



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

Building the Future—One Child at a Time

Welcome Back to Westernport Elementary!

We want to again welcome our WES school family to the 2022-2023 school year. We know it is going to be a great one! Our school building looks beautiful, thanks to the hard work done this summer by head custodian, Tim Martin, and custodians David Parker and Tara Smith.

We are very excited to see smiling faces in our hallways. We wish to welcome students who are new to WES, as well.

The new school year has brought several changes to our staff. Our PreK3 and PreK4 classes have moved to Westmar Middle. We miss seeing these little ones in the halls.

We are fortunate to have these new staff members at our school. Mrs. Kara Zufall is a new first grade teacher. Ms. Ellie Bolton is the new third grade teacher. Mrs. Kaylin Cadwallader is the new fifth grade teacher. Mrs. Tiffany Clark will be working in the area of reading intervention. Mrs. Courtney Vinci will be working as a mental health counselor.

Mrs. Treva Steiding has returned as an instructional assistant. Mrs. Olivia Bateson and Mrs. Isabella Lutton are new IAs. Mr. Jacob Blank is the new orchestra teacher. Mrs. Ashton Colmer and Ms. Connie Morgan have joined our cafeteria staff.

We send best wishes to all who have retired, transferred or moved on to new positions.

Mrs. Tiffany Brantner and Mrs. Julie Durance have taken positions at Cash Valley School. Ms. Ann Beeman is at Beall Elementary. Ms. Katie Rankin is now assisting the nurse at George's Creek School. Mrs. Sarah Llewellyn, grade 5, and Mrs. Beth Weber, reading intervention teacher, retired on July 1st. "Miss Kim" Aikman, who was a PreK teacher at WES for many years, retired on October 1st. We will miss all of you!

Back to School Night, which was held on August 18th, was a great success. Thanks to all of the staff members and business partners who came out to support this event.

Winners of the bicycles and helmets were Bentley Paitsel and Hayden Doman.



PTA Officers for 2022-2023

Nikki Greenwald, President
Brittany Chojar, First Vice-President
Charlene Welsh, Second Vice-President
Vacant, Third Vice-President
Michelle Paitsel, Secretary
Emily Metz, Treasurer



Westernport Elementary
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A Title I School
Mrs. Deb Hendrickson, Editor

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COMING SOON

The Reading for Education Fundraiser, co-sponsored by the PTA, is coming soon!

Envelopes will be sent home during the first week of October.

From the Principal...Mr. Horne



As I walk through the classrooms and hallways, I am proud of how our children have grown during the first month of school with the support of all of our staff and families. I have observed the kindness and caring of the school through many actions and words that reflect the culture and climate of the community.

The Community Back to School night was a huge success. The Grandparents/Grandfriends night dinner consisted of over 385 participants. WOW!!!! I want to thank all of our community

partners and staff for working together for our children. A special thank you to Emily Lewis, our cafeteria manager and her helpers who prepared the meal for Grandparents/Grandfriends night. This event was a nice evening both for our children and the Grandparents/Grandfriends. Our next family events will be Family Game Night on October 13, 2022 and Family Fall Fun Night & Trunk or Treat on October 26, 2022.

The school-wide expectations of being responsible, respectful, safe, and kind are being prac-

ticed by all students, staff, and visitors. It is always important to remember that character and positive relationships with others are part of becoming a successful contributor at school and in the community.

We continue to become a Westernport family where the community, students, and staff are excited to visit, learn, and grow. Families and school personnel want to achieve the same overall goal - a safe, secure environment where students have the support and resources needed to be successful. We welcome you as part

of the Westernport family and look forward to a great school year full of learning and fun! Please watch for a variety of volunteer opportunities if that is something you are interested in. Together we can make a difference in our children's lives.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call the school office at 301-359-0511 for information. You may also contact me via email, by using Derek.Horne@acpsmd.org



Fire Prevention=Every Week

No one wants to hear the sound of sirens as fire trucks scream through the streets. But fires are a reality. **Fire Prevention Week is October 9-15, 2022** and The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) always uses this as an opportunity to educate students and parents about fire safety. This year's theme is "Fire Won't Wait. Plan Your Escape" Once a fire starts in your home, you may have as little as two minutes to escape. Advance planning and a practiced fire escape route can save lives. NFPA suggests the following when making an escape plan for your family:

- **Look** for places that a fire may start
- **Listen** for the sound of the smoke alarm
- **Learn** two ways out of each room

NFPA, which has sponsored Fire Prevention Week since 1922, also stresses general fire prevention and lists a series of checks to be made in the home to lessen the chances for a fire. To obtain a variety of home safety tips, visit <https://www.nfpa.org/fpw>

LOOKING BACK: August 2022 marked the 30th anniversary of the Westernport Renovation. Under the direction of then principal, Steve Wilson, staff packed up in May 1991 and prepared to spend the 1991-1992 school year in two locations. Grades K-2 moved to Barton Elementary School for the year, while grade 3-5 spent the year in the "shop wing" of Westmar Middle, which is now the Bruce Outreach Center. Many educational materials (including part of the school library) went into storage for the year. Part of the library collection (as well as the Apple IIgs computer lab) was set up in the "shop wing" for students to access. The primary students used the Barton Elementary Library and Mrs. Hendrickson, as well as other resource teachers, traveled between the two buildings. Students, faculty and staff moved back into the newly renovated school in August 1992 and the building was rededicated during a special program which was held in October 1992. The banner "We Believe the Children Are Our Future" was hung above the stage that day and remained there throughout the school year.

WES School Calendar

- ⊙ Oct. 3 (Mon.) SCHOOLS CLOSED-Parent Conference Day (Elementary: 10:00-11:00 AM Teacher Planning; 11:00-2:00 PM and 3:00-5:30 PM Parent Conferences)
- ⊙ Oct. 12 (Wed.) Fire Prevention Presentation
- ⊙ Oct. 13 (Thurs.) Family Math Game Night
- ⊙ Oct. 24-28 (Mon.-Fri.) Red Ribbon Week
- ⊙ Oct. 25 (Tues.) School Picture Day
- ⊙ Oct. 26 (Wed.) Family Fall Fun Night & Trunk or Treat
- ⊙ Oct. 27 (Thurs.) End of Marking Period 1
- ⊙ Oct. 28 (Fri.) Three-Hour Early Dismissal: Teacher Work time/Employee Health Fair
- ⊙ Nov. 8 (Tues.) SCHOOLS & OFFICES CLOSED-General Election Day
- ⊙ Nov. 9 (Wed.) 100th Anniversary Recognition (Students & Staff)
- ⊙ Nov. 10 (Thurs.) Report Cards Released
- ⊙ Nov. 23 (Wed.) Three-Hour Early Dismissal-Thanksgiving Vacation Begins (Offices Closed November 24 & 25)
- ⊙ Nov. 28 (Mon.) SCHOOLS CLOSED
- ⊙ Nov. 29 (Tues.) Three Hour Delayed Opening—SCHOOLS REOPEN—Teacher Work Time



Schoolwide Title I-What's That?



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

Criteria

- At least 40% of the student population is eligible for Free and Reduced Meals (FARMS)
- Title I funds are used to upgrade the educational program so that the education for ALL children is improved
- All children are eligible for Title I services

Program Components

- 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
- Strategies to increase parent/family/stakeholder engagement
- Plans to assist preschool children in their transition from early childhood programs to elementary school
- 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 School will empower our students to successfully meet the challenges of the twenty-first century, by nurturing the whole child: intellectually, physically and emotionally.

OUR VISION: We will partner with family and community to build a better world - one child at a time.

Grandparents Day 2022-Hooray!

