February 2020

Dates to Remember

Tuesday, February 4
Schools and Offices Closed, Special Election Day

Thursday, February 6
College Day, Wear Your College Gear!
Report Cards Distributed

Monday, February 10
Grade 2 Trip to Goucher College, 9:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
_One School, One Book_ - Enjoy a Story, Book Talk, and Reading Strategies - Presented by Mrs. Cockey and Mrs. Berkey, 6:00 p.m. – All are Invited to Join Us!
PTA Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

Monday, February 17
Schools and Offices Open, Snow Make-up Day

Monday, February 24
Zoo Mobile Visit for Grade 1, 2:00 p.m.

Thursday, February 6 is College Day
Our first BCPS College Day is coming! On Thursday, February 6, students, staff, and community members are invited to wear college, fraternity, or sorority attire, and share photos at #BCPSCollegeDay.

BCPS Stakeholder Survey
The BCPS Stakeholder Survey is now available online through March 1, 2020, for Team BCPS stakeholders, including students in Grades 3–12, parents/caregivers, community members, and all staff. Past survey feedback has been used to guide school improvement, staff training, office safety, and office reorganization. The survey can be taken via smart phone, tablet, or computer. It takes five minutes or less to complete, is anonymous, and will be available in 16 languages for students, parents, and community members.
Pre-K and Kindergarten Registration

Pre-Kindergarten registration will take place Thursday, April 16, for children turning four on or before September 1, 2020. Kindergarten registration will take place Friday, April 17, for children turning five on or before September 1, 2020. Contact Ms. Amy Synan at (410) 887 – 5267 for a registration appointment and packet.

You will need the following seven pieces of documentation to register your child:

• Child’s birth certificate
• Immunization record
• Your photo ID with current address
• Proof of residency, such as a copy of your tax bill, deed, mortgage coupon book, or your lease (If a private lease, the owner must provide you with proof of ownership)
• 3 current pieces of U.S. mail from your address (postmarked within the last 60 days)

If you know someone who has a child entering kindergarten or pre-kindergarten who might not receive this newsletter, please share this information with him or her.

Free Parent Workshops

The BCPS Resource Center is offering parent workshops at multiple locations. Participants must register by contacting the Special Education Resource Center at serc@bcps.org or by calling 410-887-5443.

Understanding Your Child’s IEP

The presenter will be Leslie Seid Margolis, Managing Attorney, Disability Rights Maryland. This workshop is designed to give parents a more in-depth examination of the components of their child’s IEP, in order to assist them in becoming a more knowledgeable and effective member of their child’s IEP team.

The workshop will be offered on Thursday, February 20, 2020, from 6 – 8 p.m., at the BCPS Greenwood Campus, Building E, Room 123.

The same workshop will be offered in Spanish on Tuesday, March 10, 2020, from 6 – 8 p.m., at the Pikesville Library meeting room.

Tourette Syndrome and Tics: Effective Treatment Strategies for Children and Teens

Dr. Tana Hope from The Child and Family Therapy Clinic of the Department of Behavioral Psychology at Kennedy Krieger Institute will provide education on the identification, assessment and evidenced-based treatment of tics. Participants will learn what they can do to assist children and teens in managing tics.

The workshop will be offered on Wednesday, February 26, 2020, from 10 a.m. – 12 p.m., at White Oak School, in the main training lab.

Nurse’s Notes

February brings love and chocolate, but Valentine’s Day is not the only thing celebrated this month. According to the American Dental Association (ADA) this month also brings awareness to Pediatric Dental Hygiene and is National Children’s Dental Health Month. Take some time to talk to your child about the importance of dental health. Lifelong
habits begin at home. Make dental health part of your daily routine and share these reminders from the ADA with your whole family:

- Brush your teeth at least twice a day with fluoride toothpaste, especially after breakfast and before bedtime. Drinking water after eating also helps to clear your teeth of food particles.
- Floss every day. An adult should help children under the age of eight to floss. Older children should be ready to floss on their own.
- Limit the number of times you eat snacks, especially the sticky ones and long-lasting ones.
- Visit a dentist regularly for a routine checkup and a cleaning.
- Protect your teeth by wearing a mouth guard when playing sports.
- Don’t forget to change your toothbrush regularly, and after an illness.

**Counselor’s Corner**

February is Black History Month and to honor all the diversity we have in Baltimore County Public Schools, we are emphasizing celebrating differences. Kindergarten, first, and second grade will focus on positive characteristics in order to list ways they are unique and special. Third grade students will discuss cliques and including others. Fourth grade students will read a book related to segregation and including others. Fifth grade students will further their learning regarding equity and equality using classroom examples.

**PGE Welcomes New Office Secretary**

Mrs. Pat Kramer, our front office secretary, has retired and we wish her the best in this new phase of her life! Mrs. Kramer has warmly welcomed families to PGE for the past 8 years and now she will spend more time with her family and traveling. Congratulations, Mrs. Kramer! We will miss you!

We are pleased to welcome Mrs. Adelle Frick as our new office secretary. Mrs. Frick is transferring from another Baltimore County School and will join us as soon as her position is filled in her current school. During this transition period, Mrs. Gina Steele will be filling in as our temporary secretary. Welcome Mrs. Frick and Mrs. Steele! You are pandas now!

**The Stacey Crowl PGE Green School Club**

Finders, keepers! The Stacey Crowl PGE Green School Club members want to share their love of literacy with the community while being green. Student members have collected gently used books to make baggies to hide around our PGE community. The baggies will have a book and an AVID one-pager (like the one pictured on the right) explaining our hidden book program. We hope the finders will enjoy the books as much as the previous owners. And just maybe…after reading the book, the new owner will pass the book along to someone else to continue sharing the love of literacy and act of being green. If you are lucky enough to find a book, kindly tweet out or email aspencer2@bcps.org so we know our idea was a success!