



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

Building the Future—One Child at a Time

Welcome Back to Westernport Elementary!

We want to (belatedly) welcome our WES school family to the 2020-2021 school year. It's been an interesting year so far, but we still know it is going to be a great one! Our school building looks beautiful, thanks to the hard work done this summer by custodians Tim Martin and David Parker and part-time custodians, Kim Martin and Nakoa Weimer.

We are very excited to see smiling faces in our hallways now that the PreK, Kindergarten, Grade 1 and Grade 2 students have returned! We hope to see grade 3, 4 & 5 students back with us soon. We also wish to welcome students who are new to WES, as well.

The new school year has brought several changes to our staff. Mr. Shawn Jones is teaching fifth grade this year. Mr. Jones came to WES from John Humbird School where he taught fourth grade. Ms. Brittany McMahon has returned to second grade. Ms. Natalie Orange is a half-day PreK teacher this year and will have other responsibilities. She is taking the position previously filled by Mrs. Erica Swisher, who has retired. Mrs. Patty Zimmerman, our music teacher, has also retired after a long career. Her position was filled by Ms. Katelyn Hendrix, a 2016 graduate of Frostburg State University. Our new school secretary is Mrs. Cheryl Fradiska.

Mrs. Deb Dayton and Mrs. Debbie Llewellyn are new cafeteria ladies. Mr. James Mayhew has joined our custodial staff.

We are fortunate to have these new staff members at our school. We also send best wishes to all who have retired, have been transferred or moved on to new positions. Mrs. Treva Steiding, Mrs. Karla Bateson and Ms. Selena Warnick, instructional assistants, now work in other schools in the ACPS. Mrs. Erin Foutz, former school secretary, is now at Cash Valley School. We miss you!



A SPECIAL WELCOME to our interim principal, Mr. Derek Horne. Mr. Horne earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Early Childhood/Elementary Education from Wilmington College and his Master of Education degree in K-12 Principal from California University of Pennsylvania. He has also completed additional coursework to fulfill requirements for special education certification. Mr. Horne came to ACPS in 2001 and has been a special education teacher and most recently the Assistant Principal at Cash Valley Elementary School. Mr. Horne and his family reside in the Bedford, PA, area. Welcome, Mr. Horne!

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A Title I School
Mrs. Deb Hendrickson, Editor

Volume 13, Issue 1-2

September-October 2020

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School REWARDS DEAR PARENTS: The Martin's BonusCard Program has ended. We have appreciated the support from our school community over the past 10 years to make it a success. The points that you donated made it possible for our school to receive a check at the end of each year, which was spend directly on our students.



Farewell, Mrs. Fazenbaker



Welcome to Westernport Elementary. We are now into the third week of October and our students are coming back into school. It has been very exciting to see our students coming into the building with smiles on their faces because they are happy to be back. We are so happy to see students in person. I would like to remind you of the procedures regarding morning student drop-off. The doors do not open un-

til 8:25 AM, so please do not arrive earlier. All students that are being dropped off by parents need to be here by 8:40 AM to ensure enough time to eat breakfast before start of classes at 8:45 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. For those who do not know, I

am retiring effective November 1, 2020. I have wrestled with the decision for months, but I wanted to get children back into the building before I left. Since that is happening, it is time. I have enjoyed all of the time that I have spent here at Westernport, as a teacher (1989-2005) and as a principal (2012 to fall 2020. I will take the friendships and wonderful memories with me as I leave. My husband and I are going

to be first time grandparents in January. We are looking forward to that next phase of our lives. Thanks to all who have made my years at Westernport the best of my career. I will always hold WES near and dear to my heart! And the best part of this is that I will hear the children on the playground since I live close to the school. You and your families will never be far from my thoughts!



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 was October 4th-10th** 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 "Serve Up Fire Safety in the Kitchen." 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 fire can start
- **Listen** for the sound of the smoke alarm
- **Learn** two ways out of each room

NFPA 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 home escape plan grid and home safety tip sheet, visit <https://www.nfpa.org/fpw>

**Hooray!
It's
finally
here!**



WES School Calendar

- ☉ October 20 (Tues.) Mrs. Fazenbaker's last day at WES
- ☉ October 21 (Wed.) Welcome to Interim Principal, Derek Horne
- ☉ Nov. 3 (Tues.) SCHOOLS & OFFICES CLOSED-Election Day
- ☉ Nov. 12 (Thurs.) End of First Marking Period
- ☉ Nov. 25 (Wed.) THREE-HOUR EARLY DISMISSAL-Thanksgiving Vacation (Offices Closed November 26 & 27.) No afternoon requirements for Staff or Students
- ☉ Nov. 30 (Mon.) SCHOOLS CLOSED
- ☉ Dec. 1 (Tues.) SCHOOLS REOPEN FOR VIRTUAL LEARNING

THANK YOU! Our new Westernport Elementary School pavilion looks great. Thanks to the maintenance crew from the Allegany County Public schools who did the construction work! Staff and students look forward to using the pavilion soon.



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.