



**Flora M. Singer
Elementary School**

S e a T u r t l e s




The Sea Turtle Times

Flora M. Singer Elementary School 2600 Hayden Drive, Silver Spring, MD 20902 Phone: 240-740-0330
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	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
This week	12/30 Winter Break	12/31 Winter Break	1/1 Winter Break	1/2 Staff and Students Return	1/3
Next week	1/6 Primary Grade Town Hall for Students	1/7 Intermediate Grades Town Hall for Students	1/8	1/9	1/10 Spanish-speaking Parent Coffee 9:45 Staff Lounge; Google meet Meeting Link: https://meet.google.com/nfs-ahhb-xjy

Table of Contents

Happy New Year! <i>New this week!</i>	Coat Drive Donations & Requests	CogAT make-up sessions	WIDA ACCESS	YouthCruiser SmarTrip Card
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Ethiopian Eritrean Special Needs Community Info Session	PTA Meeting (January 14th, 7pm) <i>Updated this week!</i>	PTA Newsletter <i>Updated 02 January!</i>	Take Home Chromebooks	Smart Sacks: Weekend Food Bags
	Staff Member of the Month!	Breakfast and Lunch	Immunizations and Medications	School Cash Online
Supply List and Bus Routes	Volunteering at School	Contact the Department of Transportation	MCPS Calendar:  2024-calendar.pdf  2024-calendar-sp.pdf	Menu:  December Menu....

Happy New Year!

Mr. McKinley and Mr. Heatwole would to wish the entire Singer Sea Turtle family a Happy New Year! We hope that all of students, staff, parents, caregivers, and community members have an amazing 2025!

Take Home Chromebooks

If your student has an MCPS home chromebook with make and model Acer C720, C740, C738, or C771, these devices have been retired by MCPS and will now display a "locked" screen. Please return these devices to school as they are no longer usable.

If you would like your student to have a newer model at home, please resubmit this form: [Student Home Use Chromebook Request Form](#). Please be patient when waiting for your new device, as it could take a few weeks to make this transition. Thank you and sorry for the inconvenience!

Ethiopian Eritrean Special Needs Community Info Session: Save the Date!

We are in the process of scheduling an in-person information session on January 30th for Amharic-speaking parents with the Ethiopian Eritrean Special Needs Community (EESNC). Please save the date and look for updates in upcoming Sea Turtle Times and PTA Newsletters.

PTA Meeting, January 14th 2025 (RESCHEDULED)

Join us in-person or online at 7pm on January 14th! We'll review regular PTA business, and then host a panel discussion on youth sports in Montgomery County. Come early for dinner and some time to get to know other parents.

Coat Drive Donations & Requests

Cold weather is just around the corner. If your Singer student is in need of a winter coat, you can request one using the link below. Requests will be fulfilled as coats become available.

<https://forms.gle/JzAJ2kra6YeWNFac9>

If you would like to donate to the coat drive, new and used coats and cold weather gear in [dignity](#) condition can be dropped off in the bin in the main hallway.

Staff Member of the Month!

We believe that our school staff plays a crucial role in creating a positive and nurturing environment for our students. To recognize their hard work and dedication, we invite you to nominate an exceptional staff member to be our Staff Member of the Month!

If you've witnessed a teacher, administrator, or support staff member going above and beyond, we want to hear about it! Please share your thoughts on how they have made a difference in your child's education or well-being.

Nominations can be submitted throughout the year using the links below:

English: <https://forms.gle/cRCUCftPF5e1vBMAA>

Spanish: <https://forms.gle/5PvwqZRBcHtmfqgXA>

Kids Ride Free with Youth Cruiser SmarTrip

The Youth Cruiser card is a SmarTrip card that provides free rides, on all MCDOT buses and most Metrobuses within the County, to Montgomery County residents under 19 years old. Value can be added to the card for use on Metrorail, Metrobuses outside the County, and other transit systems in the metropolitan area.

Your Flora M. Singer student can get their SmarTrip card at school! To request a card for your child, ask your child's teacher for

a paper application to be sent home, or complete the form below and return it to the main office. Once processed, a card will be sent home with your child. **Allow a week for processing.** Questions can be directed to Ashlea Gray. Ashlea.L.Gray@mcpsmd.org

[English Application](#)

[Spanish Application](#)

Smart Sacks: Weekend Food Bags

Would you like extra food for your children on the weekends? Smart Sacks is a free program that gives a bag of food to elementary school children who would benefit from extra food for the weekend when there is no school lunch or breakfast. At the end of each week, children who are participating in this program will receive a bag of food at school to bring home. If you would like your child to participate in the program, please complete the permission form below. More information about the program is provided in the permission form.

[Smart Sack Permission Form](#)

Supply List and Bus Routes

Here is a link to our student supply list:


 [FMS ES - School Supply List - FY 24-25 - ENGLISH.pdf](#)

 [FMS ES - Lista de Útiles Escolares - FY 24-25 - SPANISH.pdf](#)

A limited number of supplies and backpacks have been donated by local organizations and the PTA. If your Flora Singer student is in need of school supplies or a backpack, please complete the following form.





https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeoDVIRxsvns60Te4RXEAINQoICpjbEXeM5LHfSOS27cmtaEw/viewform?usp=sf_link

Here is a link to the general education bus routes:

 [SINGER ES - 770 - REG ARR.pdf](#)

 [SINGER ES - 770 - REG DEP.pdf](#)

Other information from the Transportation Department:

-  20240801 RAN ElementarySchool English.pdf
-  20240801 RAN ElementarySchool SPANISH.pdf
-  What You Should Know About Riding the Bus.pdf
-  What You Should Know About Riding the Bus SPANISH.pdf

Breakfast and Lunch

Meal prices will be \$2.55 for lunch. Our breakfast program is free to all students and available in the classroom every morning.

Students in Maryland who qualify for reduced-price meals will not be charged for breakfast or lunch. Families can apply online now so that benefits will be in place when school starts. Families can access the online application by visiting www.myschoolapps.com/. Please remember a new application must be completed for any family requesting assistance this school year.

You can visit the the website to see all the options for paying for a school lunch:
<https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/food-and-nutrition/meal-payments/#How>

You can use My School Bucks to set up payment for school lunch online:
<https://www.myschoolbucks.com/ver2/getmain.action?clientKey=&requestAction=home>

Immunizations and Medications

It is very important that your child is up-to-date on his/her immunizations. If you are not sure, please check with your doctor. The state law mandates that children not be admitted to school without the proper immunizations. Medications must be brought to school in the original container by an adult along with [MCPS Form 525-13](#) (Authorization to Administer Prescribed Medication) completed by your physician. Medication will not be administered without proper authorization. Please contact our Health Technician if you have any questions.

School Cash Online

Montgomery County Public Schools has transitioned to a new online payment system called SchoolCash Online as its preferred

method of payment for school-related fees such as fundraisers, field trips, obligations, etc. SchoolCash Online helps parents/guardians and community members pay school-related fees safely, quickly, and easily. SchoolCash Online will help increase efficiency and security at schools by making payments directly into schools' bank accounts and eliminating the need for teachers to handle money. In addition, once registered, you will be immediately informed about school activities!

Powered by KEV Group, SchoolCash Online is the industry leader in the management of school fees. The new system puts all of the school-related fees online for purchase so users can make purchases online using a credit card or e-check. A processing fee will be included on all items available for purchase, regardless of the type of payment used on SchoolCash Online or at the school.

Parents/guardians can register now at - <https://mcpsmd.schoolcashionline.com/>

SchoolCash Online also offers a 24/7 customer support desk that can be reached by online inquiry or by calling 1-866-961-1803.

Volunteering at School

If you are interested in being a volunteer in any capacity this school year we would love to have you! Please access the link to learn about the requirements of volunteering in MCPS. If you have any questions please contact Mr. McKinley.

<https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/student-leadership/volunteer>

Contact the Department of Transportation

If you ever have any questions or concerns regarding the buses or transportation of students, you may now call their customer service hotline. They can be reached at: 240-740-7790.

CogAT make-ups

If you have a child in 2nd or 3rd grade who missed any of their CogAT assessment sessions we will be administering make-ups in early January. All students who missed sessions will be able to take a make-up. Please let our GT liaison Angela Martin, or Mr. McKinley know if you have any questions!

WIDA ACCESS

Is your child part of our English Language Development program? If so they will be participating in state wide WIDA ACCESS assessments during the month of January. These assessments are an opportunity for students to show what they have learned in reading, writing, speaking and listening in English. Please reach out to our ELD team leader Mrs. Kim Fisher [Kimberly M. Fisher@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Kimberly_M_Fisher@mcpsmd.org) or Staff Development Teacher Mrs. Angela Martin [Angela L. Martin@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Angela_L_Martin@mcpsmd.org) if you have any questions!