

September 29, 2017

Greetings Tiger Sharks!

We have enjoyed the unseasonable temperatures this week. The students are really enjoying getting outside to recess every day. We have hardly had a day when this is not possible this school year!

We have some news to share with you about a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) related program that we intended to run this school year. Unfortunately, the Future City program will need to be discontinued at Wilde Lake Middle School for 2017-18 due in part to new technological and legal challenges/requirement with running the computer software on our school network. While we regret this situation, we are feeling very fortunate that Wilde Lake Middle has more to offer our students in STEM than ever before! Here's a brief synopsis of what is in the works already this school year . . .

- **Mathalon Team** – Sept. 26-Oct. 24 – 6th, 7th, & 8th graders participate in engaging math problems as a team and individual, including working together to solve engineering design problems to prepare for the Maryland Mathalon Competition on Oct. 28th at Meade Middle School.
- **STEAM Night – Oct. 12th – 5:30-7:30 pm** All WLMS families are invited. Participants will engage in hands-on Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics stations and demonstrations including building mini siege machines, making art using coding and Sphero, dissecting an owl pellet. FREE samples of SubZero Ice cream, and so much more!
- **WLMS Net Zero Energy Module Course Pilot** – is a new elective course that was created this summer by WLMS Teachers in collaboration with the HCPSS Secondary Science Office. It is being piloted with a small number of 7th grade students. The focus of the course is for students to learn and teach others about the energy efficiency of their new WLMS Net Zero Middle School. Students will use STEM processes to monitor and analyze the WLMS Environmental Dashboard in order to evaluate projected savings vs. actual savings of WLMS energy efficiency as compared to other Net Zero Energy Schools. Specifically, students will explore how the building's solar energy, geothermal system, and electric lighting (with controlled usage and responsive to daylight) all work together to power their school facility. This course is a semester A day, B day course to equal a quarter's worth of week. Our vision is to expand this course to include more students in upcoming years.
 - **WLMS received the BGE Green Grant award in the amount of \$5,000 which is going towards materials for our new energy module course & training our students to become “WLMS Energy Ambassadors”. A “HUGE THANK YOU” to Amber Coleman from the PTSA, and Doug Spicher, Technology Instructional Teacher, for their efforts in securing the grant!**

- **Terrapin Guardians** – Students have already applied and been selected to care for two Maryland Diamondback terrapin. These terrapins are then tagged by the Aquarium in March and released in April/May. This year, WLMS is part of an experimental study where we have two terrapins and they are raised in different water temperatures. This is so that the effect of rising sea temperatures and its effect on the species can be studied and documented. Come visit our newest WLMS friends in the Media Center!
- **GT Ecology Seminar** - This seminar is designed to be a part of the Green School Certification process. In the seminar, students will look at eradication of invasive flora on school grounds as well as an examination of the fauna. Students will participate in grant writing, and the funds may be used to fund, upon approval, a garden of native MD flora to promote and preserve natural habitats. This could also lead us to apply for status as a [Monarch Waystation](#).
- **CodeHer** (coding for girls) with the CEO and founder Saniya Vashist - more details will be coming soon from our Media Specialist – Sarah Russo
- **Sea Perch**- Later this year, we are planning to offer Sea Perch again, this time as a seminar. In this seminar, we will build/redesign a submersible that will need to be able to maneuver through obstacles. Engineering principles will be a major portion of this seminar. The culmination will be a trip to Carderock in May to use the large tanks to test their designs.
- **WLHS Robotics Club** – WLHS has invited WLMS 7th & 8th graders to join. See attached flier from Wilde Lake HS.

Enjoy the beautiful Fall weekend ahead!

Anne Swartz, Lexi Couch, Denise Young, James McVey

Important Dates:

October 10 – PTSA Meeting 7:00pm – Media Center
 October 10 – Booster Meeting 6:30pm – Media Center
 October 12 – Interim Progress Reports Issued
 October 12 – S.T.E.A.M Night
 October 12 – PTSA Smoothie King Fundraiser
 October 17 – Flu Clinic

The PTSA is holding a Smoothie King fundraiser on Thursday, October 12th from 6:30-9:00pm. Stop by and support the PTSA after S.T.E.A.M. night at WLMS. The PTSA will receive 25% of the sales. See the attached brochure for more information.

Flu Clinic Information: It is not too late to sign your student up to receive this years Influenza Vaccine !! The new date for our Flu Clinic here at WLM is **Tuesday, October 17th** . Paper

consent forms were sent home and are due back no later than **Wednesday, October 11th** . Please complete it in its entirety and do not forget to sign! **_IF** you want to make sure that your child is already signed up to receive the vaccine OR if you have any questions please call the Health Room at 410-313-6957.

The Yankee Candle Fundraiser This fundraiser benefits the student programs here at WLMS including PBIS (Positive Behavior Intervention and Support), Activity Day, Field Day and other student activities. Order forms can be brought to the school no later than Friday, October 6th. You can also order on line using the following link:
<https://www.yankeecandlefundraising.com/store.htm>

College & Career Opportunity Night will be held on Wednesday, October 25h from 5:30-9:00pm at Long Reach High School. See the attached flier for more information.

Community Notices:

Please visit the Community News and Programs page at <http://www.hcpss.org/community-news-and-programs/> for announcements of upcoming events and programs sponsored by non-profit organizations.