

# Central Elementary School Newsletter



## September 2023

*"Diving into Learning"*

### From the Principal:

Hello Central Elementary School Families!

What a terrific start to the school year! Students came back to us eager and optimistic, and they're already adjusting to school routines, making new friends, and even learning a little bit.

One of the exciting things our kids are getting familiar with is the new math curriculum- Reveal Math. This program seeks to help students increase confidence in their math ability, build curiosity about math, and develop problem-solving skills as they work with mathematical concepts. Importantly, it also emphasizes the connection between home and school. We know it's crucial for learning to be reinforced at home, but let's be honest- even at the elementary level, talking about math can be confusing. But it can also be rewarding. With this curriculum, we hope to overcome those obstacles and invite parents to be a part of the thoughtful, engaging math dialogue we're able to have here at school.

This week, students have been discussing their feelings and thoughts about math, and ways they see math around them. You can be a part of this conversation by asking them some of these questions at home or inviting them to see math connections in their everyday activities. And keep an eye out for more communications from your child's teacher and AACPS as we continue to explore this program.

Beyond the math classroom, of course, open communication within our school community is essential. I look forward to keeping all of our CES family informed with this monthly newsletter, as well as all of the formats listed in the sidebar- but I'm also happy to listen. Please feel free to reach out by email ([pthompson2@aacps.org](mailto:pthompson2@aacps.org)), or call the office anytime.

All the Best,  
Mr. Thompson

### Important Dates:

**September 4th-** School Closed for Labor Day

**September 14th-** Back to School Night at 6 p.m.

**September 15th-** Volunteer Orientation at 9 a.m.

### Central Elementary School Communication

#### Website:

<https://www.aacps.org/Page/4193>

Connect ED: Phone/email  
parent notification system

Paper Flyers: Backpack mail  
for students (taken home in  
folders)

School Agenda Books:  
Provided for each student

Email: Staff emails can be  
found at  
<https://www.aacps.org/Page/4200>

Twitter: (No account  
required) Information about  
late buses in the afternoon,  
photos from school events,  
flyers.

<https://twitter.com/CentralESaacps>

CES PTO [centralespto.org](http://centralespto.org)

Questions about your student's  
reading level and/or placement?  
This [page on the AACPS website](#)  
has lots of good information!



**September 25th-** Yom Kippur - Schools & Central Offices Closed

**September 29th-** PTO Fall Festival at 6 p.m.

**October 11th-** School Picture Day

**October 13th-** 5th Grade Chorus Singing National Anthem at SRHS

**October 17th-** Unity Day- 2-Hour Early Dismissal

**October 30th-** End of Marking Period- 2-Hour Early Dismissal

**October 31st-** End of Marking Period- 2-Hour Early Dismissal

**Absences/Dismissal Changes:**

Attendance notes regarding absences or dismissal should now be submitted through Parent Portal. [Click here for directions.](#)

**MUSIC NOTES**



**4th and 5th Grade Chorus News:**

Registrations are DUE Friday, September 8th. Classes will begin on Monday, September 11th.



**Music t-shirts:** all students registered for Strings, Band or Chorus will need to purchase a music t-shirt or reuse last year's music t-shirt for performances this year. Please see your teacher with any questions or concerns.



**5th Grade Chorus** will be singing the national anthem at the South River High School football game on Friday, October 13th.



**Band and Strings** [Registration](#) must be completed by September 7. [More information can be found here.](#)

**Advanced Learning at Central Elementary**

Central Elementary is proud to be an EGATE (Excellence in Gifted and Talented Education) School. We are currently working toward recertification. After evaluating our programming last school year, we have decided to put an emphasis on ALPs strategies like advancing questioning that will help students go deeper with their thinking and understanding of math concepts as well as comprehension of literature/nonfiction texts. Doing so will support our [School Improvement](#) goals for the 2023-2024 school year.

For more information about EGATE in AACPS, please visit <https://www.aacps.org/Page/8963>

For more information about the K-2 ALPs curriculum visit <https://www.aacps.org/Page/2059>

For more information about the 3-5 ALPs curriculum visit <https://www.aacps.org/Page/2060>

Additional resources for families can be found here <https://www.aacps.org/Page/9107>

**Morning Student Arrival:**

Student drop-off is from 7:40 AM – 8:00 AM. Parents who drive their students to school in the morning are asked to use the first parking lot/car rider loop. Please do not use the bus lanes or drive in the main parking lot at the front of the building. The only traffic allowed in the front of the school in the morning is our buses and drivers transporting disabled children.

**Afternoon Dismissal:**

Students are dismissed at 2:25. Please make sure your child knows how they will go home every day. Early dismissals and changes in transportation must be made by 2:00PM. Students being picked up will only be released to a legal parent/guardian upon showing an ID. IF you need someone else to pick up your child - you must send a signed note to the school office.

**Bus Transportation:**

Students are to use their assigned bus stop. Students are not permitted to ride any bus other than the one to their home address.

Exceptional bus Requests: If a student must ride a bus other than their assigned bus, the parent must contact the office. An Exceptional Transportation Request FORM must be completed five (5) days in advance.

**Visitors and Volunteers:**

All visitors are required to check in at the front office to show picture identification and receive a visitors sticker. Please ensure the visitor's sticker is clearly visible. Anyone without a visitor's sticker will be escorted to the office to receive a new sticker.

Volunteer Orientation will be held on Friday, September 15th at 9:00 a.m. Please visit <https://www.aacps.org/Page/2179> for information on AACPS requirements.

### **Lunch Visitors**

We're sorry, but due to limitations of space, security concerns and potential for disruption, we cannot accommodate any visitors in the cafeteria during student lunch.

### **Student Medication:**

If your student needs to take medication on a regular basis during school hours, please complete the "[Parent's Request to Administer Medication At School](#)" form. (also available from the school nurse/office.) Please note that the form requires both a parent and a physician signature. Medication cannot be administered to your child until this form is on record in our Health Room. Students are NEVER permitted to possess any kind of medication. This policy is for the protection of your child. Parents are always welcome to personally administer medication to their child in the Health Room on an occasional basis.

The policy for all over the counter (OTC) and prescription medication is as follows:

- Physician and parent signed medication form
- Pharmacy labeled container
- OTC drugs in original sealed container
- Medication brought to school by an ADULT, as children are not allowed to carry any medication (Must be delivered to the health room nurse (hours 8:00AM - 2:30 PM)
- Physician will be called for any questions
- The first dose has been given without any problems.

All treatments given for an ailment are considered medication and require a medication form to be completed by the parent and doctor. This includes ALL over the counter items such as cough drops and lozenges for sore throats and all creams.

### **Cafeteria Information:**

Prices: Full price breakfast: \$1.50

Full price lunch: \$2.75

Reduced price breakfast: \$.00

Reduced price lunch: \$.00

- [Pre-pay option](#): This is a convenient way to be sure your child always has money for breakfast or lunch. Your child will use their student ID number to purchase meals.
- Free/Reduced Meals Program: Families must complete the free and reduced meal application On-Line. Link can be found [here](#). There will be no paper forms sent home. If you do not have access to a computer/or need assistance, you can come to the school to complete the on-line forms. If you already participate in this program, please be aware that a new application must be on file by October 1, 2023.

### **Birthday Celebrations:**

In order to align with our AACPS goal to cultivate a community of wellness and include all students with food allergies, the distribution of class treats, to be served during lunch or the classroom for birthday celebrations, is not permitted. Instead, non-food items like a pencil are preferred. Please do not bring balloons to school.

### **PTO Information:**

Our CES PTO is an excellent source of information and support for our students and families. Please consider joining our PTO for the 2023-2024 school year. For more information you can visit the Central Elementary PTO page [centralespto.org](http://centralespto.org) and join Central Elementary Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/CentraLESPTO/>

# SAVE THE DATE



Friday, September 29

6:00 to 8:00 p.m. @ CES

Come enjoy great food,  
games, and fun fall  
activities!



[www.CentralESPTO.org](http://www.CentralESPTO.org)



@CentralESPTO



***Save the Date!***

Saturday, September 30, 2023

Inaugural Ceremony: 9:00 am

Festival-Consular Week:

10:00 am-3:00 pm

Heritage Community Church

8146 Quarterfield Rd. Severn, MD 21144



410-934-7438

[hispanichealthfest@gmail.com](mailto:hispanichealthfest@gmail.com)