

# March

## Eye On it

### Mar 5

Interims sent home

### Mar 10

**School closed for students**  
Parent/Teacher Conferences

### Mar 10

PTA Zoom Meeting

### April 1-5

**Easter/Spring Break all  
Schools & Central  
Offices Closed**

## Chromebook Login protocol:

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

### Login instructions:

[Logging into Chrome](#)

### Chromebook Help:

[Chromebook Resources](#)

**P**ersevere through challenges

**A**ct responsibly

**W**ork together

**S**how respect for myself and others

Parent **CONNECT**xp

# BOBCAT Bulletin

## SEVERNA PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



Hello, SPES families!

We are thrilled to have students back this week! It is hard to believe that it has almost been a full year since our building was closed to students and the learning curve has been tremendously steep for all of us. It has been overwhelmingly impressive to see our community of parents and teachers step up to the challenge. While parents have collaborated with each other to support children in the neighborhood, our teachers have become a one-person production company every day they teach. Our growth is truly remarkable, and the word “school” creates a much different image now than it did a year ago.

It is exciting to be one step closer to a more normal routine and while we realize the road ahead is also unfamiliar to us, we have proven that we have the determination to push forward! Our children have shown resilience far beyond expectations, so please take a moment to tell your child how proud we are of his/her perseverance throughout virtual learning.

In many ways, this week is the first week of school and our teachers will be reviewing routines and procedures as well as re-establishing the class community with children and their new cohorts. We will be coaching our students on many new safety measures, one of which is wearing a mask. Please review with your child the importance of wearing a mask. Wearing a mask is not just an expectation we have for all children, but a safety measure vital to our student and staff safety. Children will benefit having several masks in their backpack in case they get lost or uncomfortable, especially after recess.

This week, your child will also see teachers use multiple screens and webcams to deliver instruction. Teachers have been practicing with their colleagues to make sure our kids at home and kids at school can see and hear them. We encourage children and parents to ask questions throughout this transition, it is the only way we learn and grow.

On March 2nd we kick-off AACPS Unites: Celebrating Diversity in Literacy and the theme for March is “Cultivate Compassion.” Children will hear stories and/or do activities related to this theme.

On March 10th, teachers will be holding conferences, which will be a great opportunity to discuss your child’s progress. More information from your child’s teacher will be coming soon about these virtual conferences.

Thank you for your continued support

Lorie Barnes



# This Month's Counselor's Corner



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

Our building is a buzz with change in the air. Jon Gordon says "There's a myth that people don't like change. We actually like what change produces. We just don't like the messy transition required to create the change." When we embrace the waves of change, we'll learn to ride the wave to success. Your children have been doing a wonderful job mastering change this year, and this is a lifelong skill.

Whether students are returning for 2 days of hybrid style learning or staying virtual 5 days a week, it's different for students and teachers alike. Change is both exciting and unsettling. Over the last two weeks, every student was asked to use the 3 C's (Connect, Cope, and Communicate) during a time of change. Please encourage your children to 1) "connect" with staff and classmates they have built relationships already, 2) to "cope" using a calming strategy when they become uneasy, and 3) to "communicate" their feelings to parents, teachers, and me. I'm available to meet via google meeting for your child to communicate to me and work through feelings to be available to learn.

The character trait for March is Mindfulness. We will practice mindful thinking in class and also during counseling lessons in March. Waiting has been a theme for everyone lately. Like Dr. Seuss wrote in "Oh, The Places You'll Go," saying "Everyone is just waiting." We're all waiting for the safe return of normal routines. We're waiting to hug each other again, to travel freely, to send our children to school every day, and to linger in public spaces. Much of our activities involve waiting like traffic lights, doctor's offices, and store lines. But most of us get antsy waiting. We can reframe this and realize there are gifts to waiting and make waiting an active event by bringing mindfulness to it. Notice what having our plans thwarted stirs up inside of us, such as the tapping foot and the rat-a-tat-tat of thoughts of wanting for things to be different. We can teach ourselves and our children to make a mindfulness practice out of cooling your heels using an acronym: W-A-I-T or Watch, Allow, Investigate, and Take a Breath.

- **WATCH** the reaction you experience whenever you wait.
- **ALLOW** whatever is arising to be there. Waiting and impatience are a very human combination.
- **INVESTIGATE** how the act of waiting feels in your body. Do you clench your jaw and brace your core more tightly as each moment slowly passes? Relax and soften your body.
- **TAKE** a purposeful breath in and out.

During the weeks of March 22nd - April 9th I will deliver the Erin's Law lessons about child abuse. These are required lessons for schools to provide, and I will send a letter to each home to provide more information. The lessons have been modified to condense them for a shorter lesson time frame, yet the longer lessons can be previewed on the Anne Arundel County Public Schools website. Go to <https://www.aacps.org/Page/5481> to preview the lessons or to find more information about Erin's Law in a FAQ. Feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.

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

Follow Us on Twitter  
@SPESaacps

\*\*\*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 10:50 am and there will be no Chessie.

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



## ...Mindset Moment

The change in our lives begins with the change in our minds. Destiny grows where your focus flows.

~Adele Basheer



# 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](mailto:LMSykes@aacps.org). If your child will be absent more than five days, a note from the doctor is required.

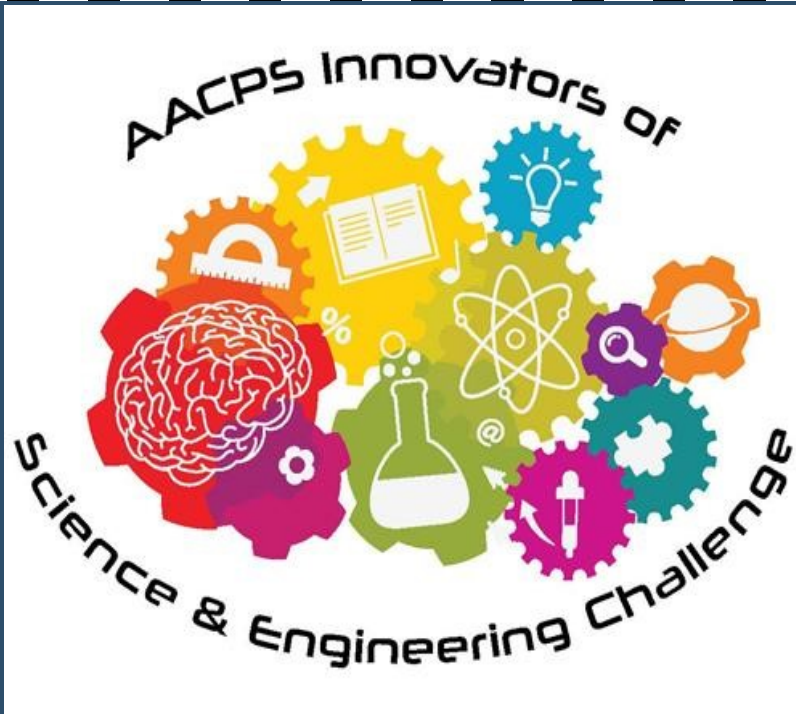
*Thank You!!*



## 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!!

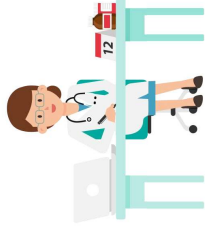
All students K-5 are invited to participate in a project. If you are interested in participating, please join the Google Classroom below for all the Resources and project information.

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

## Join using the code: **uxjt3in**

Contact by email: [aharwood-dewalle@aacps.org](mailto:aharwood-dewalle@aacps.org)

## Keep our students and staff safe!



Safety is always top priority and now our continued hybrid instruction depends on it! Thank you for doing your part to keep us all safe!

What do I do if my child has a doctor appointment?

If you are picking up your child for a doctor appointment, please plan on having him/her complete the day at home. This will help to minimize traffic in the front office and better track contact tracing if necessary.

What do I do if we are traveling?

The governor issued an emergency order requiring Marylanders to limit all travel to essential purposes only. All Marylanders who do travel outside of Maryland or any individuals who do travel to Maryland must either obtain a negative COVID-19 test result or self-quarantine for 10 days. This applies to all states, with the exception of Delaware, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia, and Washington, DC. Please plan on your child logging on virtually if you need to quarantine.

**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)

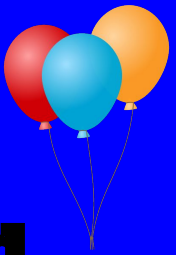
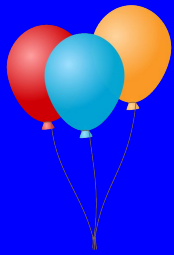
...in support of Severna Park Elementary School! A portion  
of your purchase will be donated back to the school!

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](http://www.SPCFA.com) (410) 647-6232**





# **Congratulations!**

## **Outstanding Educators in Gifted and Talented Education Winners**

### **School Administrators**

**Lorie Barnes**

Bonnie Myers

### **Teachers as Leaders**

**Alison Harwood-DeWalle**

**Matt Schlegel**

**Greg Meyers**

Heather Giustiniani

Megan Hawkins

Melanie Kandl

Shauvan Hawkins

# Make a difference in our Community!

AACPS is hiring Midday Monitors who want to take an active role in our elementary schools when students return on a hybrid learning schedule.

## Schedule

- Midday Monitors work on either Mondays and Tuesdays **or** Thursdays and Fridays (or all four days).
- This is an in-person position.

## Duties

- Facilitate student activities during a midday block from 11 am to 1 pm.
- Supervise students as they eat their lunch in the classroom and participate in recess and reading activities.
- No experience is necessary.

## Pay

- \$14/hour for 4-8 hours/week
- This is a temporary position.

Learn more & apply: [www.aacps.org/employment](http://www.aacps.org/employment)

Questions: Contact Human Resources [recruitment@aacps.org](mailto:recruitment@aacps.org)  
or 410-222-5061

**Thank you!**





# SEVERNA PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



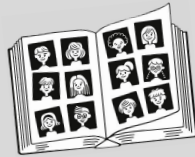
# PTA



Next PTA Meeting is March 10<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30pm Click on the Zoom link below to attend:  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87857102130?pwd=OEJOeUpKd2REZlhdW4yTk1PdEZYUT09>

March  
2021

## Yearbook Update: Keep Sending In Your Candid Pics!!



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, Valentine's Day, etc. To submit a photo, go to:  
[www.spespta.org/yearbook](http://www.spespta.org/yearbook).

## Message from the Board:



Spring is right around the corner and June will be here before we know it. At the June 2021 PTA meeting we will vote on the PTA officers and committee chairs for the 2021-2022 school year. Over the next few weeks, the board will be putting together a nominating committee. This committee will be tasked with lining up volunteers to fill the executive board (officers) and committee chair positions. Please email [spespta20@gmail.com](mailto:spespta20@gmail.com) if you are interested in serving on the nominating committee, the executive board or as a committee chair.

## T-shirts, Hoodies & Masks, Oh my... It's time to show off your Bobcat pride!



Spirit wear sale will start soon!  
For more information go to:  
[www.spespta.org](http://www.spespta.org)

## Operation "Welcome Back Teachers" was a HUGE Success!!

Many thanks to all the SPES families who made signs welcoming teachers back to the building. We were able to cover most of the front atrium glass with posters. On Thursday, Feb 18<sup>th</sup>, we received the following thank you message from Mrs. Barnes on behalf of the faculty:



Hello PTA,

Thank you for everything you are doing to make the return to school exciting. The teachers loved the signs and welcome back message from parents. Please thank all the folks who spent time on the signs and helping our staff to feel so loved and cared for on their first day back! Every time I was met with a teacher yesterday, they said, "did you see what the parents did? That was so nice!" So, kudos to you and your team, it was a nice surprise!

-Mrs. Barnes

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

# **MOD Pizza**

## **Take-Out and Delivery Fundraiser for SPES PTA**



Come support the **Severna Park Elementary School PTA**  
by enjoying a delicious meal from MOD Pizza!

**Thursday March 11, 2020**  
**10:30am-9:00pm**

To place your order visit MOD Pizza's online order website.  
<https://orders.modpizza.com>

Use the coupon code of "**GR177963S**"

**20% of your meal's price will be donated back to  
Severna Park Elementary PTA.**

MOD Pizza  
553 Ritchie Highway  
Severna Park, MD

For more information visit:  
<https://www.groupraise.com/events/177963>



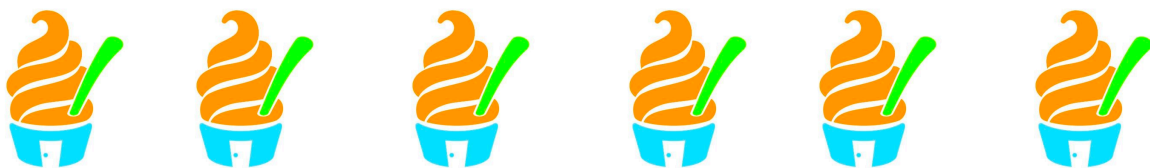
**Severna Park Elementary Fundraiser  
at  
Froyo House  
1st Wednesday each month**

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!!*





# 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:** 1st Wednesday every month  
11am to 8pm

**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 fundrasier and **20%**  
the proceeds will be donated to the organization.

*Ledo*  
Pizza.

**ORDER.LEDOPIZZA.COM**

**AACPS Unites** in celebrating a school system of diverse readers with recommended books, authors, and activities that represent an array of experiences and cultures.



## March 2 will be the kick off for **AACPS Unites: Celebrating Diversity in Literacy**

We are celebrating the contribution of diverse literature to showcase our diverse society not Dr. Seuss' birthday or specifically his work.

Anne Arundel County will promote books each month in which students can see themselves reflected, as well as books that open windows and doors to new worlds.

Each month, we will provide families with access to books and/or activities aligned to the themes listed above. Schools are encouraged to expand each month's activities to further engage students.



## Dates & Themes:

**March** Cultivate Compassion

**April** Inspire Stewardship  
*AACPS Unity Day – Action*

**May** Develop Passion and Perseverance

**June** Promote Respect

**July** Build Community

**August** Empower Student Voice

**September** Foster Inclusiveness

**October** Explore Identity  
*AACPS Unity Day – Identity*

**November** Celebrate Indigenous Peoples

**December** Activate Young Citizens  
*AACPS Unity Day – Diversity*

**January** Explore Families and History

**February** Practice Empathy  
*AACPS Unity Day – Justice*

## Mirrors, Windows, and Sliding Glass Doors

By Dr. Rudine Sims Bishop

Books are sometimes windows, offering views of worlds that may be real or imagined, familiar or strange. These windows are also sliding glass doors, and readers have only to walk through in imagination to become part of whatever world has been created and recreated by the author. When lighting conditions are just right, however, a window can also be a mirror. Literature transforms human experience and reflects it back to us, and in that reflection, we can see our own lives and experiences as part of the larger human experience.

# FINANCIAL LITERACY FAMILY NIGHT



***MONEY GROWS  
ON SKILLS...  
NOT TREES***



## TOPICS FOR PANEL DISCUSSION:

- Living within your means
- Investing as a foundation of a secure future
- Getting the best return on Post-High School choices

## Guest Panelists:

- ◆ James Henson  
*Henson & Associates*
- ◆ Sharon Burley  
*IEC Chesapeake*
- ◆ Dominic Powell  
*ESFCU*
- ◆ Ryan Thompson  
*Wilmington Trust*
- ◆ Tom McGinn  
*Retired (AACC Admissions)*



**Severna Park High School Business Advisory Board & Signature Program personally invites you to join us!**

**WHEN: WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24, 2021**

**TIME: 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.**

**WHERE: VIRTUAL ZOOM**

**RSVP: [HTTPS://US02WEB.ZOOM.US/MEETING/  
REGISTER/TZETF-6RPIKIGTNZ-JN6VAL6MHSQYU6GZNNF](https://us02web.zoom.us/join/register?jz=6RPIKIGTNZ-JN6VAL6MHSQYU6GZNNF)**



**\*After registering you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.**

