

Lois P. Rockwell Elementary School

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Rockwell Register



Dear Parents,

It's hard to believe it is February 2021 already! We continue to be amazed at what your children are doing online and the proficiency that they have shown in how to use instructional technology. While it is understood that virtual instruction is completely different from in-person learning, we are seeing our Rockwell students make gains in learning.

As you likely know, we are in the midst of planning for a return to the building for in-person instruction on a timeline that will be determined by the Montgomery County Board of Education at their meeting scheduled for Tuesday, February 9. We have been setting up classrooms and planning for the safe movement throughout the building when it is occupied by both staff and students. Our planning centers on a variety of factors that have a tremendous influence on how our in-person instruction will look and be organized. We continue to examine the numbers of students who we expect to be in-person, the space limitations for our school building, and the staff available to provide instruction. In addition, we must consider and plan for the continuation of the online instructional program that we have maintained since the start of the school year.

MCPS has published the different types of instructional models possible in communication that was sent directly to all parents. A recent public announcement from MCPS about the return to in-person learning can be accessed [here](#). We will communicate our specific plans once all important information is confirmed and the timeline is set by the MCPS BOE- stay tuned!

Thank you, parents, for all that you are doing to partner with us to make virtual learning the best it can be for your children. We appreciate your children, and we appreciate you and your dedication to work with us in this challenging year.

Be well and take good care!

Cheryl Clark
Principal

 *Happy
Valentine's Day*



As part of MCCPTA's SSL committee's work, we wanted to share information about a number of MCPS HS student-led groups providing free virtual tutoring to K-8 students across the County. These student tutors have either an MCPS faculty or non-profit SSL sponsor and have been through a formal interview process. Tutors have also taken the MCPS Volunteers and Contractors: Recognizing and Reporting Child Abuse and Neglect online training course.

Many of these student-led groups have posted their services on a platform called [Kiddo](#), which provides families looking for free learning support a single place to search and register for those services. This free virtual tutoring platform is the Central platform for families to search and register for free student-led tutoring services. Families can also contact the student-led tutoring services directly --

- [Stepping Stone Tutoring](#)- Led by Montgomery Blair HS students
- [Montgomery County Virtual Tutoring Project](#)- Led by Clarksburg HS students
- [MoCo Pineapple Tutoring](#)- Led by Winston Churchill HS students
- [SparkStars Tutoring](#)- Led by Montgomery Blair/Richard Montgomery HS students
- [Centro de Asistencia Social y Orientación](#) - Led by Montgomery Blair and Richard Montgomery HS students
- [Generation Z Tutoring](#)- Led by Richard Montgomery HS students

Note -- the student-led programs operate independent registration sites but have joined this central platform. [Kiddo](#) is a local Montgomery County startup that is completely free to use for all families and service providers. It was built with the intention of being a central space for families and local enrichment service providers to connect, with a core social mission around driving extracurricular programming accessibility to underserved communities.

Please share these resources with families and students in your school. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at ssl@mccpta.org.



Chromebook Repairs

Chromebook repairs will now need to go through a process outlined in the Chromebook Obligations document. To summarize this document, if you have an issue with your MCPS Chromebook:

- Go to 45 West Gude Drive.
- Parents should park in the 45 West Gude Drive parking lot and walk up to the front overhang parallel to Gude Drive.
- Provide Students ID#, First and Last Name, School, and Contact Information. Please ensure the accuracy of the information.
- A loaner device can be requested at this location if inventory is available.
- The loaner may be a different model than the original Chromebook but should still allow all accessibility.
- Once the repair is complete, the child's school will contact the parent/guardian to arrange a time for pick up.
 - Parents/guardians will also be notified of any incurred cost. The Chromebook Obligations Repair Costs document provides details.
 - If the loaner device is not returned, there will be a \$100 flat fee.



Be Well 365 Recovery Student Supports and Interventions

All schools will continue to implement social-emotional supports for students.

Student Well-Being Teams:

Rockwell Elementary has a Student Well-Being Team, and we meet weekly to discuss and brainstorm supports for students and families. If you have a concern about your child or your family, please reach out to Mrs. Clark, Mr. Isabell, Mrs. Kane, or your child's teacher. We want to be sure that we support all of our families.

Schools have designated student well-being teams that will receive referrals for student support from school staff and families. These teams will support students who are struggling with social-emotional concerns, attendance, and engaging with online learning. They will also support the delivery and monitoring of Social Emotional Learning (SEL) lessons. The teams are comprised of school administrators, counselors, psychologists, pupil personnel workers (PPW's), parent community coordinators (PCC's), and other building staff.



Student Psychoeducational Lessons: All schools are required to implement a student psychoeducational lesson during a Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) schedule blocks in Student psychoeducational lessons provide direct crisis intervention support to students. This lesson will give the students crisis facts about the dual pandemic (COVID-19 and systemic racism) in our nation. It will also provide information on common crisis feelings/reactions, stress management strategies, and where to find help. Teachers will implement these lessons with coaching from the building counselors, psychologists, and other

school-based mental health staff. Families who have concerns about their child's ability to participate in the student psychoeducational lessons due to a mental health concern or a prior traumatic event should contact the school administration to request an alternative way of meeting the lesson objectives. The student will also be referred to the student well-being team for additional support.

Social-Emotional Learning Lessons: Throughout the school year, staff will provide Social Emotional Learning lessons to help students effectively apply the knowledge, attitudes, and skills necessary to understand and manage emotions, set and achieve positive goals, feel and show empathy for others, establish and maintain positive relationships, and make responsible decisions.



Family resources: Parent Academy workshops are free workshops that provide information, resources, and tools & tips to support student success. The **Parent Academy** is designed to inform and empower families as advocates and partners in their children's education. Workshops provide families with useful information and resources to support their children's academic and emotional well-being and help them be college and career

ready. Through a variety of learning opportunities, we hope to strengthen our engagement with families and the community. We recognize that behind every successful student are supportive families, teachers, school staff, and community members who take an active role in educating our students. We want our families and students to remain engaged throughout the school year. While we may not be able to meet face-to-face, Student, Family, and School Services are excited to provide

"Parent Academy TO GO," a series of virtual workshops for families to view at home. Families can access additional information about social-emotional support on the following websites:

- Office of Student and Family Supports and Engagement: <https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/student-services/>
- Be Well 365: <https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/student-services/wellbeing/index-new.aspx>
- Mindful Moments Video Series: https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLkZwAghwrSytgi1re_2Sr8Dt8poZCHgP5
- Waymaking Video Series: <https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/waymaking/specials/>
- Virtual Parent Academy Series: <https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/parent-academy/workshops.aspx>

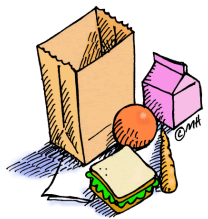


Parent Academy Launches To-Go Virtual Webinars

Families and students can stay engaged throughout the school year with Parent Academy TO GO. Parent Academy TO GO is a series of virtual webinars for families to watch at home. September and October webinars are listed on the Parent Academy [website](#).

La Academia Para Padres lanza seminarios virtuales

Las familias y los estudiantes pueden participar durante todo el ciclo escolar con Parent Academy TO GO. Parent Academy TO GO es una serie de seminarios virtuales para que las familias los vean en casa. Los seminarios web de septiembre y octubre se enumeran en el [sitio web de Parent Academy](#).



MCPS to Provide Triple Meal Service on Fridays

MCPS is increasing to a triple meal service on Fridays to help address food insecurity for MCPS students over the weekend. The district will also continue to partner with local non-profits, faith-based organizations, County Government agencies, and others to provide food and other critical resources to the community. More information is available at www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/reopening/meals/.

MCPS brindará servicio de comida triple los viernes

MCPS está aumentando a un servicio de comida triple los viernes para ayudar a abordar las necesidades alimenticias de los estudiantes de MCPS durante el fin de semana. El distrito también continuará asociándose con organizaciones sin fines de lucro locales, organizaciones religiosas, agencias gubernamentales del condado y otras para proporcionar alimentos y otros recursos críticos a la comunidad. Para más información visite www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/reopening/meals/.

immunizations



County Offers Immunizations for Children Returning to School

County health officials are offering free immunizations to eligible children so that immunization requirements are met for the 2020–2021 school year. Immunizations for students new to MCPS and children in kindergarten through Grade 12 are available Monday through Friday, by appointment only, at locations in Silver Spring and Germantown. Appointments are available at:

Dennis Avenue Health Center, 2000 Dennis Avenue, Silver Spring; Phone: 240-777-1050

Germantown Health Center, 12900 Middlebrook Road, Germantown; Phone: 240-777-3380

More information about Maryland's immunization requirements can be found on the [Maryland Health Department's website](#).

El condado ofrece vacunas para los niños que regresan a la escuela

Los funcionarios de salud del condado están ofreciendo vacunas gratuitas a los niños elegibles para que se cumplan los requisitos de vacunación para el ciclo escolar 2020–2021. Las vacunas para los estudiantes nuevos en MCPS y los niños desde el kindergarten hasta el grado 12 están disponibles de lunes a viernes, con cita previa, en ubicaciones en Silver Spring y Germantown. Se puede hacer cita en:

Centro de Salud de Dennis Avenue (Dennis Avenue Health Center), 2000 Dennis Avenue, Silver Spring; Teléfono: 240-777-1050
Centro de Salud de Germantown (Germantown Health Center), 12900 Middlebrook Road, Germantown; Teléfono: 240-777-3380

Puede encontrar más información sobre los requisitos de vacunación de Maryland en el [sitio web del Departamento de Salud de Maryland](#).

Board of Education Seeks Comments on Two Policies

The Board of Education is seeking comment on two policies—*IQD, Academic Eligibility for Extracurricular Activities*, and a new draft policy, *JPH, School Food, and Nutrition Programs*. **Public comment for both policies is open until Friday, February 12, 2021.**

The Board is proposing amendments to [Board Policy IQD, Academic Eligibility for Extracurricular Activities](#). As a district committed to nondiscrimination, equity and cultural responsiveness, the Board seeks to balance the state and collegiate expectations with its interest in making extracurricular activities, including interscholastic sports, accessible to as many students as possible. The Board is also proposing a [new draft policy, Board Policy JPH, School Food and Nutrition Services Programs](#). The new draft policy sets forth guidance regarding the ways in which MCPS is a partner in efforts to address childhood hunger in Montgomery County in order to support students' ability to learn, grow and maintain health. You can [provide comment at this website](#).

Engaging Students in Conversations About the Capitol Building Invasion, Riots and the Election

As the nation continues to reflect on and discuss the invasion at the U.S. Capitol building and ongoing threats of violence as we approach Inauguration Day, MCPS remains steadfast in its commitment to teach students about and modeling civility and respect for our democracy. All MCPS schools are providing ongoing support for students as well as an opportunity for students to learn and have conversations about the election process, inauguration, race and other challenging global and national issues. Parents are also encouraged to talk with their children about these issues and can find some helpful tips in the resources listed in [this community message](#).

MCPS to Remain in Virtual Learning Until March 15

On Tuesday, January 12, 2021, the Board of Education voted to delay the start of returning small groups of students for in-person instruction from February 1, 2021, to March 15, 2021, on the condition that health metrics are met or health guidance is adjusted as a result of vaccine distribution. The [County's COVID-19 new case rate and test positivity](#) remain significantly above the thresholds adopted by the County and state. Read the message [here](#). The Board will meet again on February 23, 2021, to determine if metrics can be met by March 15, 2021, for a safe return to in-person learning. More information will be shared with the community following the February 23, 2021 Board of Education decision.

County Launches Food Access Survey

The Montgomery County Food Council launched a short 8-question COVID-19 Community Food Access survey seeking input from residents to guide Montgomery County food security initiatives in 2021. Residents' feedback on how the County can best serve our communities and improve food access during and after the COVID-19 pandemic is essential to informing program implementation, policy development, and future funding priorities. The deadline for survey responses is Wednesday, March 17, 2021. The survey is available here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/mcfoodsurvey>

Encuesta sobre Acceso a Alimentos en el Condado de Montgomery durante COVID-19

Cómo puede el Condado ayudarle a usted y a su comunidad a tener mejor acceso a alimentos durante la pandemia del COVID-19? ¡Sus opiniones son esenciales! [El Consejo de Alimentos del Condado de Montgomery](#), una organización sin fines de lucro local que conecta y coordina los servicios de los proveedores de asistencia alimentaria, quiere escuchar la opinión de los residentes para guiar los planes de distribución de alimentos en el Condado en el 2021. Haga clic aquí para más información <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/mcfoodsurvey>.

Online Homework Help Service Begins February 1

MCPS has announced a new, free student online tutoring and homework help service that will begin with the second semester on February 1. TutorMe.com is a secure, online resource that will be easily accessible through MCPS student Canvas and StudentVUE accounts and will offer on-demand assistance on any subject from Grade 3 through Grade 12. More information is [available here](#).

El servicio de ayuda para las tareas en línea comienza el 1ro de febrero

MCPS ha anunciado un nuevo servicio gratuito de tutoría en línea para estudiantes y ayuda con las tareas que comenzará con el segundo semestre el 1ro de febrero. TutorMe.com es un recurso en línea seguro al que se podrá acceder fácilmente a través de las cuentas de MCPS Student Canvas y StudentVUE y se ofrecerá en cualquier tema desde el tercer grado hasta el grado 12.

[Más información](#)

Adjustments Made to Semester 2 Secondary Schedules

In response to feedback about virtual learning at the secondary level, adjustments are being made to improve the student/teacher experience in virtual learning, promote student well-being, and provide flexible options for student schedules. These adjustments for the second semester are in addition to adjustments that went into effect for the second marking period. Learn more about the [changes here](#).

Ajustes realizados a los horarios de secundaria del segundo semestre

En respuesta a la información recibida sobre el aprendizaje virtual en el nivel secundario, se están realizando ajustes para mejorar la experiencia de los estudiantes/maestros en el aprendizaje virtual, promover el bienestar de los estudiantes y brindar opciones flexibles para los horarios de los estudiantes. Estos ajustes para el segundo semestre se suman a los ajustes que entraron en vigor para el segundo período de calificaciones. [Más información](#)

HBCU Fair Set for February 12-13

The Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) College Fair will be held virtually on Friday, February 12, and Saturday, February 13. Although focused on high school juniors, seniors, and their

parents/guardians, this event is an opportunity for students in Grades 8–12 and their parents/guardians to meet with representatives from more than 50 historically black colleges and universities. The event will include workshops and panel discussions on financial aid, Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) completion, scholarship opportunities, and college life. Qualified seniors will also receive on-the-spot admission decisions and scholarship offers during the event. More information and registration are available [here](#).

Feria de HBCU programada para el 12 y 13 de febrero

La Feria de Universidades y Colegios Históricamente Negros (HBCU) se llevará a cabo de manera virtual el viernes 12 y sábado, 13 de febrero. Aunque se enfoca en estudiantes de los grados 11 y 12 y sus padres/guardianes, este evento es una oportunidad para que los estudiantes de los grados 8 al 12 y sus padres/guardianes se reúnan con representantes de más de 50 colegios y universidades históricamente negras. El evento incluirá talleres y paneles de discusión sobre ayuda financiera, cómo completar la Solicitud Gratuita de Ayuda Federal para Estudiantes (FAFSA), oportunidades de y vida universitaria. Estudiantes del grado 12 que estén calificados también podrán recibir decisiones de admisión en el lugar y ofertas de becas durante el evento.

Más información e inscripciones están disponibles [aquí](#).