

# BOBCAT BULLETIN

*The latest news and updates from Severna Park Elementary School*

Dear Severna Park Elementary Families,



## APRIL "MUST-REMEMBERS"

**APR 9 PTO MEETING 6:30PM**

**APR 9 LEDO & FROYO SPIRIT NIGHT**

**APR 10 SCHOOL CLOSE**

**APR 12 VARIETY SHOW**

**APR 19 PURPLE UP BREAKFAST**

**APR 29 TO MAY 3 BOOK FAIR**

**MAY 30 SPRING CONCERT**

We hope that everyone had an amazing and restful spring break! It is great to see all of our students back in the building as we close out the third marking period and begin our final quarter of the 2023-2024 school year! For this final stretch, please be sure to do your best to send your student(s) to school! A student is considered chronically absent when they have missed 10% or more of the days that they are enrolled (typically 18 days or more in a school year). If you have a student that needs support coming to school, please do not hesitate to reach out to Mrs. McCord at [kmccord@aacps.org](mailto:kmccord@aacps.org) or call 410-222-6577.

I wanted to give a big shoutout to all of the families that supported the PTO's Read-a-thon! It was great to see how many students were excited to participate in the Read-a-thon. Congratulations to all of the winners of the numerous prizes for highest donation amounts and for most minutes read! Thank you to all that came out on March 12th for Reading Night and participated in some of our teacher lead activities! It is clear that we have students that love to read!

As we continue through the year, for families that park on Avondale, please remember to be courteous to our neighbors and to not block any driveways. There are a number of houses that need to access the road and have reported that their driveways have been blocked during arrival and dismissal. If you are using that road, please be sure to park along the street in an appropriate spot!

Our third, fourth, and fifth graders at Severna Park Elementary will be completing the Maryland Comprehensive Assessment Program (MCAP). This assessment will focus on the ability to demonstrate essential knowledge and understanding in English Language Arts and Mathematics. Students will use their Chromebooks for this assessment. It is imperative that your child charges his/her Chromebook fully at home each night and brings it to school. Please also encourage your child to bring the charger and his/her headphones to school each day. Please note, students may test on additional or alternate dates to accommodate for absences, IEP/504/EL accommodations, and schedule changes. Please make every attempt to avoid absences, late arrivals, and early dismissals on those dates. Thank you for your continued support. If you have any questions, please contact Lori Bortner at 410-222-6557 or [lbortner@aacps.org](mailto:lbortner@aacps.org).

We have been receiving some great questions regarding "Blueprint for Maryland's Future." AACPS has created resources on our county's homepage to assist with answering questions and providing a one stop shop for information. The link is below!

Blueprint for Maryland's Future: <https://www.aacps.org/Page/10136>

As always, please know that our doors are always open if you have any questions or concerns!

Sincerely,

Kyle Butler, Principal ([kwbutler@aacps.org](mailto:kwbutler@aacps.org))



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Estimadas familias de la Escuela Primaria Severna Park,



¡Esperamos que todos hayan tenido unas vacaciones de primavera increíbles y tranquilas! ¡Es genial ver a todos nuestros estudiantes de regreso en el edificio a medida que cerramos el tercer período de calificación y comenzamos nuestro último trimestre del año escolar 2023-2024! Para este tramo final, ¡asegúrese de hacer todo lo posible para enviar a su(s) estudiante(s) a la escuela! Se considera que un estudiante está crónicamente ausente cuando ha perdido el 10% o más de los días que está inscrito (generalmente 18 días o más en un año escolar). Si tiene un estudiante que necesita apoyo para venir a la escuela, no dude en comunicarse con la Sra. McCord al [kmccord@aacps.org](mailto:kmccord@aacps.org), o llame al 410-222-6577.

¡Quería dar un gran saludo a todas las familias que apoyaron el maratón de lectura del PTO! Fue genial ver cuántos estudiantes estaban emocionados de participar en el maratón de lectura. ¡Felicitaciones a todos los ganadores de los numerosos premios por los montos de donación más altos y por la mayor cantidad de minutos leídos! ¡Gracias a todos los que vinieron el 12 de marzo para la Noche de Lectura y participaron en algunas de nuestras actividades dirigidas por maestros! ¡Está claro que tenemos estudiantes a los que les encanta leer!

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A medida que avanzamos en el año, para las familias que se estacionan en Avondale, recuerden ser corteses con nuestros vecinos y no bloquear ningún camino de entrada. Hay varias casas que necesitan acceder a la carretera y han informado que sus entradas han sido bloqueadas durante la llegada y la salida. Si está utilizando esa carretera, asegúrese de estacionarse a lo largo de la calle en un lugar apropiado.

Nuestros estudiantes de tercero, cuarto y quinto grado en la Escuela Primaria Severna Park completarán el Programa de Evaluación Integral de Maryland (MCAP). Esta evaluación se centrará en la capacidad de demostrar conocimientos y comprensión esenciales en Artes del Lenguaje Inglés y Matemáticas. Los estudiantes usarán sus Chromebooks para esta evaluación. Es imperativo que su hijo cargue su Chromebook completamente en casa cada noche y lo traiga a la escuela. Anime también a su hijo a traer el cargador y sus auriculares a la escuela todos los días. Tenga en cuenta que los estudiantes pueden tomar el examen en fechas adicionales o alternas para adaptarse a las ausencias, las adaptaciones de IEP/504/EL y los cambios de horario. Por favor, haga todo lo posible para evitar ausencias, llegadas tardías y salidas tempranas en esas fechas. Gracias por su continuo apoyo. Si tiene alguna pregunta, comuníquese con Lori Bortner al 410-222-6557 o [lbortner@aacps.org](mailto:lbortner@aacps.org).

Hemos estado recibiendo algunas preguntas excelentes sobre "Blueprint for Maryland's Future". AACPS ha creado recursos en la página de inicio de nuestro condado para ayudar a responder preguntas y proporcionar una ventanilla única para obtener información. ¡El enlace está a continuación!

Plan para el futuro de Maryland: <https://www.aacps.org/Page/10136>

Como siempre, sepa que nuestras puertas siempre están abiertas si tiene alguna pregunta o inquietud.

Sinceramente

Kyle Butler, Principal ([kwbutler@aacps.org](mailto:kwbutler@aacps.org))



# Counselor's Corner

**Mrs. Katie McCord**



The Character Trait for April is Perseverance.

At school we reference “Persevere Through Challenges” often since it is one of our behavior goals in PAWS. There are so many significant stories about perseverance, and I’m sure parents have persevered in many ways. Please share with your children how you overcame challenges and frustration to reach goals in your life, and help your children make goals and practice to reach them with your encouragement and feedback. We are starting MCAP testing the 2nd week of April through the 1st week of May for students in 3rd – 5th grade. Please support your children to get very good sleep and healthy breakfasts on testing days.

KinderFarm Fundraiser – The Human Relations committee will have a fundraiser from April 15th – 19th from SPES students and families to support our local KinderFarm animals with money to pay for feed and veterinary care. A flier will be sent home the week before the fundraiser. There will be a way to pay on-line and students can bring in cash each day of the week– pennies on Monday, nickels on Tuesday, dimes on Wednesday, Quarters on Thursday and Dollars on Friday.

Earth Day Focus – SPES Human Relations will participate in the SP Earth Day on April 27th at Earleigh Heights Fire Station. We will sell baked goods to raise money for our local Good Neighbors Group Program that supports those in need locally and some internationally and supports environmental responsibility and recycling.

April Guidance Lesson Topics: Kindergarten– 2nd Grade – Perseverance and Making/Keeping Friends. 3rd through 5th grade – Perseverance and Test-taking Readiness.

Career Day – Monday, May 20th – Students love to be inspired when adults share their career experiences. I will be sending an email and sign-up sheet for Career Day once I have the class times decided for speakers.





ANNOUNCING THE  
SEVERNA PARK ELEMENTARY

# *Spring Concert*

SPES Cafeteria/Gym

MAY 30, 2024

6:30PM

Doors open at 6:00pm

Contact:

Gina DaBaldo, Band & Strings

[gdabaldo@aacps.org](mailto:gdabaldo@aacps.org)

Kristen Berthelotte, Chorus

[kberthelotte@aacps.org](mailto:kberthelotte@aacps.org)





# SPES PTO NEWS

April 2024

## A quick note:

**Welcome back from Spring Break, Bobcats!** April is an exciting month, bringing some of our favorite events of the year! We hope you'll join us for the Variety Show on April 12th at SPHS, where we get to spotlight some of our amazing students' talents. We're also celebrating our Read-a-thon successes by taping Principal Butler to the wall with Ms. Adams' class and competing in a Silly String-off between Ms. Repko and Mrs. Merrill's classes this Friday! Most importantly, we will be accepting nominations for next year's SPES PTO Executive Board members at the PTO Meeting on April 9th. If you've been wanting to take a more active role in enriching your student's SPES experiences through the PTO, we have a spot for you! We hope to see you there at 6:30pm in the Media Center.

😊, Your SPES PTO

## Congratulations!

Way to go, Bobcats! **We collectively read over 100,000 minutes and raised \$22,278 total income** during this year's Read-a-thon, earning the entire school a fun **COLOR RUN!** Please save the date for **Saturday, 4 May**.

## April Activities

### BOOK FAIR

Mark your calendars for **29 April to 3 May**! Watch [www.spespto.org/bookfair](http://www.spespto.org/bookfair) for a volunteer signup and information regarding Buy One, Get One deals!

### BOBCAT BOOK CLUB

Volunteers are needed to help our 3rd-5th grade readers! Find out more about the program on our website at [www.spespto.org/bobcat\\_book\\_club](http://www.spespto.org/bobcat_book_club).

### YEARBOOK

On sale now at [ybpay.com](http://ybpay.com). **School code is 14709324**. Extras will not be available, so order by **April 17th**. Submit your photos from this year's SPES events and activities by emailing them to [spesptoyearbook@gmail.com](mailto:spesptoyearbook@gmail.com).



## Save the Dates:

- ★ ☐ **9 Apr: PTO Meeting @ 6:30pm**
- ☐ **9 Apr: Ledo & Froyo Spirit Night**
- ☐ **12 Apr: Variety Show**
- ☐ **19 Apr: Purple Up Breakfast**
- ☐ **29 Apr to 3 May: Book Fair**
- ☐ **1 May: School Principal Day**
- ☐ **4 May: COLOR RUN!**
- ☐ **6-10 May: Teacher Appreciation Week**
- ★ ☐ **7 May: PTO Meeting @ 6:30pm**
- ☐ **7 May: Ledo & Froyo Spirit Night**

\*All dates subject to change.  
Confirm final dates on website.

## Don't Forget!

**Check Out the Lost & Found!** All lost and found items will be donated at the end of the quarter, so be sure to have your students check the cafeteria racks this week.

**Shout Outs!** Have you spotted a Staff Member or Volunteer going above and beyond for SPES? Give them a shout out at [www.spespto.org/shoutout](http://www.spespto.org/shoutout). We'll recognize everyone submitted at our monthly PTO meetings and on our website.

**I missed a fundraiser! How may I directly donate?**  
We wish we could be everywhere at once, but that's not possible. Visit [www.spespto.org/form/m/262615](http://www.spespto.org/form/m/262615) for instructions on how to support your Bobcats anytime!



JOIN STUDENTS, ALUMNI, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITY FOR THE SPES PTO VARIETY SHOW ON STAGE AT SEVERNA PARK HIGH SCHOOL! MANY OF OUR SPES STUDENTS WILL BE SHOWCASING THEIR AMAZING TALENTS; WE HAVE SINGERS, DANCERS, MAGICIANS, GYMNASTS, MUSICIANS AND MORE!

We will collect a suggested \$5 donation per person at the door (\$20 per family) and will be selling flower bouquets for \$15. Please consider buying your bouquets from us as all proceeds will go to our charity.

We will also be selling "Shining Stars" with choice of candy for our performers for \$2 each. Friends and family can choose a candy and write a note of encouragement, congratulations, an "I Love You" or whatever you would like on a foil star that we will deliver to students in their classrooms on Monday following the show.

*All proceeds are donated to Anne Arundel Medical Center's Fortney Breast Center to honor the memory of SPES Mothers who have bravely fought Breast Cancer.*

# THE SPES YEARBOOK SALE IS NOW LIVE!

ORDER TODAY AT  
[WWW.YBPAY.COM](http://WWW.YBPAY.COM)

Yearbook ID Code:  
**14709324**

Submit photos for the yearbook to  
[spesptoyearbook@gmail.com](mailto:spesptoyearbook@gmail.com).

## 2024-2025 SPES PTO Board Position Descriptions

### PRESIDENT

#### JOB DESCRIPTION

- COORDINATE THE WORK OF THE BOARD AND COMMITTEES.
- PRESIDE OVER ALL BOARD AND GENERAL MEETINGS.
- APPOINT & ASSIST THE CHAIR OF EACH COMMITTEE.
- WORK WITH ADMIN TO MEET THE NEEDS OF THE SCHOOL.
- CREATE A WELCOMING ENVIRONMENT FOR ALL FAMILIES, STUDENTS & STAFF WITHIN THE PTO.
- RETAIN ALL PERTINENT INFORMATION FOR THE CURRENT SCHOOL YEAR

#### WHAT'S THE TIME COMMITMENT?

- 3-4 HOURS A MONTH FOR BOARD & GENERAL MEETINGS
- 1-2 HOURS A WEEK FOR SCHOOL & COMMITTEE CHECK-INS
- 1-2 HOURS A WEEK FOR EMAIL CORRESPONDENCE & PHONE CALLS

### VICE PRESIDENT

#### JOB DESCRIPTION

- PRESIDE IN THE ABSENCE OF THE PRESIDENT
- ASSIST THE PRESIDENT WHERE NECESSARY
- WORK CLOSELY WITH CORRESPONDING SECRETARY ON PTO COMMUNICATIONS AS THE PTO'S WEBMASTER
- BE A VOTING MEMBER OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
- ATTEND ALL BOARD & GENERAL MEETINGS TO THE BEST OF THEIR ABILITY

#### WHAT'S THE TIME COMMITMENT?

- 3-4 HOURS A MONTH FOR BOARD & GENERAL MEETINGS
- 1-2 HOURS A MONTH FOR WEBSITE BUILDING & UPDATES

### MEMBERSHIP LEAD

#### JOB DESCRIPTION

- PROMOTE AND RECRUIT MEMBERSHIP FOR THE PTO BY OVERSEEING THE MEMBERSHIP DRIVE.
- KEEP A RECORD OF ALL CURRENT PTO MEMBERS.
- WORK CLOSELY WITH CLASSROOM VOLUNTEERS TO DISSEMINATE MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION.
- BE A VOTING MEMBER OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD.
- ATTEND ALL BOARD & GENERAL MEETINGS TO THE BEST OF THEIR ABILITY

#### WHAT'S THE TIME COMMITMENT?

- 3-4 HOURS A MONTH FOR BOARD & GENERAL MEETINGS
- A FEW HOURS A MONTH DURING AUGUST & SEPTEMBER TO DEVELOP A RECRUITMENT PLAN & RECRUIT MEMBERS. MINIMAL TIME FOLLOWING OCTOBER.

### RECORDING SECRETARY

#### JOB DESCRIPTION

- RECORD, TRANSCRIBE, AND DISTRIBUTE THE MINUTES OF ALL PTO MEETINGS.
- HOLD HISTORICAL RECORDS FOR THE PTO
- ASSIST TREASURER IN FILING OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS
- BE A VOTING MEMBER OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD.
- ATTEND ALL BOARD & GENERAL MEETINGS TO THE BEST OF THEIR ABILITY

#### WHAT'S THE TIME COMMITMENT?

- 3-4 HOURS A MONTH FOR BOARD & GENERAL MEETINGS
- A FEW HOURS A YEAR TO FILE OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS.

### COMMUNICATIONS SECRETARY

#### JOB DESCRIPTION

- MANAGE COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING FOR THE PTO SUCH AS THE NEWSLETTER, BOBCAT BULLETIN & MARQUEE
- WORK WITH COMMITTEE LEADS TO GATHER EVENT INFORMATION FOR DISSEMINATION.
- TAKE MEETING MINUTES IN THE ABSENCE OF THE RECORDING SECRETARY.
- BE A VOTING MEMBER OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD.
- ATTEND ALL BOARD & GENERAL MEETINGS TO THE BEST OF THEIR ABILITY

#### WHAT'S THE TIME COMMITMENT?

- 3-4 HOURS A MONTH FOR BOARD & GENERAL MEETINGS
- 1-3 HOURS A MONTH TO ORGANIZE COMMUNICATIONS.

### TREASURER

#### JOB DESCRIPTION

- MAINTAIN ALL RECORDS & FINANCES FOR THE PTO INCLUDING ALL DEPOSITS, WITHDRAWALS, ACCOUNT BALANCES & REIMBURSEMENTS.
- PROVIDE A CURRENT AND ACCURATE ACCOUNTS UPDATE MONTHLY TO THE EXECUTIVE BOARD.
- FULFILL ALL OUTSTANDING FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS WITHIN 2 WEEKS OF FIRST NOTICE.
- BE A VOTING MEMBER OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD.
- ATTEND ALL BOARD & GENERAL MEETINGS TO THE BEST OF THEIR ABILITY

#### WHAT'S THE TIME COMMITMENT?

- 3-4 HOURS A MONTH FOR BOARD & GENERAL MEETINGS
- 1-3 HOURS A MONTH TO ORGANIZE FINANCIALS.
- A FEW HOURS A YEAR TO OVERSEE THE ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET & FILE OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS.