

Polar Bear Post

Newsletter of Parr's Ridge Elementary School Aug/Sept. 2024

202 Watersville Road, Mount Airy, MD 21771 (Phone) 410-751-3559 (Fax) 410-549-7221

Catherine Cramer, Principal

Michele Scobie, Assistant Principal

www.carrollk12.org/par

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Families,

We hope you are having a wonderful summer! We have been busy getting our building ready and are eager to welcome all our Polar Bears to school on Tuesday, September 3rd! As your school administrators, we are committed to maintaining a safe and nurturing environment for all students as well as a robust academic program where all students can meet with success. We can't wait to see all that they will learn and achieve this year! We hope you will take the time to read the newsletter over carefully and keep it as a reference.

This first newsletter of the school year contains a lot of important information from all areas of the school, including the [Nurse](#) and [Polar Bear Café](#). Under the Polar Bear Café News section, you will also find more information about putting funds in your child's account if they wish to purchase lunch, milk or snacks.

Carroll County Public Schools uses a third party application, [Home Access Center](#), to allow parents to view general information about their child, homeroom teacher information available August 15th, and attendance information during the school year. Your child has a 5-digit PIN number for the cafeteria. You can access your child's PIN number in the Home Access Center.

As we prepare for the start of the school year please read the "Student Transportation Information Collection" on [page 3](#). There is a link you can use to access information about bus numbers and routes.

Our **Open House** activities will be held on **Friday, August 30, 2024**, to meet the teachers and get excited about the upcoming school year by visiting Parr's Ridge. There is no formal program during the open house, so please stop in any time during your child's grade level slot. Students will be able to visit their classrooms and meet their teacher. Kindergarten students will be able to take a tour of a school bus.

***Kindergarten Open House will be from 9-9:45am**

***First Grade Open House will be from 10-10:45am**

***Second Grade Open House will be from 11-11:45am**

Additional information about a typical school day, curriculum and an administrator's presentation will be at Back-to-School Night on September 19th.

We value families' role in their children's success in school. We are grateful that our families and community support us every step of the way. It is truly a partnership that benefits our students and helps build our children's future. One great way to get involved is by being a part of the PTO. They do an excellent job supporting our students and staff! We hope that you enjoy the rest of your summer. Take some time to read Mrs. Doolan's tips for [Preparing Your Child Emotionally for the Start of School](#) before the first day of school. We are excited and looking forward to a great school year! Feel free to contact us if you have any questions.

With gratitude,

Mrs. Cramer & Mrs. Scobie



Refrigerator Page

Welcome Back Open House August 30, 2024

Pre K and Kindergarten: 9:00-9:45am

First Grade: 10:00-10:45am

Second Grade: 11:00-11:45am

*** * MARK YOUR CALENDARS * * ***

September 2024

- **September 3** ~ First day of school
- **September 10** ~ PTO Back-to-School Social @Watkins Park
- *September 17 ~ Rain date, Back-to-School Social*
- **September 19** ~ Back to School Night 5:30pm
- **September 20** ~ PTO General Mtg. @ Parrs, 6:00 pm

October 2024

- **October 9** ~ Fall Picture Day
- **October 17** ~ PTO sponsored Fun Run
- **October 18** ~ Schools closed for students
- **October 21 - October 25** ~ Hearing and Vision Screening

Please mark your calendars with the following two-hour & forty-five-minute early dismissal days for the 2024-2025 School Year.

Parr's Ridge Elementary
will dismiss at 1:00 p.m. on:

November 6th

November 27th

April 4th

June 13th.



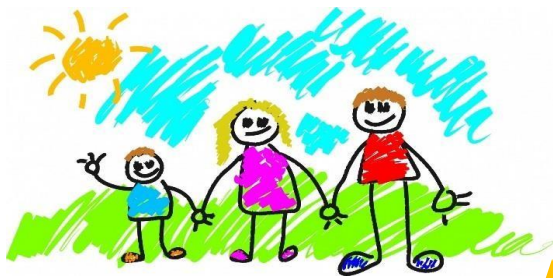
School hours will remain the same for the 2024-2025 school year. Students will be allowed to enter the building at 8:45 am. The instructional day will begin at 9:15 am, and dismissal will take place at 3:45 pm. *On days when Parr's Ridge has an early dismissal students will be dismissed at 1:00 pm.*



Fall Picture Day

Fall pictures will be taken at Parr's Ridge on Thursday, October 9, 2024. Look for ordering information to come home with your children close to picture day.

PTO Back to School Social



Please join us on September 10th, from 5 pm to 7 pm for our Back-to-School Social. This event will be held at Watkins Park. Parr's Ridge Elementary and Mt. Airy Elementary students and families are invited to attend.

Important Information

Emergency Cards

It is extremely important that you complete and return the Emergency Procedure Card that you will receive at our open house or on the first day of school, as we depend on this information to contact you regarding your child. **Keep in mind throughout the year that if you change jobs, get a new address or phone number, or find the need to make a change regarding emergency contacts, please inform the office staff and health nurse.** We want to be confident that we can contact you in case of an emergency. For returning students, the Emergency Card you receive at the Open House or on the first day of school will contain the same information provided for the previous school year, except for any emergency contacts listed after the first three contacts. Those extra names are deleted from the system from year to year.

Parr's Ridge Elementary School will file **one Emergency Card per student**. Guidelines have been put into place for all Carroll County Public Schools to identify the adult who will complete the one Emergency Card allowed for each student. The parent with primary physical custody should complete and sign the one Emergency Card. In the case of joint custody, the parent must complete the Emergency Card at the address to which the child is registered for school.

Student Transportation Information Collection

This year CCPS **collected transportation information on each student digitally**. This has replaced the hard copy forms we have sent out in the past. The parent listed as the primary contact in our system should have received an email from the county. The link in the email would have prompted you with questions about your choices for your child's transportation to and from school. You should have received a separate email for each of your elementary children and would have needed to complete the form separately for each child. This ensures that we have accurate transportation for your child(ren) prior to the first day of school. If you did not receive these emails, please contact the school via the email parattendance@carrollk12.org with your student's name, grade, and transportation details.

Bus numbers/routes were made available on Infofinder i, the CCPS online transportation system, on August 12.

LINK: [Infofinder i](#)

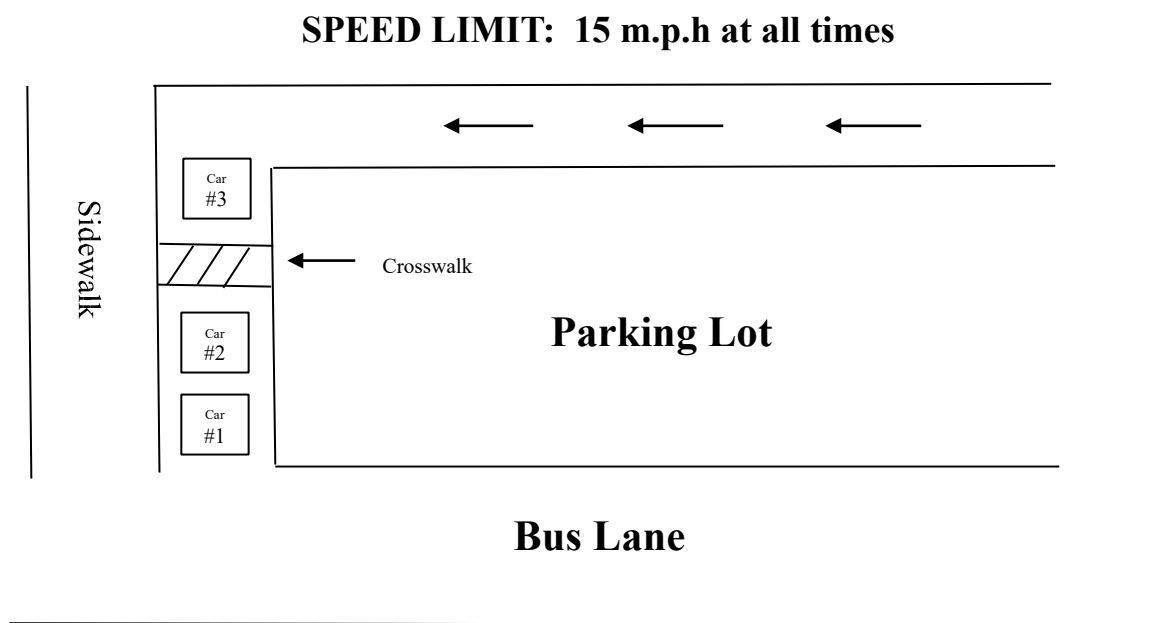
Switching buses on an occasional or one-time basis is not permitted except in the case of an emergency and requires the prior approval of an administrator at the school.

Student Car-Rider Drop-Off Procedures

1. Please pull up beyond the crosswalk to the indicated space (car #1 on the map below).
2. Wait for the teacher(s) on duty to cue you before unloading.
3. PLEASE have your child independently exit on the **right** passenger side of the vehicle.

4. The driver of the car should remain behind the wheel and students should be able to exit the car on their own. If you need to exit to assist your child please park in a parking space and walk your child to the entrance doors.
5. Keep the crosswalk clear at all times.
6. **Please note:** Student drop off will run from 8:45 a.m. to 9:15 a.m. **Student drop-off will end at 9:15 am each morning and the side doors will be locked at this time. If there is not an adult present at the drop off doors please park and enter through the front entrance.** Any child arriving at or after 9:15 a.m. will need to be **escorted into the building** through the front doors by an adult to be signed in with the office staff before proceeding to his/her classroom. If you are late, please do not pull in front of the school in the fire lane or park in the spaces in the front bus loop. There is signage in the front bus loop indicating that parking between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 9:30 a.m. is not permitted and we ask that you honor this request for the safety of our buses and students.

Diagram of Drop-Off Procedures



Student Pick-Up Procedures

In an effort to provide the safest environment for our students, please adhere to the following student pick-up procedures for afternoon dismissal. Students who have been placed on the pick-up list will report to the designated pick up room wing for dismissal. Adults should park and proceed to the side door to meet their child. At **3:45 p.m.** a staff member will bring your child to the side entrance for dismissal. **All adults will be required to show identification to sign a child out.** Reminder: It is illegal to park in the handicapped spaces without the proper permit. **A student may not be released to an individual listed on the emergency card without written permission from the parent/guardian.**

Release of Students During the School Day

During the school day, students are to be released only into the custody of their legal guardian or to an individual listed on the emergency card **with the written permission from the parent/guardian.** In cases where a court order granting joint legal custody is on file with the school, the student may be released to either parent. However, if the parent having physical custody disagrees and wishes to deny student pick up, he/she

must provide the school with written notification stating same. This written notification must be initiated by the custodial parent and be on file at the school. The letter of denial will remain on file for the corresponding, current school year, with a need to be reinstated on an annual basis to be upheld by the school.

Please understand that for students whose parents live in two different locations but do not have court documents, the enrolling parent is considered the custodial parent and would need to provide written permission for the non-custodial parent to pick up the student during the school day. Being listed as an emergency contact does not grant permission to pick up the student without the appropriate authorization.

The emergency contact list is a list of individuals *the school will contact* when the parent/guardian is not able to be reached, and the child becomes ill. In such situations, an emergency contact will be notified to come and pick up a student.

Pick up Information

Please note that **students being dismissed early from the front office must be picked up no later than 3:15 pm**. After 3:15 pm, students who need to be picked up from school will be placed on Parent Pick-up for dismissal at 3:45 pm. **There will be no early dismissals from the main office between the hours of 3:15 pm to 3:45 pm**. If you wish to place your child on Parent Pick-up, please send a note in with your child on the day of the request. If an emergency arises requiring your child to be placed on Parent Pick-up that day, please email PARattendance@carrollk12.org by 1 pm. You will receive a response confirming receipt of the email, so you are assured that the change has been made. If you DO NOT receive an email confirming the change in dismissal by 2 pm, please call the office. Please call the office by or before 1:00p.m. Only emergencies will be allowed after 1:00p.m.

Reporting Student Absences

When your child is absent from school, please email or call our school, alerting us to the date and reason for the absence or, **send in a note with your child upon your child’s return to school**. Our email for reporting attendance is: parattendance@carrollk12.org

When a child is coded as absent by the classroom teacher, the reason for the absence is listed as “unverified” until the office receives notification of the reason for the absence. This notification must be received within 5 days of the student’s return to school so that the absence may be re-coded correctly. Parents/guardians of students with an “unverified” absence will receive an automated attendance call. We ask that you respond to the attendance call, via email, phone call, or with a written note, confirming the reason for the student’s absence.

***** Volunteer Training *****

Volunteer training takes place online. To access this, go to the Carroll County Public Schools website, www.carrollk12.org, and under the heading “Operations”, click on the “Human Resources” link. Then scroll down to the icon for the Volunteer Program. You can then access a link for the volunteer training. Parent and community members who are interested in volunteering opportunities including field trips for the 2024-2025 school year will need to ensure their volunteer training is completed and have received an approval email prior to their scheduled volunteer service.

Questions regarding the Volunteer Program can be directed to the Human Resources Department at 410-751-3070.

*** School Messenger Communication System ***

CCPS will be using School Messenger for communications coming from school. Phone numbers and email addresses used by this system are taken from the emergency contact information provided by parents via the emergency cards. The phone number used is that number which is designated as the “primary” number. If you have any changes in your contact information during the school year, please be sure to contact the school office so that this information can be updated in our database.

** From the Library Media Center **



Welcome back! New books have been arriving throughout the summer, and we look forward to sharing them with you. The Scholastic Book Fair is coming in October. We always need parent volunteers to make it a success. Please consider completing the [CCPS Volunteer Training](#) so you can help. Thank you!

You can visit Parr’s Ridge’s website to see what is new in the [library](#). All students will receive a copy of our online databases and passwords in September.

If you are interested in volunteering in the library, please [email us](#). Volunteers can help with shelving books, checking out books during classes, or assisting students before homeroom. Please let us know what day(s) you are available to help.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Dashiell & Mrs. Glover

Preparing Your Child Emotionally for the Start of School

By Kelly Doolan
School Counselor



The beginning of school is an exciting time that includes many emotions for children. Children are often excited and curious about school. Some children will also experience worry and anxiety. Please know that I am here to support your child as we begin the new school year. The teachers and staff at Parr's are very excited to have your children in the building and we are looking forward to an amazing year of learning! Included here are some ideas to help support your child as we prepare to return.

1. Begin talking to your child about school. You may want to check out some books from the local library that have a school theme. Such stories can help your child begin to think about what school will be like. It may generate different feelings about the upcoming experience that you and your child can talk about. It will probably also initiate many questions about school that your child would like to have answered.
2. Attend the Open House on August 30, 2024. This will give your child an opportunity to visit their classroom, meet the teacher, and meet some of their classmates. Visiting a new place and meeting the people who will be there, is a good way to minimize some of the anxiety your child may be experiencing.
3. Teach confidence by modeling it yourself. When parents spend too much time trying to calm their child's fears, the child begins to think that there must be something to worry about. They begin to think, "If dad is this worried then I guess I should be worried too!" You can help lessen the anxiety that your child is experiencing by letting them know that you are confident that they can handle whatever the new school experience will bring them. It is amazing how children will live up to our expectations about what their school experience will be like.
4. When your child comes home from school, be sure to ask about their day. Many children will be very tired when they get home so don't be surprised or disappointed if your child is not able to articulate many details about the day. Be sure to ask specific questions like, "What story did you hear today?" or "Who did you sit next to at lunch?" as opposed to "What did you do today?" Children may find this question to be too overwhelming and may avoid answering.
5. Be sure to have a healthy snack and some relaxing activities planned for your child when they get home. Some children will do great getting on the bus and attending school during the day and then be very tired and cranky when they get home. Some children put so much effort into doing their best all day that by the time they get home they are exhausted. This is very common for our kindergarteners who are going to school all day for the first time.

If after the first couple of weeks your child seems to be experiencing difficulties adjusting to their new routine, please call me so we can work together to make the adjustment easier for your child.

By working together, we can make it a GREAT year!

NEWS FROM THE NURSE

Welcome to a new school year. I hope you have had a fun and healthy summer!

HEALTH CONCERNS

If you have any concerns due to a **new or existing health problem** for your child, please contact the school nurse as soon as possible, as we may need to formulate a plan, or give you forms for your child's Physician to return to us. If you are the parent of an **incoming Kindergarten** student, and your child has any serious health concerns, please let us know as soon as possible. When filling out the Emergency Cards please list **all health concerns**, even if minor.

MEDICATION

Per CCPS policy, all medications must be brought in by a parent or guardian. Students are not allowed to transport medications to and from school. All medications require a physician's order. If your child requires medication during the school day please contact me so we can discuss the proper paperwork needed. All medication should be brought in their original container with the prescription label attached. Over the counter medications should be unopened. **New medication forms must be completed each year** and may be obtained at school or on the CCPS website: www.carrollk12.org. You would click on "Student Services", "Health Services", "Forms", and then "Medication Form".

I will be in my office and available for medication drop off on August 26th, 27th, and 29th from 9am until 4pm. Please allow time so I can review the medication, forms and ask questions if needed.

SUPPLIES

Please consider sending in an extra change of clothes for your child. I do keep extra clothes in my office, but sizes are limited. I will always accept donations of new unopened underwear and gently worn clothing. Pants with either elastic waist or drawstring are preferred.

ILLNESSES

Sick Day Guidelines

Please keep your child home if he or she:

- Has a fever of 100.0 or higher.
- Has been vomiting or episodes of diarrhea.
- Eyes that are red with drainage, itching
- Has symptoms that prevent him or her from participating in school, such as excessive tiredness or lack of appetite
- Headache, body aches, earache that continue with pain reliever.

Keep your child home until his or her fever has gone for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medication. Returning to school too soon may slow the recovery process and expose others unnecessarily to illness.

For Diarrhea-children need to be diarrhea free for 24 hours per the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene before returning to school.

For Vomiting- please keep students' home if they are unable to keep food/liquid down, nauseated or have other symptoms with it. Vomiting can be a precursor to more to come. The nurse/pediatrician may recommend for 24 hours.

Please note that children may complain in the morning of not feeling well, but once up and continuing with the day, they improve. Or you may opt to bring them in late to monitor how they are feeling. You can always call/email the nurse to "give a heads up" about your child. A runny nose, or sniffles without any other symptoms does not always warrant keeping your child home for the day. I do monitor illnesses for communicable diseases.

Please remember to contact the school to explain your child's absence once they return. Or you may email absence notes to

PARAttendance@carrollk12.org

Please remind your child to wash their hands or hand sanitize during the day and cover coughs and sneezes.

Thank you,

Jen Byers, RN, BSN

School Nurse Parr's Ridge Elementary School



**** Gifted and Talented and Advanced Academics Program ****

The CCPS Gifted and Talented/Advanced Academics Program is designed to meet the needs of highly able learners and maximize student achievement. Our school's advanced academic specialist, in collaboration with classroom instructors, will continue to provide a continuum of interventions designed to meet the needs of our highly abled and G&T learners. This may include in-class instruction, pullout groups, and/or resource development with classroom teachers. A Referral and Review Team will determine student eligibility for interventions. Indicators for participation include observational checklists, standardized test scores, work samples, and classroom performance. Although students are not formally identified until the beginning of third grade, advanced academic specialists will continue to provide a range of services for students in grades K-5.

**** Lunchroom Visitors ****

Please be reminded of our expectations concerning visitors to our cafeteria. Only a student's parent/legal guardian is allowed to visit during lunchtime unless written permission from the parent/guardian is received by the school allowing others to do so. It is permissible for a note to be written permitting lunch visits for specific individuals for the entire school year. Siblings and other young children may not accompany adult visitors to our Polar Bear Café during lunch. Lunchroom visitors will be asked to join their student at a "family table" which has been established for this purpose.

This year we are asking that parents/visitors abstain from visiting the lunchroom until October 1st. We would like to have some time to get the students acclimated to the cafeteria and its procedures before welcoming guests. We appreciate your support in this matter.



Polar Bear Café News

A variety of breakfast and lunch choices are available daily for your child to enjoy. Breakfast is served daily from 8:45 am to 9:15 am.

CCPS cafeterias will continue to use the computerized cash register system with the meal program. All students will enter their Personal Identification Number (PIN) and proceed to the cashier. Students who wish to purchase a meal or snack items can use cash or money placed "on account." This applies to all students, even those who would qualify for free meal benefits. Parents can deposit money in an account by sending cash or a check to school with their child or by using an online payment service at www.myschoolbucks.com. Account money remains on your child's account until they graduate or leave CCPS. New students can get their PIN number from their teacher, from the Home Access Center, or from the cafeteria staff.

Applications for free and reduced-price meals are accepted at any time during the school year. To apply, go to www.myschoolapps.com. Meal benefit applications may also be obtained from your school or by visiting the CCPS website. One application can be completed for the entire household when all members are listed.

Food choices offered to students include multiple entrees, fresh fruits, and vegetables (purchased locally when available), whole grain breads and rolls, and flavored and unflavored milk. Although students select the foods that they want, they must take a minimum number of items for breakfast and a lunch. At least one of their choices must be a fruit or vegetable. Meals are analyzed to meet federal nutritional requirements. Menus are posted on the CCPS website <https://carrollk12.nutrislice.com> or you can download the Nutrislice app for your iOS or Android.

If there are any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call or send a note in with your child. We look forward to seeing our students enjoy breakfast and lunch this year!

Ms. Garza and Ms. So

Please be sure to join us every day for a delicious, healthy breakfast and lunch.

Interactive menus and nutritional information are available online!

Visit <https://carrollk12.nutrislice.com> or download the Nutrislice app for your iOS or Android device.

Meal Account and PIN Information

- Every student who goes through our cafeteria line will use a unique Personal Identification Number (PIN) to access his or her account. Parents have the option to add any denomination to the account for the purchase of meals and snack items. It is a convenient way to ensure that money is not lost or forgotten during the hectic morning rush.
- **What is the PIN?** Each student has been issued a unique, five-digit PIN. Parents can find their child's PIN in the CCPS Home Access Center (HAC). Once you sign on, the Cafeteria PIN will be located in the emergency section. Please help your child remember their number. It makes the line move faster and ensures that everyone has plenty of time to enjoy their meal. If they do happen to forget the number, the cashier will be able to find it for them.
- **How do I put money on the account?**
 - Visit www.myschoolbucks.com and set up a free account that allows you to add any value to the cafeteria account with a credit card. (There is a service provider fee for each transaction).
 - Send in cash or a check to your school's cafeteria. The cafeteria manager will add it to the account. Checks made payable to your child's school.
 - The money added to the account can be used to purchase meals AND snack items.
- **Can I monitor what my child is purchasing?** Visit www.myschoolbucks.com and set up a FREE account. Once you complete the simple registration process, you can set up low balance alerts and monitor purchases made in the cafeteria.
- **What happens to my account at the end of the school year?** Money that remains on your child's account will carry over from year to year. The account will also automatically transfer to any Carroll County Public School.
 - If your child graduates or no longer attends a CCPS school use this link to let us know if you would like the account balance transferred to a sibling, donated, or refunded. <https://forms.office.com/r/ieipsp12AQ>

Sending cash or check to school and want to designate fund use? You can use this form.

Student's Name _____

Homeroom Teacher

Amount Enclosed \$ _____

____Please place **All** of the money on my child's general account for the purchase of either meals, milk, or snacks.

____Please place the money on my child's account, but I want to specify:

* Should a delay in opening be necessary, this day may be converted to a normal dismissal time in lieu of closing.

CARROLL COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS' SCHOOL CALENDAR 2024-2025

All duty days or half days when students are not in school will be used for professional meetings, in-service activities, or workdays as determined by appropriate Central Office Administrative Personnel or the School Principal.

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION DATES

XXXXX	Manchester Valley High	9:00 am
XXXXX	Century High	3:00 pm
XXXXX	Francis Scott Key High	9:00 am
XXXXX	South Carroll High	3:00 pm
XXXXX	Liberty High	9:00 am
XXXXX	Winters Mill High	3:00 pm
XXXXX	Westminster High	1:00 pm

Carroll Springs will hold its Certificate Ceremony at 2:00pm on XXXXX at Carroll Community College - Scott Center.
Gateway School will hold its Graduation at 7:00pm on XXXXX at Carroll Community College - Scott Center.
Transition Connections Academy will hold its Certificate Ceremony at 10:00am on XXXXX at Carroll Community College - Scott Center.
High School BEST will hold its Graduation Ceremony at 11:00am on XXXXX at Westminster High School Auditorium.

Carroll County Career & Technology Center will hold its Certificate Ceremonies at CCCTC:

Academy of Health Professions and Physical Rehabilitation
XXXXX at 5:00pm

Engineering and TAM
XXXXX at 7:00pm

Biomedical Sciences, Building Maintenance, Criminal Justice, and GIS
XXXXX at 5:00pm

Cosmetology, Print Production, and Video Production
XXXXX at 7:00pm

NUMBER OF DAYS IN SCHOOL CALENDAR

MONTH	STUDENT DAYS	TEACHER DAYS
August	0	5
September	20	20
October	22	23
November	18	18
December	15	15
January	20	21
February	19	19
March	20	21
April	18	18
May	21	21
June	10	10
TOTAL	-3* 180	-3* 188

*MARKING PERIODS

FIRST

September 3 – November 6

SECOND

November 7 – January 24

THIRD

January 28 – April 4

FOURTH

April 7 – June 13

*Actual marking periods may be adjusted depending on the use of emergency closing days.

*Emergency Closing Days

If any of the three (3) emergency closing days are not used, the last day for students and staff are as listed below:

One (1) day not used – Last Student and Teacher Day – June 12th.

Two (2) days not used – Last Student and Teacher Day – June 11th.

Three (3) days not used – Last Student and Teacher Day – June 10th.

In the event that the school year is shortened due to unused emergency closing days, the last student day will be a two-hour and forty-five minutes early dismissal.

CCPS HOME ACCESS CENTER ACCOUNT SET UP INSTRUCTIONS

Carroll County Public Schools uses a third party application, Home Access Center, to allow parents to view general information about their child, homeroom teacher information (when available either in mid-August for the new school year, or upon your child's enrollment during the school year), and attendance information during the school year.

To set up an account in the Home Access Center, go to the Carroll County Public Schools website at www.carrollk12.org. Locate "Academics" found across the top of the Home Page. Click on "Student and Parent Resources" listed in the drop down and then click on the link for the Home Access Center. First time Home Access Center users will need to go to "Click Here to Register for HAC" and then follow the prompts for set up. The information used to create the Home Access Center account is the information that is currently in our student information system. If you already have an account but have forgotten your sign-on information, click on "Forgot My User Name or Password" to retrieve the information. See the example below:

Welcome to



Home Access Center

User Name

Password

[Forgot My User Name or Password](#)
[Click Here to Register for HAC](#)
[Click Here to Register with Access Code](#)

Sign In

CONSENT AND RELEASE

Permission to Photograph, Videotape or Audiotape

Throughout the school year, the Carroll County Public School System frequently covers school activities and may use your child's photograph, video image, or voice for educational, informational, or public relations purposes, with or without identification by name.

If you do not wish to have your child's voice reproduced on tape or to have his/her image appear in such things as a video or a photograph, or on the school or school system website or social media, please notify the school principal in writing. It is assumed that parents and guardians consent to their children being audiotaped, photographed, videotaped, or having their image placed on a school website or social media by the school system unless such notification is received.

There are also occasions when the media cover certain school events (such as when a government leader visits a school). If you do not wish to have your child's name or likeness published by the media, you should address your concerns directly to the school involved so that the media is so advised. Please be advised that the school system has no control over the media when they are covering activities such as sporting events and musical programs that are open to the public.

Use of Student Work on Websites or in Publications

There may be times throughout the year when the Carroll County Public School System wishes to display student work on school websites, social media, or in publications. If you do not wish to have your child's art, poetry, writing, etc. appear on school websites, social media, or in publications, please notify the school principal in writing. It is assumed that parents and guardians consent to their child's work being displayed on school websites, social media, or in publications unless such notification is received.

NOTICE OF NON-DISCRIMINATION

The Board of Education of Carroll County does not engage in discrimination that is unlawful or contrary to Maryland State Department of Education guidance on the basis of age, color, genetic information, marital status, mental or physical disability, ancestry or national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression.

The Board of Education of Carroll County is firmly committed to creating equal employment and educational opportunities for all persons by providing an environment that supports optimal academic achievement and productive work and is free from any form of unlawful discrimination, including access to school facilities, educational programs, and extracurricular activities.

The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Director of Human Resources, 125 North Court Street, Westminster, Maryland 21157, (410) 751-3070.

Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act NOTICE

The Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (A.H.E.R.A.) management plans, for all buildings owned or leased by the Board of Education of Carroll County, are available for review at the individual Carroll County school locations and at the Office of Plant Operations located at: 191 Schaeffer Avenue, Westminster, MD 21157. Management plans are required

by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and depict the location, amount, condition, and response action for any asbestos-containing materials, if any are located in the school building.

ADA ACCESSIBILITY STATEMENT

Carroll County Public Schools (CCPS) does not discriminate on the basis of disability in employment or the provision of services, programs or activities. Persons needing auxiliary aids and services for communication should contact the Communications Office at 410-751-3020 or publicinfo@carrollk12.org, or write to Carroll County Public Schools, 125 North Court Street, Westminster, Maryland 21157. Persons who are deaf, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability, may use Relay or 7-1-1. Please contact the school system at least one (1) week in advance of the date the special accommodation is needed.

Information concerning the Americans with Disabilities Act is available from the Director of Facilities Management, (410) 751-3177, or the Communications Officer, (410) 751-3020, 125 North Court Street, Westminster, Maryland 21157.