

BACK TO SCHOOL

AUGUST 2021

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

*Greetings from Cash Valley Elementary
2020-2021 National Blue Ribbon School*



Hello Cash Valley families! As we begin this school year with health safety practices in place, I must commend each family for maintaining a positive mindset and attitude of perseverance as we transitioned through the health pandemic, adapted to virtual instruction, and became accepting of quality education in multiple formats. We believe in our motto “Every Connection Counts” and have proven that success is achieved by remaining focused on the priority which is our students. As a strong supportive network with common learning expectations, together we are ready for the 2021-2022 educational adventure!

OPENING DAY
Grades 1-5: August 25
Grades PK-K: August 30
MEET THE FACULTY AND FAMILIES/TITLE I MEETING
August 31, 4:30-6:30, Cash Valley School
Outside information tables and outside presentations
Meet the staff and receive Title I information

ASPEN

Assigned Classroom Access:

1. Visit Follett Aspen (md-allegany.myfollett.com)
2. Enter child’s information: username login ID (last name.first name) and password.
3. Click My Info tab (top toolbar), then Demographics tab (middle toolbar)
4. Homeroom teacher’s name is listed

Online Grades Access:

1. Visit Follett Aspen (md-allegany.myfollett.com)
2. Enter child’s information: username login ID (last name.first.name) and password.
3. Click the Academics tab (top toolbar)
4. List of child’s classes and grade summary

Contact the school with questions or for assistance.

SCHOOL SPOTLIGHT

The academic, social, and emotional emphasis will continue by building students’ attentiveness towards:

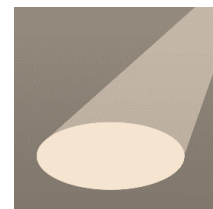
- Understanding their own thought process (metacognition).
- Managing their thoughts, actions, and emotions (executive functioning).
- Integrating techniques for self-regulation and focus (mindfulness).
- Displaying positive thinking for good results (mindset).

Recognized as successful, lifelong skills, children are encouraged to continue practicing “drive their brain” behavior at home.

As the year evolves, information will be updated.

Visit the school website (www.acpsmd.org/ca) and Facebook for updates and information:

- ✓ Handbook (important information)
- ✓ School/District Updates
- ✓ Assessments and Health Protocol
- ✓ Parent Teacher Organization/Title I
- ✓ Learning Resources
- ✓ Calendar and Newsletters
- ✓ School Improvement Plan



COMMUNICATION

Let’s keep the communication constant and open! Contact between the school/home is vital for students’ success. There are a variety of ways to communicate such as phone calls, conferences (in-person/virtual), email, school website, Schoology, and Blackboard Connect (robocalls). Weekly (or more) contact should occur between students/families and school staff. Contact the school anytime to schedule a meeting.

Schoology – Online Instructional Platform

Schoology Info & Assistance acpsmd.org/Page/3317

ACPS IT Help Desk ithelpdesk@acpsmd.org 301.876.9819

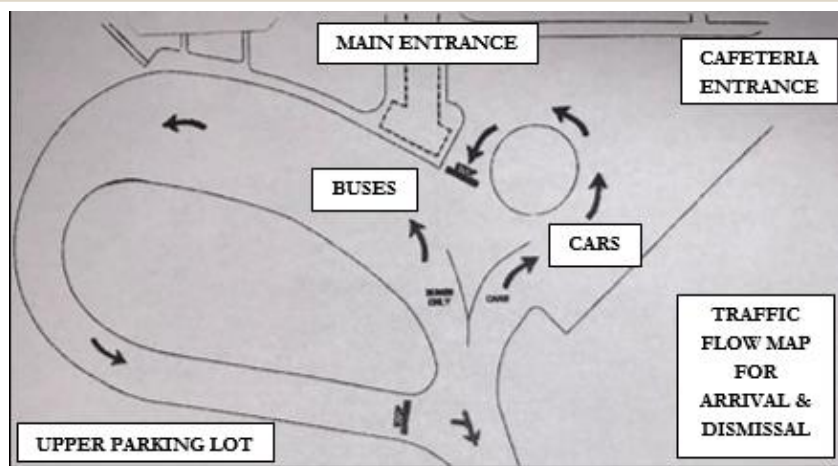
Schoology Access:

1. Visit ACPS Schoology (acpsmd.schoology.com)
2. Enter child’s information: username login ID (last name.first name) and password.
3. Enter student’s password (4-digit number)
4. Select student’s online classroom

CAFETERIA

Free and Reduced Meal (FARM) application forms should be completed and returned to the office to determine eligibility. **Parents must complete a new application each year.** In October, children are removed from the FARM list. The school participates in Breakfast in the Classroom, a district initiative that provides a free meal to all children. Free lunch meals continue to be provided to all children for this school year. Virtual students can pick up lunches from 11:45-1:00 at the cafeteria delivery door located on the side of the building. If you have any questions, please contact the cafeteria at 301.759.2730.

School Vision: All students will reach their full potential, achieve success, and become productive citizens.



(Guidelines are for safety purposes, reference the traffic flow map.)

Arrival: When using the roundabout, children are to exit the vehicle only at the designated cones due to the constant moving traffic. Please be considerate in the roundabout line and quickly allow your child to exit the vehicle to keep the line moving forward.

Dismissal: Buses have priority at dismissal due to meeting designated bus stops as scheduled. Do not create unnecessary roadblocks that interfere with the traffic flow at the school driveway entrance.

ARRIVAL

- 8:20-8:30AM - Children arrive at school and report to the gym.
 - 8:30AM - Children move to classrooms, breakfast is provided (full days only), and preparation for the day.
 - 8:45AM - Announcements begin
 - 8:50AM - Official start of the school day and instruction begins
- Children arriving after 8:50 are tardy based on attendance procedures.**

DISMISSAL

- 3:10PM - Announcements begin
 1. Private Transportation: Parents must park in the upper lot (exception is a handicap sticker), walk to enter through the cafeteria door, and sign out their child. Children will report to the cafeteria.
 2. Bus Riders: Children will walk in appropriate lines to board buses.
- 3:20PM - Parents may enter the roundabout to get children **after buses are dismissed**. Children are escorted to the roundabout by staff.
- 3:30PM - All private transportation children must be picked up.

During arrival and dismissal always be alert for children and use the crosswalks for safety. A school resource officer and administration will monitor and assist with the protocol.

TITLE I PROGRAM

The Title I program provides funding for additional personnel, instructional materials, and professional development. The School Improvement Plan (SIP) outlines the focus of this program. Parents are invited to review and comment on the plan and are encouraged to become a member of the team. Parent and family input and engagement are recognized as key components of children's success. Parent input is requested on the development and review of the following documents

- School Improvement Plan
- Parent/Family Engagement Plan
- School Parent Compact
- Parent/Family Engagement Budget
- District Parent and Family Engagement Plan Annual Review

Ms. Murphy will serve as the Title I teacher, instructing in second grade. Mrs. Mathews is the Title I instructional assistant.

CONTACT INFORMATION

It is important to complete and return the contact and emergency information forms provided by the school. Correct telephone numbers, addresses, and emergency contact information is necessary to make home connections by school personnel. Please inform the school if there are any changes that occur throughout the school year.

PTO/VOLUNTEERS

The Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) builds relationships between the home and school by providing funding support, learning activities, and special events that benefit the overall school community. The Title I Parent Involvement Coordinator meets weekly with volunteers to assist school personnel with classroom activities and materials. Contact the school to volunteer!

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

The School Improvement Plan is created based on the established goals designed to develop a quality instructional program and learning environment. Through the examination of school performance data, improvement areas are targeted and strategies are determined to reach set goals. Upon the Board of Education approval, the plan becomes the school's central focus to increase student achievement and is revisited regularly to review progress. The plan is available in the school office and website.

SAFETY AND SECURITY

To enforce school security all doors remain locked and video surveillance is accessible. Visitors must use an intercom system at the main entrance and report to the office. Health protocol will be followed by wearing masks as needed, incorporating handwashing, and enforcing health expectations. Safety officers are employed to enforce security measures and provide safety assistance.

MD Comprehensive Assessment Program (MCAP)

MCAP was not administered in the spring 2021. Therefore, these state assessments will be given to students in fall 2021 to gather performance information. Students (4th-5th) will take the previous grade-level assessments. The scores will be analyzed for data trends to identify areas targeted for support, progress monitoring, and overall school improvement areas.