



MT. AIRY MIDDLE SCHOOL

102 Watersville Road • Mt. Airy, Maryland 21771

410-751-3554
301-829-1314
Fax 410-549-6475

Christopher D. Hynes, Principal
Kristin M. Lavender, Assistant Principal

Hello MAMS families!

HOMEROOM INFORMATION

Grade 6 Blue

- B200 - Mrs. Hinkel, Humanities
- B202 - Mrs. Haddad, ELA
- B204 - Mr. Hagy, Social Studies
- B206 - Mrs. Gulati, Math
- B208 - Mrs. Weisman, Science (Team Leader)

Grade 6 Gold

- B209 - Mrs. Krouse, Science
- B212 - Mr. Nave, Math
- B214 - Ms. DiLeone, Social Studies
- B216 - Mrs. Whitten, ELA (Team Leader)
- B218 - Mrs. Knauth, Humanities

Grade 7 Blue

- A209 - Ms. Doll, ELA
- A210 - Mrs. Curley, Social Studies (Team Leader)
- A213 - Ms. Kaufman, Math
- A215 - Mrs. Clemens, Science

Grade 7 Gold

- A216 - Mrs. Walls, Science
- A219 - Mrs. Orlosky, Math (Team Leader)
- A221 - Mrs. Sapp, Social Studies
- A223 - Mrs. Szymanski, ELA
- A225 - Mrs. Bruce, Humanities

Grade 8 Blue

- A134 - Ms. Mathias, Science
- A136 - Ms. Chenoweth, Math (Team Leader)
- A138 - Mr. Cooper, Social Studies
- A140 - Mrs. Barth, ELA
- A142 - Mrs. Turner, STEM

Grade 8 Gold

- A124 - Mrs. Kolupanowich, Spanish
- A126 - Mrs. Mohlhenrich, ELA
- A127 - Mr. Fugate, Social Studies (Team Leader)
- A130 - Mrs. Schuller, Math
- A132 - Mrs. Merwitz, Science

B118 - Mrs. Jarboe

WELCOME BACK 2025

UPCOMING EVENTS

August

- 15 Student schedules posted on Home Access Center
- 26 6th Grade Back-to-School Night (6:00pm)
- 28 Back-to-School Night: 7th Grade (5:30pm) and 8th Grade (7:00pm)

September

- 1 Schools/Offices Closed - Labor Day
- 2 First Day for Students
- 15 Picture Day
- 17 PTO Meeting (6:30pm)
- 26 2 Hr 45 Min Early Dismissal - Professional Dev. Day

October

- 7 Flu shot clinic
- 16 2 Hr 45 Min Early Dismissal - Professional Dev. Day
- 17 Schools Closed for Students - Professional Dev. Day
- 24 Picture Retakes

November

- 4 2 Hr 45 Min Early Dismissal - Marking Period 1 Ends
- 24-26 Hearing & Vision Screening
- 26 2 Hr 45 Min Early Dismissal
- 27-28 Schools/Offices Closed - Thanksgiving Holiday

School Day

7:55am School opens for students

8:15am Homeroom begins; attendance taken

3:00pm Dismissal starts

****Students are marked tardy after 8:15am****

The instructional school day is from 8:15am until 3:00pm. Afternoon announcements begin at 3:00pm followed by dismissal.

Please be sure to send an email to mamattendance@carrollk12.org or call the office by 8:30am if your student will be absent or late. This will prevent you from receiving the absence phone call.

You can "like" Mt. Airy Middle School on Facebook, follow us on Twitter @MtAiryMiddle or Instagram at Mt.Airy.Middle for more updates and information!



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"A new school year means new beginnings, new adventures, new friendships, and new challenges. The slate is clean and anything can happen." – Denise Witmer

Dear students and families,

Welcome back to another exciting school year! We hope that your summer has been filled with rest, exploration, and meaningful moments.

As we turn the page on a new chapter here at MAMS, we are thrilled to greet both our returning students and new students to our school community. We have so many wonderful things planned for the upcoming school year, and we cannot wait to share them with you all.

This year, we are focusing on a powerful message: "Own your own path." Middle school is a time of discovery, growth, and learning, not just about the world, but about yourself. As we move through the year together, we want you to know that there is no single path to success. Whether you are exploring new friendships, diving into new content, or challenging yourself in new ways, it is your opportunity to pave your own way.

It is important to note that as you lay the foundation for the year ahead, you are not alone. Your administration, counselors, teachers, family, and friends are all here to guide and support you, but you must take the lead. Owning your own path means that YOU take responsibility for your choices. YOU ask for help when you need it. YOU take pride in your accomplishments, and WE promise to be here to guide you along the way and catch you if you stumble.

To our families: thank you for being our partners throughout these "middle years". Your encouragement and support at home are essential for your student's success. We look forward to working with you throughout the year to create a safe and inclusive learning environment where everyone feels supported.

Here are a few reminders for our students as they forge a path forward:

Be curious. Ask questions, explore ideas, and don't be afraid to dig deeper.

Be bold. Try something outside your comfort zone.

Be kind. Everyone is trying their best – support, don't judge.

Be proud. Celebrate your successes; learn from your mistakes.

Let's make this the best year yet. We can't wait to see you all in just a few short weeks.

With excitement and support-
Mr. Hynes
Principal



Mt. Airy Middle Vision

The Mt. Airy Middle School community will continue our established Tradition of Excellence through character, academics, and citizenship.

Character

- Acknowledge responsibility for personal choices while maintaining self-control
- Interact with others while recognizing boundaries, rights, and rules
- Respect and appreciate diversity

Academics

- Utilize problem solving, time management and goal setting skills, to become independent lifelong learners
- Persevere through challenges and recognize making mistakes as part of the learning process
- Establish the connection between academic achievement and future career success

Citizenship

- Cultivate the virtues of honesty, integrity, and commitment to the well-being of society
- Create experiences which provide perspective to help gain a global outlook
- Participate in service and leadership opportunities within the school and community



TRADITION of EXCELLENCE

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Refrigerator Page 2025-2026

School Hours

Building Open to Students: 7:55am
Late Bell/Attendance Taken: 8:15am
Dismissal Starts: 3:00pm

Office Hours

7:30am - 4:00pm

School Counselors

Mrs. Bohle Mrs. McDermott
A - K L - Z

Home Access Center

This is a resource for parents to view information pertinent to their student including student grades and attendance information. Link below:

[Home Access Center](#)

Attendance

If your student is absent, please call the school or email at mamattendance@carrollk12.org by 8:30am. If your student is late or leaving early, please send in a note.

Service Learning Hours

Click on the following links to access the CCPS Service Learning Quick Fact Sheet and the Online Service Learning Reflection Entry Form

[Quick Fact Sheet](#) [Service Learning Reflection Entry Form](#)

Parent/Teacher Conferences

October 23 January 15 April 16

Sign-up will be online through Sign-Up Genius. Information will be sent through School Messenger.

Lunch Times

Grade 6: 10:50am - 11:20am
Grade 7: 11:30am - 12:00pm
Grade 8: 12:20pm - 12:50pm

Meal Prices

Breakfast \$1.75
Lunch \$2.75
Milk \$0.60
Ice Cream vary in cost
Snacks vary in cost

Picture Day

September 15
October 24 (Retakes)
March 9 (Spring Pictures)

State Assessment

March 2 - March 27: MISA (8th Gr.)
April 6 - May 29: MCAP ELA & Math (All Gr.)
May 4 - May 29: SS (8th Gr.)

Drama Programs

April 24 - 7:00pm
April 25 - 3:30pm, 7:00pm

Back-to-School Nights

6th Grade
August 26: 6:00pm
7th Grade
August 28: 5:30pm
8th Grade
August 28: 7:00pm

Music Programs

Winter Concerts - 7:00pm

December 15 - 6th Band/Chorus/Orch
December 16 - 7th & 8th Chorus
December 17 - 7th & 8th Band & Orch

Spring Concerts - 7:00pm

May 19 - 7th & 8th Chorus
May 20 - 6th Chorus/Band/Orch
May 21 - 7th & 8th Band & Orch

PTO Meetings

September 17 6:30pm
January 21 6:30pm
March 18 6:30pm
April 15 6:30pm
June 3 6:30pm

Meetings are held on the 3rd Wednesday of each month in the Media Center.

6th Grade Outdoor School

Weeks of attendance:

March 17 - March 20
March 23 - March 27
April 13 - April 17
April 20 - April 24

Actual teams attending a particular week will be determined at a later date.

Volunteer Training

Training must be completed at least 7 days prior to volunteering. Click on the following link: [Volunteer Program - Carroll County Public School District \(carrollk12.org\)](#)

8th Grade Dance

May 29

8th Grade Farewell

June 11
or last full school day

All dates are subject to change. School Messenger alerts will provide updates as needed.

MT. AIRY MIDDLE SCHOOL 2025-2026 SCHOOL SUPPLY LIST



GENERAL SUPPLIES FOR ALL GRADES

- Wired Earbuds/Headphones**
- No Wireless Devices: Airpods/Earbuds/Headphones**
- Blue or black pens
- Pencils
- Highlighters
- 1 Pack of 10 Colored Pencils & Sharpener
- Erasers
- 1 Pack of Loose-Leaf Paper
- Glue sticks
- 1 Pack of 3"x3" Sticky Notes
- Pencil Pouch
- Sharpener
- Tissues

GRADE 7 BLUE

- General Supplies
- 4 1½ inch 3-ring Binders
- 4 Packs of 5-tab Binder Dividers
- 1 Pack of #2 Pencils
- 1 Pack of Loose-Leaf Paper
- 1 12 Inch Ruler

GRADE 7 GOLD

- General Supplies
- 3 1-½ inch 3-ring Binders
- 2 Packs of 5-tab Binder Dividers
- 1 2-pocket folder
- 1 Pack of Loose Leaf Notebook Paper
- 1 Composition or spiral notebook
- Glue sticks
- Colored Pencils
- Pencils

GRADE 6 BLUE

- General Supplies
- 4 1 inch 3-ring Binders
- 4 Packs of 5-tab Binder Dividers
- 1 Five-Subject Spiral notebook, preferably Plastic Cover
- 1 Marble Composition Book
- 1 2-Pocket Folder
- Highlighters (4 pack assorted colors)

GRADE 6 GOLD

- General Supplies
- 4 1 inch 3-ring Binders
- 4 Packs of 5-tab Binder Dividers
- 1 Single-Subject Spiral Notebook
- 2 2-Pocket Folders
- 1 Marble Composition Book
- 1 Pack of Highlighters
- 1 Editing Pen (not blue or black)
- 1 Pack of 10 Colored Pencils
- 1 12" Ruler

GRADE 8 BLUE

- General Supplies
- 4 1 inch 3-ring Binders
- 4 Packs of 5-tab Binder Dividers
- 2 Red Pens
- Highlighters (at least 2 colors)
- 1 Pack of 100 3"x5" Index Cards (ruled)
- 1 12" Ruler

GRADE 8 GOLD

- General Supplies
- 4 1 inch 3-ring Binders
- 2 Packs of 5-tab Binder Dividers
- 1 Marble Composition Book
- Highlighters (4 pack assorted colors)
- Extra Loose Leaf Paper
- Extra Glue Sticks or Tape

Please be sure to check Home Access mid-August to find your student's homeroom and schedule. Our Back-to-School Newsletter will be on the MAMS website mid-August which will include more information on teams.



RELATED ARTS

Students will need a binder, paper, and dividers for their related arts classes. Some related arts classes may require additional materials

PE: MAMS PE Uniform (information in newsletter)

If you could provide 2 boxes of tissues, it would be greatly appreciated.



CARROLL COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS HEALTH SERVICES

Immunization Requirements

Who: Incoming 7th Grade students (2025-2026 school year) will need these required immunizations

What: Documentation of updated immunizations:
MCV4 (Meningococcal Vaccine)
Tdap (Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis [Whooping Cough])

If immunizations are unable to be administered prior to the start of the 2025-2026 school year, you will need to provide a Health care provider note with proof of appt. that falls within 20 calendar days of the first day of school, September 2, 2025. (Specifically an appointment on or before September 22, 2025)

What we need from you:

After students have received the required immunizations, please provide documentation to the school nurse. We will need documentation from your health care provider or a completed immunization form. If documentation includes immunizations from a "Patient Portal", the documentation must include: Students name, Date of Birth, Provider Name and Provider contact information. This can be faxed, scanned, emailed, dropped off by parent, or delivered by the student. The information needs to be submitted to the school nurse.

Any student not in compliance by September 2, 2025 will be excluded from school. Students may return to school when documentation of the required immunizations are provided to the school nurse.

Questions:

Thank you for your assistance in ensuring that your child's immunizations are up to date. If you have any questions you may contact your health care provider or the school nurse. The phone number for the school is 410-751-3554. The Fax number is 410-549-6475. Questions may also be sent via e-mail to the school nurse at ewkurla@carrollk12.org.

Medication Procedure

**Students may NOT transport medication of any kind.
Medication must be brought to school by a parent or responsible adult.**

All medication, for student use during the school day, must be brought in by an adult in its original container with a completed medication form. The CCPS Medication form - front & back - can be found here: [Medication Form](#). All over-the-counter and prescription medication must have a parent and doctor's signature on the medication form, including Ibuprofen, Acetaminophen, Tums, Essential Oils, etc.

The following items are not considered to be medications and therefore students may carry them without being in violation of our drug and alcohol procedure:

- Non-medicated cough drops **Any cough drops that indicate a limit per day require a health care provider's order.**
- Saline eye drops, wetting/lubricating eye drops, or contact solution.
- Individually sized waterless hand cleanser
- Chapstick/lip balms
- Hand cream/lotions
- Saline nose spray
- Sunscreen, no sprays
- Glucose tablets
- Salt tablets

Retirement... a new chapter

Mrs. Potito



Moving on... best of luck!

Mrs. Lefeld
Mrs. McDonough
Mrs. Sipes
Mrs. Tissue

Same Face... New Place

Mrs. Knauth - 6th Gold Humanities
Mrs. Starkey - Resource

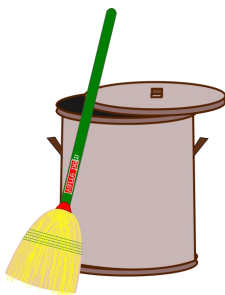


Welcome to MAMS!

Bruce-Maskeroni - *Welcome Back!* - ESOL
Mrs. Turner - 8 Blue STEM
Mrs. Winkler - Permanent Sub

Food & Drink Reminders

- No sharing outside food with other students.
- Parents are welcome to visit their child at lunch time; however, they are not permitted to bring in food for other students.
- Students are permitted to carry water with them during the day. Containers with a secure lid must be used and may **only contain water**.
- No outside vendor drinks will be allowed in the building (i.e Starbucks, Dunkin Donuts, etc). No other liquids may be brought into the classroom.
- Students are responsible for leaving **clean tables and floors**.
- All food must be eaten inside the cafeteria.



Helpful tips...

Student Drop off Time: Students may be dropped off at school beginning at 7:55am. No supervision will be provided prior to 7:55am. Any student arriving after 8:15am will be considered tardy and should report to the office for a Tardy Slip. Students who are tardy must enter at the main entrance (by the three flagpoles).

Reporting Absences: If your student will be absent or late to school in the morning, please call or send an email by 8:30am to avoid getting an automated absence call. Emails must be addressed to mamattendance@carrollk12.org. When reporting in this manner, please include; student's full name, grade, homeroom teacher, date, reason for absence, and parent's name and contact information. *If you do not report a student absent by email or phone*, the students are required to present a note signed by a parent or legal guardian substantiating a reason for the absence. Notes should be brought in on the day the student returns to school.

Early Dismissals: Parents wishing to pick up their student may do so with permission from the parent and approval from the school. Requests should be in writing and should be brought by the student to the sign-in desk upstairs by 8:15am. Parents must sign-out students in the office. If parents wish for someone else to pick up their son or daughter, there must be a written request. Anyone picking up a student should be prepared to present a photo ID.

Change of address: if you move or change your work or home phone numbers, please send the changes, in writing, to the school office. In the event of a move, we will also require proof of residency in the form of a recent utility bill.

Bus Transportation: Students are permitted to have one am and one pm bus stop. **In case of an emergency**, students may request to ride a different bus or to get off at a different stop. Notes must be provided from the receiving and sending parents stating the reason for the request and must be given to the school office for approval. If a request is denied, parents of the student requesting the change will be notified.

Legal Custody of Children: It is extremely important to keep the school informed of any custody agreements concerning your child. An official court order or court document is required to establish guidelines for custody and/or restrictions. Please contact the school immediately if there is any change in the custody situation of your child.

Visitors to the building: In order to make our school the safest environment possible for both students and staff, we require that all volunteers and visitors wear an ID badge while in the school. As always, everyone must check into the main office upon entering the building. Parents are not permitted to go back to the classrooms without an administrator's approval.

Service Learning Information

Service Learning is a teaching method that combines meaningful service to the community with curriculum-based learning. Students improve their academic skills by applying what they learn in school to the real world; they then reflect on their experience to reinforce the link between their service and their learning. Service-learning includes preparation; identifying projects and learning skills, action, and reflection. **Every student who graduates from a Maryland public school must earn 75 service learning hours to graduate, with a minimum of 55 Service Learning hours by the end of 11th grade in order to be promoted to senior status.** For more information regarding service learning, please use this link; [CCPS Service Learning](#). Service learning forms can now be filled out online using this link; [Online Service Learning Reflection Entry Form](#) If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Brooke Nolan, MAMS Service Learning Coordinator at Bknolan@carrollk12.org.

MAMS PTO...welcome to a new school year!

2025-2026 PTO General Meeting dates...

September 17	6:30pm
January 21	6:30pm
March 18	6:30pm
April 15	6:30pm
June 3	6:30pm

PTO Officers can be reached at MamsPtoPresident@gmail.com

President:	Stacy Hostler
1st Vice President:	Edna Musgrove
2st Vice President:	Kerry Goldberg
Treasurer:	Jennifer Richardson
Clerk:	Aubrey Ellison

Communication Methods

- School office hours are 7:30am - 4:00pm.
- We will continue to send out Weekly Updates with all the latest MAMS news by SchoolMessenger.
- Please make sure your most up-to-date contact information is on your student's emergency card.
- If there are any changes to your phone number or email address, please contact the MAMS office as soon as possible so you will continue to receive important information.
- Don't forget to "like" Mt. Airy Middle School on Facebook, follow us on Twitter @MtAiryMiddle or Instagram at mt.airy.middle



Encrypted Emails



You will have the opportunity to opt out of receiving Secure Emails via the Parent Permission Form that you complete each year. This will be an option on both the electronic and paper versions. When you opt out, you agree to allow us to send unencrypted emails to both parents. If you do not check the box, you will be opted in for secure emails. You will need to reselect this every year as part of the annual Parent Permission process. Look for this selection when you receive the Parent Permission email from CCPS in August.



Emergency Cards

Each student will receive only one (1) copy of their emergency card. It is critical the preprinted information is carefully reviewed by a parent/guardian. If the card reflects incorrect information, you are asked to make note of the revisions on the card. Also, please make sure to complete the Transportation Information section, stating your student's bus number. All emergency cards must be signed by a parent/guardian and returned to the school as soon as possible.

Career Coaching Info



In this section you will find Career Coaching resources as well as information on career coaching activities and opportunities for your middle school student. Please reach out to Mrs. Brooke Nolan with questions or concerns. (bk Nolan@carrollk12.org).

Career Exploration Resources:

- MAMS Career Coach Schoology Group - Students can find grade level resources, career coach lessons, and frequent updates related to career coaching and service learning activities!
- Pathful Explore - A Career Exploration platform that can be found through Clever
- Career Coach and Service Learning Coordinator Request Form - This link can be found on all homeroom teacher pages and the MAMS Career Coach Schoology Group

Career Exploration Grade Level Lessons & Activities to look forward to:

- 8th Grade - Career Coaching & Service Learning Lesson, Updating Career Portfolios Lesson, Career and Technical Education Lesson, CCCTC Field Trip in March, Career Speaker/Trip Experiences, High School and Post-secondary Planning.
- 7th Grade - Career Coaching & Service Learning Lesson, Career Cluster Exploration Lessons, Career Portfolio Lesson, Career Speaker/Trip Experiences



- 6th Grade - Career Coaching & Service Learning Lesson, FACS Career Exploration Unit, Career Portfolio Lesson, Career Speaker/Trip Experiences

GREAT FUTURES START **HERE.**



BOYS & GIRLS CLUB
OF MT. AIRY MIDDLE

Be a Leader!

Join the Boys & Girls Club at Mt. Airy Middle School!

Are you looking to get the most out of your middle school experience – then Boys & Girls Club at Mt Airy Middle is the place for you! This new club will meet at Mt Airy Middle on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3-6 PM. Boys & Girls Club is the perfect place to make new friends, get help with homework, earn service hours and engage in fun activities. Boys & Girls Club believes that kids are at their best when they are inspired so the Club has programs for all interests! We understand how to address the unique needs of middle school students and inspire them to become their best selves! The program includes homework help so that students are more successful in school and a nationally recognized leadership program, which provides opportunities for kids to make a difference in their community and in the world around them. Most of all, Boys & Girls Club is a fun, safe place for kids to hang out with their friends and make connections with adult mentors. The membership fee for the Boys & Girls Club's Mt. Airy Middle School program is only \$30 for the entire school year! Members who are 13 and older can even attend Friday teen nights at the Westminster Club (transportation not provided). Contact BGC at middleschool@bgcwestminster.org for more information or visit the Boys & Girls Club information table at back to school night! The exciting program is only for Mt Airy Middle students only and spaces are limited!

PORTABLE ELECTRONIC DEVICES

CCPS has established guidelines for the use of Portable Electronic Devices. In addition to CCPS guidelines, below you will find Mt. Airy Middle's procedures for use of portable electronic devices:

- Students will only be allowed to use their cell phones in emergency situations during the school day if permission is given by a staff member.
- If permission is not provided by a staff member to a student and the student is using their phone, the student will be instructed to walk their phone to the office to store in the office safe. The phone will not go home with the student and must be picked up by the parent/guardian. Our office staff will notify the parent/guardian to schedule a time to pick up the phone .
- The audible notification of portable electronic devices must be turned off during the school day to reduce disruption.
- Portable electronic devices should be placed out of view unless students have approval from staff to use their device. Permission would only be given in emergency situations. However, students are always welcome to call home using a phone in the main office.
- Portable electronic devices may not be used in bathrooms or locker rooms.
- In the event a student's continued use or possession of an electronic device becomes a disruption to the school, the student may lose the privilege to possess an electronic device. Continued violations will be subject to disciplinary action.
- If you need to contact your student during the school day, please call the main office instead of texting/calling your student directly.

SOCIAL MEDIA SAFETY LINKS

With the onslaught of new "Social Media" outlets it's never too late for tips on how to keep your kids safe online. Take the time to review this site for guidelines and information; and have a conversation with your children about social media etiquette and safety.

[Connect Safely](#)

Social media posts fall into the school's scope of authority if they threaten school safety or cause a school disruption. If parents or students see posts on social media that they find offensive and that they believe are posted by a MAMS student, they can contact the company (TikTok, Instagram, etc.) to report it. If they feel threatened, they should also contact the police. Parents are encouraged to monitor their students' social media use.

STUDENT TRANSPORTATION

Bus Routes/Schedules will be posted online by the middle of August and can be found by clicking on this link: [Infofinder.i](#). Type in your address, then click on your child's school to see the bus number and approximate pick-up/drop-off times. If you have any questions regarding your child's bus stop, call Transportation Services at 410-751-3229.

In an effort to make the transportation of your child as safe as possible, listed below you will find rules regarding student transportation:

Authorized Bus Passengers: Students may not ride buses other than the one that regularly transports them to school. Students are allowed one am and one pm stop. Exceptions to this policy will be granted only on an emergency basis by the school administration.

School Bus Vandalism: A student who damages a school bus in any manner is to be denied the privilege of riding the bus unless repairs have been paid. Riding privileges may be restored to the student after payment has been made or may be withheld by the principal or assistant principal for an indefinite period.

Transporting Musical Instruments and Projects: Only those musical instruments or projects that can be held on the lap of students along with the school textbooks may be brought on the bus. Larger instruments or projects that create a safety hazard and occupy a lot of space shall not be permitted on the school bus.

Bus Referrals: Parents will be notified if a student receives a bus referral. Inappropriate behavior may result in loss of bus riding privileges.

School Bus Regulations:

- Be at the bus 5 minutes before pick-up time.
- Take your seat promptly and remain seated for your ride to/from school.
- Sit in the seat facing front; keep your feet, books and other articles out of the aisle.
- Always keep your hands and head inside the bus.
- Report any damage that you see to the driver.
- Eating, smoking or using profanity or vulgar language is not permitted.
- Conduct should be quiet and orderly so the driver is not distracted from the important job of driving. Listen to the driver's instructions.
- Wait until the bus has come to a stop before leaving your seat.
- Cross 10 feet in front of the bus with the warning lights when crossing in front of the bus. Always look left, right, left to check for traffic before crossing any street, even when crossing in front of the bus with its red warning lights on.



Students should arrive at their bus stop at least 10 minutes prior to the listed pick up time for the first week of school.

BACKPACKS

Students may use backpacks to transport books to and from school; **however, students must leave their backpacks in their lockers during the school day.** Students will still be given sufficient opportunities to visit their lockers throughout the day so that they will not need to carry all of their books. These locker visit times will be determined by each individual team. Students can carry gym bags or small plastic bags for their gym clothes.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION UNIFORM

We highly encourage students to change for physical education. A Mt. Airy Middle P.E. uniform, T-shirt and shorts, may be purchased (\$10.00 per shirt) from their physical education teacher or they can bring dark shorts and a light-colored shirt. County policy requires each student to have a change of clothes which is clean, decent and appropriate for this class. We can accept cash or checks. There will also be an online option (myschoolbucks.com) available this year.

STUDENT DRESS CODE

The Board of Education recognizes the value of allowing individual student expression as well as the necessity of protecting student health and safety and maintaining an atmosphere conducive to education. Student dress code procedures must be designed with the goal of balancing these competing interests.

All dress code procedures will adhere to health and safety codes and comply with applicable law. Student attire that can be reasonably forecasted to either materially disrupt the educational environment or infringe upon the rights of other students to access and participate in a safe and welcoming educational environment will be prohibited. No procedure will impose dress and grooming rules based on gender in violation of Title IX. Procedures will specifically define ambiguous terms, and examples will be provided when practical.

DEFINITIONS:

- Cleavage Area: An area between the breasts exposed by a low-cut neckline
- Midriff Area: An area between the chest and the abdomen
- Undergarments: Clothing designed to be worn under other pieces of clothing. These include, but are not limited to, undershirts, tank-top undershirts, underpants, boxers, compression shorts or shirts, and bras, including bralettes and sport bras
- Head Coverings: Include, but are not limited to, hats, sunglasses, visors, hoods, beanies, scarves, and bandanas

PROCEDURE:

Students of Carroll County Public Schools are required to groom themselves in a manner that is not disruptive to the educational process and is reflective of a learning environment. Students are expected to abide by this dress code from their arrival to the school building to the defined ending of the school day as well as at any school-sponsored or school-sanctioned event. The requirements include, but are not limited to:

Head Coverings:

- Be removed upon entering the school building, unless approved for religious or medical reasons.
- Certain headbands, scrunchies, and folded bandanas, which are used to hold hair in place and do not cover the entire head, are permitted.
- One's face must be visible at all times.

Shirts:

- Shall reasonably cover the back, the cleavage area, and the entire midriff area.
- See-through or mesh shirts are not permitted, unless worn in conjunction with an appropriate top.

Dresses/Shorts/Skirts/Skorts/Pants:

- Shall cover the entire buttocks and private areas while the student is sitting, standing, and bending over.
- Pants shall cover undergarments at all times; that is, the waistline of the pants shall be on the upper hips.

Other:

- No bedroom slippers, pajamas, or pajamas pants shall be worn. This includes lounge pants.
- Appropriate shoes shall be worn.
- No bedroom slippers or pajamas shall be worn.
- Clothing that may endanger health or safety, that may be used as a weapon, or that may cause damage to property shall not be worn.
- Undergarments shall not be worn as outerwear or be visible through outer garments.
- Clothing shall not be worn that would lead school officials to reasonably believe that such attire will materially disrupt, interfere with, disturb, or distract from school activities, the safe operation of the school, or the rights of other students to access and participate in a safe and welcoming educational environment.
- Clothing shall not convey advertisements for or promote the use of condoms or other birth control devices, tobacco, alcohol, drugs, or the unlawful use of weapons, stated or implied.
- Clothing shall not convey profanity or symbols/messages depicting, implying, or which are reasonably perceived as promoting intolerance, hatred, and/or a hostile educational environment or harassment/bullying 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. This prohibition includes, but is not limited to, Confederate Battle Flags and swastikas.
- Clothing and accessories shall not depict symbols/messages of groups which are generally recognized as promoting intolerance, hatred, and harassment/bullying, such as the Ku Klux Klan or Aryan nation.
- Clothing shall not convey establishments or products whose names can be directly interpreted or construed as carrying a "double meaning" involving sexual innuendo, gang symbols, or sexual activity.
- Body art, whether permanent or temporary, which would otherwise violate this policy if depicted on attire, must be completely covered during the school day or at any school-sponsored or school-sanctioned event.



VIOLATIONS:

All student dress code violations shall be addressed in a respectful manner. When possible, a student's dress code concerns shall be addressed by a staff member of the student's gender identity.

A student found wearing inappropriate clothing will be asked to change or remove the item, and will be given an opportunity to do so. Should the student not be able to change or remove the item, clothing may be provided by the individual school. Student failure to cooperate will be referred to an administrator. Any student not complying with the direction of the administrator may be considered insubordinate and subject to appropriate disciplinary action. The Superintendent/designee may enforce additional restrictions in order to maintain a safe and orderly environment.

EXCEPTIONS:

Exceptions to the dress code for the purpose of school activities (i.e., spirit weeks, athletic game days, dances) are up to the discretion of the school administration.

VOLUNTEERS - CARROLL COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS 2025-2026

Making a Difference Together

The Carroll County Public School System encourages and welcomes volunteers. Volunteers strengthen ties with families, community members, and business partners. Volunteers are those who offer their time, effort and/or talents without receipt of monetary compensation or service learning hours to benefit students in the school system. The invaluable contributions of volunteers are recognized and appreciated by the staff and students of the Carroll County School System.

To access the online training, please click on the link below:

[Volunteer Training](#)

[2025-2026 Volunteer Handbook](#)

The information from your Volunteer Information Form will be screened and entered into the Volunteer Database at the school selected. Once this process is complete, you will receive an email notification at the email address provided on the Volunteer Information Form.

Starting this year, we will be encouraging all families to pay online through MySchoolBucks. You can get a jump start by...

1. Go to myschoolbucks.com or download the mobile app
2. Create your free account and add your students using their school name/ student ID
3. Add school items or invoices to your cart
4. Check out using your credit/debit card or electronic check. *A program fee may apply.*



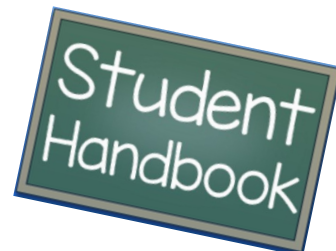
We'll be using MySchoolBucks for PE uniforms, field trips, outdoor school and so much more!

If you need assistance with your account, you can find helpful how-to videos and answers to commonly asked questions by visiting myschoolbucks.com. Or, you can contact MySchoolBucks directly by logging into your account to start a chat conversation or give them a call at (855) 832-5226.

CARROLL COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS STUDENT HANDBOOK

CCPS Student Handbook for the 2025-2026 school year will be available electronically through the CCPS website. This handbook contains numerous policies and procedures that your child is responsible for understanding. Please review the handbook with your child and pay particular attention to the following policies:

- Electronic Devices
- Search and Seizure
- Substance Abuse
- Violent Acts
- Weapons
- Staff and Student Relationships
- Dress Code



How to Check Grades on Home Access Center

August 15: Student schedules and new passwords will be posted in Home Access Center.

Home Access Center is Carroll County Public School's parent and student portal. It provides you, as a parent/guardian with the ability to access a variety of information about your student(s).

- View student's attendance for the year, as well as their demographic and emergency contact information.
- Register to receive an email anytime your student is absent.
- At the middle school and high school levels, you can view your student's report cards, schedule, service learning hours and classwork.
- You can also register to receive a weekly email containing your middle or high school student's classwork and grades.

If you have not yet registered, we encourage you to do so by clicking on [Home Access Center](#).

- Click the "**Request Password**" link and follow the directions on-screen.
- If you have questions or problems, please review the FAQs/User Guide. You will find a link to this .pdf on the Home Access Center login page, as well as the bottom of every screen within the application.

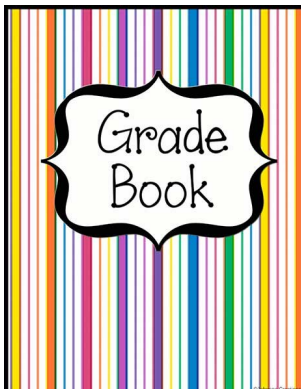
The Home Access Center is also available as a mobile app for both Apple and Android devices. It can be found in their respective stores, search keyword: **eSchoolPLUS Family**. The app will not replace Home Access Center, it is merely an additional way to access your student's information.

Receive Attendance and Gradebook Email Alert

Home Access Center allows parents/guardians of middle and high school students to **receive gradebook email alerts every Thursday evening**. If you would like to receive an email containing your child's gradebook information for the current marking period, then you will need to take the following steps for each of your children:

- Go to the [Home Access Center](#).
- Login to Home Access Center (NOTE: if you have never logged in before, click on "**Request Password**" and follow the directions on the screen. If you have forgotten your password, click the "**Forgot Password**" link.)
- If you have more than one student in Carroll County schools, then you will be prompted to select a student.
- After you select the student, let the cursor hover over your name on the top right corner of the screen.
- Click on **My Alerts**.
- Check the box for "**Classwork Alerts**". You can also check the box for "**Receive Attendance Alerts**" - those emails are sent every day, **ONLY** if your child is marked tardy, absent or early dismissal that day.

If you have any other middle or high school students, then you will need to follow these same steps for each child. **Parents who subscribed to receive these alerts last year will need to subscribe again this year.** This information does not carry over each school year.



Grading Dates

Marking Period 1: September 2 - November 4

Marking Period 2: November 5 - January 23

Marking Period 3: January 27 - April 9

Marking Period 4: April 10 - June 12

Marking period dates may be adjusted depending on the use of emergency closing days

Meet the Teams

Grade 6 Blue

Mrs. Weisman, teaches Science and is the 6 Blue Team Leader. She enjoys spending time with her three children, husband and their two yellow labs, Bunker and Bubba. She also loves traveling as well as spending time with family and friends. She's looking forward to meeting all of her new students!

Mrs. Gulati, is our 6 Blue math teacher. In her spare time, she enjoys traveling, staying active, and spending time with her 3 daughters, husband, and 2 black labs. She is usually found on the sidelines cheering her girls on playing soccer, lacrosse, or at a horse show. She has been teaching at Mt. Airy Middle since 2018. Mrs. Gulati enjoyed time in Vermont, Delaware, Western NY, and the Outer Banks this summer. She looks forward to the excitement a new school year brings!

Mrs. Haddad, ELA, has been teaching for 27 years. When not in school, she enjoys reading, shopping, all things Orioles and Ravens, and spending time with her family. She has three daughters, one granddaughter, and a grandson due to arrive this winter! This summer Mrs. Haddad enjoyed vacationing in California and Ocean City, Maryland. She is very excited to meet her new students and looks forward to a fantastic school year!

Mr. Hagy teaches 6th Grade Blue Social Studies. He has been teaching middle school for 19 years. He greatly enjoys getting to know his students and exploring the stories of history with them. Mr. Hagy grew up in Carroll County and has two children in CCPS. To relax, he enjoys hiking, going to the beach, listening to live music and watching the hometown Orioles and Ravens with family and friends. He is excited to begin the school year and is looking forward to welcoming the new 6th graders to the Mt Airy Middle School community!

Mrs. Hinkel, Humanities, this is her third year of teaching at Mt. Airy Middle with the 6th grade Blue. She is spending the summer doing "fixer-upper" projects around her house, reading, hanging out with friends and family, and doing a few extended day trips. She loves cuddling with her two rescue dogs, Theo and Dobby. Finally, she is looking forward to meeting her new group of 6th graders and having a positive, fun school year!

Grade 6 Gold

Mrs. Whitten teaches English Language Arts and is the team leader for 6 Gold. She grew up in Mt. Airy and loves teaching in the same community. Her hobbies include traveling, cooking/trying new recipes, reading books (especially mystery and adventure books), watching movies, and cheering on the Orioles! She is looking forward to a great school year and meeting her new students in the fall!

Ms. DiLeone, teaches Social Studies. She enjoys traveling and has been to many different countries including Egypt, Italy, and Greece! This first-hand experience in these countries helps with adding more to her lessons that she can't wait to share with her students this year. When not travelling she loves reading, cooking, and going to as many Caps games that she can. Can't wait to meet all of the incoming Bulldogs!

Mrs. Krouse teaches Science. She is originally from Delaware and moved to Maryland with her husband after they graduated from the University of Delaware. She loves to spend time outside walking, jogging and swimming. She also enjoys spending time with her family including her husband, daughter, two sons, and their dog, Charlie. She looks forward to meeting her new students in the fall!

Mr. Nave teaches Math. He is married with five children. One son graduated from Towson University and is employed as an accountant, a daughter who graduated from East Carolina University and is a certified nurse practitioner, a daughter who graduated from West Virginia University and is a dental hygienist, a son who graduated from the University of Maryland and works for the Ravens, and a daughter who is attending Towson University. He graduated from James Madison University and Western Maryland College. He enjoys golf, exercising and summer vacations spent at the beach (and math).

Mrs. Knauth, a graduate of Westminster High School and McDaniel College, is looking forward to another exciting change at MAMS. This year she will teach 6th grade Humanities. Mrs. Knauth and her husband of 19 years, have 3 children and an Australian Labradoodle named Millie. Outside of teaching, being a mom is what keeps her busy. This summer she will be spending most of her time at the pool, cheering on her kiddos at their swim meets. In her down time, she will be reading all the great books her students recommended.

Grade 7 Blue

Mrs. Curley, teaches Social Studies and is the Team Leader for 7 Blue. She graduated from Frostburg State University, and she is a Carroll County native. She enjoys watching football, going on trips and anything outdoors with her husband, her dog, and her son. She's excited to meet all of her new students!

Mrs. Clemens, teaches 7th grade Science. She has two science degrees and spent many years working as a water quality specialist for Penn State University and University of Maryland. Mrs. Clemens enjoys spending time outdoors with her husband, two teenagers, and their dog.

Ms. Doll is our 7 Blue ELA teacher. She graduated from Mount St. Mary's University, and this is her second year at Mt. Airy Middle School! Ms. Doll loves all things coffee, books, and traveling. She is excited to meet all of her new students!

Ms. Kaufman, graduated from Notre Dame of Maryland University. She is from Baltimore City and now lives in Cockeysville. She taught Middle School Math and Social Studies at a private school in Baltimore for many years. She left teaching to become an Activity Coordinator for several years but has decided to go back to her first love, teaching middle school Math.

Grade 7 Gold

Mrs. Orlosky, is our 7 Gold Math teacher and Team Leader. When she is not in the classroom, she loves to bake, read, attend sporting events, and go on family trips to the beach with her husband and her two boys, Connor and Logan. She also loves to take family walks with their two dogs, Daisy and Lily. She cannot wait to meet all her new students in September!

Mrs. Bruce is our 7th grade Humanities teacher. She is a native Marylander, from Hereford in Baltimore County. In her spare time, she loves to travel, kayak, hike and go camping with her husband and daughters. She's also looking forward to the new school year!

Mrs. Sapp, Social Studies, is starting her second year here at MAMS. This is her 15th year serving as a CCPS middle school teacher, and she looks forward to beginning the new school year here in Mt Airy. She grew up in the area and graduated from South Carroll High School (GO CAVS). She currently lives with her wonderful family in Westminster. When she is not in the classroom, she enjoys hiking, reading, music and COFFEE. She is also a HUGE fan of the Baltimore Ravens and the Baltimore Orioles and loves watching them win!!!

Mrs. Szymanski, is one of our 7 Gold E/LA teachers. This is her third year at MAMS, and she brings over 30 years of teaching experience with her as she has taught in Montgomery County's public and private schools. When Mrs. Szymanski is not in the classroom, she loves to garden, exercise, cook, read, and spend time with her husband, her eight children, as well as her new granddaughter. She also loves to take family vacations to the beach and the mountains. Mrs. Szymanski is looking forward to meeting her new students in September!

Mrs. Walls, Science, is a Carroll County native who grew up in Sykesville and still lives in Carroll County. She is an alumna of Shippensburg University with a degree in Mid-Level Education with concentrations in Language Arts and Science and recently earned her Master's degree in STEM Leadership. She's excited to continue to foster Mt. Airy students' curiosity about Life Science.

Grade 8 Blue

Ms. Chenoweth, Math/Team Leader, is a graduate of Liberty HS and Towson University, and is entering her 17th year teaching Math at Mt. Airy Middle. In addition to teaching math, Ms. Chenoweth is the yearbook club advisor and helps with the Drama Club spring musical. She loves to travel whenever possible and has been to quite a few countries outside the US. Over the summer, she went on a great tour of Scotland and England. She loves spending time at the beach, reading by the pool, and attending Orioles games. She is also frequently involved in musical activities, including choral and solo performances at church events.

Mrs. Barth, ELA, is beginning her 32nd year of teaching and is looking forward to her fourth year at Mount Airy Middle School. She has been a teacher in Carroll County for 21 years. Mrs. Barth is a graduate of Mount Saint Mary's University in Emmitsburg, Maryland. She recently moved to New Windsor with her husband, two sons and dog. She loves spending time with her family, going to the movies and reading.

Mr. Cooper, Social Studies, is entering his 29th year of teaching and is excited to be returning for his third year at MAMS. A graduate of Bloomsburg University, he previously has taught at Bangor Area High School for 10 years and Southern Lehigh High School for 15 years. For the past 25 years, he has enjoyed coaching varsity girls' basketball and leading over 900 students in traveling to almost 20 different countries all over the world. He also loves to travel with family and friends as often as possible. He lives in Carroll County with his family.

Ms. Mathias, Science teacher, is a graduate of Towson University. In addition to teaching science, Ms. Mathias is a Sources of Strength advisor and leads the yoga club here at MAMS. When she is not at school, she loves spending time with her family, friends and dogs, as well as coaching tennis. She is looking forward to beginning her second year at MAMS.

Mrs. Turner, STEM, is beginning her first year at MAMS. Before coming to MAMS, Mrs. Turner taught Science at Oklahoma Road Middle School. She is excited join the MAMS family and to meet all of her new students in the fall!

Grade 8 Gold

Mr. Fugate, Social Studies 8 Gold and Team Leader, is very excited to be starting his fourth year at Mt. Airy Middle School. He's looking forward to meeting all of his new students!

Mrs. Kolupanowich, Spanish teacher, is beginning her 20th year at Mt. Airy Middle! Mrs. K. grew up near Philadelphia, and loves watching the Phillies. She graduated from Shippensburg University with a BA in Spanish, and later earned a Master's Degree from McDaniel. When she's not in school, Mrs. Kolupanowich makes quilts. Mrs. K. also loves to travel! She's looking forward to meeting all her students this year.

Mrs. Merwitz, Earth Science Teacher, has a Bachelor's in Industrial Design from Auburn University (War Eagle!) and her Master's in Education from Towson University. Some of her favorite pastimes are watching SEC football, hiking, stargazing, and chasing her 9-year-old son around. Mrs. Merwitz's husband loves her passion for science but refuses to allow another 'cool looking rock' to join their household. He also refuses to pull over for her to take any more cloud pictures. She thinks the Monday after the Super Bowl should be a national holiday and still has hopes that Auburn may have a winning season this year! Be prepared to have your child predict the weather and beg you to take them star gazing while collecting rocks along the way.

Mrs. Mohlhenrich, English Language Arts Teacher, has a Bachelor's in English Literature from Seton Hill University and recently started a Masters program this summer. Mrs. Mohlhenrich is originally from Pittsburgh, PA where most of her family still resides. Some of Mrs. Mohlhenrich's favorite things are attending Ravens and Orioles games, exercising, reading, good TV shows, and cooking. On weekends, she looks forward to hanging out with her husband, family, dogs, and coordinating weddings at Montagu Meadows. She is looking forward to cooler weather, Raven's football, and starting her 5th year at MAMS!

Ms. Schuller, Math teacher on 8 Gold, she has a Bachelor of Arts from Rider University and Masters in Education from Towson University. She enjoys spending time with her husband and their two sons. Mrs. Schuller also enjoys running and working out and listening to podcasts and audio books. She is excited to be at MAMS for another excellent year and her 12th year of teaching.

Media

Mrs. Watson, is the Media Specialist at Mt. Airy Middle. She spends most of her free time reading, gardening, doing jigsaw puzzles, and wrangling her two cats, Darla and Ginny. She can't wait to tell everyone about all of the new books in our Media Center!

Related Arts

Mr. Mihalko, physical education teacher and Co-Team Leader, is beginning his 21th year teaching for CCPS. Mr. Mihalko grew up in Sykesville, MD and graduated from Towson University. During the summer, Mr. Mihalko enjoys spending time with his children and vacationing at the beach. He is looking forward to another great year at Mt. Airy Middle!

Mr. Woytowich, Technology Education Teacher and Co-Team Leader, is beginning his 14th year of teaching. He previously taught at West Middle where he began his career in 2012. He is a Millersville University graduate, originally from central Pennsylvania where he still visits frequently to see his family and friends. He's a huge Philly sports fan, avid beach goer and hiker. He also enjoys photography, woodworking and traveling to new places. He is looking forward to another great year at Mt. Airy Middle!

Mrs. McHugh, after 33 years of teaching English, is having way too much fun with FACS here at MAMS:) A lover of strong coffee, adventure, and all things chicken, she lives in Westminster with her own quirky crew of humans and animals, and tries really hard to live what she teaches. She dreams of a world in which people are kind, environmentally conscious, and willing to put their phones down and be present.

Ms. Davis, Visual Arts Teacher is entering her 13th year teaching. She spent the last 10 years with Baltimore County Public Schools and is looking forward to working with students at MAMS. She is a graduate of The George Washington University and Notre Dame of Maryland Universities. In her free time, she loves to work on art projects, go hiking and camping, spends time adding to her shoe collection and loves watching bad 80's movies.

Ms. Fleming has been teaching physical education at Mt. Airy Middle School for 37 years. She attended Mt. Airy Middle School and South Carroll HS. She is a graduate of Towson State University where she played volleyball and then went on to earn her Master's Degree from McDaniel College. In her spare time, she enjoys gardening and traveling.

Mrs. Howard, Music teacher, has been teaching music for over 20 years and is excited to continue her journey at Mt. Airy Middle School. Originally from NJ, she moved to Maryland as a young girl. She went to Morgan State University and majored in piano and music education. She recently completed her Master's of Education Degree in Reading at Goucher College in the spring of 2024. She will continue her education at Millersville University of Pennsylvania to obtain her Doctorate in Educational Leadership. She resides in York Co., Pennsylvania, with her husband where she proudly wears her purple and black to support the Baltimore Ravens. She loves to travel, enjoys spending time with her husband and their 5 children (all grown up now), and her extended family.

Mrs. Hunt has taught Physical Education in CCPS for 15 years and been at MAMS since 2021. She has a B.S. in Exercise Science from Eastern University and an M.S. in Education from McDaniel College. She grew up in Damascus and lives in Mount Airy with her husband, daughter Stevie, and 2 cats, Clemson and Pippa. In the summer, you can find Mrs. Hunt outside with her daughter by the pool, in her vegetable garden, or exercising.

Mr. Schulz, Health education teacher, is beginning his 5th year at MAMS. Mr. Schulz is a graduate of Bloomsburg University where he was a member of the Men's swim team and then went on to earn his teaching certification from Eastern University. Mr. Schulz enjoys spending time watching Philadelphia sports, exercising, coaching, and spending time with family and friends. He is looking forward to another great year at Mount Airy Middle School!

Mr. Summers, is our Instrumental Music teacher. He is looking forward to returning to MAMS in the fall. He will be playing his trumpet a lot with his band -The Market Street Big Band. Mr. Summers is also a car fanatic and will be attending and entering several car shows. Travel plans are to go to Sunset Beach in North Carolina to visit family and to Connecticut to visit some friends.

Resource & Support

Mrs. Apellaniz, is our 8th grade resource teacher and Team Leader. She has been at Mt. Airy Middle for over 20 years. She is originally from New Jersey and graduated from Georgian Court College. During her summer break, she enjoys reading, going to the beach, visiting new places while on vacation or on day trips, and spending time with her husband and two sons. She is looking forward to the new school year!

Mrs. Aponte-Rivera is an Instructional Assistant. She is married and has four children and seven grandchildren. She loves racing, music, reading good books, gardening, bird watching, vacationing in Puerto Rico, and most of all spending time with her seven grandchildren.

Mrs. Barnes, loves being the ELA Specialist at MAMS because she works with students and teachers from all grade levels! She enjoys spending time with her growing family, which now includes a grandson! She will spend this summer babysitting...and also keeping her sweet Basset Hound, Winnie, very pampered!

Ms. Belcourt is our 7 Gold resource teacher. She formerly worked at Montgomery County schools. She is excited to start her 4rd year at Mt. Airy Middle School and meet all of her new students!

Mrs. Ferguson, Math Resource, she is excited to begin her 11th year of teaching. But before we come back, she will be enjoying a summer of fun with her husband and three-year-old son. She is eager to get back in the classroom with her math students in all three grades. She is certain it will be a year of growth and learning!

Mrs. Jarboe, going into second year as a resource teacher. I have an amazing husband, together we have a daughter and are expecting our second child in December. I am working towards my master's in special education at McDaniel University. I am excited for a great year and to see the kids again!

Mrs. Leader is our advanced academics teacher. In between summer adventures with her husband and her little one, she is getting ready for what she knows will be a great new school year at Mt. Airy!

Mrs. Plummer, Instructional Assistant, is from Dayton, Ohio. She is married to David, and her three kids, Brian, Michael and Megan, have gone through MAMS and South Carroll. Brian and Michael graduated from the University of Maryland, and Megan graduated from Appalachian State. She has two rescue dogs, Cooper and Callie.

Mrs. Schaeffer is our 6 Gold resource teacher. She is in her 25th year of teaching special education in Carroll County. She has also spent time teaching English in Africa. She graduated from Frostburg State University and McDaniel College. She and her family enjoy road trips, hiking, and camping together.

Mrs. Starkey, Resource, is excited for her fourth year at Mt. Airy Middle School. She was born and raised in Carroll County where she is now raising her two daughters. Mrs. Starkey enjoys spending time reading, playing board games and discovering new adventures with her kids, husband, cats and dogs.

Ms. Strayton, Instructional Assistant, has two wonderful kids who went to MAMS and graduated from South Carroll High School. Ms. Strayton enjoys reading, cooking, gardening, traveling, and being with friends.

Mrs. Taddei, Speech-Pathologist, is a Pennsylvania native and Bloomsburg University alumna. She is the mother of three former MAMS students. In her spare time, she enjoys reading, biking, kayaking, crabbing, and searching for sea glass. Mrs. Taddei is looking forward to seeing her students again and sharing new photos of her dogs!

Counseling Office

Mrs. Bohle, school counselor, is beginning her seventh year at Mt. Airy Middle. After being a teacher for a few years, she knew counseling was her true calling as helping students is her passion. She studied at Salisbury University for her undergraduate degree in social work, and then proceeded to McDaniel College for her masters in school counseling. Mrs. Bohle and her husband have a son named Cullison and a daughter named Kennedy who always keep them entertained. They enjoy going to the beach and visiting family out in Kansas every summer. Mrs. Bohle is a huge Baltimore Ravens fan and also enjoys cheering on the Kansas Jayhawks during March Madness.

Mrs. McDermott, School Counselor, is beginning her fourth year at Mount Airy Middle School. She received her masters degree in School Counseling from McDaniel College after attending Washington College in Chestertown, MD for her undergrad degree where she enjoyed playing college volleyball. Mrs. McDermott and her husband spend a lot of time at sporting events cheering on their three sons. She also enjoys cheering on the Baltimore Ravens and Orioles but originally being from Michigan, Mrs. McDermott always cheers for the Michigan teams as well. She is looking forward to another amazing school year at MAMS!

Mrs. Hood, Secretary, has been with Mount Airy Middle since 2019. You might recognize her since she worked at Parr's Ridge before joining the MAMS team. Mrs. Hood has been married to her husband Brian and has lived in Mount Airy for over 30 years. They have 3 children, Brian Jr., J.T., and Kinsey and three grandchildren, Ethan, Ava and Trey. In her spare time, she enjoys spending time with family and friends, 4-wheeling in Western Maryland and enjoying the beach in Ocean City.

Mrs. Nolan, Middle School Career Coach and Service Learning Coordinator, is beginning her 6th year at Mt. Airy Middle School. Mrs. Nolan's education includes a M.Ed. Educational Leadership from American College of Education, Masters Equivalency in Education from Idaho State University, and B.S. Physical Education from Towson University. Mrs. Nolan's additional certifications include Administration 1 Certification, as well as College and Career Planning Consultant Certification and School Career Development Advisor Certification through the National Career Development Association. Mrs. Nolan will be on maternity leave at the beginning of the school year after welcoming her first baby into the world in July. Mrs. Nolan is looking forward to another great year at MAMS and is looking forward to seeing all the students upon her return!

Administrative Team

Mr. Hynes, Principal, is excited to start his 9th year at Mt. Airy Middle School. He is looking forward to closely working with students, staff, and community members to provide a safe and fun environment that is conducive to learning. Mr. Hynes has been working hard with the office staff, leadership team and the custodial team to ensure MAMS is ready for when students return for the 2024-2025 school year. Although there has been much preparation for the upcoming school year, it is important to unplug and relax from time to time. Mr. Hynes practices relaxation the best when he is with his family in the Outer Banks, North Carolina. He can't wait to see you all!

Mrs. Lavender, Assistant Principal, is excited for her third year here at Mt. Airy. While she admittedly misses the energy and excitement of her English classes, she has loved the challenge and unique opportunities that her role as Assistant Principal has offered her. Mrs. Lavender lives in Westminster with her husband and two sons. When she is not working, Mrs. Lavender enjoys spending time at the fields - the football field, the soccer field, the baseball field - to watch her sons play the sports they love. Mrs. Lavender is looking forward to meeting all the new faces starting at MAMS this fall and hearing the noise of a bustling school - it is too quiet here in summer.

Mrs. Conte, is a Secretary at Mt. Airy Middle since 2024 but has been working for CCPS since 2007 as a Spanish Interpreter. She is originally from Costa Rica but has lived in MD since 2000. She is married to her husband T.J. and has lived in Mount Airy for 16 years. Her and her husband have 2 human daughters Alyssa (17) and Valentina (14), and one doggie daughter, a 6-year-old Poodle named Coco. They enjoy spending time as family, going on trips, and anything outdoors, especially the beach.

Mrs. Kurland, aka Nurse Erin, is returning for her 4th year at MAMS. Nurse Erin has grown and learned as much, if not more, than the students. Unlike the students, however, Nurse Erin hopes to never leave MAMS. She lives in Mount Airy with one son and her husband. She loves the staff, students, and community of MAMS.

Mrs. Markus, Office Manager & Finance Secretary, is new to Mt. Airy Middle School as of March 2025. She has lived in Mt. Airy since she married her husband 26 years ago and has two children that attended MAMS. Her son and daughter-in-law gave birth to the first grandbaby in January. When Mrs. Markus is not working she enjoys time at the beach, crabbing, and time with family. Mrs. Markus is looking forward to working with students, parents and staff to meet the wide variety of needs for MAMS.

Ms. Orbin, Secretary, has been working in the office at Mt. Airy Middle School as a secretary for 3 years. She started out working at Mt. Airy Middle as a Student Support Assistant in 2021. She loves movies, music, and animals. She has 1 cat, 4 dogs, and 3 lizards. She likes to spend her summer spending time with family and going to concerts.



CAFETERIA NEWS AND NOTES

2025-2026

Free and Reduced Priced Meals

Applications for free and reduced priced meals are accepted throughout the school year. Meal benefits from last school year (2024-2025) will expire on October 14, 2025.

APPLY for Meal Benefits online at:

www.myschoolapps.com

Meal Benefit Applications may also be obtained from your school or by visiting the CCPS website.

Meal Prices

Breakfast

Elementary: \$1.50

Middle: \$1.75

High: \$1.75

Lunch

Elementary: \$2.50

Middle: \$2.75

High: \$3.00

Digital Menus

Interactive menus and nutritional information are available online!

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

Employment

Interested in joining our food services team? Visit our website www.carrollk12.org or call 410-751-3040 for more information.

THIS INSTITUTION IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER

BREAKFAST AND LUNCH SERVICE

A variety of breakfast and lunch choices are available daily for your child to enjoy. If you believe your family qualifies for free or reduced-price school meals, applications can be submitted online at: www.myschoolapps.com

MEAL CHARGE POLICY

In the event that a student forgets their money or does not have any money remaining on their account, Carroll County Public Schools will allow each student to charge breakfasts and lunches. Parent/Guardians will be notified of these charges. A charity account exists to help reduce unpaid meal debt for households with excessive charges. Students must have cash or money on their account to purchase a second meal (breakfast or lunch) or any a la carte items as these cannot be charged.

For more information visit www.carrollk12.org

WELLNESS POLICY

CCPS is committed to promoting student wellness and assuring that our school meals meet federal nutrition standards. Visit our website www.carrollk12.org to learn more about our policy and triennial assessment.

SMART SNACKS IN SCHOOLS

CCPS offers a variety of a la carte items for purchase in the cafeterias. Our a la carte food and beverage items meet the nutritional standards of the Smart Snacks in Schools regulations. Each student has a cafeteria account that they can access with an assigned PIN. To place money on account visit www.myschoolbucks.com or send cash or personal checks made out to your school with your child.

DONATE

Donations are always welcome to supplement our charge assistance program for those students in need. Contact Food Services at 410-751-3040 to donate or mail checks to: CCPS Food Services, 125 North Court Street, Westminster, MD 21157.

In memo line, please write "Charge Assistance Donation"

Meal Account and PIN Information

What is my child's PIN?

Every student who goes through our cafeteria line will use a unique five-digit 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.

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 an account.

- ◆ You will be able to add any value to the cafeteria account with a credit card or electronic check. *
*There is a service provider fee for credit card/electronic check transactions when using MySchoolBucks.
- ◆ **Free Method Option:** Send in cash or a check to your child's school cafeteria.
The cafeteria manager will add it to the account. Checks made payable to your child's school.

The money added to the account using either method can be used to purchase meals AND snack items.

Can I monitor what my child is purchasing?

Visit www.myschoolbucks.com Account set up is free.

Once you complete the simple registration process, you can set up low balance alerts and monitor purchases made in the cafeteria. You are only charged a transaction fee from MySchoolBucks if you use the account to deposit funds.

What happens if I forget to add money on my child's account?

If your child does not have cash or money on account, they will be able to charge meals (breakfast and lunch), but NOT snack items. Parent/Guardians will be emailed when a meal is charged so they can repay.

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>
- ◆ **BE SURE TO TURN OFF THE AUTO PAY/REPLENISH FEATURE BEFORE REQUESTING A REFUND**

Is my child's MySchoolBucks account balance automatically transferred from other School Districts/Counties?

Unfortunately, no. You must request a refund from the previous school district/county. You will also need to change the district to Carroll County in your MySchoolBucks account.

Sending cash or check to school and want to designate fund use?

You can use this form and send it into your student's school cafeteria.

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:

\$ _____ for Breakfast & Lunch \$ _____ for Milk or Snacks

Carroll County Public Schools

2025-26 School Calendar

September

- 1 Schools/Offices Closed - Labor Day
- 2 Schools Open - First Day for Students
- 26 * Two Hours and Forty-five Minutes Early Dismissal System-wide; Professional Development Day

Early Dismissal Days
Mt. Airy Middle School
(2 Hours 45 Minutes)

12:15pm

October

- 16 * Two Hours and Forty-five Minutes Early Dismissal System-wide; Professional Development Day
- 17 Schools Closed for Students - Professional Development Day for Teachers; Non-Work Day for Instructional Assistants

November

- 4 * Marking Period Ends. Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes Early Dismissal System-wide; Teachers work on End of Marking Period
- 26 * Schools/Offices Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes Early Dismissal – Last Day Before Thanksgiving Holiday
- 27-28 Schools/Offices Closed - Thanksgiving Holiday

December

- 12 * Two Hours and Forty-five Minutes Early Dismissal System-wide; Professional Development Day
- 23 * Schools/Offices Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes Early Dismissal – Last day before Winter Break
- 24-31 Schools/Offices Closed - Winter Break

January

- 1-2 Schools/Offices Closed - New Year's Day
- 5 Schools/Offices Reopen
- 16 * Two Hours and Forty-five Minutes Early Dismissal System-wide; Professional Development Day
- 19 Schools/Offices Closed - Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday
- 26 Schools Closed for Students - Teachers work on End of Marking Period Items; Professional Development Day

February

- 13 * Two Hours and Forty-five Minutes Early Dismissal System-wide; Professional Development Day
- 16 Schools/Offices Closed - Presidents' Day

March

- 13 * Two Hours and Forty-five Minutes Early Dismissal System-wide; Professional Development Day
- 16 Schools Closed for Students - Professional Development Day for Teachers; Non-Work Day for Instructional Assistants

April

- 2-7 Schools/Offices Closed - Spring Break
- 9 * Marking Period Ends - Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes Early Dismissal System-wide; Teachers work on End of Marking Period
- 27 * Two Hours and Forty-five Minutes Early Dismissal System-wide; Professional Development Day

May

- 22 * Two Hours and Forty-five Minutes Early Dismissal System-wide; Professional Development Day
- 25 Schools/Offices Closed - Memorial Day

June

- 12 * Last Day for Students, Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes Early Dismissal System-wide; Last Duty Day for Teachers
- 19 Schools/Offices Closed - Juneteenth
- 23 Schools/Offices Closed - Election Day

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

Emergency Closing Days

If any of the four (4) 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 11th.

Two (2) days not used – Last Student and Teacher Day – June 10th.

Three (3) days not used – Last Student and Teacher Day – June 9th.

Four (4) days not used – Last Student and Teacher Day – June 8th.

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.

Newsletters

In an effort to go "green" and minimize costs, we are no longer mailing newsletters.

If you would like a hard copy of the newsletter sent home with your child, please contact Ms. Orbin at Shorbin@carrollk12.org or 410-751-3554. Please state your child's name, grade and homeroom.

Student Accident Insurance

This year, CCPS will be sending an email home to each parent, explaining Student Accident Insurance. The application is to be submitted online at www.studentinsurance-kk.com. If you need more information, please contact the school office at 410-751-3554.

Integrated Pest Management Program

The integrated Pest Management (IPM) program employed by Carroll County Public Schools uses inspection, monitoring, employee education, and sanitation practices to minimize the use of pesticides in our schools.

Maryland law requires that parents of all elementary students be notified automatically prior to application of any pesticide. Parents of secondary students must request to be placed on a pesticide notification list.

Carroll County Public Schools notifies **all** students and staff 24 hours prior to scheduled applications of pesticides on school property. If an emergency pest control situation, arises and a pesticide is used, notification will be made within 24 hours. Space spraying of a pesticide throughout an entire room or area by a fogger or aerosol device requires one week advance notice to all students and staff.

Copies of material safety data sheets (MSDS) and product labels for each pesticide and bait station used on school property are maintained in the Department of Plant Operations. Persons wishing to review this information should contact Mr. John Timcheck at 410-751-3114. For additional information about the Integrated Pest Management Program, please contact Mr. Raymond Prokop, Director of School Support Services, at 410-751-3177.

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.

N O T I C E

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 Public Schools 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 projected for any asbestos-containing materials, if any are located in the school building.

POLICY STATEMENT ON PLACEMENT, PROMOTION, INTERVENTION, AND RETENTION:

The Board of Education endorses and encourages the belief that all students can learn, progress, and achieve when individual differences are recognized and addressed through effective instruction and intervention. It is the policy of the Board of Education of Carroll County that decisions regarding the placement, promotion, retention, and acceleration of students shall be based on multiple factors related to the degree of success the individual student has achieved in completing the assigned curriculum. The final responsibility for decisions on placement, promotion, intervention, retention, and acceleration of a student rests with the principal. The decision-making process shall include parents/guardians, CCPS staff, and students when appropriate.

Grades Six, Seven, and Eight: To be promoted to the next grade, students must pass all core academic subjects (mathematics, reading/language arts, science, and social studies). A student who fails any of the core subjects for the year shall be considered for retention. A student who successfully participates in appropriate interventions, such as extra assistance, a pull-out program, extended day programs, etc., to address the subject-area deficiencies, shall be promoted.

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.

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.