

# MUSTANG MESSENGER

December 2022

Robert Moton Elementary  
1413 Washington Rd.  
Westminster, MD 21157  
Phone: 410-751-3610  
Fax: 410-751-3927  
International Line: 410-386-1699



Justin Watts, Principal  
Jennifer Shipley, Assistant Principal  
Kimberly DeShong, Acting Assistant Principal

## School Hours:

8:00 a.m. - School doors open  
8:25 a.m. - Parent Drop-off doors close  
8:30 - Instructional day begins  
3:00 p.m. - Dismissal

**Office Hours:** 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

## Internet Address:

[www.carrollk12.org/rme](http://www.carrollk12.org/rme)

## Absence and Dismissal email:

[RMEAttendance@carrollk12.org](mailto:RMEAttendance@carrollk12.org)

## It Makes Our Day

When We Hear From You!

Let us know when your student is absent or has an early dismissal at [RMEAttendance@carrollk12.org](mailto:RMEAttendance@carrollk12.org) or call 410-751-3610. **Please be sure to report dismissal changes in writing or email by 1:00!**



## Greetings from the Ranch

Robert Moton Families,

I am so appreciative with what I have seen so far this year. All the staff has been working collaboratively with each other to meet the needs in our building. When I walk through the building students are engaged in learning and teachers are finding creative ways to assess for mastery. Our assistants are working in first pass instruction and supporting small groups of students who need more exposure to parts of the curriculum. There are so many great strategies that I see put into practice each day, both academically and behaviorally for our students. It brings me joy when I walk past students who greet me with "Hi principal!" It has been nice to see more parent volunteers in the building this year to help support the great things we are doing.

I also am thankful for the partnership with our PTO. They have generously provided funds to support our field trips and improve technology in our building this year. They have provided meals for our teachers during parent teacher conference nights, which was so appreciated. They also funded an author's visit that was postponed multiple times due to COVID. The students and staff really enjoyed the presentation.

The families that I have worked with have been terrific. Families at Robert Moton have been available to discuss concerns and work with me to work on solutions. Sometimes there are passionate discussions about an incident that occurred, but I always remember that is because our families care about the welfare of our students and staff. Thank you to all who came to visit classrooms during American Education Week. We had a great turn out this year! Also, thank you to Mrs. Custance for coordinating additional presentations for our families during that week.

The winter months can be a roller coaster of emotions with the holidays coming soon. Holidays can often bring mixed feelings to families, and we want to support you. If you did not fill out a survey for holiday support and your family is not getting supported by an outside agency please reach out to Mrs. Custance at [mjcusta@carrollk12.org](mailto:mjcusta@carrollk12.org).

I am looking forward to what 2023 has in store!

Justin Watts  
Principal



As the weather turns cold, please note the CCPS Inclement Weather Policy **on page 5**.

## Calendar Information

### December

- 2 The Judy Center's Breakfast with your Pre-K Child: 8:05 – 8:45 AM
- 2 Individual Picture Retakes (Classic Photography)
- 5 The Judy Center's Indoor Story Walk & Gingerbread Houses; 5:00 PM
- 5 - 9 PTO Holiday Shop for Students
- 8 – 9 SMILES Program Mobile Dental Clinic for Students
- 12 Winter Concert, 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Grades; Winters Mill High School
- 15 Judy Center's Me and My Special Guy; 5:30 PM
- 16 Paper Interims for Grades K-2
- 16 Online Interims for Grades 3-5
- 21 Winter Band and Vocal Concert: 1:50 PM for RME Students and Staff; and 7:00 PM for RME family and friends
- 23 School Closes Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes Early; Dismissal at 12:15 PM**
- 23 School Closed for Prep Students Only**
- 26 - 30 School/Office Closed – Winter Break

### January

- 2 School/Offices Closed New Years
- 3 School/Office Reopens
- 3 – 5 Vision and Hearing Screening for Students
- 6 The Judy Center's Breakfast with your Pre-K Child: 8:05 – 8:45 AM
- 10 Parent-Teacher Conference Night: 3:30-7:00 PM
- 16 School/Office Closed: Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday
- 17 Snow Date for Parent-Teacher Conferences
- 21–22 Robotics Club Competition
- 23 RME Night at the Library
- 26 End of the Second Marking Period
- 27 School Closed for Students
- 27 Third Marking Period Begins
- 30 RME Night at the Library – Snow Date

### February

- 3 The Judy Center's Breakfast with your Pre-K Child: 8:05 – 8:45 AM
- 4 Hop 'Til You Drop and Cow Heart -- PE
- 21 School/Office Closed: Presidents' Day
- 27 Yearbook Groups and Candida – Classic Photography

RME Families,

We are still in need of support staff at Robert Moton. Sometimes people are not sure if they want to work in a school but there are many benefits of working in a local school. You get to interact with students in your community and it is a short commute! We have a variety of positions that we are actively trying to fill ranging from \$14.00 to \$17.00 an hour. If you are interested in hearing more about any of the positions, please reach out to me or Mrs. Shipley and we would be happy to discuss the role and process to apply. All these roles only are required when students are at school so when students are off so are you.

- Hourly Cafeteria Substitute- Help monitor students in the cafeteria and wipe down tables when staff are out.
- Hourly Student Support Assistant- Support student during their daily routines and work under the classroom teacher's directions.
- Hourly Substitute- Substitute for teachers and/or assistants when staff have to take off. It can be planned in advance or help to fill last minute vacancies.
- Hourly Permanent Substitute- Report to RME daily and help fill teacher and assistant openings. These substitutes are guaranteed a job daily.



### Winter Band and Vocal Concert

Wednesday, December 21<sup>st</sup>

1:50 p.m. for our students & staff  
7:00 p.m. for families and friends

Our winter concert is quickly approaching! The date is Wednesday, December 21, 2022, and the concert will begin at 7 PM in the RME cafetorium. The doors to the school will open at 6:30 PM. All 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students will be singing songs for the concert. The 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade band and the orchestra students will also be performing. We are looking forward to the show and more details will be sent home shortly. Thank you for your support!



## Robert Moton's Mustang Food Pantry

Open to the public on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month from 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.  
Anyone is welcome to visit.

If you are interested in more information about our food pantry, please contact Mrs. Custance at 410-751-3610 or email [mjcusta@carrollk12.org](mailto:mjcusta@carrollk12.org). We are happy to be of service.

### Counselor's Corner

December kicks off our focus on the character trait of **Service**. This time of year provides a real-time opportunity to shift one's focus outwards to the needs of others around us; To reflect on being *selfless* instead of *selfish*. Let's be honest, with the holidays approaching, that can be a hard concept to grasp for our little people! It's perfectly normal if children need some help understanding the true intent of service and what it means to serve.

In the easiest terms, service is helping someone without expecting anything in return. It can be holding the door for someone as they are walking into a building. It could be donating canned food to food pantry. It could be taking the time to walk an elderly neighbor's dog for them.

Our gifts of service usually involve the sacrifice of something we have – time, resources, attention, energy, but almost always have a much greater reward. Last month, I met with 5<sup>th</sup> grade classes to teach about the power of one, how everything they do has an impact on those around them. I used a special science experiment to provide a visual to the lesson. It's an easy one that you can do at home: [Milk and Food Coloring | Science Project](#) Together, we discussed the ripple effects of our behavior, and I challenged our 5<sup>th</sup> graders to make a positive difference. Imagine if each RME family chose just one act of service for the month of December. What an influence we could have on our community!



### Triple R Tidbits

We had a wonderful turn-out for our Veterans Day First Quarter Assembly at the Ranch! Our students did a fabulous job honoring our Veteran guests with songs, letters, poems, and artwork. Our staff was so generous to provide refreshments for the Veterans prior to the assembly and to help prepare our students for Veterans Day and educating them about the ways we can recognize these special individuals.

In addition to Veterans Day, we also celebrated 9 weeks of Triple R behavior at our First Quarter Assembly! Students that were chosen for demonstrating the character traits of the month: September being Courtesy and October being Kindness, were provided special VIP seating. The whole school gave a show of hands for those who had earned Triple Rs, No Horsin' Around tickets, and Caught Being Responsible tickets.

It has been a busy first quarter of learning and practicing. Our Mustangs are on the right track!



### PTO News

The holidays are getting closer! As a special service to our families, the RME PTO is hosting a **Holiday Gift Shop**. Children will have the opportunity to pick out their own inexpensive, quality gifts for family and friends. 85% of the items available for children to purchase will be under \$5.00. A Holiday Shop flyer and budget envelope will be sent home in your student's folder this week!

A Holiday Shop **PREVIEW** will be held during school hours on Tuesday, Dec 6th, and Wednesday, Dec 7th. On these days the children will come with their class and walk through the Holiday Shop. They will have an opportunity to look and write down ideas.

On Thursday Dec. 8 and Friday Dec. 9, during school hours, students who have brought money will have an opportunity to shop with their class or during recess. Holiday Shop money must be brought to school in the budget envelope provided. Gift Certificates may also be purchased with a credit card

at <https://kastlekreations.holidayshop.school/giftcert/> instead of bringing cash.

Additionally, the holiday shop will be open Wednesday evening, December 7th, 5:00 to 7:00pm and Thursday, December 8th, 3:30 to 5:00pm.

The PTO needs **volunteers** to make this big event a success! Volunteers will help children choose gifts and work within their budgets. Seeing the children's delight in choosing special gifts makes this such a fun event. We're looking for **Holiday Helpers** during the day and evening (including High School volunteers). Helpers during the school day must have CCPS volunteer training completed.

If you cannot volunteer your time but would still like to help we could use donations of sticker to/from tags. <https://m.signupgenius.com/#!/showSignUp/60b0c4ca8a82ba5f49-holiday6>

Thank you for your support! 🎄❄️

RME PTO

[www.robertmotonpto.com](http://www.robertmotonpto.com)

Follow the PTO on

Facebook @RobertMotonElementaryPTO

## Physical Education News Flash

### Upcoming Activities

- Scooter Activities
- SCOOTER CITY!
- Snowball Battle
- Knockoff



### Project ACES

Congratulations! RME achieved Gold status in the "Project ACES" Physical Activity Challenge. Many students increased their activity level and are now more aware of healthy eating habits as well as physical fitness habits. As a result of meeting this status, our school will have access to \$200 to be used within our Physical Education/Health programs.

ALSO...

Congratulations to Kenley Cagle for earning the grand prize! She was randomly selected to be rewarded for her

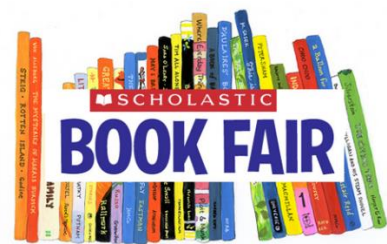
participation in the 2022 "Project ACES" Physical Activity Challenge with an invitation to the Ravens Spring Rewards Luncheon to be held at the Ravens' practice facility in the spring of 2023. She will be rewarded with a ticket for herself and a chaperone to attend this event.

### Scooter City

The PE teachers will be turning the gym into a city! With streets, street signs, activity stations, and rest stops for the students to use. They will travel around the city with their scooters following the rules of the road and enjoying the different parts of the city!

### Sneakers

We would like to thank you for making a conscious effort to send your children with safe sneakers on days that they have PE. Keep up the good work!



**Thank you for making our 2022-2023 Scholastic Book Fair a successful event. The students had fun shopping and showed their love of reading throughout the week. With your help, we raised over \$1500 for our Media Center!**

Thank you to the following volunteers:

June Praet  
Sydney Isaac  
Megan Valle  
Jess Taugher  
Rachel Passerini  
Tasha Holmes  
Kattie Hochheiser  
Jennifer Jolles  
Penney Smith  
Valerie Kindrick  
Sarah Ryan  
Romy Ganz  
Jessie Tarlton  
Rebekah Hanson

## CCPS Inclement Weather Policy

When inclement weather conditions occur, the decision may be made to delay the opening of school by one or two hours, to close school, or to dismiss school early. An announcement will be made for delayed openings or closing by 6:00 a.m. Every effort will be made to make the announcement as early as possible. The complete CCPS Inclement Weather Policy can be found [here](#).

There may be an announcement made to open schools 2 hours late with a "re-evaluation" period to possibly close schools. If no re-evaluation announcement is made by 7:00 a.m., schools will open 2 hours late as originally announced.

All weather-related announcements will be made through the CCPS's School Messenger system, the school website [www.carrollk12.org](http://www.carrollk12.org), and CETV-Channel 21, as well as through local and regional media.

**PLEASE NOTE: When schools are closed all day OR closed early, there will be no after school or evening events. This includes clubs, tutoring, meetings, planned special events, performances, and any Use of Facility arrangements.**

Inclement Weather Schedule	1 hr. Late Opening	2 hr. Late Opening	1 hr. Early Dismissal	2 hr. Early Dismissal	3 hr. Early Dismissal
Prep AM	Cancelled	Cancelled	11:00 a.m. dismissal	11:00 a.m. dismissal	10:00 a.m. dismissal
Prep PM	On time	On time	Cancelled	Cancelled	Cancelled
Grades K – 5	Open at 9:00 a.m. Late bell 9:30 a.m.	Open at 10:00 a.m. Late bell 10:30 a.m.	2:00 p.m. dismissal	1:00 p.m. dismissal	12:00 p.m. dismissal
Full Day Pre-K	Open at 9:00 a.m. Late bell 9:30 a.m.	Open at 10:00 a.m. Late bell 10:30 a.m.	2:00 p.m. dismissal	1:00 p.m. dismissal	12:00 p.m. dismissal



### The Y's Inclement Weather and Emergency Closing Policy

**Emergency School Closing**

If CCPS close early due to an emergency or inclement weather, **the Y's Before and After School Enrichment program will not provide programming.** The Y will attempt to alert families of the closing by automated phone messages and/or email using the contact number and email address on file.

**Late School Opening**

**One (1) Hour Delay** – The Y's Before and After School Enrichment programs will be delayed 1 hour.

**Two (2) Hours Delay** – The Y's Before and After School Enrichment programs will be delayed 2 hours.

Please visit the **Y's Media Alerts** page at <https://dashboard.alertmedia.com/public?customer=163> to sign up to receive updates on Inclement Weather and Emergency closing via text, email, phone, and social media. Please select the **Before & After School Enrichment: Carroll** group to receive alerts for your county.

### The Boys and Girls Club of Westminster Inclement Weather Policy

*If Carroll County Public Schools close for weather then the Boys & Girls Club of Westminster is closed. If CCPS dismisses early for weather then the Boys & Girls Club is closed.*

