

April



Eye On it

Apr 1-5

Spring Break
Schools Closed

Apr 7

On-line Kindergarten
Registration begins

Apr 13/14

End of 3rd Marking Period

April 23

Report Card
Distribution
Grades 1-5

April 27 & 29

Picture day

Chromebook Login
protocol:

User ID: 123456@aacps.org
User Password: YYYYMMDD

Login instructions:

[Logging into Chrome](#)

Chromebook Help:

[Chromebook Resources](#)

Persevere through
challenges

Act responsibly

Work together

Show respect for
myself and others

Parent CONNECTxp

BOBCAT Bulletin

SEVERNA PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



Hello, SPES families!

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome Spring! I hope that everyone is enjoying some warmer weather and finding time to be outside. It is hard to believe where we were one year ago and where we are today. In one year our community has gone from just learning how to use Google Classroom and Google Meets to having multiple meets open at the same time and toggling between several tabs and screens. It is clear that we are better together and incredibly adaptable!

Our students and teachers are entering into their second month of hybrid learning and I am in awe of how quickly everyone has adjusted to new school systems and routines. Students are doing an outstanding job of wearing their masks, staying socially distanced, and our veteran students learned new ways to enter/exit the building and how to store their materials without lockers. Our class cohorts are mini communities for our students and our midday monitors are supporting the time in the afternoon where children can socialize and play in these small student groups. We are thrilled to have so many children back in the building! Our virtual students have been incredibly patient helping our "in-person" students adjust and it is great to see them participating on the screen with their hybrid peers. Ms. Merrill fondly calls them "the audience at home" and all teachers are impressively able to monitor the two groups of students. I hope that everyone takes a moment to reflect and celebrate what has been accomplished this past month.

Once our students return from their spring break, there is just one week until the end of the third marking period and the start of the fourth quarter (April 15). Please continue checking your child's grades and viewing their assignments on Google Classroom. Teachers are finalizing their gradebooks and leaving comments for students on specific assignments. If you have any questions, please reach out to your child's teacher.

With warmer weather, it is great to see so many children walking and biking to school! This is great exercise and a wonderful way to start the day. Children are doing a wonderful job of locking up their bikes, carrying in their helmets, and being safe. Kudos to all these students for doing a great job! Thank you also to the parents who are using our car loop and helping this process move quickly and safely for all our students. We are consistently evaluating all of our routines and procedures and making adjustments as necessary.

We look forward to seeing you after spring break! Stay safe and enjoy your time with friends and family.

Thank you for your continued support.

Lorie Barnes



This Month's Counselor's Corner



Hello, I'm Mrs. Katie McCord, SPES School Counselor

The Character Trait for April is **Cooperation**, which is highlighted in the "W" – Work Together" in PAWS. We will be emphasizing cooperation this month in morning announcements, community meetings and in connection and reflection daily. Cooperation is a character trait that will be useful in life well beyond the school years. The best teams are mindful that all members should contribute and respect one another's emotions by building trust. It has less to do with who is in a team, and more with how the members interact with one another. While we may be in groups less during these times, when your children are in family or small friend groups in person and online guide them to be successful cooperators using the following skills: making collective plans, taking turns, sharing, listening to other people's ideas, and actively participating while encouraging other group members to participate.

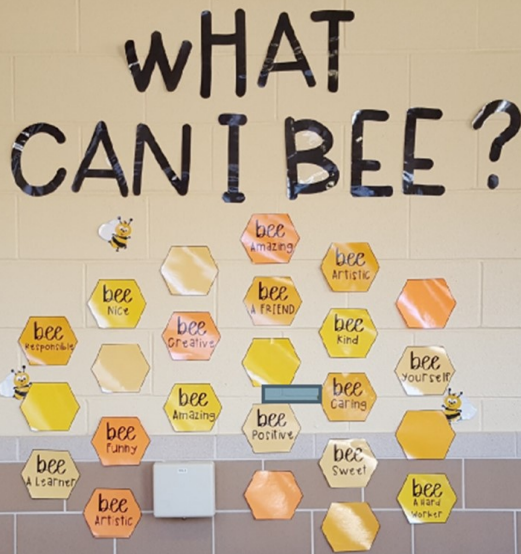
A Carson Scholar Winner: We are excited to announce that fifth grader, Ryenn Laffey, was awarded the Carson Scholarship based on her high academic standing, compassion for others, and community service experience.

Autism Awareness Month: The SPES PTA will offer a parent discussion on April 13th at 6:30 pm with a parent panel, me, and our school psychologist, Nicole Jones, to raise awareness of how you and your children can be supportive of children with autism spectrum disorder (ASD). Please look for the details in the PTA newsletter. At school we will have morning announcements about autism and a counseling lesson that includes understanding, empathy and cooperation with others including students with ASD.

Earth Day Focus – The Human Relations Committee hopes to inspire students to engage in clean up activities in our communities, rivers, and streams during the last week of April.

April Guidance Lesson Topics: Kindergarten & 1st Grade: Cooperation and Stranger Safety, and 2nd through 5th grade: Cooperation/Valuing Difference and Internet Safety.

Virtual Career Month in May – Please participate in the SPES career month by sending a video to me by April 27th to expand our student's knowledge about careers they have heard about and ones that are new to them. See the flier and get in contact with me if you have any questions. If you are feeling you need assistance, I could record a google meeting interview with you to make a video.



SEVERNA PARK ES
6 RIGGS AVENUE
SEVERNA PARK
MD 21146
Tel: 410-222-6577
Fax: 410-222-6522

Follow Us on Twitter
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And NEW

SPES Kindergarten

@SPKindergarten

**TIMES TO REMEMBER
FOR IN-PERSON
DAYS**

Doors Open: 8:45 am

Attendance: 9:05 am

If a student (s) arrives late, the parent or guardian must bring the student (s) to the office to sign them in and get a late pass.

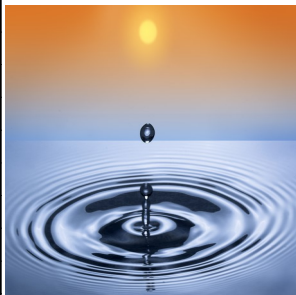
Students must be in their seat or they will be marked tardy and sent to the office for a late pass.

If a student is leaving early, parent/guardian must come to the office and sign the student out.

Dismissal: 3:30pm

If AACPS announces a 2 hour delay, doors will open at 10:45 am and there will be no Cheshire.

If there is a 2 Hour Early Dismissal, students will be dismissed at 1:30 pm.



...Mindset Moment

Individually we are one drop.

Together we are an ocean.

~Ryunosuke Satoro



April Media Update

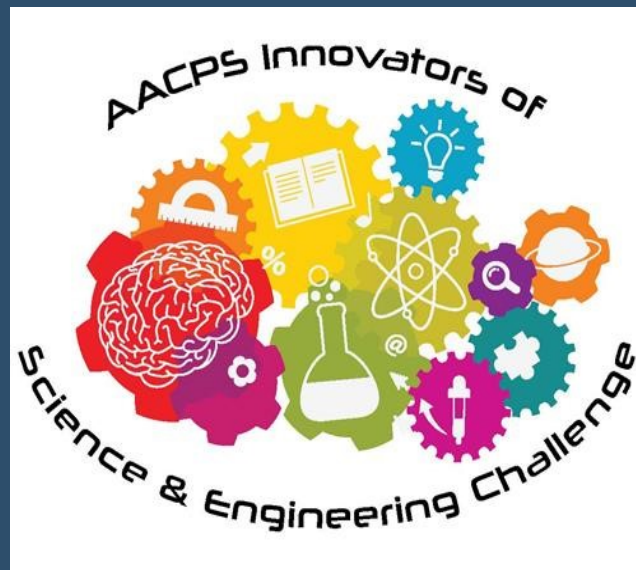
The last day for Chessie and BBC book entries is Friday, April 9, 2021. Details about celebrations will be shared with students at a later date.



Registration Information

**** Kindergarten Registration begins
April 7, 2021 on-line****

The registration page can be found [here](#) and contains a complete listing of all required documentation. For any registration questions, please call Lisa Sykes at 410-222-6577 or send an email to LMSykes@aacps.org with specific questions.



2021 SPES Virtual Science & Engineering Fair
Congratulation to our winners who
will represent SPES
at the Virtual County Expo:

Third Grade: Emma Greenwood
Fifth Grade: Luke & Henry Comer

Congratulations to our 5th grade Runners Up:

Elena Wagner & Quinn Brady
Abigail Lawhorne

Honorable Mention to:

Chase Goldman
Anna Mello
Grayson Denzine
Kiley Linthicum
Ali Otto

Student Spring Photo Days Are Coming!

Tuesday, April 27 & Thursday, April 29, 2021: Both HYBRID and VIRTUAL will have their photo taken on these days but with different time slots allocated.

HYBRID Students Only: Please refer to the below schedule to see what day and time your class will be having their photos taken. Please keep in mind that Cohort A hybrid students will have their photo taken on Tuesday, April 27, 2021. Cohort B hybrid students will have their photo taken on Thursday, April 29, 2021.



Click on schedule here: [Photo Day Schedule](#)

VIRTUAL Students Only: Please note that you have the option of coming either day during one of the time slots that are available. You must sign up for a day and time slot of your choosing on the following [Sign-up Genius link](#)

Payment Information for both HYBRID and VIRTUAL students is as follows:

- Order forms will be sent home with HYBRID students the week after spring break. VIRTUAL students can follow this link for the photo order form: [Lifetouch Order Form](#)
- There will also be extra order forms available at school for both HYBRID and VIRTUAL students if you should need one.
- You also have the flexibility to order online at: [Online Order Form](#)

Please click on the link below regarding Lifetouch's enhanced cleaning protocols on Picture Day.

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1TkJOP8hig93KIKSieYjzXSkfZXe7wR-n/view?usp=sharing>



Severna Park Elementary School



Virtual Career Month at SPES

Who: Anyone with a current or former career that would like to record a video about it!

What: A short video (around 4-6 minutes) that shows anything interesting about your profession or answers these questions:

- *How or why did you begin working in this career?*
- *What training did you need?*
- *What happens in a typical day on the job?*
- *What is your favorite part and/or biggest challenge in this job?*
- *What advice would you give a child who is interested in your career field?*

When: Videos are due by Tuesday, April 27th. Students will view some videos during counseling lessons during the 1st two weeks of May and teachers and students will have access to view them throughout the month of May.

How: Record your video using your phone or any video software (we use www.wevideo.com in school and it is pretty easy—also your kids can help you 😊) and email or share with Mrs. McCord at kmccord@aacps.org.

Why: Our students will be able to learn about many different careers and explore new possibilities for their future!



Contact our school counselor, Mrs. McCord, at kmccord@aacps.org with questions.

ABSENCE NOTES

Yes, absence notes, late arrival notices and early dismissal notices are still required. Please make sure all absence notes include:

- Student's Full Legal Name
- Homeroom Teacher's Name
- Date and Reason for Absence

Absence notes must be turned in within 3 days. You may send an email to the homeroom teacher and LMSykes@aacps.org. If your child will be absent more than five days, a note from the doctor is required.

Thank You!!



SECURITY CAMERAS

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

During certain events, when safety or security of students may be in question, authorized personnel from local, state, or 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



In honor of Autism Awareness Month, the PTA, in collaboration with SPES school counselor, Mrs. McCord, and SPES school psychologist, Mrs. Jones, is hosting another Parent Workshop.

PARENT WORKSHOP - "I want to be inclusive, but I don't know how" - A glimpse into what it is like to raise an autistic child.

Tuesday, April 13th @ 6:30pm

Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84389202223?pwd=MUZJZFQyRk02ZFgSWtleWlabnU5QT09>

Listen, laugh and learn from a group of ASD parents as they discuss what it is like to try and fit their square children into a round world.



Please register on the PTA website at: www.spespta.org and/or join the SPES PTA Facebook group at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/898330056928570>



General PTA Meeting - April 14th @ 6:30pm

On the agenda will be approval of changes to the SPES PTA Bylaws. The proposed amended bylaws are posted on the PTA website, www.spespta.org. To attend the meeting, please click on the Zoom link below:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89029720751?pwd=MDZycGFZSmludjNZMGP1WmFETWhpdz09>

April
2021

Preparing for next year: A Message from the Executive Committee

The PTA is an integral part of SPES. In a non-pandemic school year, they organize and cover the cost for school events like the **Kindergarten Popsicle Playdate**, the **Ice Cream Social**, the **Boy's Event** and the **Girl's Event**. They organize and staff the **book fair**. They run the **Birthday Books Program**. They run the **Variety Show**. They pay for **agenda books**. They pay for **Barebooks** (these are the blank books that your child fills in with their own story). They organize all of the **after-school clubs**. They are in charge of the **yearbook**. They are in charge of **spirit wear** sales. They run the **Spring Fair**. They line up and pay for a number of the school wide **assemblies**. **Recess equipment**, **PE equipment**, and **Teacher Trainings** are just some of the areas where the PTA financially supports SPES.

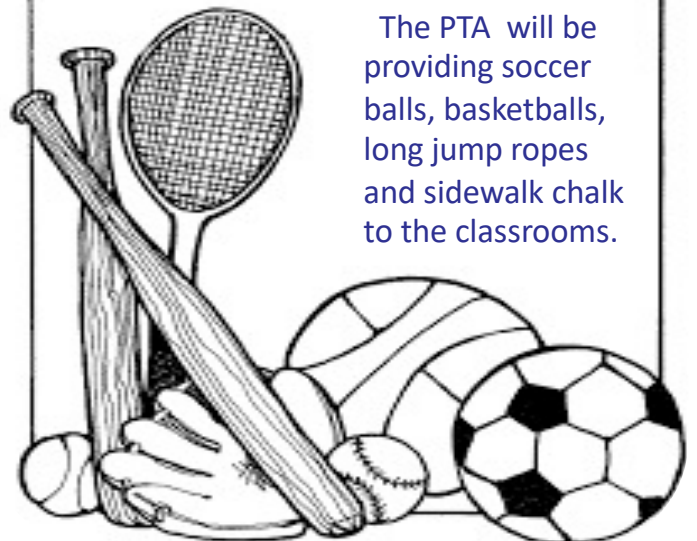
During the month of April, the PTA Nominating Committee will be asking SPES Parents to consider taking on leadership roles within the PTA. There are a wide range of positions, all with different qualifications and time commitments. The PTA does not want to cut any of their initiatives due to a lack of volunteers. To contact the Nominating Committee please email the PTA at: spespta20@gmail.com.



Thank you to everyone who donated cleaning supplies to the school at the start of hybrid learning.. The teachers and staff were overwhelmed by your generosity.

Recess Update

The PTA will be providing soccer balls, basketballs, long jump ropes and sidewalk chalk to the classrooms.



Please register on the PTA website at: www.spespta.org and/or join the SPES PTA Facebook group at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/898330056928570>



SEVERNA PARK
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

PTA

Virtual Trivia Night

TO BENEFIT SPES PTA

April 27, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom

\$20 per team

Disney Themed Trivia | Fun Prizes!

*Register on the SPES PTA website -
ticket sales start April 1, 2021*



Hosted by



Thank you to our sponsors...



Please register on the PTA website at: www.spespta.org and/or join the SPES PTA Facebook group at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/898330056928570>



SEVERNA PARK
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



PTA

Attention All 5th Grade Parents

Time to break out the baby albums and dust off the CD reader on the old computer. The Yearbook Committee is collecting photos of our 5th graders back when they were just itty-bitty little babies. To upload your adorable cutie, use the "Candid Photo" submission form on the SPES PTA website. Please select "Fifth Grade Baby Picture" in the category dropdown menu. Remember the submission form can be found at:

www.spespta.org/yearbook



PLEASE NOTE: Children must be wearing clothes for the photo to be printed in the yearbook.

Please register on the PTA website at: www.spespta.org and/or join the SPES PTA Facebook group at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/898330056928570>



SEVERNA PARK
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



PTA



**RAISING
FUNDS
TASTES GREAT!**

**Join us at Ledo Pizza for a
FUNDRAISER to support
Severna Park Elementary**

Ledo Pizza: LEDO PIZZA SEVERNA PARK
552 RITCHIE HWY
SEVERNA PARK, MD 21146

When: Wednesday, April 7th

Online Code: 306-159-855

(Please enter the code into the Promotion Code area at Checkout
for the organization to receive Credit)

CARRYOUT • DINE IN • ONLINE

Bring in this flyer, show it on your phone,
enter the code for online orders, or just mention
you are here to support this fundraiser and **20%** of
the proceeds will be donated to the organization.

Ledo Pizza. **ORDER.LEDOPIZZA.COM**

Please register on the PTA website at: www.spespta.org and/or join the SPES PTA Facebook
group at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/898330056928570>



**Severna Park Elementary Fundraiser
at
Froyo House**

Wednesday, April 7th

Grab a sweet treat
at Froyo House
and support our
school.



Be sure to
mention SPES at
checkout.

A percentage of sales for the day will benefit the SPES PTA!!



Please register on the PTA website at: www.spespta.org and/or join the SPES PTA Facebook group at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/898330056928570>