

August, 2018



Dear Wilde Lake Families,

Welcome to the 2018-2019 School Year! We hope that your summer is going well and that you've been able to find time to connect with friends and family members in a less-rushed schedule. We are busy getting ready for September 4th when our students return to school. We are pleased and proud to share our administrative team:

Mrs. Anne Swartz is our principal. This is her 4th Year at WLMS and 32nd year as an HCPSS Educator.

Mrs. Denise Young is one of our assistant principals, and this is her 3rd year at WLMS. Mrs. Young enters her 14th year as an HCPSS Educator. She will be the **7th grade administrator** this year and also **8th grade students** whose last names begin with **N - Z**.

Mr. James McVey is our other assistant principal. This is his 3rd year at WLMS and "Year 12" as an HCPSS Educator. Mr. McVey will be the **6th grade administrator** this year and also **8th grade students** whose last names begin with **A - M**.

Please join me in welcoming the following new staff members to our WLMS Tiger Shark Team ...

- **Madison Dahle** - 7th/8th grade science
- **Morgan Dice** - Orchestra Teacher
- **Mary Beth Northen** - 2nd Art Teacher
- **Joshua Rivera** - Night Custodial Building Chief
- **Tammy Sandborn** - Math Para-educator
- **Oksana Trent** - .5 ESOL Para-educator
- We are in the process of hiring a new 0.6 Spanish teacher.
- We are in the process of hiring a new health assistant.

Our **WLMS PTSA** has met several times this summer and is gearing up for a great year. **Ms. Matta Zeinali** is our new PTA President. You will be hearing from Ms. Zeinali and the PTSA Executive Board very soon about the importance of joining the WLMS PTSA and the many ways in which you can contribute to our Wilde Lake Middle Community. We highly encourage you to get involved!

6th Grade Students & Brand NEW 7th and 8th grade Students to WLMS –The administrators would like to meet with all new Wilde Lake students on **Thursday, August 30th at 12:30 PM** for “**New Student Orientation.**” You will get a chance to tour the building, meet your teachers, and get a copy of your schedule. **If you are new to our school, we’d love to see you on 8/30 at 12:30 p.m. Please try to make it!**

For EVERYONE -- ALL STUDENTS & FAMILIES-- The PTSA is planning the **4th Annual WLMS Family Block Party/Picnic** on **Thursday, August 30th from 5:00–7:00 p.m.** to include a DJ, basketball hoops game, and dunking station. Bring your own blanket or chairs. Families may bring their own food or food trucks will be available.

*During the block party, **returning students will have the opportunity to receive their schedules and tour the building to find their homeroom classes.** We hope this opportunity will help to make the first day of school smooth for our students.*

[NEW - WLMS Staff Visits the Neighborhood Before School Starts!](#)

*Would you like to see the WLMS Staff even sooner than the orientations and block party? Well . . . We have planned a staff bus field trip on **the afternoon of Tuesday, 8/28 between 1:00-3:00 p.m.** into a neighborhood near you.*

WHY? *We are so excited and can't wait to see our students and families, and we want to become more familiar with our whole school community. We will be passing out "Popsicles and Pencils". Stay tuned for more details and neighborhood location stops at the end of next week!*

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR THE FIRST SCHOOL DAY:

Please Note - New Morning Routine: This year, students can enter the building **5 minutes earlier at 7:40 a.m.** Upon arrival, students will visit their lockers to drop off belongings (including cell phones) and pick up materials for their morning classes before reporting to homeroom. Breakfast will be served in homerooms free of charge for ALL students between 7:40-7:55. The bell will ring at 7:57 for students to transition from homeroom to 1st period. First period and the official school day begins at 8:00 a.m. **Students who are not present in their 1st period class at 8:00 a.m. will be marked tardy for the school day.**

Transportation You can access bus information for your child with the click of a few buttons using the "School Bus Locator" on the HCPSS website. Here's the link <https://tinyurl.com/WLMSBus2018>

Students should be at the bus stop a few minutes early (5-10 minutes), as route times can fluctuate during the first few weeks of school. **PLEASE DO NOT ASSUME THAT THE BUS SCHEDULE/NUMBER WILL BE THE SAME AS LAST YEAR.** Schedules, bus numbers, and drivers can change from year to year.

School Lunches: The cost of a middle school student lunch remains at \$3.25. (Breakfast is free at WLMS). For more information on HCPSS Meals & Payment, including how to apply for free or reduced price meals, go to <http://www.hcpss.org/food-services/>

FAMILY FILE - ACTION NEEDED: (HELP US GET 100% COMPLETE BEFORE SCHOOL STARTS)!!! Everyone must update for each child!

HCPSS uses Family File for parents/guardians to complete emergency information. Parents/guardians must verify and/or update information for each child, and can do so by logging in to <http://www.hcpss.org/connect/> and selecting the Family File tab and then clicking on Family File.

Once logged in, parents/guardians will be asked to provide or update the following information:

- Student information
- Parent/guardian contact
- Emergency contacts
- Medical information
- Arrival/dismissal procedures
- Media release (photo approval)
- Data confidentiality
- PTA/PTSA directory

Changes of address may not be made through Family File. If you have recently moved, please contact Ann Stout in the Support Services Office at 410-313-6960.

For students who are bus riders, please note that bus numbers and routes shown in Family File may be subject to change. Please check the school and bus locator on the HCPSS website.

Resources on how to access Family File may be found online at
<http://www.hcpss.org/connect/guides/#family-file-guides>

Parents who have forgotten their login credentials may click the “Forgot Password” link on the sign in page. If you need additional assistance, please fill out this Connect Help Form:
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdB0nKdGfrELtDCQwO7dw73fHUx7_asV_uAhnF0S1bRlvO5nA/viewform

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER DATES:

August 30th - New Student Orientation (**ALL 6th Graders & NEW 7th and 8th grade Students to WLMS**) - 12:30-1:30 p.m.

August 30th - **ALL STUDENTS AND FAMILIES**- 5:00-7:00 p.m. 4th Annual WLMS Family Block Party/Picnic **Students should be accompanied by an adult.*

September 3rd - Labor Day - Schools and offices closed

September 4th - **The First Day of School**

September 10th - Rosh Hashanah - Schools and offices closed

September 11th - PTSA Meeting - Media Center - 7:00-8:00 p.m.

September 13th - Back to School Night - 6:30-8:30

- Gifted & Talented Program Presentation- 6:00 - 6:30

September 19th - Yom Kippur - Schools and offices closed.

September 22nd - Professional Learning Day - School closed for students.

September 27th - Fall School Pictures

September 28th - School Spirit Day - Wear WLMS Spirit Wear or blue/gold.

We truly look forward to meeting you and working with you as we begin a new school year together!

Sincerely,

Anne Swartz, Denise Young, & James McVey