

# WINFIELD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL BULLETIN

8300 Carlson Lane  
Baltimore, Maryland 21244



August 29, 2009

Lisa M. Dingle, *Principal*      Vanessa Brisbon, *Asst. Principal*

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### September

- 7      **Schools Closed** (Labor Day)
- 8      **"Back to School Night"** - 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.  
classroom visitation
- 21     **School Improvement Team**  
4:00-5:30      school library
- 28     **Schools Closed** (Yom Kippur)

### October

- 12     **School Picture Day**
  - 16     **Schools Closed** (Professional Development Day)
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### WELCOME:

On August 31, 2009 Winfield Elementary School opened its doors and welcomed your children to the beginning of what promises to be an exciting school year. Please know that we care deeply for your children. They will be at the forefront of our thinking as we strive to continue excellence in education at Winfield Elementary. The faculty & staff of Winfield Elementary will continue to provide your boys and girls with a quality educational program. Our commitment to your children remains, as it always has been, to keep *children first*. We welcome your continued participation in the educational process and look forward to working with our Winfield families in providing learning experiences of the highest standards.



### WELCOME TO NEW STAFF MEMBERS:

We are very pleased to welcome a number of new individuals to the Winfield Elementary School faculty and staff. We are excited about the added dimensions that these professionals will bring to our school program and look forward to their many contributions as we move forward in providing our students with meaningful educational experiences. Please join us in welcoming the following persons to our school family:

- Ms. Kelly Geraty, kindergarten teacher
- Ms. Dana Tobin, Special Education Inclusion Teacher
- Mr. Stuart Merenbloom, Intermediate ALS teacher
- Ms. Jill Hull, Grade 2 teacher
- Ms. Amy Bracciale, Grade 3 teacher
- Ms. Jennifer Sanzone, Grade 4 teacher
- Ms. Katie Lahey, Grade 5 teacher

Mr. YJ Kim, ELL teacher  
Mr. Chet Sullivan, crisis Intervention teacher  
Ms. JoAnna Durham, school social worker  
Ms. Stephanie Bowers, Vocal Music teacher

### **BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT:**

On Tuesday, September 9, 2009, at 6:00 p.m., the PTA of Winfield Elementary School will sponsor "Back to School Night." We will begin the evening with our traditional PTA business meeting. Parents will then have an opportunity to visit their child's classroom area and meet their child's instructor. At that time, teachers will be sharing information about this year's school program. We look forward to seeing each of you at our 2009-2010 "Back to School Night."



### **STUDENT BEHAVIOR HANDBOOKS:**

Copies of the Baltimore County Public Schools *Student Behavior Handbook* will be distributed to all students. It is necessary that families become familiar with the contents of this handbook and discuss the information with their children. Please be certain to sign and return the parent form in the *Student Behavior Handbook* to your child's teacher by September 21, 2009.

### **BULLYING, HARASSMENT, OR INTIMIDATION**

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.

### **INFORMATION CARDS:**

All children enrolled at Winfield Elementary School will receive three student information cards, one white card for the office, one blue card for teacher records, and one pink form for the nurse, as well as one pink emergency closing form. **Please be certain that information on both sides of these cards/forms is completed.** The cards/forms need to be returned to the teacher

as soon as possible, but not later than September 21, 2009. It is important to keep these updated cards on file in the event of an emergency. If the information on these cards should change during the school year, it is critical that the new information be forwarded to the school office.

### **SCHOOL BULLETIN:**

Each month our school bulletin will be sent home the last Friday of the month with the students. We encourage you to read the bulletin carefully and hope that you will look forward to receiving our newsletter. It is our way of keeping you informed about our school events. The next bulletin will arrive home on Friday, September 28, 2009.

### **IMMUNIZATIONS:**

The Baltimore County Department of Health conducts immunization clinics for students who need immunizations in order to attend school and who are unable to obtain these immunizations from personal health care providers. Parents must make appointments to attend health department immunization clinics. Enclosed is a list of clinics and scheduled dates.

### **ARRIVAL & DISMISSAL PROCEDURES:**

Please take a moment to review the drop-off and pick-up procedures that are in place for Winfield Elementary School. These procedures were developed to provide the safest possible environment for all of the children at our school. It is important that we all follow these guidelines so that our children can arrive to and leave from school safely.

•**NO STUDENT SHOULD ARRIVE AT SCHOOL BEFORE 9:00 A.M.** Parents are reminded that there is no supervision for children who arrive at school before 9:00 a.m. Students are to arrive at school only between 9:00 and 9:15 in the morning. The late bell rings at 9:30. Students arriving after this time will be marked late.

•All students are to enter and exit the building only through the front doors. During the first week of school, parents are welcome to walk their children to his/her lockers. In order to assist in the process of developing independent students we ask that parents/guardians do not walk their children after the first week of school.

•In order to ensure the safety of all students, when dropping off and picking up students in the morning and afternoon, there is absolutely no parking in the driveway in front of the school. **No cars will be permitted into the driveway area between the times of 8:45-9:30 and 3:30-4:15 p.m. (all busses must be cleared from the driveway before parents are allowed to enter).**

•Staff members have been assigned to supervise students during arrival and dismissal times. **PLEASE FOLLOW THE DIRECTIONS OF THESE STAFF PERSONS AND OBEY ALL TRAFFIC SIGNS.**



### **BUS STUDENTS:**

School busses will be identified by their numbers, colors, and route names. A bus list is enclosed indicating stops along each route. Please help your child memorize his/her bus name and bus stop and place an identification tag in his/her book bag with the above information listed on it during the first week of school. Please be sure that your child gets on the bus at the appropriate stop on the first days of school as this will be his/her permanent bus stop. No children are allowed to ride a different bus other than the one assigned or selected. This should be the stop closest to your home. In order to ensure the safety of all students, Baltimore County policy requires that the children be on the same side of the street where the bus stops for their pickup. They should be there prior to the arrival of the bus. When students exit the bus they are to wait on the side of the street on which they got off and should stand away from the bus. As the bus pulls off, they should wait until the road is clear in both directions before crossing.

### **DELAYED OPENING/EARLY DISMISSAL:**

Due to unforeseen weather conditions or unique circumstances, our school may open late or close before the regularly scheduled dismissal time. If these circumstances should occur, it is very important that your child be aware of the arrangements you have made should you be working or otherwise not at home. **Please be certain that your child has returned the *Emergency/Early Closing Form* to his/her classroom teacher.**

### **ATTENDANCE:**

It is critical that your child attend school on a regular basis. Our hope is that whenever possible doctor's appointments are scheduled before or after the school day. However, if it is necessary for a child to be absent from school, we request that a note be forwarded to the teacher the day the child returns to school indicating the date of absence and the reason. Baltimore County's policy states that if a student is absent less than 1 hour he/she will be marked as tardy, but present for the full day. If he/she is present for less than 1 hour he/she is marked absent for the full day. **IF A STUDENT NEEDS TO BE DISMISSED EARLY FOR ANY REASON, WE REQUEST THAT A NOTE ADDRESSED TO THE TEACHER AND SIGNED BY A LEGAL GUARDIAN BE SENT WITH THE CHILD ON THAT DAY. IF SOMEONE OTHER THAN THE LEGAL GUARDIAN IS PICKING UP THE CHILD, PLEASE INDICATE THIS IN THE NOTE. ALL CHILDREN WILL BE DISMISSED FROM THE OFFICE. PLEASE DO NOT GO TO THE CHILD'S ROOM TO PICK UP A STUDENT. The person coming for the student will be asked to show photo ID and sign the record book kept in the office.** This policy is in place to insure the safety and protection of your child. We thank you in advance for your compliance with this regulation.



### **FREE/REDUCED PRICE MEALS:**

An application for free/reduced meals has been sent home with each child. The cost for lunch is \$2.90 a reduced lunch is 40 cents. All parents/guardians are asked to complete the application and return it to the school office at your earliest convenience, but no later than **September 21, 2009**. It is important to account for all applications for funding of the school. Those students who attended a **Baltimore County Public School** and who qualified for either free or reduced price meals in June of 2009 will automatically qualify through the end of Wednesday, October 8, 2009. **A new application is needed if the services are to continue for the remainder of the 2009-2010 school year.** If you are enrolling at Winfield from a school system other than Baltimore County Public Schools, the approval for free/reduced lunch **does not** transfer to Baltimore County Public Schools. A new application is needed if the services are to begin for the 2009-2010 school year.



### **EFFORT AND ACADEMIC HONOR ROLL AT WINFIELD:**

We are pleased to inform our parents and guardians that beginning with the first marking period of the 2009-2010 school year Winfield Elementary School will continue to initiate an honor roll system. We are always pleased to be able to recognize our students for their excellent achievement and look forward to many of our students working hard to earn membership on the honor rolls.

#### **Academic Honor Roll:**

Students must earn all **A's** or **B's** with no more than 1 **C** balanced by an **A**. This award will be given quarterly and is for students in grades 3 through 5.

[Grades for "Health" will be considered when determining academic honor roll status for the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> marking periods.]

#### **Effort Honor Roll:**

Students must earn all 1's or 2's in the effort category of the report card. This award will be given quarterly and is for students in grades 1 through 5.

#### **PLEASE NOTE:**

The "self development" categories are not to be considered when determining either academic or effort honor roll status.

## **ASBESTOS MANAGEMENT PLAN:**

On October 22, 1986, the United States Congress enacted the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA). Under this law, comprehensive regulations were developed to address asbestos problems in public and private elementary and secondary schools. These regulations require schools to inspect for friable and non-friable asbestos, develop an asbestos management plan that addresses asbestos hazard in school buildings, and implement response actions in a timely manner.

Baltimore County Public School's program for fulfilling these responsibilities is outlined in our Asbestos Management Plan. This plan contains information on our inspection, re-inspection, response actions, and post-response actions, including periodic re-inspections and surveillance activities that are planned or are in progress.

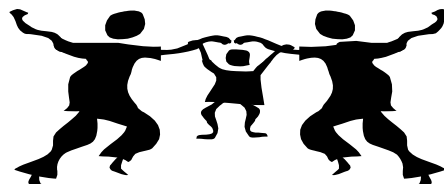
You can review this plan at the Division of Support Services, 9610 Pulaski Park Drive, Baltimore, Maryland 21220, or at the school or office with which you or your children may be associated.

Questions regarding Baltimore County Public Schools' Asbestos Management Program should be directed to Robert C. Merrey, Jr. at 887-6301.



## **LIBRARY NEWS AND INFORMATION:**

- 📖 Book check-out will begin the week of September 7<sup>th</sup> for grades 2 through 5. Please take these first few weeks to look around for library books that haven't been returned from last school year. Overdue letters will go home at the end of the first week of school.
- 📖 First graders will begin checking-out books at the beginning of September 14<sup>th</sup>. The first few weeks we will be discussing how to care for books.
- 📖 Kindergarten will choose books from the library that will stay in their classroom.
- 📖 A Birthday Book program will be launched this year. This program gives families an opportunity to buy a book for the library that will be dedicated to their child on their birthday. The student's name and birthday will be printed inside the book, as well as who bought the book for dedication. This program will also bring new books into our library. More information will follow.



**SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT TEAM MEMBERS NEEDED:**

The School Improvement Team is a committee of teachers, parents, and community members who serve in an advisory capacity to the administrative team regarding matters of school policy. If you would like to be a member of this team for the 2009-2010 school year, please complete the form below and return it to the school office. The School Improvement Team meets on the 4th Monday of each month from 4:00 - 5:30 p.m.

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**I AM INTERESTED IN SERVING ON THE SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT TEAM:**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Child(ren): \_\_\_\_\_

**PTA OFFICER POSITIONS AVAILABLE:**

The PTA is currently accepting nominations for officers (president, vice-president, secretary, and treasurer) for the 2009-2010 school year. In order for our boys and girls to benefit from the services of the PTA, it is critical that all of these positions are filled. If you are interested in serving with the PTA as an officer, or if you would like to nominate someone for an office, please complete the tear-off and return it to the school office by September 8, 2009. Thank you for your assistance with this very important matter.

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\_\_\_\_\_ I would be interested in serving as an officer for the Winfield Elementary School PTA

\_\_\_\_\_ name of office

\_\_\_\_\_ I would like to nominate \_\_\_\_\_ for

name

\_\_\_\_\_ of the Winfield Elementary School PTA.

name of office

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_