: Shredded Lettuce, Diced Tomatoes, Mixed Fruit All lunches include Fresh Apples & Oranges Hot Vegetable: Corn Milk (50¢): fat free flavored, fat free unflavored, or 1% white	Breakfast (\$2.00) Strawberry Yogurt & Cheese Breakfast Break Fresh Fruit Milk Lunch Entree Choices (\$2.75) Chicken Stir Fry w/Rice & Roll Yogurt/Fruit/Cheese Combo Cheese Pizza Featured Items: Tossed Salad, Cucumber Slices w/Tomato Wedges, Sliced Peaches All lunches include Fresh Apples & Oranges Hot Vegetable: Broccoli Milk (50¢): fat free flavored, fat free unflavored, or 1% white	Breakfast (\$2.00) Banana Muffin Breakfast Break Fresh Fruit Milk Lunch Entree Choices (\$2.75) Chicken Patty, Plain or Spicy on Roll Yogurt/Fruit/Cheese Combo Cheese Pizza Featured Items: Caesar Salad, Baby Carrots, Applesauce All lunches include Fresh Apples & Oranges Hot Vegetable: Baked Beans Milk (50¢): fat free flavored, fat free unflavored, or 1% white	Breakfast (\$2.00) Frosted Flakes® Breakfast Break Fresh Fruit Milk Lunch Entree Choices (\$2.75) BBQ Rib w/Sub Roll Yogurt/Fruit/Cheese Combo Cheese Pizza Featured Items: Tossed Salad, Cole Slaw, Green Pepper Strips, Diced Pears All lunches include Fresh Apples & Oranges Hot Vegetable: Oven Baked Potatoes Milk (50¢): fat free flavored, fat free unflavored, or 1% white	Breakfast (\$2.00) Cinnamon Toast Crunch® Breakfast Break Fruit Juice Fresh Fruit Milk Lunch Entree Choices (\$2.75) Popcorn Chicken w/Waffle Yogurt/Fruit/Cheese Combo Cheese Pizza Featured Items: Spinach Salad, Fresh Cut Vegetables, Cinnamon Apple Slices All lunches include Fresh Apples & Oranges Hot Vegetable: Green Beans Milk (50¢): fat free flavored, fat free unflavored, or 1% white

School News

West Friendship



PBIS Update:

5th Grade student behavior continues to be very positive. We have many peer mentors who regularly model Tuffy's 3 R's throughout the building. Recently, 5th grade created this visual aid to help students monitor the number of tickets they are receiving. This also reminds the staff to make sure they are regularly acknowledging student success. Great job, 5th grade!

Media News: Check out Mrs. Petrilla's Update via this link!

<https://www.smore.com/app/pages/preview/shtun>

News from our PE Teacher Mr. Talbert!

Students are finishing the Bowling Unit. Students have been working on their appropriate bowling technique and completing their score sheet. The students were able to enjoy one week of "Cosmic Bowling" during this unit. The 4th and 5th graders are learning how to mark and score spares and strikes on their score sheets. It is an exciting and lifelong skills unit.

After the Bowling unit all students will work hard on the activity called cooperation "Target" ball. This is a fast paced, aerobic activity, that works on movement, teamwork, decision-making, and sending (throwing, tossing, bouncing...) various types of balls into a variety of targets to score points for their class. These games get very exciting as they are timed- 2, 3, & 4 minute games to score as many points as possible.

Following cooperation "Target" ball the 3rd-5th graders will begin their spring fitness assessments. The fitness tests are from FitnessGram testing program. These tests are not for pass/fail purposes, but to give a personal fitness report based on where your child falls into the Healthy Fitness Zone as established by the Cooper Institute. This is a chance for each child to learn about their health in a personal manner.

The kindergarten – 2nd graders will be working on their Jump Rope skills and other fitness activities. Students will learn the 4-step jump rope process and a variety of jumping patterns.

Finally to end the 3rd Quarter all students will work on their hand eye coordination by striking a ball with an implement. The older grades will be using tennis rackets, while the younger grades will be using a variety of implements (short handle rackets, paddle ball paddles and lollipop paddles). Students will practice their skills as individuals, with a partner, and in small group activities.

Reminder: Always have your child prepared for PE class, by having your child wear proper clothing and tennis shoes on PE days. It is HCPSS PE policy that a child must wear the proper shoes for PE to participate fully in class. If you forget your child's PE days or you want to see further units/activities in PE, just visit my website and click on the appropriate links located on the left hand side of my home page: <https://wfespe.wikispaces.hcpss.org/home>

Kindergarten Registration, March 2nd – 6th

Please spread the word to your family, friends, and neighbors. **Registration hours will be 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. If it is not possible for you to come in during these hours, please call the school office to schedule an appointment.** If you miss this week of registration, please contact the office to schedule an appointment. Every child who is **five years old by September 1, 2015** must be enrolled in a kindergarten program this fall or have an approved waiver. A custodial parent must complete the registration process and must live in the school attendance area. The following documents are required at time of registration:

- Parent picture ID: driver's license, military ID, or passport.
- Signed original, current lease or deed with your address, valid dates, signatures.
- Current utility bill with name and address (non-cellular telephone, gas and electric, cable bill).
- Student's proof of birth (birth certificate, baptismal certificate, hospital certificate, passport, military ID).
- Proof of parental relationship, custody, or guardianship. If applicable, bring legal proof of custody (court order).
- Student's current proof of immunizations signed by a physician.
- Student's most recent grade report, transcript, report card from last school attended at time of withdrawal.
- Documentation of Special Education (IEP), 504, Psychological Report, or related services.
- Any additional paperwork that may be necessary due to special living arrangements or circumstances.

Please visit <http://www.hcpss.org/schools/enrollment-and-registration/> for additional information

5th Grade Career Day

We need presenters for our annual **5th Grade Career Day** on **Friday, February 20, 2015**. Inclement weather date is Friday, February 27, 2015. If you're willing to present, please send in the tear off or contact carita_carlyle@hcpss.org. Your presentation should be 25 minutes in duration and include:

- A general description of your job.
- Description of what knowledge and skills are required to do your job (reading, writing, math, problem solving, communication).
- A hands-on activity and/or demonstration related to your job.
- Time to answer students' questions.

Helpful hint: Students are better able to attend when hands-on activities or visuals are used as part of the presentation. Visuals may include tools/equipment used on the job, posters, video clips, power point, etc.

Guitarist Needed for Spring Concert on 5/27/15 at 2:20 p.m. and 7 p.m.

Mrs. Syversen is in need of a guitarist for one piece on our spring concert. If you play guitar or your child plays guitar and you are interested in performing one piece with us in the spring, please let me know! We would love to have a parent or student join us! I have the music and can send it to you via email. Contact Mrs. Syversen at amy_syversen@hcpss.org if interested.

PTA NEWS

WFES Family Restaurant Night at E. W. Beck's!

Mark your calendar for **Monday, February 23rd**!

Time: 11:30 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.

E.W. BECK'S is located at: 7565 Main Street – Sykesville, MD 21784

Dine in or take out! WFES receives 10% of sales so you must present a flier for our school to receive this percentage. Two fliers will be sent home between now and the night of the event - be on the lookout! **Questions?** Contact **Theresa Yodzis** at tbone119@comcast.net

STEM Day PTA Volunteer Coordinator Needed!

If you are looking for an opportunity to play an important role in your child's education this is a great way to jump in! Responsibilities include working with students, teachers and parents to promote **Science, Technology, Engineering & Math**. Support will be provided from a former PTA STEM coordinator as you transition into this new role. We need this role filled by **February 27th** in order to move forward.

Questions? Contact **Theresa Yodzis** at 410.531.4929 or tbone119@comcast.net

PTA Volunteer Needed to Coordinate the Science Fair!

"The most exciting phrase to hear in science, the one that heralds new discoveries, is not 'Eureka!' but 'That's funny...'" Isaac Asimov

The date of the Science Fair is scheduled to coincide with the *Evening of Excellence* on **May 21st**. We need a parent volunteer to organize this event. Some responsibilities include advertising this event, coordinating volunteers, and communicating with WFES staff. Support will be provided.

Get involved and start today! We need this role filled by **February 27th** in order to move forward.

Questions? Contact **Dana Keiner** at 443.562.0262 or wfesptapresident@gmail.com

PTA Meeting

The next PTA Meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 3 at 6:30 p.m. in the Media Center. All are invited to attend.

COMMUNITY NEWS

2014 Choose Civility Poster Contest

In conjunction with the 2014 Choose Civility Symposium, students are invited to design a poster illustrating the theme, Civility in Sports.

Groups or individual students in grades K-12 who live or attend school in Howard County

Entries due to Mrs. Carlyle on or before Wednesday, February 18

ART CRITERIA

Poster size: maximum of 18" x 24" (horizontal or vertical)

Media: Marker, colored pencil, paint, computer, photography, or mixed media; technology such as augmented reality welcome

Image: Original art created solely by the contestant—no adult contributions or copyrighted characters

JUDGING CRITERIA

Adherence to theme

Originality

Effective use of media

PRIZES

\$50 Target gift card awarded to Grand Prize winner and poster reproduced for countywide distribution

\$25 Target gift card awarded to winner in each category: K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12, Group

HOW

Each submission should include the student's name, grade level, and school on the reverse side of the artwork.

Questions? Call 410.730.0075 or email monica.herber@columbiaassociation.org.

Presented in partnership with the Columbia Association Art Center, Howard County Library System, and Howard County Public School System

Karaoke & Pizza Night!

The Mount View Middle School PTA Community Outreach Committee cordially invites you to join us for Karaoke and Pizza!

Date: Friday, March 6th

Time: 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Where: MVMS Cafeteria

\$2.00 per slice (cheese or pepperoni)

Purchase of pizza includes **FREE** bottomless Caesar salad *and* drinks and refills (lemonade/iced tea)

Dessert: baked goods will be provided by the Community Outreach Committee student members and sold for \$1.00. **[Proceeds to support Operation Smile](http://www.operationsmile.org)** (<http://www.operationsmile.org>). Operation Smile provides free surgeries to repair cleft lip, cleft palate and other facial deformities for children around the globe. *Every three minutes a child is born with a cleft. A child with a cleft has twice the odds of dying before their first birthday. Children with cleft conditions who survive may have difficulty eating, speaking, hearing or breathing properly. In some places, they are shunned and rejected. And in too many cases, their parents can't afford the surgeries they need to live a productive life.*

Questions? Contact: [Theresa Yodzis](mailto:Theresa.Yodzis@comcast.net) at tbone119@comcast.net, [Chele Ruetsch](mailto:Chele.Ruetsch@yahoo.com) at chelediello@yahoo.com or [Mrs. Parson](mailto:Mrs.Parson@hcpss.org) at [Nicole Parson@hcpss.org](mailto:Nicole.Parson@hcpss.org).

JZ's Brick Oven Pizza Truck is Coming to the Ridge

Have you had their tasty and delectable brick oven pizza before? If so, we know you'll want more. If not, do not miss this opportunity!!! Marriotts Ridge Girls Lacrosse team has been invited to a prestigious play day in Rehoboth Beach for winning the State championship last May. We are raising money to offset the cost of the trip and really need the community's help. For every pizza sold we will receive a portion of the sale for our trip. You can pre-order, but walk-ups are certainly welcome. Pick up is anytime between 2:45 to 7:45 p.m. The sale will take place on February 25 and 26. Please email [Amanda Brady@hcpss.org](mailto:Amanda.Brady@hcpss.org) for more information.

Girls on the Run is coming back to West Friendship Elementary this Spring and needs your help!

What is Girls on the Run (GOTR)?

GOTR is an afterschool running program for 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade girls. But it's about SO much more than running. The GOTR training program teaches girls about self-esteem, confidence, respect, teamwork, fitness, and nutrition. The GOTR team will meet twice a week after school for 10 weeks in the spring. At the end of the 10-week program, the girls will run a 5K in Howard County. More information can be found on the GOTR web site:

<http://gotrcentralmd.org/>

When does it start?

Practices start the week of March 16, 2015 and will be twice a week after school at WFES from 3:45-5:00 (days of the week to be determined based on coach availability).

How can I help (even if I don't have a daughter who is participating)?

We desperately need another coach this spring that can commit to coaching one day a week for 10 weeks. Without another coach, this program will not be able to run this spring. **YOU DO NOT HAVE TO BE A RUNNER to coach!** If you are interested in helping us to continue this amazing program at WFES, please email Carmen Roberts at daveandcarmen@msn.com.

The Marriotts Ridge High School Tri-M Music Honor Society will be holding its first annual Tutoring Night on Tuesday, February 24th.

Our outstanding musicians in the MRHS Tri-M organization will be providing free one-on-one tutoring to elementary and middle school students participating in choir, band, and orchestra. Tutoring will take place in 30-minute sessions from 4:00-8:00 p.m. at Marriotts Ridge High School.

To sign up for a lesson or to ask questions, please email marriottsridgetrim@gmail.com. Tri-M will reply with your assigned time based on first-come, first-served basis. Further details will be sent out to participating students/parents upon the approach of the date.

This is a great opportunity for students to prepare for the Solo & Ensemble festival! Don't let students miss out on the chance to be meet and be mentored by experienced high school musicians!

DONATIONS NEEDED!

The 7th Annual Mustang Flea Market to benefit the MRHS Music Department will be held on Saturday, March 7, 8AM - 1PM in the Cafeteria and Commons! PLEASE SAVE YOUR "STUFF" AND DONATE ITEMS FOR THIS TREMENDOUSLY WORTHY CAUSE. Gently used items can be dropped off at the storage units that will be located in the parking lot behind the cafeteria.

Drop off times are:

Saturday, February 21: 9 AM - NOON

Friday, February 27: 5-8 PM

Saturday, February 28: 9 AM-NOON

Large items will be accepted upon approval. Please hold your large items (furniture and sporting goods) and drop them off on Friday, March 6 from 4PM-8PM in the Commons. Donated items are tax deductible!

Glenelg Marching Unit Restaurant Night

Come eat at Mama Millies Deli and support the Glenelg Marching Unit. Mention the Glenelg Marching Unit fundraiser and the unit will receive credit from the sale. No coupon needed, just say that you would like to support the Glenelg Marching Unit.

When – The entire week of February 23rd to February 28th!

Time – All day, Monday, February 23rd to Saturday, February 28th.

Restaurant hours are: Monday through Saturday, 11:00am – 10:00pm, closed on Sunday

Where -Mama Millies Deli / **3881 Ten Oaks Road, Glenelg, MD 21737 / (410) 489-4660**

Come out and mention Glenelg Marching Unit to show your support! Eat in or carry out!

Winter Bird Count for Youth

Want to learn about feeder birds, outdoor birding with experts, and how to start a life list? Come to Belmont Manor and Historic Park (6555 Belmont Woods Road, Elkridge, MD) on Saturday, March 7th from 9:00 a.m. to noon. This is a free event sponsored by Howard County Conservancy and Howard County Recreation & Parks, for ages 8 and up. For more info contact Belmont@hconservancy.org.