



# W.E.S...It's Elementary2

Building the Future—One Child at a Time

## Welcome Back to Westernport Elementary!

Welcome to the 2019-2020 school year at Westernport Elementary. It's going to be a great year! Our school building looks beautiful, thanks to the hard work done this summer by custodians Kim Martin and David Parker and part-time custodians, Gene "Bugs" Foutz, Nakoa Weimer and Nancy Zacari.

We are very excited to see smiling faces in our hallways! We wish to welcome all students who are new to WES, including our new Pre-Kindergarten, and welcome back students who previously attended WES.

There are several **new staff members** at Westernport Elementary. Ms. Beth Chapman, who came to WES from Frost Elementary School, will be teaching grade two. Ms. Chelsea Carr, who came to WES from Northeast School, will be teaching grade three. Ms. Cherie DeVore will be an additional special education teacher each afternoon. Ms. Jayme Rollins will be our reading specialist. Mrs. Treva Steiding, who previously worked with our afternoon PreK, will be a full-time instructional assistant. Mrs. Shelley Snyder will be the new Kindergarten instructional assistant. Mrs. Kristal Fitzgerald will be the new PreK instructional assistant in the afternoon. Mr. Tim Martin is now the head custodian. We are fortunate to have all of them at our

school. We also send best wishes to Mrs. Candee Armbruster, Mrs. Donna Beeman, Mrs. Robin Everline, Mr. "Bugs" Foutz, Mrs. Kim Martin, Miss Crystal Palumbo, Mrs. Mallory Sechler and Ms. Amber Thaxton, who have been transferred or moved on to new positions. We will miss you!

### PTA Officers for 2019-2020

Charlene Welsh, President  
Nikki Greenwald, First Vice-President  
Christine Dayton, Second Vice-President  
Vacant, Third Vice-President  
Brittany Chojar, Secretary  
Autumn Wolfe-Wade, Treasurer



**School Breakfast and Lunch:** All students at WES will receive free breakfast and also a free lunch, unless they choose to pack their lunch. No applications are necessary. Milk costs 50 cents. Students will again be able to purchase desserts, even though their lunches are free. The easiest way to put money into a child's account is to send a check (preferred) on a weekly or a monthly basis. Make all checks payable to Westernport Elementary Cafeteria and include the child's PIN. Payments may also be done online using the PayPAM link on the ACPS website.

Westernport Elementary  
172 Church Street  
Westernport, MD  
21562  
A Title I School  
Mrs. Deb Hendrickson, Editor

Volume 12, Issue 1

## September 2019

### Inside this issue:

AR News	2
Calendar	2
Schoolwide Title I-What's That?	2

PARENTS, please support WES by registering your Martin's bonuscard number. <https://martinsfoods.com/school-rewards/> You must register to create an account, then sign in to designate WES. Bonuscards already registered do not need to be updated unless you wish to change your designated school.



## From the Principal...Mrs. Fazenbaker

Welcome to Westernport Elementary School as we begin a new school year. I look forward to working with you, your children, and the faculty and staff so we can make our school the best that it can be. 2019-2020 is going to be a great year! I would like to remind you of the procedures regarding morning student drop-off. The doors do not open until 8:10 AM, so please do not arrive earlier. All students

that are being dropped off by parents need to be here by 8:30 AM to ensure enough time to eat breakfast before start of classes at 8:50 AM. Students will be considered tardy if they arrive after 8:45 AM. Please help your children get off to a good start by having them be here on time and ready to learn. Teachers and staff at Westernport have been working diligently to make this school

year a successful one for your children. Classroom teachers plan lessons each day to instruct children in each subject area. Lessons include remediation and enrichment activities to meet the needs of all learners. If you have any questions about what is happening in your child's classroom, please call to set up an appointment with his/her teacher. I do want to remind everyone about the PTA meeting which

will be held on Tuesday, September 10th at 6:00 PM in the school library. Classroom visitation will follow. Please take an active role in your children's education. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me by telephone (301-359-0511) or by e-mail (Alexa.Fazenbaker@acpsmd.org.) My door is always open to you.

Accelerated Reader testing at Westernport Elementary School will soon be starting. Our school has a subscription Accelerated Reader Enterprise. This allows students to access (from school computers only!) more than 170,000 Accelerated Reader Quizzes. Included in the subscription are:

- Reading Practice Quizzes (what we call "AR tests" at WES)
- Recorded Voice Quizzes, which allow beginning readers to take Reading Practice quizzes on their own with a professionally narrated audio recording at the click of a button.
- Vocabulary Practice Quizzes (which may be used by classroom teachers to assess understanding of key words)
- Literacy Skills Quizzes (which may be used by classroom teachers to measure students' proficiency with 24 higher-level reading and critical thinking skills)

- Textbook Quizzes (to enhance our "Treasures" reading series)

There is also a parent component which allows you to view your child's progress online.

The Accelerated Reader program for 2019-2020 (our 29th year!) will be kicked off on September 3rd. This year, Accelerated Reader will be only used in grades four and five. You will be hearing more about it from your child's classroom teachers. Mrs. Hendrickson will continue to administer the program. Stay tuned for more information.

### Attention Volunteers and Visitors:

This is a reminder that the first time you visit our school, you must present your driver's license to check in at the school office. After your driver's license is in the office computer, you will not need to show it, but will still need to come to the school office to sign in to receive your volunteer or visitor sticker.

- ☺ Sept. 2 (Mon.) **SCHOOLS & OFFICES CLOSED**- Labor Day
- ☺ Sept. 3 (Tuesday) PreKindergarten and Kindergarten begins
- ☺ Sept. 9 (Mon.) Krispy Kreme fundraiser begins
- ☺ Sept. 10 (Tues.) PTA Meeting @6:00 PM
- ☺ Sept. 23 (Mon.) Krispy Kreme orders due
- ☺ Oct. 7 (Mon.) **SCHOOLS CLOSED**-Parent Conference Day (8:00-9:00 AM Teacher Planning; 9:00-noon and 1:00-3:30 PM Conferences)

### Attention Parents and Guardians:

The Town of Westernport has notified the school that they will **NOT** be providing crossing guards in the area of St. Peter's Church in the mornings or afternoons. Please be aware that if your child crosses at the Church Street crosswalk in the morning, your child will be crossing unattended. In the afternoon, a staff member will assist students who need to cross.



## \*Schoolwide Title I-What's That?\*



Westernport Elementary School is one of ten elementary schools in Allegany County which have been identified to receive Title I funds and operate a schoolwide Title I program.

The purpose of a schoolwide program is to upgrade the entire educational program in a Title I school. The following ten components must be addressed in planning for a schoolwide program:

- Comprehensive needs assessment of the entire school which focuses on the achievement of students on the state academic content and achievement standards
- Schoolwide reform strategies that are evidence based and are designed to address the needs of all students and especially the low achieving students
- Instruction by certified/licensed teachers
- High quality, ongoing professional

development

- Strategies to attract certified/licensed teachers to high needs schools
- Strategies to increase parent/family engagement
- Plans to assist preschool children in their transition from early childhood programs to elementary school
- Decision making by teachers in the use of academic assessments to improve student achievement
- The use of additional, effective, and timely assistance for students who are not meeting the standards of proficiency
- Coordination and integration of federal, state, and local services and programs including violence prevention, nutrition, housing, Head Start, adult education, vocational and technical education, and job training

Each Title I school develops a schoolwide plan which includes all of the school wide Title I components and which may be reviewed on each school's website. Title I plans are available in each school office for parent/community review and comment. Annually, principals review the Title I schoolwide program with parents.



**OUR MISSION:** Westernport Elementary will partner with family and community to build a better world—one child at a time.

**OUR VISION:** Westernport Elementary will strive to prepare and empower students to successfully meet the challenges of the twenty-first century, by nurturing the whole child: intellectually, physically and emotionally.