

Twinbrook Parent News!

November 2022

*One School...Our Collective Impact!
Preparing to be Future RM Rockets*



Greetings Twinbrook Families,

In this month our district recognizes that we are at the end of first quarter, a full [forty-two days](#) of school (August 29 - October 31) this academic school year! This month report cards will be distributed to our families to identify the strengths and areas of growth for each of our scholars.

Consistently we engage our students in learning in the classroom, hallways, lunchroom, and recess throughout the school day. We have introduced the **Leader in Me** resources in our school and we look for our student leaders by highlighting our ROAR award certificate winners on the daily announcements. We look forward to recognizing our students in other leadership capacities throughout the school year who continually represent that we are a SAFE School, we are NICE School and we are HARDWORKING School, and every day is a DAY of LEARNING!

Stay connected to our Twinbrook website for the latest news and stay connected with our teachers, staff, and PTA. Link [here](#).

Giving you our best,
Matt Devan, Principal & DeAngela Hill, Assistant Principal

November 2022 Twinbrook Elementary Important Dates & Details:

Tuesday, Nov. 1	7:00pm – PTA Meeting Hybrid In Person Twinbrook Media Center or on Zoom Mtg ID: 864 4435 7351- Passcode: kq70vU https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86444357351?pwd=U3dUWlU1TmNWRkhpQVN5TzhpSWw2UT09
Wednesday, Nov. 2	Make-up Picture Day
Monday, Nov. 7	No School for Students; End of quarter grading/planning
Tuesday, Nov. 8	Election Day—Schools and offices closed
Monday, Nov. 14	Report Cards Available on Synergy
Nov. 14, 15, 16	Hearing and Vision Screening
Thursday, Nov. 17	Second Grade field trip to Strathmore Music Hall
Sunday, Nov. 20	Twinbrook Community Cares Day 2:00-4:00pm
Monday, Nov. 21	Early release days for students 1:20pm
Tuesday, Nov. 22	Early release days for students 1:20pm (City of Rockville will be offering after care for Early Release Days, from dismissal to 6:00 pm.) Register Here
Wednesday, Nov. 23	Systemwide Closure—Schools and offices closed
Thursday, Nov. 24	Thanksgiving—Schools and offices closed
Friday, Nov. 25	Thanksgiving—Schools and offices closed
Wednesday, Nov. 30	Fifth Grade Outdoor Education Program

Future Dates Twinbrook Elementary Important Dates & Details:

Thursday, Dec. 1	Fifth Grade Outdoor Education Program
Tuesday, Dec. 6	7:00pm – PTA Meeting Hybrid In Person Twinbrook Media Center or on Zoom Mtg ID:864 4435 7351- Passcode: kq70vU https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86444357351?pwd=U3dUWlU1TmNWRkhpQVN5TzhpSWw2UT09
Wednesday, Dec. 7	Early release days for students 1:20pm (City of Rockville will be offering after care for Early Release Days, from dismissal to 6:00 pm.) Register Here
Wednesday, Dec. 21	Interims Grades Distributed
Dec. 26	Holiday: No School for Students
Dec. 23, 27, 28, 29, 30	Winter Break; No School for Students
Monday, Jan. 2	New Year's Day (observed)—Schools and offices closed

Parent Teacher Association (PTA) Meeting Tuesday, November 1, 2022

On Behalf of the Parents and Twinbrook Staff please participate in the PTA this year 😊.

November 1, 2022 @ 7pm.

In Person option @ Twinbrook Media Center childcare will be provided by the City of Rockville for children 5 and older and Spanish translation will be available for the PTA meeting.

For this meeting, PTA meeting will be - In person and Zoom

- In-Person session come to Twinbrook Main Entrance at the bus loop doors. Meet in Media Center.
- Zoom virtual see details below:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86444357351?pwd=U3dUWlU1TmNWRkhpQVN5TzhpSWw2UT09>

Meeting ID: 864 4435 7351

Passcode: kq70vU

One tap mobile

+13017158592,,86444357351#,,,,*246232# US (Washington DC)

+13126266799,,86444357351#,,,,*246232# US (Chicago)

Dial by your location

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 646 931 3860 US

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

+1 309 205 3325 US

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 719 359 4580 US

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 386 347 5053 US

+1 564 217 2000 US

+1 669 444 9171 US

Meeting ID: 864 4435 7351

Passcode: 246232

Find your local number: <https://us06web.zoom.us/u/kdsw7aQ7WU>

MCPS COMMUNITY MESSAGES

MCPS Bus Transportation Dashboard Updated - Want to know if your child's route is delayed or canceled? Visit the [MCPS Transportation Updates dashboard](#) and type in your child's four-digit route number. The dashboard has been redesigned, information is now updated every 15 minutes. Canceling a bus route is a last resort, but when it occurs, affected families are automatically contacted by a system ConnectEd email. Principals and MCPS leadership are also notified of any route disruptions. See the [Bus Route Information Dashboard](#). Click [here](#)

Twinbrook Bus Route 2022-2023 – Click [here](#)

MCPS What is New in Our Community – Check MCPS website weekly for news. Click [here](#)

MCPS Parent Academy - Please join us for as many parent workshops as you are able to attend. MCPS looks forward to seeing you! Click [here](#)

MCPS Principal, Teacher, Supporting Service Staff Awards - Parents have nomination opportunities for exemplary Montgomery County Public Schools principals, teachers and supporting service staff. These awards were established to recognize local school staff who have demonstrated exceptional performance. Each award is unique and has specific nomination guidelines. Deadline is December 16, 2022. Click [here](#). Click [here](#).

ACADEMICS

Twinbrook Media Center - Grades K-2 are learning to form opinions about books, ask them about one we've read in class recently and how they feel about it. Grade 3-5 are learning about Twinbrooks online databases and ebooks, check them out at home! Ms. Shelton.

Natalie_B_Shelton@mcpsmd.org

Twinbrook Music Department - All grades are working on reading music, practicing songs, and performing! Ask them to sing their performance song for you at home for extra practice! More information can be sought from Ms. Riley. Laura_E_Riley@mcpsmd.org

Twinbrook English Language Development Team – More information can be sought from Mrs. Vasquez Rebecca_W_Vasquez@mcpsmd.org or from your child's ELD teacher.

MCPS Mathematics - Elementary mathematics in Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) is designed to create mathematical thinkers. Learning progresses from the concrete to the abstract, building essential conceptual understanding and mathematical fluency, simultaneously developing both mathematical content and language. Click [here](#) for more information.

MCPS Testing- The MCPS Testing Unit implements a comprehensive program of student assessment including all parts of the state-mandated testing program. Please see the list here of MCPS general elementary school testing calendar. Click [here](#) for more information.

MCPS Assessments – MCPS uses multiple assessments to provide teachers with information about their students to plan effective instruction and identify students who may need additional intervention or extension. Some assessments are required by state or federal legislation while others are used to meet state or federal program requirements. Teachers may administer additional subject or course related tests and assessments to measure individual student progress.

The school district strives to maximize instructional time and create a balance throughout the instructional day. Link [here](#)

MCPS Personal Body Safety Lessons -MCPS implements Personal Body Safety Lessons (PBSLs) with grade-level, age appropriate content for students in every grade from Pre-K to 12. These lessons were developed with input from national stakeholders and County partners and are designed to empower students to recognize and report suspected cases of abuse without fear of reprisal. In addition, embedded in the MCPS elementary and secondary health curriculum are age-appropriate lessons on safety and injury prevention, family life and human sexuality, cyberbullying and social media, healthy relationships, harassment and intimidation.

During the months of October, November, and December, our school counselors and classroom teachers will be presenting lessons on the topic of child abuse and neglect with all grade levels Kindergarten through Grade 5. The lessons are known as Personal Body Safety Lessons and their purpose is to help students to:

- Develop knowledge, decision making skills, and behaviors which promote safe living in the home, school, and community
- Learn skills for self-protection and identifying child abuse and neglect
- Learn skills for asking for help for self and others and practice reporting to a trusted adult
- Engage in positive and appropriate interactions with peers and adults

Twinbrook Letter link [here](#).

If you have any questions or concerns about the topics that will be covered, please contact our school counselors, Ms. Kent or Ms. Walsh. Laura_Kent@mcpsmd.org or Kristin_R_Walsh@mcpsmd.org.

MCPS Parent Resources - Ensuring Student Safety- Personal Body Safety Lessons Website: link [here](#). This webpage provides an overview of the lesson objectives for each grade level. Elementary Personal Body Safety Lessons Overview and Resources for Parents: link [here](#). If you have any questions or concerns about the topics that will be covered, please contact your child's classroom teacher, or our school counselors, Ms. Kent or Ms. Walsh. Laura_Kent@mcpsmd.org or Kristin_R_Walsh@mcpsmd.org

MCPS Piano Sale - Schaeffer's Piano Company, Inc., has a public sale of instruments twice a year—the first sale is scheduled for November 12–20, 2022. During this time, the public can purchase pianos at reduced prices. Our partnership with Schaeffer's Piano Company, Inc., commits MCPS to provide the notice of this sale to each student. Link [here](#).

TWINBROOK NON-ACADEMIC INFORMATION

Twinbrook Hearing and Vision Screening - November 14, 2022 - November 16, 2022

TWINBROOK PARENT CONNECTIONS, EVENTS, PROGRAMS

Parent Conferences- Will occur from November 1- December 16, 2022. Each parent conference will be scheduled for 15-20 minutes. Translation services will be available for parents

Twinbrook Elementary Community Cares Day - On November 20 from 2:00 - 4:00pm we will be distributing 100 food boxes, women's essential items, including bras, underwear, and menstrual hygiene products, coats, diapers, clothing and more. First come first serve. Please contact Ms. Tanya Aguilar, Community School Liaison. Tanya_Y_Aguilar@mcpsmd.org

Family Trip to the the Kennedy Center - On November 4 at 7:30 pm, celebrate the Mexican holiday, *El Día de los Muertos*, the day of the dead, with a concert dedicated to music by Mexican composers, conducted by NOW's Artistic Director, Alejandro Hernandez-Valdez, a native of Guadalajara, Mexico. <https://www.neworchestraofwashington.org/dia-de-los-muertos-celebration> Free tickets available for our Twinbrook families. You will need to process your own tickets online. The code is **K9J4H8**, and here is a link with the promo code: <https://ci.ovationtix.com/35644/production/1137311?promo=K9J4H8> You will get an automatic confirmation email with details about ticket will call, parking, etc. We also have a free bus to transport the first 50 individuals who sign up. <https://forms.gle/ZLnFHEfTqJamSGqU9> ALL CHILDREN MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY A PARENT OR GUARDIAN. We will leave promptly at 6:00pm and return by 10:00pm. Please contact Ms. Tanya Aguilar, Community School Liaison. Tanya_Y_Aguilar@mcpsmd.org

Community Resources – If your child or family have any needs for school supplies, food, clothing, or other assistance please don't hesitate to ask. We have resources to offer. Please contact Ms. Tanya Aguilar, Community School Liaison. Tanya_Y_Aguilar@mcpsmd.org

Twinbrook Team Coffee with Administrators- All family members are invited to attend our initial “But first, Cafecito” a *Coffee and Chat* on Thursday, November 17, 2022, at 9:30 am. It will be held every last Thursday of each month. It is an opportunity to engage in informal conversations about our school and community. Information is shared by the Twinbrook Administrative Team and/or Community Partners regarding resources and upcoming activities. At this Coffee we will learn about It is also an opportunity to ask questions, share ideas about improving student achievement, and get involved in our school. This coffee's topic will be the new social-emotional learning (SEL) curriculum—the *Leader in Me*. The *Leader in Me* is a holistic approach to education, empowering educators with effective practices and tools to teach leadership to every student; create a culture of student empowerment; and align systems to drive results in academics. Please join us!

Twinbrook Parents Trip to Twinbrook Library - Parents are invited to a walking field trip from Twinbrook Elementary School to the Twinbrook Library at 9:45 am on Friday, November 18. (Presentation will be in both Spanish and English). The staff at the library will lead a tour of the stacks and resources available to families. Parents will also be able to get a library card, learn the checkout process, and discover the plethora of resources available to you and your family. If you have any questions, please call or text Ms. Aguilar at 240-506-5352 or email at Tanya_Y_Aguilar@mcpsmd.org .

TWINBROOK PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION (PTA)

Join the Parent Teacher Association (PTA) – Stay connected. Be informed. Become active at Twinbrook Elementary School. Be a role model for your children and get involved by helping the school. At PTA Meetings, you can raise concerns, suggest ideas, and have input on how funds are spent. You can play an important role in helping the school acquire resources and reward children. Find out more and sign up at <https://bit.ly/JoinTESPTA>

Treat Yourself for Twinbrook Restaurant Nights - Watch for details about our third Restaurant night next week! Keep connected on Twinbrook PTA website. Link [here](#)

Twinbrook Fun Run for Field Trips – The PTA had the Twinbrook fun run in October 2022. Keep connected on Twinbrook PTA website for the latest fundraising total. Now over \$14,436.49 to support field trips for all of our Twinbrook students. That's unbelievable! There are more prizes to win, so Twinbrook Family keep the donations coming to the school. We have 24 Superstars who have raised at least \$200! 5 students who raised \$300 or more. Twenty classrooms have already reached their goal and will get a party to celebrate! Great job! Link [here](#)

City of Rockville and the Twinbrook After School Club - Extend aftercare offerings to Twinbrook families on MCPS Early Release Days. [Follow this link](#) for more details. Families can reach After School Club Staff at 240-314-8620 or stayandplay@rockvillemd.gov. Flyer Link [here](#)

MEALS

Free and Reduced Meals - We are reaching out to make sure that every Twinbrook Family has had an opportunity to fill out the on-line free meal form. Do you need help filling out the form? You can stop by the office or call us at 240-740-3450 and a staff member will assist you with this process. These benefits help you as well as providing benefits for all the students at school. When we qualify for Title I, Twinbrook receives extra funding to hire more teachers. This enables us to provide smaller class sizes. The extra funding also provides reading support, math support, extra materials and other assistance. Thank you for your continued support for our Twinbrook Family. Apply NOW for Free and Reduced-Price Meals! If you would like to pick up a FARM paper form to complete, please stop by Twinbrook's main office. The online application is open for parents to complete and submit the 2022- 2023 application! www.MySchoolApps.com

MEALS Important Changes this year - There is a major change in the cafeteria this year! Students who do not qualify for free/reduced meals will have to pay for their lunch. This is a major change as breakfast and lunches were free for all students for the past two years. All breakfast will remain free this year. MCPS cafeterias utilize a computerized Point of Sale (POS) system. Students utilize an ID Card with a specialized barcode at mealtime. A student's Free and Reduced Meal (FARM) status is always confidential, to learn more and apply for FARMs [click here](#). Beginning this school year 2022-2023, students who qualify for reduced-price meals will not be charged that cost - meaning that reduced-price students will eat for free! Deposits into the account can be made by any student and can be made ahead of time on our online payment system, My School Bucks. See more information [here](#). Daily Lunch: \$2.55 See more information [here](#). Click [here](#) to apply for free or reduced meals, pay online, read the [menu](#), and learn other information about School Meals.

REMINDERS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MCPS Virtual Rainbow Club A Rainbow Club is an affirming space for LGBTQ+ students, families, and allies. Please see [this flyer](#) for more details and feel free to share with anyone who may be interested. FYI: Rainbow Clubs exist in at least three MCPS elementary schools at this

time and more are being added to the list this year. Remember individual families/students join the virtual Rainbow club; this is a centralized MCPS effort.

Twinbrook Student Verification Emergency Cards -As another new year begins, it is time to make sure we have all the correct phone numbers and emergency contacts on your child's emergency card. Do you have a new cell phone number? Do you want to add more contacts? Has your workplace changed? Would you like to add your email address? To best serve your child's needs we must have the latest information. Please Note.... students are only released to the adults listed on their emergency card. Please contact the main office at 240-740-3450 or email Ellen_M_Miller@mcpsmd.org

MCPS ParentVUE Accounts- Starting Fall 2020, all report cards are being posted in ParentVUE. If parents have an active ParentVUE account, they will not receive a mailed copy. If they do not have an active account, they will receive a mailed copy. Please make sure to look at your child's grade from quarter one of this school year. For information on ParentVue, please click [HERE](#). For more information about grading and reporting, [visit this website](#). [Elementary Report Card Information](#)

Twinbrook PTA Directory- If you do not want your information (phone, address, etc.) added to the PTA directory please contact Ellen Miller, registrar at 240-740-3450 and let her know what information you do not want to be shared with the PTA. You can also fill out this form and send it into the office.

<https://ww2.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/forms/pdf/281-13.pdf> (english)
https://ww2.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/forms/pdf/281-13_spanish.pdf

Twinbrook Elementary School Spirit Wear - Show your school spirit! Spirit wear is available for purchase online. Link [here](#)

Twinbrook Walker and Student Drop Off - Please remember that students can be dropped off at the walker door at 9:10 AM. Students SHOULD NOT be dropped off unattended at any time. Students will not be permitted in the building before 9:10 AM as there will be no adult supervision. Any questions or concerns, please contact the office. Thank you for your cooperation.

Twinbrook Early Dismissal and Emergency student pick up plan - If you plan to pick up your child before the end of the day; please be sure to send a note in the morning which is preferable or call before 3:00pm so your child can be dismissed promptly. Do you have a plan in place in the event that there is an early dismissal? All students should know where to go and what to do if an adult is not home when the child arrives home. Please take time to review your family's plan with your child.

Twinbrook Cell Phones, SMART Watches, Fitness Bands, Trading Cards (Pokemon), Sports Equipment (soccer balls, footballs, cleats) – These are expensive items and can also be very distracting from our instruction. Students are not allowed to have these items at school. If there is a family emergency or urgent unique need, please communicate with Mr. Devan or Ms. Hill.

Twinbrook Birthday Policy - Simple, low key birthday celebrations are held during your child's lunch period. If you would like, you may bring a small store bought treat such as a cookie or a cupcake for each child in their class, not grade level. The original label including ingredients

label should be attached. In addition, all foods must be “peanut-free” (“peanut-oil free”). Lunch room staff members will facilitate the distribution of the birthday treat and the class will sing “Happy Birthday”. Drinks, Goodie bags, or balloons are not allowed. ****PERSONAL BIRTHDAY INVITATIONS ARE NOT TO BE DISTRIBUTED IN SCHOOL!**

MCPS Substitutes Needed for Immediate Hire- MCPS is seeking substitute teachers! Substitute teaching is an excellent way to learn about our schools while allowing principals and teachers to get to know you. To qualify as a substitute teacher, each applicant must present proof of the completion of the minimum of an associate degree or 60 college credits from an accredited institution. Substitute teachers are temporary employees and are on an on-call basis. Substitute Teacher Rates: Daily hourly rate of pay \$18.79- Long Term rate \$26.81. If you hold a valid Maryland professional eligibility certificate or standard advanced professional certificate, the daily hourly rate of pay is \$19.97-Long Term rate \$28.45. In order to qualify for this higher rate of pay, you must submit a copy of your valid Maryland certificate.

Apply now! Click [here](#)

Twinbrook is a Title I School – Information & Details:

If you wish to request certification information about your child’s teacher, paraeducator, or long-term substitute teacher, please submit a written request to the principal at your school. Your written inquiry may include information about the following qualifications:

- Degree status and subject area of certification.
- State of Maryland certification status, including conditional certification status.
- Qualifications of paraeducators or long-term substitute teachers who may be working with your student.

Your request will be forwarded to the Office of Human Resources and Development and you will receive a written response from that office within thirty (30) business days. Please contact the principal if you have any questions.

Our school is fortunate to receive supplemental funding through Title I, a federal grant program for schools that serve communities with students who have high economic needs. The federal legislation that establishes Title I regulations is known as, *Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015* (ESSA). ESSA requires Montgomery County Public Schools to inform you that you have the right to request information about the professional certification qualifications of your child’s teacher, long-term substitute teacher, or paraeducator (formerly titled instructional assistant).

Check out updates on our Twinbrook school website for updates and staff contact information <https://www2.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/twinbrookes/>

Contact Your Twinbrook ES PTA
Twinbrook Elementary School PTA
5911 Ridgway Avenue, Rockville, MD 20851

Jenny Hardesty

President

president@twinbrookpta.org

Julie Wallace

VP, Membership

membership@twinbrookpta.org

Barbara Sitton

VP, Fundraising

fundraising@twinbrookpta.org

Jessica Reynolds

Secretary

secretary@twinbrookpta.org

Laura Streichen

Treasurer

treasurer@twinbrookpta.org

Anthony Downs

Communications

communications@twinbrookpta.org

Appointed Positions

Tiffany Barnes & Steve Andrews

MCCPTA Representatives

Melissa Downs

Fun Run Coordinator

funrun@twinbrookpta.org
