

BOBCAT BULLETIN

The latest news and updates from Severna Park Elementary School

Dear Severna Park Elementary Families,



JANUARY "MUST-REMEMBERS"

MAY 6-10 MCAP TESTING

MAY 7 PTO MEETING

MAY 9 SPES ART SHOWCASE 6-7:30

MAY 14 ELECTION DAY SCHOOL CLOSED

MAY 17 FIELD DAY/VOLUNTEER LUNCHEON

MAY 20 CAREER DAY

**MAY 23-24 NO SCHOOL PREK & K
NO SCHOOL FOR PREK & K**

MAY 24 K-ORIENTATION 1:00 - 2:00PM

MAY 31 RETURN ALL MEDIA BOOKS

May is Mental Health Awareness Month! Please be conscious of your student(s) feelings and allow time for self care. At SPES we want to make sure that we are working collaboratively with families to support our students' mental health. If your student(s) needs any support or if you would like to learn more information about our mental health services, please be sure to reach out to Mrs. McCord at kmccord@aacps.org. There is also additional resources and information available to AACPS families located at <https://www.aacps.org/site/Default.aspx?PageID=1820>. Mrs. McCord has also provided additional information about Innovation Therapeutic Services (ITS) that is available at SPES. Please make sure you see her "Counselor's Corner" below!

It is hard to believe that this is the last full month that students will be in school for the 2023-2024 school year. Remember to take a moment to reflect on how far we have come this year and how much our students have grown.

On May 9th, from 6:00 pm-7:30 pm, Ms. David and the SPES staff will be hosting our annual Art Showcase! Art work from all students will be proudly displayed around the building! Students have been hard at work creating these beautiful works of art. Every child will have at least one work of art displayed! This is a "drop in" event, so please feel free to come any time between 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm!

I want to give a big shoutout to our PTO for sponsoring our Artist in Residence mural, which is now proudly displayed on the wall across from the Art Room. The students did an amazing job adding such details and characteristics to the mural. It is great to hear students talking about which piece of the mural they contributed to as they look at their work. If you are in the building, please be sure to take a peek at the amazing work that our students did!

Many of you have already heard, but my family will be expanding towards the end of May! I will be taking a brief paternity leave (no more than 1 week) when my wife and I welcome our new son, Colin, later this month. While I am out of the building, Sharon Hansen will be my administrative substitute. Some of you may recognize that name because she retired from AACPS as the principal of Severna Park Middle School. When I do have a more specific date for when I will be out, I will send a message to families with Mrs. Hansen's contact information.

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

Sincerely,

Kyle Butler, Principal (kwbutler@aacps.org)



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The latest news and updates from Severna Park Elementary School

Estimadas familias de la Escuela Primaria Severna Park,



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¡Mayo es el Mes de la Concientización sobre la Salud Mental! Por favor, sea consciente de los sentimientos de su(s) estudiante(s) y dedique tiempo al cuidado personal. En SPES queremos asegurarnos de que estamos trabajando en colaboración con las familias para apoyar la salud mental de nuestros estudiantes. Si su(s) estudiante(s) necesita(n) algún tipo de apoyo o si desea obtener más información sobre nuestros servicios de salud mental, asegúrese de comunicarse con la Sra. McCord en kmccord@aacps.org. También hay recursos e información adicionales disponibles para las familias de AACPS ubicadas en <https://www.aacps.org/site/Default.aspx?PageID=1820>. La Sra. McCord también ha proporcionado información adicional sobre los Servicios Terapéuticos de Innovación (ITS, por sus siglas en inglés) que están disponibles en SPES. ¡Por favor, asegúrese de ver su "Rincón del consejero" a continuación!

Es difícil creer que este es el último mes completo en que los estudiantes estarán en la escuela para el año escolar 2023-2024. Recuerde tomarse un momento para reflexionar sobre lo lejos que hemos llegado este año y cuánto han crecido nuestros estudiantes.

El 9 de mayo, de 6:00 p.m. a 7:30 p.m., la Sra. David y el personal de SPES serán los anfitriones de nuestra exhibición anual de arte. ¡Las obras de arte de todos los estudiantes se exhibirán con orgullo en todo el edificio! Los estudiantes han estado trabajando arduamente para crear estas hermosas obras de arte. ¡Cada niño tendrá al menos una obra de arte expuesta! Este es un evento "sin cita previa", ¡así que siéntase libre de venir en cualquier momento entre las 6:00 p.m. y las 7:30 p.m.!

Quiero dar un gran agradecimiento a nuestro PTO por patrocinar nuestro mural de Artista en Residencia, que ahora se exhibe con orgullo en la pared frente a la Sala de Arte. Los estudiantes hicieron un trabajo increíble agregando tales detalles y características al mural. Es genial escuchar a los estudiantes hablar sobre la pieza del mural a la que contribuyeron mientras miran su trabajo. Si se encuentra en el edificio, asegúrese de echar un vistazo al increíble trabajo que hicieron nuestros estudiantes.

Muchos de vosotros ya os habéis enterado, ¡pero mi familia se ampliará a finales de mayo! Tomaré una breve licencia de paternidad (no más de 1 semana) cuando mi esposa y yo demos la bienvenida a nuestro nuevo hijo, Colin, a finales de este mes. Mientras esté fuera del edificio, Sharon Hansen será mi sustituta administrativa. Es posible que algunos de ustedes reconozcan ese nombre porque se retiró de AACPS como directora de la Escuela Secundaria Severna Park. Cuando tenga una fecha más específica para salir, enviaré un mensaje a las familias con la información de contacto de la Sra. Hansen.

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

Sinceramente,

Sincerely,

Kyle Butler, Principal (kwbutler@aacps.org)

Counselor's Corner

Mrs. Katie McCord



The Character Trait for May is Courage. We will be emphasizing courage this month in morning announcements, community meetings and in connection and reflection daily. Students who have courage stand up for what they know is right, even when they are afraid, and others do not stand with them. Courageous kids are willing to take positive learning risks and challenge themselves. Courageous kids ask for help when they need it, admit when they are wrong and make good choices even when others around them do not. They are courageous enough to be kind to those who are unkind or “uncool.” Courage is a learned behavior, and it can be taught. Some things you can do to teach your child to have courage include:

- Explain that brave people do not always feel brave inside. Share stories of times when you felt scared or nervous or had to stand up for yourself against others’ opinions.
- Affirm your child’s bravery. Try saying things like, “You can do it—I know how brave you are,” and, “I really respect how you make hard choices and do the right thing.”
- Give your child permission to “mess up.” Remind your child that every time you fail at something, you learn what does not work.
- Make trying new things a regular part of your family life, too. Try new foods, go to new places, and cultivate a sense of adventure.

May is National Mental Health Month. Mental Health America has many ideas for mental health care and well-being on their site at

March Guidance Lesson Topics: Kindergarten & First Grade– Mindfulness and Stranger Safety,, Second through Fifth grade – Mindfulness.

SPES is fortunate to have Innovative Therapeutic Services (ITS) school-based regular counseling services available at our school. They currently have some open options for adding students to their caseload. Please reach out to me, if you would like more information about ITS. I could make a referral to ITS and the director will reach out to the parents to schedule an in-take appointment to start the process.

Human Relations Fundraising Results: SPES Human Relations raised \$602 for the Friends of Kinder Farm in April. Thanks for the support for feed and care of the barn animals. The Human Relations Committee also had a bake sale at the Earth Day Festival and together with some Oak Hill staff, we raised \$400 for the Good Neighbor’s Group charity.

Career Day: May 20th is Career Day. Each of the K-5th grade classes will host two or more speakers. Thank you so much to all the wonderful parents who have volunteered to present. I wish that we had space in every class for everyone who would like to share. Students love to be inspired when adults share their careers.

May/June Guidance Lesson Topics: Kindergarten – 5th Grade: All classes will have lessons on Courage, Career Exploration, and Transitioning to summer and the next grade.





Chessie Updates

Last Day
of Chessie
May 9th

Chessie Parties

1:20-1:40 3rd

1:40-2:00 2nd

2:00-2:20 1st

May
30th

Kindergarten Chessie Parties will take place during media classes!

The background is a dark blue space scene. In the top left is a large, textured orange and yellow sun. To its right is a red planet with a blue ring system. Below the sun is a purple star with smaller white stars nearby. To the right of the red planet is a blue planet with white horizontal stripes. In the bottom right is a green planet with a brown ring system, and below it is a purple comet with a bright yellow and orange tail. Various other stars in different colors (white, blue, orange, purple) are scattered across the background.

Art

Show!

Out of this World
SPES Art Showcase
May 9th
6-7:30PM

Please join us for the 3rd
Annual SPES Art Showcase!
Every student will have a piece
of work displayed in this show,
so be sure to bring friends
and family to support our
amazing artists here at SPES!



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

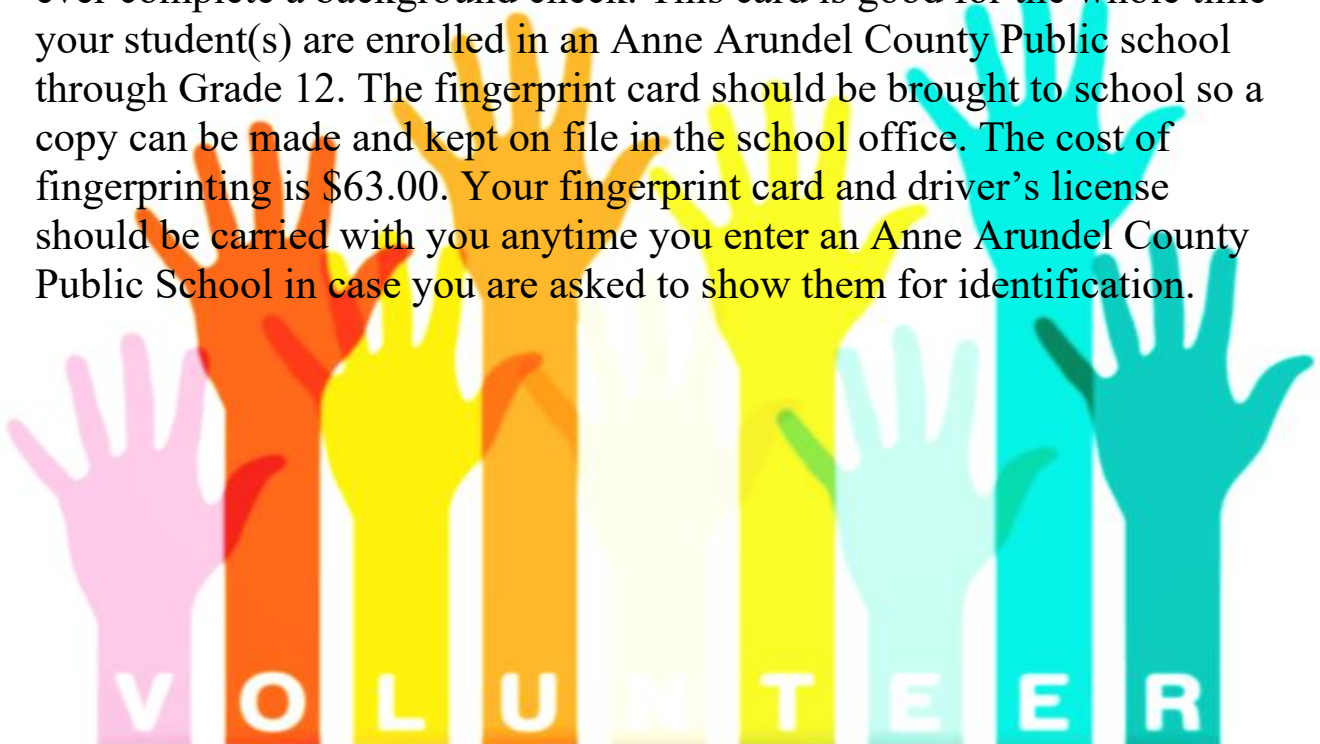
Kristen Berthelotte, Chorus

kberthelotte@aacps.org

How to Submit a Background Check or Be Fingerprinted

Background Check: When submitting a background check, please do so from a computer, laptop, or iPad. Do not submit from your cell phone. Please follow this link in order to fill out a background check in order to volunteer and/or chaperone here at the school:
<https://www.aacps.org/chaperone>. You will be prompted to create an account. You will receive a confirmation number for successfully creating an account. Within a few seconds of creating the account, you will receive an email which will invite you to a portal where you will fill in your information for a background check. Please keep in mind that a background check can take up to three weeks to clear and is only good for two years.

Fingerprinting: If you would rather not do the background check and keep track of completed background check every two years, you have the option of being fingerprinted in Annapolis at the Board of Education. Please contact the Fingerprint Office at 410-222-5045 to make an appointment. Once you are given a fingerprint card, you will not need to ever complete a background check. This card is good for the whole time your student(s) are enrolled in an Anne Arundel County Public school through Grade 12. The fingerprint card should be brought to school so a copy can be made and kept on file in the school office. The cost of fingerprinting is \$63.00. Your fingerprint card and driver's license should be carried with you anytime you enter an Anne Arundel County Public School in case you are asked to show them for identification.





SPES PTO NEWS

May 2024

A quick note:



It's gonna be May, Bobcats! Can you believe there's less than 6 weeks of school left this year!? Time may be flying by, but the PTO is still hard at work creating fun for our students and community! Alongside several favorite activities like Teacher and Volunteer Appreciation events and End-of-Year Celebrations, we also have our first Color Run and Author Visit coming up! None of this would be possible, however, without our amazing team of volunteers. From our Committee Chairs to our Room Leads and Executive Board, so many people have played a big role in this year's successes. Join us on May 7th at the PTO Meeting where next year's Board will be elected and Committee Chair positions will be discussed. We hope to see you there!



Your SPES PTO

Save the Dates:



4 May: **COLOR RUN** -- TBA!



6-10 May: Teacher Appreciation Week



7 May: PTO Meeting @ 6:30pm



7 May: Ledo & Froyo Spirit Night



9 May: SPES Art Show



17 May: Field Day



17 May: Volunteer Thank You Lunch



24 May: Kindergarten Orientation



31 May: Yearbook Delivery Day



National Teacher Appreciation Week is May 6th-10th!

See attached page for more information.

May Mayhem

BOBCAT BOOK CLUB & CHESSIE END-OF-YEAR CELEBRATIONS

5/23 Bobcat Book Club Ice Cream Celebration (7+ books read this chapter)

5/24 Bobcat Book Club Walking Field Trip (21+ books read this year)

5/30 Chessie Ice Cream Celebration (1st-3rd Graders who read 30+ books this year)

EXECUTIVE BOARD ELECTIONS

Join us on **May 7th @ 6:30pm** at our PTO General Membership Meeting to vote on next year's board members! Nominees have been emailed.

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION

All volunteers are invited to attend a lunch in your honor on **May 17** following Field Day activities. Also join us on **June 4** for an Adult Social after the PTO meeting as we close out our **first year as a PTO!**

Don't Forget!

ALL Reimbursement Requests due by June 1st!

Please be sure to turn-in all receipts either online or to the PTO mailbox before the deadline. Late submissions won't be accepted.

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. We'll recognize everyone submitted at our monthly PTO meetings and on our website. Take it a step further and submit them for county-wide recognition!

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 for instructions on how to support your Bobcats anytime!



spelementarypto@gmail.com



www.spespto.org



"Severna Park Elementary School PTO"

SEVERNA PARK ELEMENTARY

Teacher Appreciation Week

MAY 6-10, 2024

THREE WAYS TO SHOW YOUR GRATITUDE

#1 VOLUNTEER FOR IN-PERSON
OPPORTUNITIES



#2 DONATE TO TEACHER
APPRECIATION FUNDS



#3 PARTICIPATE IN DAILY THEMES

Mon

How sweet it is!

Bring your teacher their favorite snack or treat!

Tues

Chalk the walk!

Join us on the blacktop starting at 7:30am to write a chalk message to our teachers. Chalk will be provided.

Wed

Mini-me mania!

Dress like your teacher or wear their favorite color.

Thur

Thanks for helping us grow!

Bring your teacher a handmade or real flower from home or purchase one for \$1 cash on the blacktop before school.

Fri

Put it in writing!

Write a note or draw a picture for your teacher to let them know how much they mean to you!

PLEASE NOTE: THESE ARE JUST SUGGESTIONS. YOU MAY PARTICIPIATE IN ANY OR ALL OF THE ABOVE, OR FEEL FREE TO SHOW YOUR APPRECIATION HOWEVER YOU WOULD LIKE.

More information on Teacher Appreciation Week can be found on our website at www.spespto.org/teacherappreciation.