

Internationally Speaking

A Publication for the Children, Families, and Staff of Wellwood International
www.wellwoodes.bcps.org
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Tricia Rueter, Principal

Sharon Sewell, Assistant Principal

Dear Wellwood Families,

I want to thank everyone for the warm welcome to the Wellwood community! During the summer and these first few days of school I have had the opportunity to meet so many of you and it is evident that you are committed to supporting your child's education. We will continue to foster the home/school connection and are focused on providing an engaging and productive school year for every child.

We were fortunate to have some special visitors on our first day of school. Dr. Joe Hairston, the Baltimore County Public Schools Superintendent, selected Wellwood as one of the five schools he visited that day. Accompanying Dr. Hairston on his visit were BCPS School Board Vice President, H. Edward Parker, County Executive, Jim Smith, and other members of Dr. Hairston's staff. We toured through several classrooms and everyone was very impressed by our students and our teachers. It was an honor to be selected for this visit and we were pleased to have the opportunity to showcase our instructional program.

Mrs. Sewell and I have been around to speak with every child, in every class, about the rules for student behavior set forth in the BCPS Student Behavior Handbook. We appreciate your taking the time to review the contents with your child and then signing and returning page 9 in the K-3 handbook or page 20 in the 4-12 handbook. If you have any questions please feel free to contact us.

We want to thank those who were able to come out for "Back to School Night" on September 8th. There was an excitement in the building as we introduced the incoming PTA Executive Board and the school faculty and staff. Teachers presented an overview of their instructional program to parents providing a glimpse at what an exciting year this is going to be. We also conducted three volunteer trainings!

Again, we thank you for your commitment to supporting your children in their academic endeavors. We are here to provide an outstanding educational program and will continue to work with you towards that goal.

Sincerely,

Tricia Rueter

Tricia Rueter
Principal

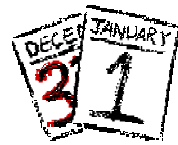
Layout Editor: Pierre I. Francois, Administrative Secretary III



Important News

- We will have two open houses for our magnet program on Thursday, October 22nd from 10:00 a.m.—11:00 a.m. and from 5:00 p.m.—6:00 p.m.
- Magnet application deadline for the 2010-2011 school year is November 30th. **Elementary** applications will be available in the office or you may apply online on September 18th. Don't wait, apply now!

Mark your Calendar...



- September 18th—Magnet Applications are released!
- September 28th—**SCHOOLS CLOSED**
Yom Kippur
- October 12th—Picture Day
- October 16th—**SCHOOLS CLOSED**
MSTA Conventions

Arrival Reminders

The Wellwood International School doors open for children at 9:00 a.m. each morning. Supervision of students is not provided before this time. **Students arriving to school before 9:00 a.m. must wait outside.** Please have your children arrive at school no earlier than 9:00 a.m. If you need daycare coverage for your children before school, you may consider enrolling them in Open Door (410-825-6300) or Youthful Inspirations (410-961-3434).

COMMUNITY MEETING ON INFLUENZA

(INCLUDING SEASONAL AND H1N1)

The Northwest Area Education Advisory Council in collaboration with the Office of Student Services, Baltimore County Public Schools and the Office of Disease Control, Baltimore County Department of Health will hold a public meeting on Influenza including Seasonal and H1N1 Flu.

WHEN: Thursday, September 17, 2009, 7pm

WHERE: Milford Mill Academy
1800 Washington Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21244

Come hear school system and county officials discuss:

FACTS AND MYTHS ABOUT INFLUENZA INCLUDING H1N1
EFFORTS TO EDUCATE THE PUBLIC ABOUT INFLUENZA AND H1N1
PREVENTION AND TREATMENT PROGRAMS TO BE IMPLEMENTED
DURING THE 2009-2010 SCHOOL YEAR

The public is invited to this very important meeting. If you need additional information contact Clifford Collins, Chair, Northwest Area Education Advisory Council at 410-887-0726 or ccollins3@bcps.org.

Magnet Sibling Rule

Kindergarten applicants applying to elementary magnet schools and programs who have a sibling who is attending the magnet school and who will continue to attend that school the next year will be placed in the magnet school and program. **The applicant must apply within the regular application period in order to receive sibling priority for placement.** For purposes of this rule, a sibling shall be defined as a brother, sister, half-brother, half-sister, stepbrother, stepsister, or foster child living in the same household.

Morning and Afternoon Hallway Guidelines

As teachers we are looking to encourage our students' independence and responsibility; therefore, we ask that you no longer escort your child to his or her classroom. Also fewer people in the hallway will contribute to a safer and more orderly school environment.

When you are picking up your child from school early please report to the office and one of the secretaries will call down for your child. Please wait in the lobby or main office until your child comes up.

When dropping items off for your child please bring them to the front office. One of the secretaries will call into the classroom or drop the items off, so as not to disrupt instruction.

Birthday Celebrations Policy

We do understand the importance of celebrating your child's birthday. We ask that you please keep the following in mind if you want to plan an in-school celebration for you child:

- **NO SHEET CAKES!!** Keep it simple!!!—Cup Cakes or Cookies & Juice Boxes
- **NO SURPRISES!!!** Please arrange birthday celebrations with your child's teacher.
- No Gift/Goodie Bags

Once again, please keep in mind that these celebrations take time away from class instruction, so please make sure your child's teacher knows you are coming. **Parents must also attend the Volunteer training.**

Revised Attendance Rules

The MSDE has revised the rules for determining how much of the school day a student needs to be present to be recorded as 1/2 day present or full-day present. The new rule is included in the Maryland Student Records System Manual. The rule requires that:

- A full-time student must be present for at least four hours to be marked present for a full day.
- A full-time student must be present at least two hours to be marked 1/2 day present.
- A full-time student present for less than two hours must be recorded as absent.

Harassment

According to the Safe Schools Reporting Act of 2005 students, parents, and close adult relatives, are to use the *Harassment and Intimidation (Bullying) Reporting Form* available at all BCPS schools and on our web site at www.bcps.org/offices/sss/ to report harassment and intimidation (bullying) at school, during school functions or activities, or on the bus or on the way to school. Each report will result in school administrators investigating each report."

Cafeteria Lunch Money

When sending money into school to be placed on your child's lunch account, please make sure you send it in an envelope with the child's name, your name, and teacher name clearly marked on the outside of the envelope. At times we receive envelopes containing cash that are marked simply *Cafeteria* or checks without the student's name written in the memo section and the parent has a different last name.

If you are sending in one check or sum of cash that is to be divided between two or more children, clearly explain how the money is to be divided among the children. Thank you in advance for your assistance with this matter.

Breeta White, Cafeteria Manager

Please remember that all visitors to the school must first sign-in at the office and receive a Visitor or Volunteer Badge. All visitors must follow these procedures even those who visit frequently. This policy is for the safety of our students. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.



Volunteer Orientation

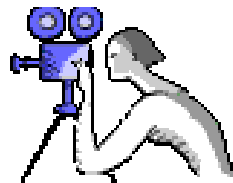
We enjoy the support of parent volunteers for many Wellwood International activities. We encourage parents to volunteer whenever possible to help with a variety of events. All volunteers must attend Volunteer Orientation annually. Volunteer Orientation is required prior to chaperoning field trips or working with our students in any capacity including birthday celebrations. Studies show that parental involvement in a child's education is one of the strongest indicators of student achievement. We hope you will make it a priority this year to attend as many school-sponsored events as possible. We will hold Volunteer Orientation in the library on the following nights at 5:30 PM:

- Tuesday October 13, 2009
- Tuesday November 10, 2009
- Tuesday December 8, 2009
- Tuesday January 12, 2010
- Tuesday February 9, 2010
- Tuesday March 9, 2010
- Tuesday April 13, 2010
- Tuesday May 11, 2010

Lights, Camera, Action...

Say Cheese....

Picture Day

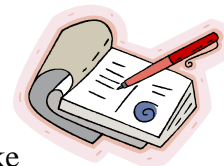


October 12th

PLEASE HOLD PICTURE MONEY UNTIL PICTURE DAY

PBIS & Behavior Calendars

In response to parental concerns, this year students no longer receive levels for not having their behavior calendars signed. However, now we are finding that an increasing amount of students are not coming in with their behavior calendars signed from parents each day and consequently parents are not aware of their child(ren)'s behavior in school. Please make sure you ask your child for their behavior calendar each night.



Monday			Tuesday			Wednesday			Thursday			Friday		
Parent/Guardian: Please initial your child's behavior calendar each night.														
						1			2			3		
Level	C.O.C	Initials	Level	C.O.C	Initials	Level	C.O.C	Initials	Level	C.O.C	Initials	Level	C.O.C	Initials
6			7			8			9 No School			10		
Level	C.O.C	Initials	Level	C.O.C	Initials	Level	C.O.C	Initials	Level	C.O.C	Initials	Level	C.O.C	Initials
13			14			15			16			17 No School		
Level	C.O.C	Initials	Level	C.O.C	Initials	Level	C.O.C	Initials	Level	C.O.C	Initials	Level	C.O.C	Initials
20			21			22			23			24		
Level	C.O.C	Initials	Level	C.O.C	Initials	Level	C.O.C	Initials	Level	C.O.C	Initials	Level	C.O.C	Initials
27			28			29			30			31		
Level	C.O.C	Initials	Level	C.O.C	Initials	Level	C.O.C	Initials	Level	C.O.C	Initials	Level	C.O.C	Initials