



NEWS EXPRESS

VOLUME 13, ISSUE 2

SEPTEMBER 16, 2011

- September 19** Back To School Night Grades K, 1 & 3
6:30 Meet the Related Arts Team
7:00 Meet your student's teachers
- September 20** Back To School Night Grades 2, 4 & 5
6:30 Meet the Related Arts Team
7:00 Meet your student's teachers
- September 23** Student Individual Picture Day
Dolphin Dash
- September 27** PTA Exec board meeting-7pm CLES media center
- September 29** Schools & Offices Closed-Rosh Hashana
- October 4** PTA General Meeting-CLES Cafeteria 7pm
- October 11** Market Day Pick Up-Cafeteria
- October 21** Schools Closed for students-MSCE Convention
- November 1** Flumist Clinic-For information to follow from Health Services
- November 14-18** American Education Week

Back to School Night Information

This year the structure for our Back To School Nights will be somewhat different than in the past. The regular program of meeting in the cafeteria and then meeting with your child's teacher/team will remain the same and begin at 7:00 p.m.

At 6:30 we are inviting parents to come to school to meet and visit with members of our related arts team and other service educators at CLES. These teachers have been present in past years but parents rarely have time or make time to see these staff members and their classrooms. We hope that by providing them with a separate block of time you may be able to spend some time learning about their various programs.

This will not be a large gathering in one space but rather an individual "meet and greet" with the teacher. Different staff members will be present on different nights. We have listed the staff members and the night they will be present.

Monday

Melissa Fleck & Jamie Travers- Art Teachers
Sari O'Bryan-Strings
Ruth Huang, Chris Bruzga & Lily Yeh- ESOL
Leela Noble & Jane Slattery-Media
Francesca Graham & Ron Pusloskie- PE
Yvonne Cox & Randi Malamphy- Special Education
Amanda Bucchioni-Reading Specialist
Adaora Ichoku-Reading Para-Ed
Kevin Gillespie-Guidance Counselor
Samantha Wilson-Guidance Intern

Tuesday

Peter Parlette & Mike Kilberg-Technology
Jamie Travers-Art
Stevie Brouillet & Rebecca Foster-Music
Taryn Silbert-Speech Pathologist
Frank Owens-Band

Forms to be returned to school

If you have not returned any of the following forms to school please do so as soon as possible.

- *Emergency Cards (2) for each student
- *Parental Option Form (Orange and White #2 Pencil required)
- *Unexpected Closing Form
- *Acceptable Use of Technology Form

School Lunches

Lunch prices for the 2011-2012 school year are as follows: Lunch \$2.50, milk \$.50. If your child is allergic to milk please send a doctor's note to your child's teacher and juice can be offered in place of milk. Please note that the cafeteria cannot accept checks or foreign coins for payment of lunches.

Borrowing money-Our new process for borrowing lunch money seems to be going very well. Currently we only have a few outstanding loans needing to be repaid. If your child has borrowed money and you have not repaid the loan, please send it in.

Individual School Pictures- Pictures will be taken on September 23, 2011. Every child will have their photo taken for the yearbook. School Pictures, Inc will take this year's photos. Information will come home in your child's Friday folder this week. Order forms and payment envelopes will be sent home the day before pictures are taken. Please send in your child's order form if you wish to purchase a package. Individual school picture orders **cannot** be turned in late.

Attendance/Absences-If your child is absent, please remember to send in a written note when your child returns. Without a written note, the absence is considered "truant". It is not necessary to call the school and report your child's absence.

Students are allowed three parent discretionary days each year for family travel. If you are going to be absent for more than 3 days you will need to complete an "Extended Absence Form" and turn in to the front office for approval. The form is available in the front office or on the Howard County website, www.hcpss.org. Please schedule extended family trips during holidays or Winter/Spring Breaks. There is a tremendous amount of instruction lost

when children miss school for an extended time. Please check the CLES website for the county and state assessment dates. We want every student present and able to demonstrate his or her learning at these important testing times.

Transportation & Afterschool Activities- Please send in a note if your child's dismissal changes from their normal routine at any time, this included after-school activities. If your child will be participating in an afterschool activity that begins immediately after school you **must** send in a note each week letting us know your child will be staying for an activity. **This is only for activities that begin at 3:35 pm or earlier.** Without a written note your child will be sent home according to our records. We want to ensure that all our students return home safely.

If your child rides to or from school with a daycare such as Celebree, LaPetite, or US Tae Kwon Do, please notify them if your child will not be riding the daycare van at dismissal. Also, please keep in mind students are not allowed to ride buses they are not assigned to. If you have a daycare situation, please come to the front office to get the required paperwork for your child to be approved to ride a different bus to or from school.

Car Riders-Dropping-off and Picking-up Procedures-Once buses begin pulling into the parking lot in the morning, we ask that parents park along the curb, near the fields. Please do not leave your car unattended here. When buses leave, staff members will direct cars to pull up to the opposite end of the building, once again along the curb. After students have exited all of the cars, staff members will direct these cars to leave together. Leaving together will lessen the possibility of one car pulling out in front of another. This process will be repeated until all students have been dropped off. This same process is repeated for pick-up in the afternoon. Please stay in your cars so that we can load students quickly.

Please do not drive behind the buses when they are parked in the lot. It would be impossible to see a child if they attempted to cross the parking lot between parked buses.

Parent Information- Please send in a note if there is a change in information you provided on the emergency card. i.e. address, telephone number, email or extra contact person. It is extremely important for us to have updated information should an emergency arise during the school day.

Student Photograph/Videotape Refusal Form-Newspaper and television reporters/photographers often visit Howard County Schools to report on events or stories. If your child has permission to be photographed, videotaped or interviewed, you do not have to do anything. Note: Such photographs or videotape may be used in school system publications, local print and television news, and media websites. Please fill out and sign the form, which can be found online at hcpss.org if you **DO NOT** want your child to be interviewed, photographed or videotaped by school system, local or national media, during the 2011-2012 school year. A new form must be filled out annually.

PTA

Dolphin Dash: Join CLES families for this year's Dolphin Dash and BYO picnic on Friday, Sept. 23 from 6-8pm. After the fun run, spread out a blanket & enjoy your picnic while listening to dance music til' the sun goes down. Dessert and DJ compliments of your PTA. Questions? Contact Michele Parisi, micheleparisi21@gmail.com or Kim Boodin, kboodin@gmail.com.

International Walk to School Day is Wednesday, October 5th. Please join us in a celebration of fitness and community. Walkers and bikers will meet at the flagpole for the flag raising, and then parents can enjoy refreshments. Volunteer's welcome! Contact Kris Singleton: klsworking@yahoo.com or 410.852.0503.

2011-2012 CLES Yearbook: Thank you to everyone who has sent in pictures for the yearbook! Jolena and I are going to have so much fun putting it all together! The more pictures we have to choose from the better so keep 'em coming! If you have any pictures you would like to submit to us for review for the yearbook, you can either send them to rippleeffect@earthlink.net and put "CLES Yearbook Photo" in the subject line or burn pictures to a CD and give to front office to put in the Yearbook mailbox. Also, we have limited quantities of last years yearbook that we are selling first come first served. Any questions? Contact Debra Betz at 240-353-8205 (Debrabetz@verizon.net) or Jolena Arcuri at 410-375-9335 (Jolenaarcuri@verizon.net).

K.I.D.S

Brochures/Registration forms for the Fall session of K.I.D.S. have been sent home with students in grades 3, 4, & 5. We are thrilled to present Rodgers and Hammerstein's "OKLAHOMA!"

Registration for K.I.D.S. is separate from all the other ASA activities. Please look for the blue form and send it in by Wednesday, Sept. 28. A registration form is also available on the PTA website. K.I.D.S. begins October 4 and runs through February 9.

Community News:

Fliers located in the school lobby:

Winter Basketball Ages 6-18. For more information or to register online go to www.hcyp.org.

Join the Cub Scouts: Cub Scout Pack 361, for more information contact Anna Katz, annakatz@verizon.net
Or Joe Sedor, Cubmaster at joe.sedor@verizon.net

PLEASE SIGN UP FOR ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTERS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM CLES AT: hcpss.org. Paper newsletters will not be sent home after September.