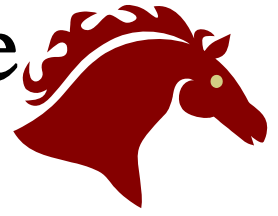


# The Stoneleigh Gazette



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*Christine Warner, Principal*  
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*Melissa O'Brien, Assistant Principal*  
*Amy Eden, Secretary*








August, 2009

## Welcome Message From the Principal

Welcome back to the 2009-2010 school year! We hope that all of our families enjoyed the summer months, as short as they may have seemed. We were delighted to have seen so many of you at our annual ***"Sneak-A-Peek At Your Seat"*** Open House. Our tradition of meeting new teachers and fraternizing with classmates-to-be does wonders to ease the jitters that are sometimes associated with the first day of school. We were delighted to have the opportunity to provide a welcome tour to our new families. We appreciate the extra efforts of our staff members to be ready on the early side but they agreed that this event makes for a very smooth first day!






We have some new faces to welcome and introduce as a part of our *stellar* Stoneleigh Elementary staff:

-  Mrs. Kelly Ronson, Grade 5 (Room 108)
-  Mr. Tim Lane, Physical Education Teacher
-  Mrs. Tammy Martin, Speech/Language Pathologist
-  Mrs. Annmarie Cote, School Psychologist
-  Ms. Virginia Morgan, additional Vocal Music (Tuesdays only)
-  Ms. Jaqueline Blinke, Instrumental Music (Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, & Friday afternoon)
-  Mrs. Lois Detwiler, Kindergarten Assistant

The final change is a name change...Ms. Dzbynski is now Mrs. Mansfield (She was a gorgeous bride!)

All of these educators and staff members come to us with high energy, enthusiasm, and great skills. We know you will offer each of them best wishes for a successful school year!

Additionally, we present familiar faces with new roles:

-  Mrs. Addie Howard, Grade Two Teacher
-  Mr. Jeff Mintiens, Grade Three Teacher (Currently on paternity leave)
-  Mr. Ernie Dinsmore, Long Term Substitute for Mr. Mintiens

We hope you have noticed the construction of our Rain Garden by the learning cottages with planting to come in September! We thank the support of the *Herring Run Watershed Association, Biohabitats, and Chesapeake Bay Trust* for their time, efforts and financial support as we continue to demonstrate being a Green School!

In order to provide for efficient and safe entry and exit into our building, we remind you of our entry and exit door assignments that are noted on the doorways (refer to the back of the Parent/Student Handbook for maps of these assignments). We will have personnel at the *Kiss & Go* lot to receive students from 8:30-8:40 a.m. Students should not exit from vehicles until staff appears at 8:30 a.m. This is to ensure proper monitoring and student's safety. Students requiring supervision prior to 8:30 a.m. should contact the Towson Recreation Council about the Early Bird Gym Program, the Towson YMCA or Play Centers who are running a before school as well as an after school program. Students should arrive prior to the start of the school day at 8:45 a.m. This will allow students the time needed to be in their homeroom seats, unpacked and ready for the start of the day at 8:45 a.m. We feel this will facilitate a positive readiness to each day. The doors will be open for walkers and bus riders at 8:30 a.m. Families should



plan the walking time so that students arrive between 8:30-8:40 a.m. as there is no adult supervision prior to that time. We remind you that no pets should be on the school grounds during the school day.

Stoneleigh Elementary continues to offer a breakfast program this year. While this program was designed to meet the needs of our free and reduced population, breakfast is available to all students in addition to the free and reduced population. In surveying schools with similar demographics to Stoneleigh, we anticipate serving 25-50 breakfasts per day. The cost of breakfast will be \$1.40 and reduced is \$.30.



During the summer months, the administrative, clerical, and custodial staffs worked diligently to provide a safe and productive learning environment for all. Due to the efforts of our custodial staff, the building has been impeccably cleaned. Kudos to them for their hard work!

We have published a **Parent/Student Handbook** for your convenience. There is a tremendous amount of information concerning procedures at Stoneleigh Elementary School. If you have questions or concerns regarding any of these, please feel free to use the **"It's Been On My Mind..."** tear off, or call the office at (410) 887-3600. Forms and notices **are being sent home in the Stoneleigh Elementary Home/School Communication Folder** for your convenience. The packet of forms contained in the Home/School Communication Folder should be returned to the office **as soon as possible**. Grade levels may choose to use this folder for additional purposes. The school newsletter will be routinely distributed the second Thursday of each month. The PTA newsletter will be distributed the fourth Thursday of the month. In an effort to be sure that you receive all newsletters and notices, we have designated Thursday as "carrier day". Your youngest student will be given a packet containing notices and/or newsletters. Check their backpacks on Thursdays for these items in the upcoming **Home/School Communication Folder**.

In closing, please accept our heartfelt thanks for entrusting your children to us as we all aspire to learn, grow, and work together! Please know that we pledge to do whatever we can to **enable each student to participate fully in rich academic, intellectual and social opportunities; grow in their knowledge, creativity, diversity and self-acceptance; and, become productive, responsible and respectful citizens**. It is going to be another great year at Stoneleigh Elementary!

## Bullying, Harassment, or Intimidation Reporting

On July 1, 2008, the Maryland General Assembly directed the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE), in consultation with the local school systems, to develop and adopt a model policy prohibiting bullying, harassment, or intimidation in schools. The Maryland State Board of Education approved its model policy on February 24, 2009.

As a result of MSDE's model policy, the Board of Education of Baltimore County approved the new Board of Education Policy and Superintendent's Rule 5580, "Bullying, Harassment, or Intimidation," which prohibits students from engaging in intentional conduct involving bullying, harassment, or intimidation, which can substantially interfere with a student's educational opportunities, or any acts of retaliation against those who report instances of bullying, harassment, or intimidation.

The **"Bullying, Harassment or Intimidation Reporting Form"** is used to track alleged instances of bullying, harassment, or intimidation. The form is available at your local school or on the Baltimore County Public Schools' Web site under the "Student" and "Parent" tabs. You may contact the school for additional information or assistance at any time.



**"It's been on my mind..."**



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Name \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_