



SMALLTALK NEWSLETTER



Fort Smallwood Elementary
1720 Poplar Ridge Road
Pasadena, Maryland 21122
410-222-6450

Vision, Mission and Values Statement

Parents, please review our school's Vision, Mission and Values statement:

These are not just words to us. These are our beliefs. Everything that we do is based on them. Please read them and know we **do** have your child's best interest at heart.

What are we about?

Vision

In partnership with parents, teachers, and the community, Fort Smallwood students will be provided the opportunity to achieve and maintain a solid educational foundation that stimulates thought, celebrates diversity, and prepares students to have a positive impact on their community, country and world.

Mission

We are committed to fostering each child's full academic potential by providing instruction that is engaging, challenging, appropriately supported, and promotes life-long learning.

Values

We value a school supportive of:

- High expectations for learning and behavior
- Instruction that appeals to a variety of learning styles and experiences
- Maintaining a safe and orderly learning environment
- Fostering positive, open, and effective home/school communications
- Promoting parent involvement opportunities within the school
- Respecting all members of the Fort Smallwood School community.



Principal's Message

Hello Fort Smallwood Family and Friends!

It's hard to believe that it is already November! Be advised that Marking Period 1 is coming to a close, and report cards will be distributed on Wednesday, November 20th. Take the time to discuss with your students their progress and help them to set goals, both short and long-term. On Wednesday, November 6th, we will have our monthly Welcome Wednesday. Refer to your child's grade level blackboard site for lunch times, or feel free to call the office.

Please be reminded that November 7th and 8th are two hour early dismissal days for teachers to complete grades for the marking period and to prepare for engaging instruction for Marking Period 2. On November 11th, we will have brief presentations for students by local members of the various armed forces to provide information about Veterans' Day. It should be an enriching experience for all.

American Education Week occurs during the week of 11/18-11/22. We will have designated parent visitation times on Monday, November 18th, and that information will come home on a flyer. This year, we are drawing special attention to Cultural Arts and STEM classes. Please make an effort to see how your students shine in those areas!

Thanks to all who have continued to make a concerted effort to maintain a safe and orderly traffic flow during drop-off and pick-up. Let's continue to do our part to ensure that students can arrive and depart safely to and from our building. Please refrain from pulling out around the cars to exit the drop off/pick up lane. Parents, please be sure to let your students out of your vehicles on the right side of the car to avoid them getting out into oncoming traffic.

Remember to remain current on all grade level activities by reading your child's grade level Blackboard site, which teachers maintain and update regularly. Communicate regularly with your child's teacher to ensure you are up to date on all matters relevant to his or her achievement.

If you, or anyone you know is interested in serving as a substitute teacher, please consider applying online at www.aacps.org.

Together, we make a difference!

Respectfully,
Mr. David Sembly
Principal
Fort Smallwood Elementary
School



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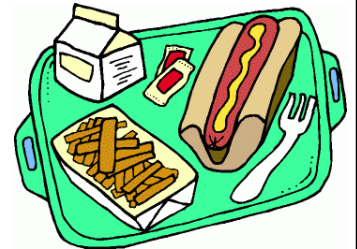
*****PICK-UP REMINDER!*****

Please help our dismissal run smoothly by following this guideline:

If you need to pick up your child for early dismissal OR if you are calling to have your child be a car rider, please notify the office by 3:15 PM. After that time, children will be dismissed at 3:35 (our usual dismissal time) and intercom messages to the classroom will not be made.

WELCOME WEDNESDAYS

When you come to visit your child for Welcome Wednesdays it is for **lunch only and not for recess!** Please bring a bag lunch from home or you may buy a lunch from the cafeteria, **do not bring in lunches from fast food restaurants.**



You also cannot take pictures during lunch times.

The Anne Arundel County Public Schools System does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, natural origin, religion, age, disability, sexual orientation or familial status in matters affecting employment or in providing access to programs. Questions regarding nondiscrimination should be directed to Mr. Leslie N. Stanton, Specialist in Human Relations, AACPS, 2644 Riva Road, Annapolis, MD 21401, (410) 222-5318, TDD (410) 222-5500 or www.aacps.org



Fort Smallwood School is equipped with a video camera system. It covers selected interior and exteriors public portions of the building and grounds. It is NOT monitored constantly, but it is monitored during emergency situations.

During certain events, when the safety or security of students may be in question, authorized personnel from local, state, federal police or fire emergency units may be given access to view images projected on the camera system. If you have any questions about the system, you should call the Supervisor of School Security at 410-222-5083.



Honor November 2019



SAY IT:

Letting someone know you see how valuable they really are

KNOW IT:

ASK A KID:

- Think of people in your life who are valuable to you. Some valuable people might be parents, teachers, coaches, preachers or friends.
- What are some ways you can show these people that you see how valuable they are?

ASK A GROWN UP:

- Discuss people for whom you have great respect. Think of examples of people from your childhood and now as an adult. What qualities make these people valuable?
- How have you shown these people that you see how valuable they are?
- Has anyone ever let you know that you are valuable? How did this make you feel?

SEE IT:

Veteran's Day is celebrated each year to honor those who have served our country. Many assemblies, celebrations and ceremonies occur in local schools and in cities and towns throughout the nation in order to let veterans know how valuable they are. An example of a popular Veteran's Day celebration is New York City's "America's Parade". This is the largest Veteran's Day parade in the country and has been going on for over 100 years. Military members and their families are honored at this celebration and most definitely feel that they are valued.

BE IT:

Everyone knows that lunchroom and custodial staff do a lot in order for the school to run smoothly. They often work tirelessly and are behind the scenes to ensure everything is taken care of. This month, take time to identify each lunchroom and custodial staff member at your school. Work with your parents to come up with some ideas to show them you see how valuable they really are. This may come in the form of preparing them some baked goods, creating a work of art for them, or simply stopping by and saying thank you for all that they do behind the scenes.



Honor NOVIEMBRE 2019

DILO:

Dejando que alguien sepa que ves lo valioso que es en realidad

CONOCELO:

PREGÚNTALE A UN NIÑO:

- Piense en las personas en su vida que son valiosas para usted. Algunas personas valiosas pueden ser padres, maestros, entrenadores, predicadores o amigos.
- ¿Cuáles pueden ser las maneras en que puedes mostrar a estas personas que ves lo valiosas que son?

PREGUNTAR A UN ADULTO:

- Discute sobre las personas por las que tienes un gran respeto. Piensa en ejemplos de personas de tu infancia y ahora como adultos. ¿Qué cualidades hacen que estas personas sean valiosas?
- ¿Cómo les has demostrado a estas personas que ves lo valiosas que son?
- ¿Alguna vez alguien te ha hecho saber que eres valioso? ¿Cómo te hizo sentir esto?

MÍRALO:

El Día de los Veteranos se celebra cada año para honrar a aquellos que han servido a nuestro país. Muchas asambleas, celebraciones y ceremonias tienen lugar en las escuelas locales y en las ciudades y pueblos de todo el país, para que los veteranos sepan lo valiosos que son. Un ejemplo de una celebración popular del Día de los Veteranos es el "Desfile de los Estados Unidos" en la Ciudad de Nueva York. Este es el desfile más grande del Día de los Veteranos en el país y ha estado ocurriendo durante más de 100 años. Los militares y sus familias son honrados en esta celebración y ello definitivamente hace que se sientan valorados.

VIVELO:

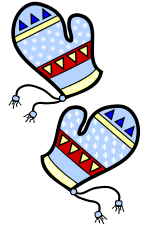
Todos saben que el comedor y el personal de conserjes hacen mucho para que la escuela funcione sin problemas. A menudo trabajan incansablemente y están detrás de escena para garantizar que se cuide todo. Este mes, tómese el tiempo para identificar a cada miembro del personal de conserjería y custodia de su escuela. Trabaja con tus padres para proponer algunas ideas para mostrarles que ves lo valiosos que son en realidad. Esto puede venir en la forma de prepararles algunos productos horneados, crear una obra de arte para ellos, o simplemente pasar y agradecerles por todo lo que hacen tras bambalinas.

The Sharing Foundation



needs our help!

Fort Smallwood Elementary School
is collecting

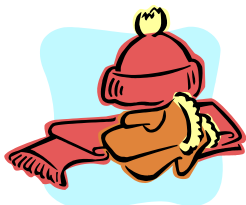


HATS, GLOVES, SCARVES, AND COATS

for children in Anne Arundel County
**from November 25th through
December 13th.**

Please bring in your new hats, scarves,
coats, and gloves and clip them onto
our mitten/hat tree in the front lobby.

*This is a great way to spread Joy to those
that need it!*





Magnet Information Nights — Fall 2019

AACPS Magnet Information Sessions!

Follow us on Twitter @AACPSMagnet

For more information about the Magnet Programs offered in AACPS and information about the online application process, attend one (or more!) of these information sessions, talk to your school counselor, or visit our website: www.aacps.org/magnet.

For questions about the information sessions, contact the Magnet Office at 410-533-4815 or 410-222-5435.

Specific Magnet Program Information Nights — all sessions 6:30–8:00 p.m. unless otherwise noted

Centers for Applied Technology (CAT)	Performing Visual Arts (PVA)	International Baccalaureate (IB)	Science, Technology, Engineering, & Math (STEM)
<p><i>High School</i> CAT North October 17</p> <p>CAT South October 2 6–8 p.m.</p> <p><i>CAT applications will be accepted until March 15, 2020</i></p>	<p><i>Middle School</i> Bates Middle October 21</p> <p>Brooklyn Park Middle November 4</p> <p><i>High School</i> Annapolis High School November 7</p> <p>Broadneck High School November 5</p>	<p><i>Middle School</i> IB MYP Annapolis Middle October 10</p> <p>MacArthur Middle (will be held at Meade HS) October 29 6–7:30pm</p> <p>Old Mill Middle North October 15</p> <p><i>High School</i> IB MYP/DP Annapolis High School October 22</p> <p>Meade High School October 22</p> <p>Old Mill High School October 16</p>	<p><i>Middle School</i> Central Middle October 23</p> <p>Lindale Middle October 14</p> <p>Old Mill Middle South October 28</p> <p><i>High School</i> North County High School October 23</p> <p>South River High School October 17</p>
			<p>STEM BioMedical Allied Health (BMAH)</p> <p><i>High School</i> Glen Burnie High School October 24</p>

Specific magnet information sessions provide an overview of the specific magnet programs offered at the host school, provide a tour of the school, and answer specific school-based magnet-related questions as well as overall AACPS magnet related inquiries. If the Information Night happens during the application window, computers may be available so that magnet applications may be filled out onsite!

When Can You Apply for the 2020–21 School Year?

The online magnet application process opens at noon on October 14, 2019, and closes at noon on November 26, 2019 (CAT Centers will accept applications through March 15, 2020).

For an overview of all of our magnet programs, look on the back.



AACPS Magnet Program Overview

Please note, Magnet programs are available only to students living in Anne Arundel County.

What is a Magnet Program?

Magnet Programs, part of Anne Arundel County's *Programs of Choice*, offer motivated students the opportunity to engage in a specialized course of study that differs from the traditional curriculum offered in AACPS. Eligible Magnet students will have the opportunity to gain rigorous and relevant learning experiences in subject areas in which they have great interest.

- A student's Magnet School is determined by their home school. (Exception: A student's PVA High School is determined by his or her Arts Major.)
- These are public school programs and are offered at no cost to students. (Some programs may have lab, field trip, or exam fees.)
- Transportation is provided from consolidated bus stops.

What Middle School Programs are available?

Students apply in the fall of Grade 5.



The **International Baccalaureate Middle Years Programme** (IB MYP) provides a student-centered education that challenges students to make connections between education and the real-world as they consider their roles in both local and global communities.



The **Science, Technology, Engineering, & Math** Middle School (STEM) Magnet Program immerses students in an interdisciplinary, inquiry-based, and technology-rich curriculum where they will apply STEM content and values to the world around them.



The **Performing Visual Arts** Middle School (PVA) Magnet Program offers advanced arts instruction and performance opportunities through a strong academic curriculum interwoven with the arts.

What High School Programs are available?



The **STEM Biomedical and Allied Health** (BMAH) Magnet Program offers students hands-on experience to learn and discuss relevant 21st century biomedical and allied health issues.

Students apply to this program in the fall of Grade 8.



The **Performing Visual Arts High School** (PVA) Magnet Program immerses students in a cutting edge, arts infused college and career preparatory curriculum designed to foster effective communication and creative/critical thinking.

Students apply to this program in the fall of Grade 8.



The **Centers of Applied Technology** (CAT) Programs offer students the opportunity to apply theory and knowledge towards skills proficiency through hands-on technical experience similar to what they would receive in the commercial/ industrial workplace.

Students apply to this program in the fall of Grade 9, 10, or 11.



The **Science, Technology, Engineering, & Math** High School (STEM) Magnet Program uses problem/project-based learning and cutting-edge technology to expose students to the importance and relevance of STEM applications in the careers of tomorrow.

Students apply to this program in the fall of Grade 8.



The **International Baccalaureate Middle Years/ Diploma Programme** (IB MYP/DP) Magnet offers a broad and balanced curriculum designed to promote student centered inquiry, creative and independent thinking, and effective communication.

Students apply to this program in the fall of Grade 8 or 10.



VETERANS, RESERVES, & ACTIVE DUTY SERVICE MEMBERS NEEDED



Fort Smallwood Elementary School's PTA will be holding a Veteran's Day Event on Monday, November 11, 2019 from approximately 9:15 - 11:15 a.m. The PTA is in need of veterans, reserve members, and active duty personnel to speak to students for 30-40 minutes about their experience in the military and the importance of the holiday. If you or someone you know is a veteran, reserve, or active duty service member and would be willing to participate in this event, please fill out the bottom of this form and return it by October 18, 2019 or email ptaforsmallwood@gmail.com. Thank you so much!

PTA VETERAN'S DAY EVENT AT FORT SMALLWOOD

Veteran/Reserve/Active Duty Service Member's Name: _____

Military Branch: _____

Email Address _____

Cell Phone Number _____

FSES Student and Relationship (if applicable): _____

FSES Student's Teacher OR preferred grade/age group: _____



VETERANS, RESERVES, & ACTIVE DUTY SERVICE MEMBERS NEEDED



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Military Branch: _____

Email Address _____

Cell Phone Number _____

FSES Student and Relationship (if applicable): _____

FSES Student's Teacher OR preferred grade/age group: _____



Each month Sarah's House is focusing on a different need.

How many months can you "Be Our Hero" and help collect or donate much needed items?

AUGUST 2019

Grab-and-Go

Breakfast | Donate food items for our kids to take before they catch the bus in the morning such as Pop Tarts, granola bars, breakfast bars, microwavable ready-to-eat breakfast meals.

SEPTEMBER 2019

Paper Chase | Donate toilet paper, paper towels, napkins, paper plates, plastic cups, disposable silverware, etc.

OCTOBER 2019

Wrap It Up | Donate aluminum foil, gallon baggies, sandwich baggies, plastic wrap, etc.

NOVEMBER 2019

Change for change | Contest alert! Put out boxes or buckets at work, school, church, or another willing organization and collect loose change to help Sarah's House change the lives of others.

DECEMBER 2019

Holiday Gift Cards and Money | Contest alert! Donate gift cards for Target, Walmart, Visa, MasterCard, Giant or Food Lion, or make a cash donation.

JANUARY 2020

Over-the-Counter Medications | Donate over-the-counter medications for infants, children, and adults.

FEBRUARY 2020

Bull Roast | Become a sponsor, donate to the silent auction table or door prize, buy tickets and tell your friends.

MARCH 2020

Clean Up | Donate towels and wash cloths, either new or used in good condition. (Matching set not necessary).

APRIL 2020

Curb Appeal | Volunteer to cut the grass, pull weeds, plant some flowers, and help beautify our grounds. Family-friendly and a great way for your office to participate in a day of service.

MAY 2020

Childcare for Camps | Provide monetary donations to cover the cost of camps and summer field trips. We will also be collecting needed items such as sun screen, flip flops, beach towels, etc. Contact Alexis at atucker@cc-md.org.

JUNE 2020

Sarah's House turns 33 | Birthday news coming soon!

- Volunteersarahshouse@cc-md.org
- [#sarahshousehero](https://twitter.com/sarahshousehero)
- [Like us on Facebook](#)
- [@Friends of Sarah's House](#)

2015 20th Street, Fort Meade, MD 20755
667-600-3550 | cc-md.org/sarajs-house

**SARAH'S
HOUSE**

CATHOLIC CHARITIES IN ACTION

"Be Our Hero" Campaign

PTA NEWS

Race for Education

We would like to thank all of the students, staff, families, and community members for helping to make our Race for Education a HUGE success! Our students had a blast racing around the track, dancing to tunes, and celebrating with frozen treats. They especially loved seeing Mr. Sembly get soaking wet in the Royal Flush Tank!

Our Race for Education has raised \$39,000 so far, which will be put toward our new primary grades playground, AV equipment, and fund many PTA events and activities, as well as school needs, throughout the school year.

The Race for Education committee, FSE students, parents, and staff would like to send a special thank you to our sponsors:

GOLD Sponsors:

Glory Days Grill
JNT Enterprise
Pinnacle Heating and Air Conditioning Inc.
Sign Central Inc.
Toyota
Twain's Tavern
Two Rivers Steak & Fish House

SILVER Sponsors:

1978 N.Y. Pizza
Douglas Realty
Dunkin Donuts
Friendly's
Insight180 Brand Consulting & Design
JBA Chevrolet
Pursuit of Reflection Auto Detailing Services

BRONZE Sponsors:

Old Line Bank
Szechuan Cafe
Wilburn Company

Box Tops for Education

Please continue collecting printed (not expired) Box Tops for Education. We'll have more collection deadlines throughout the year to help us get to our goal of \$1,000.

In addition, Box Tops is changing to fit today's families. The new and improved Box Tops mobile app uses state-of-the-art technology to scan your store receipt, find participating products, and add Box Tops to your school's earnings online.

Here is a list of participating products: boxtops4education.com/Participating-Products-Page

If you have questions, email ptafortsmallwood@gmail.com.

PTA NEWS

Veterans Day

We need just a few more volunteers in order to have one speaker for each K – 5th grade class!

Fort Smallwood Elementary School's PTA will be holding a Veteran's Day Event on Monday, November 11, from approximately 9:15 - 11:15 a.m. The PTA is in need of veterans, reserve members, and active duty personnel to speak to students for 30-40 minutes about their experience in the military and the importance of the holiday.

If you or someone you know is a veteran, reservist, or active duty service member and would be willing to participate in this event, please fill out the form below and return it ASAP or email the information to ptafortsmallwood@gmail.com.

Thank you so much!

PTA VETERAN'S DAY EVENT AT FORT SMALLWOOD

Veteran/Reserve/Active Duty Service Member's Name: _____

Military Branch: _____

Email Address _____

Cell Phone Number _____

FSES Student and Relationship (if applicable): _____

FSES Student's Teacher OR preferred grade/age group: _____

Join the FORT SMALLWOOD PTA 2019-20



MEMBERSHIP FORM

Include me in the FSE PTA Directory YES NO
 YES! I would like to help out with PTA Activities

Member 1 First Name _____ Member 1 Last Name _____

Member 2 First Name _____ Member 2 Last Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email 1 _____ Phone _____ Text? YES NO

Email 2 _____

- \$7 FSE School Teacher
- \$7 Single Caregiver
- \$15 Family
- Check payable to Ft. Smallwood PTA
- Cash
- PayPal via email ptaforftsmallwood@gmail.com

Student 1 Name

Teacher

Grade

Student 1 Name

Teacher

Grade

Student 1 Name

Teacher

Grade

List any additional students on the back.

For PTA Use:
 DATE: _____ CASH: _____ CHECK: _____ CHECK #: _____

Chaperone/Volunteer Information

A fingerprint supported background check or commercial background check, along with viewing the Sexual Harassment and Child Abuse Video, is required to chaperone or volunteer at Fort Smallwood Elementary School. A fingerprint supported background check, once completed is good until your last child leaves Anne Arundel County Public Schools. A commercial background check is only good for 2 years. You will be required to complete the background every 2 years from when you first completed it. Please see attached forms for information and instructions on completing each of these background checks.

You can access the required Sexual Harassment and Child Abuse Video Viewing at <https://www.aacps.org/Page/2460>.

After viewing the video please complete the attached form and return to school. You are not considered clear for volunteering or chaperoning until we have received this form, along with your approved fingerprint supported background or commercial background check.



CHAPERONE/VOLUNTEER BACKGROUND INVESTIGATIONS

Anne Arundel County Public Schools is committed to providing safe and secure learning environments for all students and employees. Successful completion of a background check is required **before** any person has access to students, either on or off school property. The Office of Investigations has continued to work closely with the Office of School Security to review AACPS protocols for conducting background checks.

Background investigations are divided into two categories: fingerprint-supported background checks and commercial background checks. Once a fingerprint-supported background check is performed, applicants no longer need to submit the electronic background check. Anyone applying to be a chaperone or volunteer must be at least 18 years of age.

Fingerprint Supported Background Check

All employees, coaches, bus drivers, and bus aides, must complete a fingerprint-supported background check prior to beginning employment. **Additionally, the following groups of individuals must complete a fingerprint-supported background check:**

- **All overnight volunteers or chaperones**
- **All drown proofing volunteers or chaperones (effective 07/02/2018)**
- **Any volunteer or chaperone with one-on-one unsupervised/unrestricted access to children**
- **Student teachers**
- **All Student Services Interns/Practicum students (effective 07/02/2018)**
- **Any intern with one-on-one unsupervised/unrestricted access to children**

One-on-one unsupervised or unrestricted access- a person having responsibility for a student while not in the direct continuous view of an AACPS employee. This does not include chaperones or volunteers who supervise groups of students (e.g. field trips to the zoo, museum, BSO performance).

Fingerprint-supported background checks must be scheduled through the Fingerprinting Office at 410-222-5045. The Fingerprinting Office is located at the AACPS Central Office on Riva Road and is open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday, during the school year. The cost of fingerprinting is \$58.25 and it includes the commercial background check. Fingerprint-supported background checks for chaperones should be completed at least 3 weeks prior to the scheduled field trip.

Each applicant requiring a fingerprint-supported background check is provided with a blue **Fingerprint Verification Card**. This card should be kept with the applicant while on school grounds and should be displayed to an administrator upon request. Each school should keep a running list of chaperones and volunteers that have been fingerprinted.

All questions regarding this process, or to confirm the results of a fingerprint-supported background check should be directed to the Office of Investigations at 410-222-5287.

Commercial Background Check

All chaperones and volunteers **without one-on-one** unsupervised or unrestricted access to students must complete the online request for a commercial background check. This group is inclusive of PTA and PTO officers, CAC officers, Booster Club officers, and chaperones or volunteers who work with children in the presence of an approved AACPS representative (e.g. daytime field trip to the zoo). These background checks are at no cost to the applicant and are valid for 2 years. All applications should be submitted electronically at least 3 weeks prior to the intended school event.

*Persons without personal computer access may access this process on a school computer or use computers in a public library.

*This application is not supported by cell phones, therefore, a computer must be used to submit all commercial background checks.

DEFINITIONS

Volunteer - a person who provides a variety of services (e.g., tutoring, mentoring, clerical assistance, chaperoning, athletic coaches, club advisors, etc.) without financial payment from AACPS. A volunteer generally includes persons who regularly, i.e., on more than one isolated occasion, provide scheduled time and service working in an uncompensated capacity. A volunteer may, however, provide uncompensated service on isolated occasions. These types of volunteers frequently include persons who serve as "chaperones" during on and off-campus school events. A volunteer might additionally include student teachers, PTA/PTO officers, and/or office assistants with access to personally-identifiable information, currency and other sensitive matters.

Chaperone - one type of volunteer who provides short-term supervision to students during on-campus and/or off-campus educational activities. The role of the chaperone is to encourage safe and proper student behavior during activities where an AACPS employee cannot reasonably be expected to keep students in his/her exclusive observation. Chaperones, by nature of the duties assigned, are presumed to have uncontrolled access to students.

Visitor - a person who arrives at an AACPS educational location for a short period of time for a specific purpose. Visitors can include family members, vendors, community members and other non-AACPS employees who are doing specific business at that location. Generally, a visitor might have access to students, but this access will be supervised. Supervised access to students occurs when an adult has proximal contact with students while remaining under the direct observation of an AACPS employee. As an example, supervised access to students can occur during "guest reader" events where the visitor provides educational service to students while in the continual presence of an AACPS employee. Other examples of supervised access to students might occur during field day activities and/or science fair judging. Visitors are **not** required to complete commercial background criminal history checks. Visitors will only be required to present photographic identification that allows school personnel to enter the visitor's name into a software program that checks Registered Sex Offender databases in the United States

Screening criteria - the standard of judgment for evaluating an applicant's criminal history record against expected standards for persons who have access to students. It is essential that AACPS consider each applicant's criminal history in totality and in context of law enforcement experience and training. AACPS has the legal and ethical obligation to protect children in the District's care, and as such, no list of disqualifying crimes and adjudicated outcomes can be all-inclusive. Multiple criminal charges are frequently

imposed during singular events. Plea negotiations and other legal strategies dramatically impact each case's disposition. Some applicants will have recurrent misdemeanor criminal charges. Some applicants will have serious felony convictions adjudicated decades prior. AACPS must exercise prudent and conservative judgment when reviewing each request that facilitates a person having access to children in the District's care. AACPS retains the exclusive right to approve or deny any unpaid volunteer the opportunity to have access to students based on unique factors in the applicant's criminal history.

Approval period - the length of time an approved commercial background check remains effective. Commercial background checks are valid for two calendar years. AACPS, however, retains the discretion to require a subsequent background investigation for any volunteer within that two-year period. AACPS additionally retains the exclusive right to revoke volunteer authorization for derogatory information coming to the District's attention during the two-year period.

[APPLY FOR A BACKGROUND CHECK](#)

[SOLICITAR UNA VERIFICACION DE ANTECEDENTES](#)

DO I NEED FINGERPRINTING?

Adults who have **unsupervised access with students** must have either a commercial background check or a fingerprint-supported background check. **(This does not apply to current AACPS employees)**

[Here are some commonly asked questions](#) to help parents and guardians ascertain what they need to do in order to work with AACPS students.



Background Check Process

The AACPS background check process for student interns, chaperones, and volunteers is now electronic. All interns (education, school counseling, SLP, PT, OT, etc.) will need to follow the two-step process outlined below; paper forms are no longer accepted.

1. [Intern Background Investigation Form](#) – you must complete the form at this link as the first step in the background check process. This is so we know for whom to check on approval status and request computer access if appropriate. After completing the form, click “Submit” and then go to the AACPS website to finish the application process.
2. Visit www.aacps.org/chaperone and complete the following:
 - a. Read the information on the Chaperone Information/Background Checks page.
 - b. Click on the link at the bottom of the page to “[APPLY FOR A BACKGROUND CHECK.](#)”
 - i. This takes you to the self-guided application, Online Authorization Process.
 - ii. You will need to enter your first name, last name, and email address.
 - iii. Under “Select a School,” you will pull the menu down to **Student Intern Carver – Student** (see below), **not** your placement site.

Select a School:*

STUDENT INTERN CARVER - STUDENT ▼

- c. Then click on the LOGIN button to continue and follow the prompts to add your information.
- d. Enter N/A in the fields for date of field trip and relationship to child.
- e. After submitting your form, you will receive an email confirming receipt.

It is very important that these instructions are followed. Failure to complete the information found at both links will result in cancelation of the placement request as we will be unable to track your approval.

November 2019

◀ Oct 2019

Dec 2019 ▶

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Wear Spirit Wear or Red	2
3	4	5	6 3 rd Gr. Field Trip to Skate Zone Welcome Wednesday PTA Meeting 6 PM	7 2-hr Early Dismissal	8 2-hr early Dismissal End of 2 nd Marking Period	9
10	11 Beginning of 3 rd Marking Period Veteran's Day Guest Readers	12	13	14 Identa-Kid 1:00-1:30	15	16
17	18 American Education Week	19 American Education Week	20 American Education Week Report Cards Go Home	21 American Education Week	22 American Education Week	23
24	25	26 PBIS Fall Movie	27 All Schools & Offices Closed for Thanksgiving Break	28 All Schools & Offices Closed for Thanksgiving Break	29 All Schools & Offices Closed for Thanksgiving Break	30

ASK THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Do you have a question or concern regarding a school matter? This form is provided as a means of open communication with parents/guardians to keep informed of school-related topics. Simply, complete the form and send it back to school. I will respond via a phone call, letter, or e-mail.

Thank You,

Mr. Sembly
Principal

My question

is:

Parent/Guardian's Name _____

Child's Name _____

Grade _____

Teacher _____