

Sabillasville Elementary School

Principal's Newsletter

September 6, 2019



Mon., Sept. 9 6:00pm, SES Parent Group meeting
Tues., Sept. 17 Grades 3, 4, & 5 to Frederick Fair
Fri., Sept. 20 School Closed
Wed., Sept. 25 9:00am, Volunteer Orientation
Mon., Sept. 30 8:30am, Picture Day



Principal's Message:

It is with great pleasure that I send out this beginning of the year newsletter. Thank you to those families that were able to join us for our Back-to-School Open House. (Thank you to the SES Parent Group for providing refreshments!) The teachers, staff and students of SES have started the year off on a very positive note, even with the partial power outages we had to deal with! I have seen wonderful things happening in the past week.

Important Information:

Take Home Folders: Since communication between home and school is vital to your child's education, a Blue Take Home Folder will be coming home with your child every day. Please be sure to check this folder for important information (memos, newsletters and various correspondences). Your child's behavior calendar will also be coming home daily.

School Hours: Sabillasville Elementary School is open daily from 8:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Please know that children will not be allowed in the building until 8:00 a.m. Therefore, if your child is a car rider, they will not be allowed in the building until 8:00 a.m. Our morning announcements will begin promptly at 8:30 a.m., and our afternoon dismissal will begin at 3:05 p.m.

FORMS TO RETURN TO SCHOOL: The start of the year includes the need to review and return many important forms to school. If you have not already done so, please check your child's blue take home folder and return the following forms as soon as possible...

1. Student information card
2. Health information card
3. Emergency dismissal form
4. Transportation form
5. SES Parent Group Membership form
6. Meal Benefits Application - see below for additional information

FCPS encourages all families to complete the Meal Benefits Application Form. Schools can receive additional funding and resources based on the information gathered through forms which are collected.



Please see the FCPS Food and Nutrition Services website at www.fcpsnutrition.com for additional information regarding school meals including menus, pricing and pre-pay options, the application as well as the online application.

Attendance: The State Department of Education requires a 96.0% attendance rating to be considered an excellent rating. It is our goal to receive an excellent rating each month. SES monitors student attendance on a monthly basis. If there are concerns about your child's attendance, you may receive a phone call and/or a letter from our school. Please be sure and make every attempt to have your child here and **on time** every day. We do reward students for perfect attendance periodically throughout the year. If your child is late and/or leaves early or leaves school and returns later in the day, this will count against their perfect attendance status.

Absence Notes: Please remember that each time your child is absent from school that you need to provide the office with a written excuse note. We have provided each family with a packet of excuse notes (pink in color). If you run out, please call the office for more. If the school does not receive an excuse note, the absence will be recorded as unexcused.

Student Check-In Procedure: When your child is arriving late to school (after the bell rings at 8:30 a.m.) or when/if your child is returning to school after an appointment, etc., please be sure to come into the office to sign the check-in log.

Water Bottles in Classrooms: Due to the limited number of water fountains in our school building, students are permitted to have water bottles.

Transportation Changes: A parent/guardian must send in a note to make transportation changes. Please - no emails or phone calls. If your child is riding the bus home with another student, a note is required from the parent/guardian of both students.

Car Rider Procedure: Parents do not need to come into the building to sign out their student. Someone will come to your car with a sign out sheet. Drivers not recognized by staff must show picture identification.

Visitors and Visitor Management System: Maryland State Law requires that all visitors report to the office. All visitors are required to "buzz in" at the intercom, identify themselves, and state the reason for their visit. Visitors should then immediately go to the front office.

- When visitors and guests enter SES or any school or FCPS building, they will be asked to present an ID (like a driver's license, for example), which will be scanned by a card reader or manually entered by a school staff member into our Visitor Management System.
- If someone does not have a US government-issued ID, the person can show another form of identification.
- The system checks the visitor's name and date of birth for comparison with a national database of registered sex offenders, who are not permitted on school property. No other data from the ID is gathered or recorded.
- Out of respect to the privacy of our visitors and guests, the system is not connected to any other database such as the Department of Motor Vehicles, and information is not shared with any outside agency.
- Once the ID scan is done and entry is approved, the system will issue a badge that identifies the visitor, the date, and the purpose of the visit.

- Persons without identification will only have access to the building while escorted by a school system employee.
- A visitor's badge will not be necessary for those who visit simply to drop off an item in the office or pick up paperwork.

Picture day: Fall Picture day is **Monday, September 30**. All students will be photographed for the yearbook. Order forms will be sent home soon.
Make-up day is scheduled for Thursday, November 21.

Student Birthdays: Students may not distribute birthday invitations at school unless there is an invitation for everyone in the class. Thank you for being sensitive to all students' feelings. In addition, as per Wellness Regulation 400-82, families are not permitted to bring food to school to share with other students, such as to celebrate a birthday. If parents wish to share something, non-food items such as pencils, stickers, etc., are okay.

PBIS News: Just a reminder that our students are expected to demonstrate the "SES Way" each and every day they are at school. We reward students daily, weekly, and monthly with a variety of PBIS incentives. During our awards ceremonies (mid-year and end of year), we honor many students with gold star and silver star awards. The criteria for receiving a gold star are staying on green or blue 95-100% of the time and turning in their monthly calendar at the end of each month. Silver star criteria are staying on green or blue 90-94% of the time and turning in their monthly calendar at the end of each month.

Message from the Health Room:

There are many myths about head lice. To dispel common misconceptions, here are links to a Head Lice 101 Fact Sheet: https://www.fcps.org/academics/files/documents/HeadLice_101.pdf
 FCPS has posted additional resources online: https://www.fcps.org/academics/files/documents/HeadLice_Presentation.pdf

For additional resources or questions, please feel free to contact the Health Room at 240-236-6003.

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