

Piney Ridge Elementary School



February 2026 Newsletter

Dear Piney Ridge Families,

We have just passed the midway point of the school year. Quarter 2 report cards were sent home on February 3rd. This is a good time for students and parents to review progress from the first two quarters and set goals for the second half of the school year.

In January, our students worked hard on mid-year assessments for ELA and Math. In February, staff will compile and analyze the results of those assessments. This information will help us to fine-tune instruction and continue our work toward meeting the school's goals to increase achievement.

We would like to remind families that students are not permitted to bring candy or other food items to school for the purpose of sharing with others. Occasionally at a teacher's discretion, a class may have activities to recognize a holiday such as Valentine's Day. In these instances, teachers may permit students to bring cards or non-edible items to share. There are many students in the school who have food allergies, food sensitivities, or medical conditions which prohibit them from eating certain foods or treats.

Lastly, we would like to point out the Kindergarten Registration information found in this newsletter. Please spread the word to neighbors and friends who live within the Piney Ridge boundaries and have a child who will be age 5 as of September 1st. We encourage parents of incoming Kindergarten students to register during Kindergarten Registration Week in order to help us to plan ahead for the new school year.

We wish everyone a safe and healthy month of February!

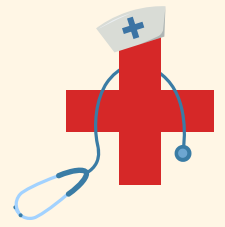
John Code, Principal

Morgan Pratt, Asst. Principal and 504/ADA Bld. Coordinator

6315 Freedom Ave Sykesville, MD 21784
(410)751-3535 (410)751-3539 Fax
School Hours: 9:15 - 3:45
preattendance@carrollk12.org

Need to contact an administrator? A
teacher?
Check the [Staff Directory!](#)

A Note from the Nurse



Smile! February is National Dental Health Month!

Our Teeth are important for chewing, speaking, and our appearance.

One part of our teeth is the protective hard covering called Enamel. It is important to keep the enamel strong by brushing our teeth.

If we don't brush our teeth, then the enamel begins to break down from a bacteria germ called Plaque. Plaque likes to attach to our teeth after eating sugary foods.

Eventually if the plaque is not removed by brushing or by the Dentist cleaning our teeth, a cavity will form. Plaque also leads to bad breath.

You can prevent cavities, plaque and bad breath by:



*Brushing your teeth twice a day, after breakfast and before bed is perfect!

*Flossing at least once a day.

*Eating Healthy foods and limiting sugary snacks, sodas and sports drinks. See your Dentist twice a year.

You will have your adult teeth for the rest of your life. Take good care of them and have a smile to be proud of!

Piney Ridge Elementary School



everychild.one voice.®

February 12- PTA Meeting @ 7 PM

February 20- V.I.P. Dance

February 26th & 27th- Screen Strong Events

March 1- PTA Meeting @ 7 PM

March 20- Talent Show

A graphic for the Piney Ridge PTA 2025-2026 Meeting Schedule. It features a dark background with colorful pencils on the left and paper clips on the right. The meeting dates are listed in a white box: Tues 9/9, Weds 10/8, Tues 11/11, Weds 12/9, Thurs 1/8, Thurs 2/12, Weds 3/11, Tues 4/14, Thurs 5/14, and Tues 6/2. The text 'Join Us @ 7pm!' is written in pink. To the right, it says 'Meetings are in the Media Center OR join virtually via Zoom!'. At the bottom, it says 'Free Childcare for potty trained children. No RSVP needed.'

PINEY RIDGE PTA	
2025-2026 Meeting Schedule	
Tues 9/9	Thurs 2/12
Weds 10/8	Weds 3/11
Tues 11/11	Tues 4/14
Weds 12/9	Thurs 5/14
Thurs 1/8	Tues 6/2

Join Us @ 7pm!

Meetings are in the Media Center OR join virtually via Zoom!

Free Childcare for potty trained children. No RSVP needed.

SIGN UP TODAY



Kindergarten Registration Week

March 9-13

If you have a child who will be age 5 as of September 1, 2026, and you live within the Piney Ridge Elementary attendance area, we encourage you to come to school to register your child for kindergarten.

No appointment needed during this week.

Best times to visit

Visit between 9:30-12:30 or 1:30-3:00 to register.

Evening hours: Wednesday, March 11 5:00-7:00 pm

If you are not able to visit during these times, please call the school at (410)-751-3535 to make an appointment to register.

We encourage all parents to register their children during Kindergarten Registration Week. Early registration helps us to properly plan for staffing, space, and materials for the incoming Kindergarten class. Please spread the word to any families who have a student eligible for Kindergarten in the 2026-2027 school year.

DON'T FORGET

Needed for registration

- Proof of birth
- Proof of residency
- Immunization records
- Parent/guardian ID

kindergarten

Hungry for more information?

Check our WEBSITE regularly for news, resources and important topics.



Important Dates and Frequently Asked Questions

Carroll County Public Schools 2025-2026

School Calendar

All the important dates! School closures, early dismissals and report card distribution

Informational Calendar Student/Parent Handbook

Best for answering all of those random questions! Where to check for snow day info, contacts for resources, various regulations for reference and more!

Volunteers and Visitors



- All visitors to the school must come to the main entrance and ring the doorbell.
- Upon entering, proceed to the office to sign in. Visitors must show a photo ID.
- Parents/Guardians may visit during lunch, after September 16.
- Any school volunteers must complete CCPS Volunteer Training at least 7 days prior to volunteering in the school.

CHANGES TO TRANSPORTATION? NOTIFICATION OF ABSENCE?

TO REPORT AN ABSENCE, REQUEST VACATION PREAPPROVAL OR CHANGE IN TRANSPORTION, GO TO PREATTENDANCE@CARROLLK12.ORG

TEMPORARY
CHANGE OF
TRANSPORTATION



NOTICE OF
ABSENCE/VACATION
PREAPPROVAL REQUEST



SCAN ME

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, MD 21157 (410) 751-3070.

Dismissal Changes



Dismissal changes should be sent to PREattendance@carrollk12.org no later than 2 PM for same day changes.

Important Dates

February 11- Board of Ed. Meeting

February 12- PTA Meeting

February 13- 2 hour and 45 minute early dismissal for students, Professional Development for staff

February 16- Schools/ offices closed

February 17, 19, 20- CogAT Testing (Grade 2)

February 24- Instructional Assistants Day

March 13- 2 hour and 45 minute early dismissal for students, Professional Development for staff

March 16- Schools closed for students

Carroll County Public Schools

Questions?

Call 410-751-3613



PreK FAQs



PRE-KINDERGARTEN 2026-2027 ENROLLMENT

A child who will turn 4 years of age **on or before September 1, 2026** may be eligible for enrollment into CCPS PreK Program

1 COMPLETE APPLICATION

All families who are interested in being considered must complete a CCPS Pre-Kindergarten application & provide necessary documentation.

APPLY HERE



Eligibility requirements met.

You will be notified by email to enroll your child

Eligibility requirements NOT met.

You will be notified by email and your child will be placed on a wait list.

2 ENROLLMENT DETERMINED

Enrollment determined based on Federal Poverty Level guidelines, foster care, and/or homeless status.

Should space be available, children who have an IEP and/or Multi-language Learner status may be given priority. Due to limited availability families are encouraged to consider private Pre-K options as well.

Escuelas Públicas del Condado Carroll



¿Preguntas?

Llame al 410-751-3613



Preguntas y
respuesta
sobre PreK



PRE-KINDERGARTEN INSCRIPCIONES 2026-2027

Un niño que cumpla 4 años **el o antes del 1 de septiembre del 2026** puede ser elegible para inscribirse en el programa de PreK de CCPS

1 COMPLETE LA APLICACIÓN

Todas las familias que están interesadas en ser consideradas deben completar la aplicación para Pre-Kindergarten de CCPS & proporcionar los documentos necesarios.

APLIQUE AQUÍ



2 DETERMINACIÓN PARA LA INSCRIPCIÓN

La inscripción está determinada por las guías de Nivel de Pobreza Federal, hogar sustituto y/o estatus sin hogar.

Si hay espacio disponible, los niños que tienen un IEP y / o son alumnos multilingües pueden tener prioridad. Debido a la disponibilidad limitada se anima a las familias a considerar las opciones privadas de Pre-Kinder.

Llenar los requisitos de elegibilidad

Usted será notificado por email sobre la inscripción de su niño

Los requisitos de elegibilidad NO se llenaron.

Usted será notificado por email que su niño ha sido puesto en la lista de espera.

Breakfast

February 2026

Piney Ridge Elementary
Breakfast

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

2

Hot Breakfast Entree
Variety of Breakfast Breads
Variety of Cereal
100% Fruit Juice
Variety of Fruit

3

Hot Breakfast Entree
Variety of Breakfast Breads
Variety of Cereal
100% Fruit Juice
Variety of Fruit

4

Hot Breakfast Entree
Variety of Breakfast Breads
Variety of Cereal
100% Fruit Juice
Variety of Fruit

5

Hot Breakfast Entree
Variety of Breakfast Breads
Variety of Cereal
100% Fruit Juice
Variety of Fruit

6

Hot Breakfast Entree
Variety of Breakfast Breads
Variety of Cereal
100% Fruit Juice
Variety of Fruit

9

Hot Breakfast Entree
Variety of Breakfast Breads
Variety of Cereal
100% Fruit Juice
Variety of Fruit

10

Hot Breakfast Entree
Variety of Breakfast Breads
Variety of Cereal
100% Fruit Juice
Variety of Fruit

11

Hot Breakfast Entree
Variety of Breakfast Breads
Variety of Cereal
100% Fruit Juice
Variety of Fruit

12

Hot Breakfast Entree
Variety of Breakfast Breads
Variety of Cereal
100% Fruit Juice
Variety of Fruit

13

Hot Breakfast Entree
Variety of Breakfast Breads
Variety of Cereal
100% Fruit Juice
Variety of Fruit

16



President's Day

17

Hot Breakfast Entree
Variety of Breakfast Breads
Variety of Cereal
100% Fruit Juice
Variety of Fruit

18

Hot Breakfast Entree
Variety of Breakfast Breads
Variety of Cereal
100% Fruit Juice
Variety of Fruit

19

Hot Breakfast Entree
Variety of Breakfast Breads
Variety of Cereal
100% Fruit Juice
Variety of Fruit

20

Hot Breakfast Entree
Variety of Breakfast Breads
Variety of Cereal
100% Fruit Juice
Variety of Fruit

23

Hot Breakfast Entree
Variety of Breakfast Breads
Variety of Cereal
100% Fruit Juice
Variety of Fruit

24

Hot Breakfast Entree
Variety of Breakfast Breads
Variety of Cereal
100% Fruit Juice
Variety of Fruit

25

Hot Breakfast Entree
Variety of Breakfast Breads
Variety of Cereal
100% Fruit Juice
Variety of Fruit

26

Hot Breakfast Entree
Variety of Breakfast Breads
Variety of Cereal
100% Fruit Juice
Variety of Fruit

27

Hot Breakfast Entree
Variety of Breakfast Breads
Variety of Cereal
100% Fruit Juice
Variety of Fruit

Assorted Breakfast Cereals: Apple Cinnamon Cheerios , Cheerios , Cinnamon Toast Crunch , Cocoa Puffs , Rice Chex , Trix

Condiments: Syrup , Cream Cheese , Grape Jelly , Margarine

All menus are subject to change. We make it our priority to serve the menu as planned, but sometimes situations arise where we need to make substitutions. We will make every attempt to substitute similar products when they are available. We appreciate your understanding.

Milk Choices: Nonfat Milk , Low Fat Milk , Nonfat Chocolate Milk

Lunch

February 2026

Piney Ridge Elementary
Lunch

MONDAY

- 2**
- Entree Choices
- Homestyle Chicken Tenders with Dinner Roll
 - Cheeseburger on a Roll
 - Chicken Ceasar Salad
- Grab and Go Combo
- Featured Sides
- Baked Beans
- Fruit and Vegetable Bar

TUESDAY

- 3**
- Entree Choices
- Walking Taco
 - Deep Dish Cheese Pizza
 - Chicken Ceasar Salad
- Grab and Go Combo
- Featured Sides
- Corn
- Fruit and Vegetable Bar

WEDNESDAY

- 4**
- Entree Choices
- Chicken Nuggets with Dinner Roll
 - Pretzel Bites & Cheese
 - Chicken Ceasar Salad
- Grab and Go Combo
- Featured Sides
- Crispy French Fries
 - Steamed Broccoli
- Fruit and Vegetable Bar

THURSDAY

- 5**
- Entree Choices
- Macaroni and Cheese with Soft Pretzel Rod
 - Corn Dog Nuggets
 - Chicken Ceasar Salad
- Grab and Go Combo
- Featured Sides
- Green Beans
- Fruit and Vegetable Bar

FRIDAY

- 6**
- Big game!**
- 
- Entree Choices
- Cheese Pizza
 - Pepperoni Pizza
 - Nachos Grande
 - Chicken Ceasar Salad
- Grab and Go Combo
- Featured Sides
- Steamed Broccoli
 - Sidekicks Frozen Treat
- Fruit and Vegetable Bar

9

- Entree Choices
- Garlic Cheese Pizza
 - Orange Chicken over Rice
 - Crispy Chicken Salad
- Grab and Go Combo
- Featured Sides
- Brown Rice
 - Baked Beans
 - Cream of Broccoli Soup
- Fruit and Vegetable Bar

10

- Entree Choices
- Beef Chili with Beans with Cornbread
 - Popcorn Chicken with Dinner Roll
 - Crispy Chicken Salad
- Grab and Go Combo
- Featured Sides
- Corn
- Fruit and Vegetable Bar

11

- Entree Choices
- Grilled Cheese Sandwich
 - Sweet and Sour Meatballs over Rice with Dinner Roll
 - Crispy Chicken Salad
- Grab and Go Combo
- Featured Sides
- Curly Fries
 - Tomato Soup
- Fruit and Vegetable Bar

12

- Entree Choices
- Beef and Broccoli over Rice
 - ★ Pizza Crunchers
 - Crispy Chicken Salad
- Grab and Go Combo
- Featured Sides
- Steamed Broccoli
- Fruit and Vegetable Bar

13

- Entree Choices
- Cheese Pizza
 - Pepperoni Pizza
 - Heart Nuggets with Pretzels
 - Crispy Chicken Salad
- Grab and Go Combo
- Featured Sides
- Green Beans
- Fruit and Vegetable Bar

16



President's Day

17

- Entree Choices
- French Toast Sticks with Sausage Patty
 - Hot Ham and Cheese
 - Southwest Chicken Salad
- Grab and Go Combo
- Featured Sides
- Tater Tots
 - Corn
 - Smart Crackers
- Fruit and Vegetable Bar

18

- Entree Choices
- Popcorn Chicken with Dinner Roll
 - Cheese Tortellini with Marinara Sauce with Garlic Cheesy Twiz-Stik
 - Southwest Chicken Salad
- Grab and Go Combo
- Featured Sides
- Steamed Broccoli
- Fruit and Vegetable Bar

19

- Entree Choices
- Chicken Nuggets with Dinner Roll
 - Hot Dog
 - Corn Dog
 - Southwest Chicken Salad
- Grab and Go Combo
- Featured Sides
- Green Beans
- Fruit and Vegetable Bar

20

- Entree Choices
- Cheese Pizza
 - Pepperoni Pizza
 - Fish Sandwich
 - Southwest Chicken Salad
- Grab and Go Combo
- Featured Sides
- Steamed Broccoli
- Fruit and Vegetable Bar

23

- Entree Choices
- Deep Dish Cheese Pizza
 - Popcorn Chicken with Buttermilk Biscuit
 - Crispy Chicken Salad
- Grab and Go Combo
- Featured Sides
- Mashed Potatoes
 - Corn
- Fruit and Vegetable Bar

24

- Entree Choices
- Beef Tacos
 - Ranchero Pizza
 - Crispy Chicken Salad
- Grab and Go Combo
- Featured Sides
- Green Beans
- Fruit and Vegetable Bar

25

- Entree Choices
- Grilled Cheese Sandwich
 - Chicken Patty on a Roll
 - Crispy Chicken Salad
- Grab and Go Combo
- Featured Sides
- Tomato Soup
- Fruit and Vegetable Bar

26

- Entree Choices
- Macaroni and Cheese with Soft Pretzel Rod
 - Hamburger on a Roll
 - Cheeseburger on a Roll
 - Crispy Chicken Salad
- Grab and Go Combo
- Featured Sides
- Crinkle Cut French Fries
- Fruit and Vegetable Bar

27

- Entree Choices
- Cheese Pizza
 - Pepperoni Pizza
 - Pork BBQ Sandwich
 - Crispy Chicken Salad
- Grab and Go Combo
- Featured Sides
- Steamed Broccoli
- Fruit and Vegetable Bar