

Eye On it

Feb 1

Snow day

All Schools Closed

Feb 2

All Schools Closed

Teacher Prof Dev

Feb 2

3rd Marking Period starts

Feb 9

**Progress Report/
Report Card
distribution**

Feb 10

Two-hour early Dismissal

Feb 10

PTA Meeting 6:30pm

See flyer for details

Feb 15

Presidents Day

All Schools Closed

Chromebook Login protocol:

User ID: 123456@aacps.org

User Password: YYYYMMDD

Login instructions:

Persevere through challenges

Act responsibly

Work together

Show respect for myself and others

Parent **CONNECT**xp

BOBCAT Bulletin

SEVERNA PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



Hello, SPES families!

I hope that you are all doing well! It has almost been a full year since children were in our classrooms and hallways, but I believe we are beginning to see the light at the end of the tunnel! The school board has voted for our reopening in March and our staff is working hard to prepare the building and create lessons that meet the needs of both hybrid and virtual learners.

This month we will celebrate Black History Month during our morning meetings. Students will discuss the life and achievements of African Americans who helped shape our US and world history. If your child is interested in sharing their knowledge of one of these famous Americans, please have him/her reach out to Mrs. McCord or his/her class teacher. We can provide an opportunity for your child to create a morning announcement for the school!

February 2nd marks the beginning of the third quarter and a new schedule for all our students. Classroom teachers will be sharing their updated schedule with you and how it will impact your child. The new schedule was created to provide breaks between subject areas and additional small group opportunities. We encourage you and your child to review the schedule and as always advocate for reteach opportunities as needed. In addition to participating in these reteach sessions, students greatly benefit from having their cameras on during instruction. When teachers can see students' faces, they can better interact and support children.

Another resource I'd like to highlight for you and your family as we enter the second semester is Mrs. McCord's School Counselor page from our Google Site. This site offers a variety of parent resources including the recent virtual parent workshop. I'd like to thank Ms. Jones and Mrs. McCord for hosting such a helpful parent night and our PTA, whose members consistently come together to help one another and all SPES children. Virtual

learning and other aspects of our current conditions has been difficult for everyone. You are not alone. The resources on this page are there for you to help you in this journey. We hope you find them helpful and if you need individualized help, please reach out to Mrs. McCord. <https://sites.google.com/aacps.org/spes-counselor-connection/home> Thank you for your continued support. Your involvement is always welcomed and valued.

Sincerely,

Lorie Barnes



This Month's Counselor's Corner



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

National School Counselor's Week is February 1st – 5th. I usually take time to reflect on why I chose to be a school counselor and the gratitude I feel for working with such amazing kids and families. I will be sharing some videos with students during the first two weeks of February that include other counselor's in the Severna Park cluster at elementary, middle and high school to share some varying experiences and perspectives on being a school counselor. I'm all in for students because their mindset and resilience are the foundation for learning, and they are going to make the world a better place. Your kids are the future, and I'm excited to be part of their journey.

The character trait for February is Perseverance. The first attribute of our PAWS behavior expectations is "Persevere Through Challenges." SPES students do this every day and are building skills to have a "can do" outlook that leads toward success. The SPES theme also lends itself to exploring perseverance during this challenging year. Optimism and Perseverance go hand in hand, so lessons in late January were about positive thinking and growth mindset. In February, I plan to share perseverance stories from the surfers who have made it into the first Olympic surfing competitions planned for this summer in Tokyo. These stories will help students connect their perseverance in learning to the surfers' perseverance in surfing.

February Counseling Lessons: Lessons in February will be on Perseverance and Social Distancing as we prepare for the eventual return to school in the hybrid model.

Individual Counseling: Some students have adapted to on-line learning while many still struggle. I'm here to meet with your child via phone or google meeting to help them plan for success on-line and as we transition to hybrid for some. It can help for them to share their thoughts and feelings. Just send an email to kmccord@aacps.org and we can plan a time to meet.

Social Emotional Growth *PBIS/Second Step/Character Traits*

PBIS: Classes are actively earning PAWS for their positive ("PAWSitive") behaviors. Many individual students are being recognized for their positive behavior, some even get calls and emails home celebrating their behavior.

Second Step: January through March lessons in 2nd Step are in emotional management which includes noticing and naming feelings in your body and practicing calm down strategies for strong feelings. Look for the home links from your child's teachers to support these important skills.

Character Trait: Perseverance is doing something despite difficulty or delay in achieving success, and it includes learning from failures and mistakes without giving up.

Executive coach, Megan Bruneu, featured in Forbes Magazine, shared seven qualities that lead to perseverance when faced with adversity: 1) Finding a lesson or opportunity in challenges and failure, 2) Vulnerability and seeking help, 3) Self-compassion, 4) Accepting there are many factors you can't control, 5) A sense of humor, 6) Mental calmness, and 7) Gratitude. These are qualities that can be learned with awareness and practice.

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Follow Us on Twitter
@SPESaacps

And NEW
SPES Kindergarten
@SPKindergarten

TIMES TO REMEMBER FOR IN-PERSON DAYS

Doors Open: 8:50 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.

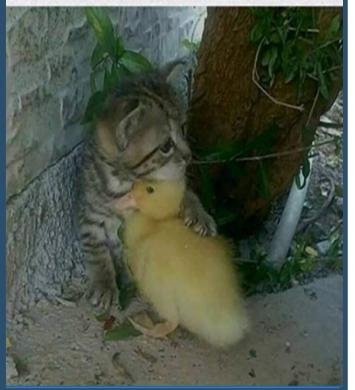
If a student is leaving early, parent/guardian must come to the office and sign the student out.

Dismissal: 3:30pm

If AACPS announces a 2 hour delay, doors will open at 10:50 am and there will be no Cheshire.

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

You may not feel strong
but in someone's eyes you are
their comfort and strength.



...Mindset Moment



There is not one right way to ride a wave.

~Jamie O'Brien

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.

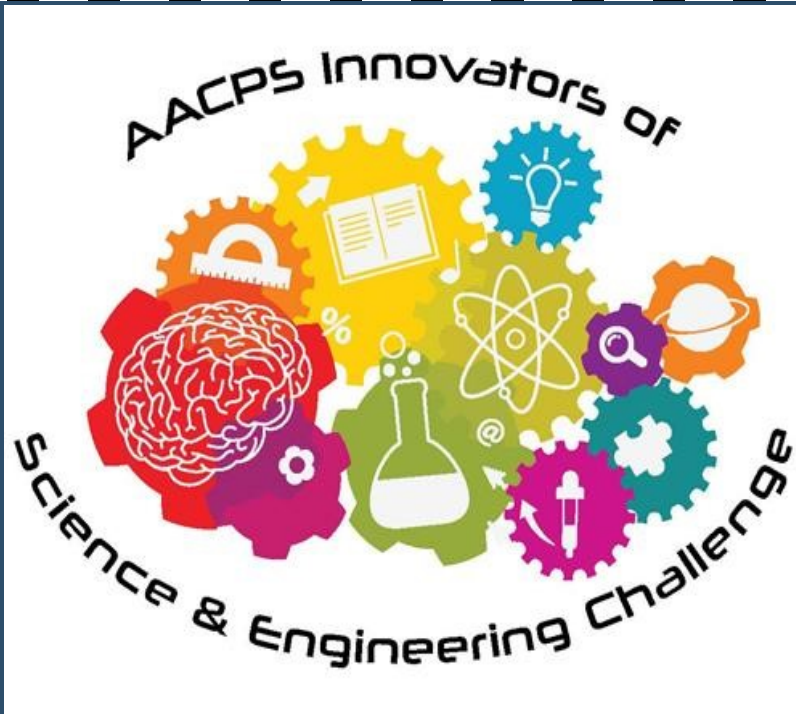
Thank You!!



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



Announcing the 2021 SPES Science & Engineering Challenge

March 24th, 2021!!

All students K-5 are invited to participate in a project. If you are interested in participating, please join the Google Classroom below for all the Resources and project information.

<https://classroom.google.com/c/MjQ2MTk4MzcxNjg5?cjc=uxjt3in>

Join using the code: **uxjt3in**

Contact by email: aharwood-dewalle@aacps.org

SPIRIT DAY
Chick-fil-A Severna Park
Thursday, March 4, 2021
All Day!

Come by for ...

Breakfast, Lunch, or Dinner (walk in/no dining, drive thru, or
*mobile app for pickup or delivery)

...in support of Severna Park Elementary School! A portion
of your purchase will be donated back to the school!

Please remember:

- To let the Chick-fil-A order taker know that your order is for Severna Park Elementary's Spirit Day!
- *If you place a mobile order thru the Chick-fil-A app for either pickup or delivery, please write in the note section that your order is for Severna Park Elementary's Spirit Day!

Chick-fil-A Severna Park
511 Ritchie Hwy www.SPCFA.com (410) 647-6232





Message from the Board

February 2021

We are still looking for volunteers to be part of our 2020-2021 PTA executive board. Vacant positions include 1st VP (Pres-Elect), 2nd VP (Membership), & Secretary. Please email spespta20@gmail.com if you are interested in serving.

February PTA Meeting
Next PTA Meeting is Feb 10th @ 6:30pm
Click on the Zoom link below to attend:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83537430405?pwd=Snc2YllzcWJ5UGRocThSZVBkTnFXZz09>

Book Fair Recap

The PTA would like to thank all the families who purchased materials from Scholastic during our Fall Book Fair which ran, virtually, from 11/20 to 12/3/2020. We had a total of \$845.37 in sales. This generated \$211.34 in scholastic dollars. These dollars, combined with scholastic dollars earned in previous years, allowed each teacher at SPES to purchase books for their classrooms.

A special thank you to our Book Fair Chair, Shelly Bauer. We are looking forward to the "Buy One, Get One" book fair which we will be sponsoring in the spring.

If you were not able to attend the **Parenting Workshop: How to Support Your Child During Virtual Learning**, the materials presented, as well as a recording of the presentation are posted on Mrs. McCord's google page.
<https://sites.google.com/aacps.org/spes-counselor-connection/parent-resources>



Operation

"Welcome Back Teachers" is back on 😊

If all goes according to the BOE's plan, the SPES teachers will be returning to the building in the next few weeks. It is still the PTA's desire to decorate the outside of the building for their first day back. If you would like to help, please consider making a sign. We will give deadlines and drop off locations as soon as the teacher's return date is announced.



2020-2021 Yearbook Update

Attention all photographers!!!

The Yearbook committee is now accepting candid photos for consideration to be included in the 2020-2021 yearbook. First day of school, spirit week, Halloween, virtual learning, lunch pickup, etc. To submit a photo, go to: www.spespta.org/yearbook.



Modified Yearbook Schedule

Due to the pandemic, the yearbook will not be ready for distribution before the end of the school year in June. Lifetouch has informed the Yearbook Committee that they will supply autograph sheets for the students. These sheets are made to be attached to the yearbook with an adhesive strip. Although it is disappointing that students will have to wait until summer to receive their yearbooks, this schedule does allow for end of the year activities, including 5th grade promotion, to be included 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>

SCHOOL AGE CHILD CARE: Third Marking Period Program (02/01-04/14)



INFORMATION: We are pleased to be able to continue to operate in our current locations for the Third Marking Period! We will continue to provide Wi-Fi access to complete virtual learning (parents must provide schedules, log-in information, electronic devices & headphones), arts and crafts, games, activity stations, and STEM & Literacy enrichments. Outdoor play will be utilized as we are able depending upon weather, sharing space with schools, site layout and restrictions. Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner will also be provided for FREE to the children via our partnership with Anne Arundel County Public Schools' Food and Nutrition Services.

Current COVID-19 restrictions include the following: children must remain in the same room the entire week, children & staff members must wear masks (except when eating), heightened sanitizing & social distancing will be in place, and temperature checks & health screenings are required upon arrival of staff and children. Parents may not enter the child care space and must also wear masks at all times. We will follow the guidance of the Health Department to close/alert the program as necessary if a child/staff member meets the symptom/exposure criteria to do so. If the program closes due to COVID, credits will be issued to parents. *Per the Maryland State Department of Education, please be aware that group sizes to previous child care capacity as long as social distancing can be maintained.*

REGISTRATION/REFUND POLICY: Please be aware that there is a minimum & maximum registration for each center. We will roll-over registration for the families we are currently serving before opening any remaining spaces to the public.

- **Third Marking Period Registration** for any available spaces is now open online on a first-come, first-serve basis. Interested parents must log in to their account, and register for the location they are interested in. Your child(ren) will be placed on the Wait List. Then, the Billing & Registration team will contact you if there are spaces available in the location of your choice. Your first payment will be due when you have been alerted that a space is available. *See below Third Marking Period Fee Schedule for more details.*
- **Payment & Refund Policy:** You must pay for the third marking period program on a bi-weekly basis two weeks ahead of service. If your needs should change during the marking period and your family no longer needs care, you must email us at sacc@aacounty.org to withdraw from the program. A \$25 fee will be charged for all refunds due to withdrawal.
- **Holiday Closings:** All programs will be closed for President's Day (02/15) and Easter/Spring Break (04/01-04/05). Credits will be issued for these days.

THIRD MARKING PERIOD FEE SCHEDULE:

| <u>Payment Due Date</u> | <u>Child Care Service Period</u> | <u>Days Closed during the Service Period</u> | <u>Virtual Fee/ Bi-Wkly</u> |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|-----------------------------|
| <i>Due upon Registration</i> | 02/01/21-02/12/21 | | \$360.00 |
| 02/01/2021 | 02/16/21-02/26/21 | 02/15 | \$324.00 |
| 02/15/2021 | 03/01/21-03/12/21 | | \$360.00 |
| 03/01/2021 | 03/15/21-03/26/21 | | \$360.00 |
| 03/15/2021 | 03/29/21-04/14/21** | 04/01, 04/02 & 04/05 | \$360.00 |

****Special note to be aware of for Service Period 03/29/21-04/14/21:** There are 13 days (rather than the usual 10 days) in the final service period. The 3 days SACC is closed equal out the 3 additional days of care, so the fee remains the same.

ELIGIBILITY:

- **AGES:** Children must be at least 5yo & entering Kindergarten through 5th grade for the 2020-2021 school year to be eligible to attend.
- **STATE MANDATED FORMS:** Every child must have the State mandated forms completed and on file at the site on their first day.
- **TOILETING:** Children must be toilet trained. Your child must be able to be self-directed & self-sufficient in the restroom and able to care for their own hygiene needs.

LOCATIONS:

- Arnold Senior Center (Arnold)
- Benfield Elementary School
- Davidsonville Elementary School
- Folger McKinsey Elementary School
- Freetown Elementary School
- Glendale Elementary School
- Hebron-Harman Elementary School
- High Point Elementary School
- Lake Shore Elementary School
- Mayo Elementary School
- Nantucket Elementary School
- O'Malley Senior Center (Odenton)
- Pasadena Elementary School
- South County Senior Center (Edgewater)

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE:

- Our office accepts Scholarships through the Department of Social Services for all school locations. Call DSS for more info: (866) 243-8796.