

BOBCAT BULLETIN

The latest news and updates from Severna Park Elementary School

Dear Severna Park Elementary Families,



JANUARY "MUST-REMEMBERS"

FEB 1 REPORT CARDS

FEB 6 PTO MEETING

FEB 6 FROYO & LEDOS NIGHT

FEB 6 2-HR EARLY DISMISSAL

FEB 9 SPES GIRLS' EVENT

FEB 19 SCHOOL CLOSED

FEB 23 INDOOR MOVIE NIGHT

FEB 26 VISION & HEARING SCREENING



February 1 marks the beginning of Black History Month. During this month, we are afforded the opportunity to celebrate and commemorate the many contributions made by people of African descent to our nation. Anne Arundel County Public Schools has and will continue to work toward equity for all. Please join Severna Park Elementary and AACPS in continuing to foster acceptance and tolerance.

We would like to congratulate all of our third through fifth grade band, strings, and chorus students. They put on an amazing concert on January 24th! Thank you to Mrs. Longacre, Ms. Dabaldo, and all of our performers' families that helped prepare our students for this event. It truly is a team effort and we hope that everyone enjoyed the show as much as we did! We look forward to putting on our spring concert later this year. Details will be shared with families once a date is finalized!

As we continue to progress through the school year, if your student does have a cellular device, please be sure to remind them that cell phones should be off and away during the school day. We have begun to see an increase in students using smart watches (Apple Watches, GizmoWatch, etc.) during instructional time. Please remind students that smart watches can be used to tell time during the day, but students will need to wait until after school to use other features (texting, calling, etc.). We want to make sure that our students are focused on instruction during the day! If you do need to share change of dismissal information, how students are getting home, etc., this should be communicated through the main office by either calling 410-222-6577 and/or emailing Lisa Sykes (Lmsykes@aacps.org), Dawn Boring (Dboring@aacps.org), and your student's homeroom teacher. If you would like information about "School Mode" on Gizmo and Apple Watches, please see the links below.

Gizmo: <https://www.verizon.com/support/knowledge-base-235719/>

Apple Watches: <https://support.apple.com/guide/watch/get-started-with-schooltime-apd160a958b7/watchos#:~:text=button%2C%20then%20tap-,in%20Control%20Center.,turned%20on%20in%20Control%20Center.>

Lastly, thank you to everyone for doing so well on our first ever synchronous and asynchronous instructional days since the pandemic. Teachers all shared how amazing our students and families did logging into Brightspace, joining Google Meets, and even showing great patience when there were technical issues. We hope that we do not need to go virtual again this school year, but please make sure that your student's Chromebook is working properly in case we do! If there are issues, please be sure to send in the device with a description of the issue so it can be repaired.

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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¡Esperamos que todos hayan tenido un descanso de Acción de Gracias relajante, seguro y agradable! La iluminación del árbol de Severna Park ha sido reprogramada para el 8 de diciembre. ¡Es una excelente manera de comenzar el mes si puedes asistir! Si no puede asistir, las familias podrán volver a escuchar el coro el 24 de enero durante nuestro Concierto de Invierno.

A medida que continúa haciendo más frío, recuerde a su(s) estudiante(s) que revisen el área de objetos perdidos si les falta alguna prenda de vestir. El programa de objetos perdidos se encuentra en la cafetería y se anima a los estudiantes a buscar sus pertenencias durante sus períodos de almuerzo. Cualquier artículo que no se reclame al final del segundo período de calificación (18 de enero) se donará a una organización benéfica. Alentamos a las familias a escribir el nombre de su estudiante en algún lugar de su ropa, como la etiqueta interior, para que podamos ayudar a devolver los artículos a su dueño.

Para asegurarse de que nuestros estudiantes comiencen su día con el pie derecho, asegúrese de que su(s) estudiante(s) llegue(n) a la escuela a tiempo. Las puertas se abren a las 7:45 a.m. y el timbre para señalar el comienzo de la instrucción suena a las 8:00 a.m. Conductores de automóviles, por favor no liberen a los estudiantes de los automóviles hasta que se abran las puertas. Para las familias que tienen estudiantes que caminan a la escuela, haga todo lo posible para que los estudiantes salgan a la escuela y lleguen a SPES entre las 7:45 am y las 8:00 am, para que no esperen afuera a que suene el timbre. Los estudiantes no son supervisados por el personal hasta las 7:45 am. Hacer que los estudiantes lleguen a la escuela a tiempo todos los días ayuda a crear rutinas que permiten que los estudiantes tengan tiempo para desempacar, acomodarse y estar en clase para las reuniones matutinas.

Un recordatorio de que si su estudiante tiene un Chromebook dañado o roto, asegúrese de enviarlo a la escuela con él para que pueda enviarlo para su reparación. ¡Queremos asegurarnos de que todos los dispositivos de los estudiantes funcionen correctamente para que estén listos para usar durante todo el año! Si el dispositivo necesita reparación, asegúrese de enviar un correo electrónico al maestro de su estudiante con una descripción de los problemas.

Sincerely,

Kyle Butler, Principal (kwbutler@aacps.org)

Counselor's Corner

Mrs. Katie McCord



Kindness Matters! In a world where you can be anything – be kind! The character traits for February is Kindness and Compassion. We will focus on kind acts towards others and hopefully practice lots of these at school and at home. We will share kindness and compassion ideas on the morning announcements and build kindness during morning meetings. Inspire your kids to think and do kind acts at home, with family, with friends, on the bus and at school to spread kindness. Kindness matters, but do not take my word for it. Research shows that a feedback loop exists between kindness and happiness so that one encourages the other. Therefore, kindness makes you happy and happiness makes you kinder. So, please stress kindness with your kids, we know you want them to be happy.

The 1st - 9th - Rainbow of Kindness Activity: All students will think of ways they can show kindness through words and actions and draw or write this on their grade's rainbow color. PK&K - Purple, 1st grade - Blue, 2nd grade- Green, 3rd grade- Yellow, 4th grade - Orange, 5th grade- Red.

- February 6th is UNITY DAY which also relates to Kindness
- Every Monday - SMILE MONDAYS - smile at classmates and staff when you see them.
- Every Friday - HELPING FRIDAYS - notice how you can help and take action

National School Counselor's Week is February 5th – 9th: The first full week of February is always the week to celebrate school counselors and their support to help all students succeed. Being a school counselor at SPES is a rewarding job. There is nothing better than teaching kindness and life-long skills for learning, working, and healthy relationships. I get to be involved in planning and improving the school experience for all with the most amazing leaders at SPES. I am always learning and seeing students grow, change, and mature over the years. Thank you for this opportunity to work with your kids at SPES! The 2024 theme is "School Counseling: Standards-Based, Student-Focused."

KINDNESS WEEK FOCUS TASKS February 12-16: We will begin the week by giving smile stickers to all students for Smile Day. You could think of special activities at home every day for Kindness week too.

Monday: Share a smile with everyone you see

Tuesday: TAKE ACTION TUESDAY - do something nice like push in someone's chair, stack a chair, open a door, let someone else be a leader.

Wednesday: Give Kindness notes to some classmates

Thursday: Compliment others - notice the good in others and let them know.

Friday: Ask your teacher how you can help and help out when the time is right.

February Guidance Lessons: Pre-K through 5th-Kindness/Compassion/Friendship Lessons and Personal Safety & Protection from Abuse (Erin's Law). Look for a letter that will be emailed home that explains when the personal safety lessons will be in your child's class and how to preview the lessons. Feel free to contact me with any questions.

Severna Park Middle School Information Nights: SPES 5th grade parents are invited to a Parent Information Night either virtually on Tuesday, February 20th at 6:00 pm via google meeting code OEV-FBWK-UEI or in-person on Thursday, February 22nd in Severna Park Middle School cafeteria at 6:00 pm. Look for the flier that will be given to students to bring home or contact me for details.





SPES PTO NEWS

February 2024



A quick note:




What a start to 2024! In January, we saw club enrollments, spirit wear sales, art projects, a basketball game, and more! **Thank you to the Boys Event committee** for organizing such a great event, and to everyone who came out for the fun! As we head into February, we'll dive even further into our programs and events. **ECP club selections have been announced**, with clubs kicking off next week. The Girls Event is quickly approaching, with Valentine's Day classroom celebrations and our Indoor Movie Night following shortly. Before we know it, the 2nd Annual Read-a-thon will be here! **Join us at our Feb. 6th meeting**, where we'll meet to discuss these events and more. Don't forget, **free childcare is provided! We hope to see you there!**



Your SPES PTO



Save the Dates:

- ☐ 5 Feb: After-School Clubs Start
- ★ ☐ 6 Feb: PTO Meeting @ 6:30pm
- ☐ 6 Feb: Ledo & Froyo Spirit Night 
- ☐ 9 Feb @ 7pm: Girls Event
- ☐ 16 Feb: Variety Show Submissions Due
- ☐ 23 Feb: Indoor Movie Night 
- ☐ 1-11 Mar: Read-a-thon
- ☐ 5 Mar: PTO Meeting @ 6:30pm
- ★ ☐ 12 Mar: Family Reading Night 

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

February Fun

VARIETY
SHOW
SUBMISSIONS

It is that time of year, once again, for our SPES children to show off their myriad of talents! **The deadline for submissions is Friday, Feb. 16th** in order to participate in the show. Visit www.spespto.org/variety to learn more and to submit your act starting Feb 3rd.

CHESSIE

100+ students have read 5+ books to get their names on the wall, with more readers quickly swimming up through levels each week. **Volunteers are needed Mon-Thu mornings.** Visit www.spespto.org/chessie to sign up.

YEARBOOK

Yearbook sales are open now through April 20th. Visit www.ybpay.com using **School Code #14709324**. Submit your photos from this year's SPES events and activities by emailing spesptoyearbook@gmail.com.

WEBSITE

More information on all of our events and programs can be found on our website. Visit us today to see what's next!

Connect With Us!

Help Needed: Looking for additional ways to support the Bobcat Community? **The SPES PTO is seeking help with the upcoming Indoor Movie Night and Family Reading Night events.** Sign up to help with setup, concessions, hallway traffic, and more at www.spespto.org/volunteer.

You're Invited: Let us know you're coming to our next after-school events! **RSVP in advance** on our website at www.spespto.org/open_forms for Movie & Reading Nights, and at www.spespto.org/girls_event.

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"



SPES PTO PRESENTS

FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT

**FREE
ENTRY**

**DOORS
OPEN AT
5:30PM**

Come join us for this night of fun as we watch a movie in the SPES gym. Wear your pajamas and bring your chairs/blankets for some cozy fun. Pack a picnic dinner and/or enjoy yummy snacks from our concessions stand.

*Please note that all students must be accompanied by an adult.



**FRIDAY FEB. 23RD
MOVIE STARTS AT 6PM**

**LET US KNOW
YOU'RE COMING!**



Signup Online at
www.spespto.org/movienight



MOVIE TITLE COMING SOON!

THE SPES YEARBOOK SALE IS NOW LIVE!

**ORDER TODAY AT
WWW.YBPAY.COM**

**Yearbook ID Code:
14709324**

Submit photos for the yearbook to
spesptoyearbook@gmail.com.



**AT THE
READ-A-THON**



MARCH 1st-11th

**MORE INFO
COMING SOON!**





Multicultural Festival

JOIN US FOR A CELEBRATION OF CULTURES
THURSDAY MARCH 7, 2024
6 PM - 8 PM

SEVERN RIVER MIDDLE SCHOOL
241 PENINSULA FARM RD, ARNOLD, MD 21012

PLEASE USE THE QR CODE TO REGISTER FOR THIS EVENT
***REGISTRATION IS NECESSARY**



ASLI MASUCCI
AMASUCCI@AACPS.ORG
(302) 314-5240

CAROLINA JACOBO
SJACOBO@AACPS.ORG
(410) 562-1308

PLEASE CONTACT FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO PARTICIPATE AS A CULTURE REPRESENTATIVE

**Games
& Prizes**

Food

Crafts

**Music &
Dancing**



Multicultural Festival

**ÚNETE A NOSOTROS PARA
UNA CELEBRACIÓN DE LAS CULTURAS
JUEVES, 7 DE MARZO DE 2024
6 PM - 8 PM**

**ESCUELA INTERMEDIA DE SEVERN RIVER
241 PENÍNSULA FARM RD, ARNOLD, MD 21012**

**POR FAVOR USE ESTE CÓDIGO QR PARA REGISTRARSE EN ESTE EVENTO
*ES NECESARIO REGISTRARSE**



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AMASUCCI@AACPS.ORG
(302) 314-5240

CAROLINA JACOBO
SJACOBO@AACPS.ORG
(410) 562-1308

POR FAVOR CONTÁCTANOS PARA MÁS INFORMACIÓN O PARA PARTICIPAR COMO REPRESENTANTE CULTURAL

**Juegos &
Premios**

Comida

Artesanía

**Música
& Bailes**