# South School Sentinel



# Weekly Newsletter June 15 - June 18, 2020



Hello Parents and Guardians,

It has been a very interesting final quarter of our school year to say the least. I am extremely proud of our community of students, teachers, parents, and staff for their cooperation, dedication, and flexibility during the past three months. I am also honored to have been the principal at OMMS for the past four years and offer my full support to Ms. Linda Chandler, who will begin as principal of OMMS on July 1.

The past 4 years have been very enjoyable for me. I feel honored, humbled, and privileged to have led an amazing community of students and parents. I will forever cherish the relationships I have with the OMMS community. I have enjoyed working with your students and wish you all the very best in the future. Have a great summer!

Sincerely,

Mr. Thomas, Principal

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Where do you put smart hot dogs? On honor rolls!

What washes up on very small beaches? Micro-waves!



#### **Student Items Pick Up Dates:**

We will have a team of people available to help families with student items that were left in the building prior to our departure on 3/12. The date/times are as follows:

1) 6/15: 8 a.m. – 3 p.m.

2) 6/16: 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

3) 6/17: 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.

At this time, all lockers, gym lockers, and classrooms have been cleaned out and items have been bagged and tagged. When you arrive at the school, please pull around to our bus lot and tell us your student's name. We will radio to the inside of the building and have your belongings brought to you. We hope that you will not have to exit your vehicle. We have these items labeled and arranged in alphabetical order by grade, but the items are not inventoried, meaning we don't know who has what.

<u>We will also be collecting the following items:</u> textbooks, media books, 8<sup>th</sup> grade musical instruments owned by the school. We will have music teachers present on <u>Monday only</u>, to assist with instrument drop-off and retrieval.

Chromebooks will not be collected at this time.

Anything that is remaining in the school after these dates will be donated or discarded.

#### **STEM ANNOUNCEMENTS**



Big Thanks from STEM Changemaker Team 17!!!

Marie Bessette and Julia Fox from 8th grade STEM Changemaker Team 17 want to sincerely thank everyone who donated to their towel drive in February! The drive gathered 58 items, including towels, sheets, blankets, comforters, and even some puppy pads! These items are in high demand at the shelter. We appreciate the people who made the drive a success, and hope everyone will consider supporting their local animal shelter in the future!







# STEM VIRTUAL SUMMER CLASSROOM AND CAMP INFORMATION:

STEM 7 & STEM 8 Summer Google Classroom Codes and Virtual Camp information will be posted in the STEM Google Cohort Classrooms. Families will be sent out reminder emails about the summer STEM programs and requirements. Curbside pick-up in front of Old Mill Middle South for a STEM summer backpack with activities and supplies will be available as follows for rising STEM 6, 7 and 8 students.

Monday, July 6 STEM 6 students: 10:30 am - 12:30 pm

Tuesday, July 7 STEM 7 students: 10:30 am - 12:30 pm

Wednesday, July 8 STEM 8 students: 10:30 am - 12:30 pm

Thursday, July 9 STEM 8 alumni: 2020 10:30 am -12:30 pm

Questions? Contact mehartman@aacps.org

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# **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **OMMS Families and Guardians,**

If your child has been relying on the Google Classroom app on a mobile device, please download the free ClassLink app that is also available for that device and have your child sign in with their AACPS login. ClassLink will allow them to access the many instructional tools their teachers are using without having to sign in to each one. Using Classlink to get to Google Classroom and any other necessary apps will also mark your child present for instruction.

#### For Android:



#### For iPhone:



#### Message from Ms. Dutton in Media:

Every Tuesday and Thursday at 11am Ms. Dutton, our media specialist, will be holding Patriot Book Chat to discuss and share thoughts on reading, books, how to find more to read, and to catch up on our lives. The class code to the media center classroom is **daff6cy**. Look for the announcement and link to the upcoming Google Meet.

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# **Hey Old Mill Middle School South!**

Your 2019-2020 memories have come together in the yearbook and



#### Orders your yearbook today!

#### To order online:

- YearbookOrderCenter.com
- Enter the school code for OMMS... #4892
- Pay Herff Jones directly





#### Don't miss out on your yearbook! 2020 is a year you won't forget!

#### Parent and Student Guide to Google Classroom:

- A Guide to Google Classroom for AACPS Students
- A Guide to Google Classroom for AACPS Parents (versión en español)

## **AACPS Digital Resource Information for Families can be found at:**

https://docs.google.com/document/d/11MDFYpuo1VjG5HH7hBtd6tbsA38zOlo1Hv1eFr2pR2c/edit?usp=sharing

Questions about Online Learning? Please reach out to the email below:

mailto:elearning@aacps.org

#### MEALS AVAILABLE DURING SCHOOL CLOSURE

Food and Nutrition staff will provide bagged meals for children 18 or under between 12:00-12:30 PM Monday through Friday. Cafeteria staff will prepare meals and cart all bagged meals to the front of the building for distribution.

Please go to www.aacps.org for a complete list of meal locations





Resources from Anne Arundel County Public Library

Did you know that ALL AACPS students have a FREE public library account? It is called:



Here's how it works:

Go to: www.aacpl.net to access the many resources of the Public Library

Then, anytime you are asked to enter your account number use the following:



Your student number is your AACPS Student ID number (your lunch number)

Important – your SAIL number has a six-digit PIN, which is set to the digits in your birthday.



For example, if your birthday is 10/18/2008, your PIN is 101808. You can change your PIN anytime you want online or ask the friendly staff at the library to change it for you.

Your SAIL number works just like a library card. Anytime the Library's website asks for your library card number, just enter your SAIL number. You can also use any of the library's eResources to access eBooks, audiobooks, stream videos, etc. with your SAIL number and PIN.

### Resources from Anne Arundel County Public Schools



### eBooks & Databases

# AACPS eBooks, Digital Audio Books and Databases are available through the MackinVia app or through the AACPS website:

Using the APP:

- 1- Go to APP store
- 2 Download the MackinVia APP then open the APP
- 3- Select school site- Old Mill Middle South
- 4-Log-in is your 6-digit student ID
- 5- Password is the last 4 digits of your student ID
- 6- Search for book and check out
- 7-Download eBooks to your device while they are checked out to you OR

Using the AACPS website:

Go to www.aacps.org >click on students>click on library media in the bottom right corner> select Public Access Catalog> select MackinVia in the top right corner>Site ID is Old Mill Middle South>Log in using your 6-digit student ID number as your ID and the last four of that number as your password

Access any database you'd like to use, no password needed if you're logged into MackinVia

#### **Troubleshooting Your AACPS Chromebook**

While in schools, Chromebooks are charged daily and remain continuously connected to the school's wireless network. Following are some troubleshooting tips to help you manage the power and wireless connectivity of your AACPS Chromebook while outside the school environment.

#### Identifying your child's Chromebook

Two model Acer Chromebooks were distributed to students: C731 and C732. The type of power plug will help you identify the model Chromebook.



C731 power plug has a 90-degree bent style plug



C732 power plug is a flat oval style plug



The serial number uniquely identifies both model Chromebooks. It is located on the bottom of the device.

Devices should also have a white AACPS asset tag with a 6-digit number. Additionally, some schools labeled their devices with cart and device name label; some did not.

The serial # and/or asset tag # can accurately identify your device in our tracking system.

#### **Troubleshooting power issues**



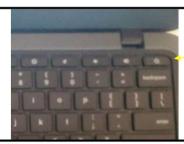
C731 will have an amber light when the plug is properly inserted, and the device is charging.



C732 will have a blue light when the plug is properly inserted, and the device is charging.



Be sure the wire that connects the power adaptor to the wall outlet is completely inserted.



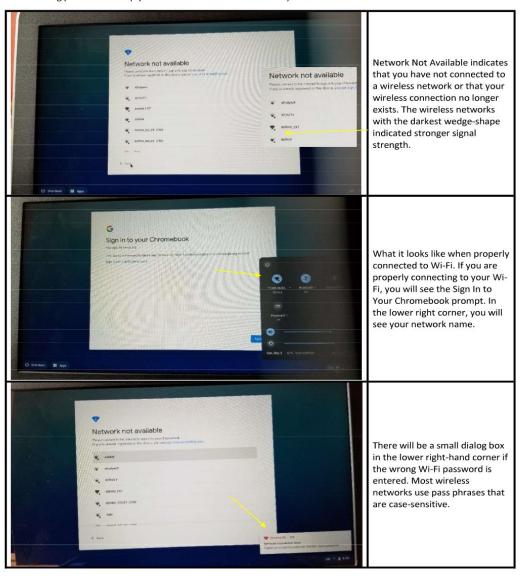
Not powering on? — be sure to check the power/charging troubleshooting tips listed above. Also try pressing and holding down the power button for at least 20 seconds if the Chromebook is charging but not powering on.

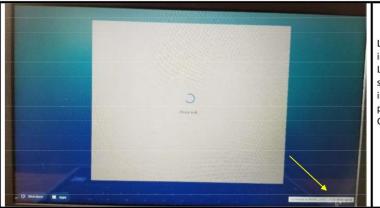
Other items to check if the Chromebook is not charging:

- $\,\succ\,\,$  Check AC wall outlet by plugging in a known-working device (such as wall lamp).
- > If using a power strip, check the strip to make sure it is on and/or has not tripped.

#### **Troubleshooting Wi-Fi issues**

The following pictures will help you troubleshoot Wi-Fi issues with your Chromebook:

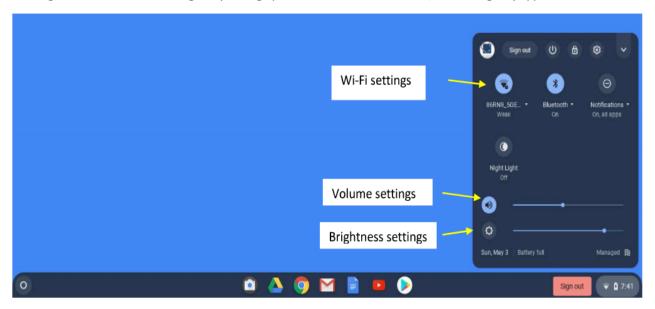




Low signal strength is indicted in the lower right-hand corner. Low signal strength (weak signal) will cause many issues include slow loading of web pages and participation in Google Classroom.

#### **Additional controls**

By clicking on the bottom right-hand corner on the time, you can access the controls for volume settings, screen brightness and wireless settings. Depending upon the version of Chrome OS, this setting may appear different.



Wi-Fi settings – this setting allows you to add an additional wireless network to your device and check signal strength.

*Volume settings* – this setting allows you to mute sound and adjust sound volume. If headphones (or headphones with microphone) are plugged in, this setting will allow you to choose between the internal speaker (and microphone) and the external speaker (and microphone).

Brightness settings – this setting allows you to brighten/darken the screen.

NOTE – there are other settings that can be accessed in this panel. It is strongly recommended to not make additional adjustments to your device as it may adversely impact the use of this device for instruction.

#### Still having trouble?

If you are still having difficulty with your child's Chromebook, kindly send an email to <a href="mailto:chromebookissues@aacps.org">chromebookissues@aacps.org</a>. Make the subject line: "Chromebook Issue – Student Last Name" and include the following information in the body of your message:

- Child's name
- Child's school
- Chromebook model #
- From what location did you get your child's Chromebook
- Brief description of what the issue is

Depending upon the circumstances, we may resolve the issue or swap out the Chromebook.

Thank you for your assistance in helping us with Chromebook support!