

**GROWING:
UNDER
CONSTRUCTION**



August, 2016

Dear Wilde Lake Families,

Greetings and Welcome to the 2016-2017 School Year! What a banner year it will be!

This is "The Year" that "We" transition into our beautiful new net zero building! The new Wilde Lake Middle School (WLMS) building is positioned to be the most energy conscious and efficient school in the state. We are still "On Track" to move into the new building at the beginning of January 2017.

Meanwhile, the WLMS Administrative and Teaching Staff is busy getting ready for August 29th when students return to school. The administrative team has changed a bit and we want to update you . . .

Mrs. Anne Swartz is our principal. This is her 2nd year at WLMS and 30th year as an HCPSS Educator.

Mrs. Lexi Couch is ready to begin "Year Two" as assistant principal at WLMS. This is her 19th year in education. Mrs. Couch will be the 7th grade administrator this year.

Mrs. Denise Young is our second assistant principal. Mrs. Young worked previously at Elkridge Landing Middle School as an instructional team leader and 8th grade science teacher. This is her 12th year as an educator in HCPSS. Mrs. Young will be the 8th grade administrator this year.

Mr. James McVey is our new Leadership Intern. Mr. McVey begins "Year 10" as an HCPSS Educator. Mr. McVey comes to WLMS from Mayfield Woods Middle School where he served as a 7th and 8th grade social studies teacher and content instructional leader. Mr. McVey will be our 6th grade administrator this year.

We also have a few changes to our teaching staff. Please join me in welcoming the following new staff members to our WLMS Tiger Shark Team . . . **Rhoda Nunez-Donnelly** – Spanish Teacher, **Randy Kurstin** – 8th Grade English Language Arts Teacher, **Heather Woolson** - part time 7th Grade Science Teacher, **Kim Menk** - Reading Specialist, **LaTonya Frizzelle** - Special Education Para-Educator, **Tom Bowen** - Pupil Personnel Worker.

The summer was very productive at WLMS! If you have not passed the school recently, you will notice differences in the surrounding landscape and the construction progress of our new net zero building. First of all, the villa portable has moved to another school, and a slightly smaller villa has taken its place. Our seventh graders will have their core classes in the new villa structure. Secondly, you will see what looks like a "sea of solar panels" lining Cross Fox Lane in front of our current building. These solar panels are just a portion of the panels needed to produce energy in our new building. The entire roof of our new building will also be covered with solar panels. Finally, our new net zero building is still "on track" to open at the beginning of January of 2017.

Our **WLMS PTSA** is gearing up for a great year! Mrs. Sharon Barnes will be our new PTA President. You will be hearing from Mrs. Barnes 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 25th at 1:30 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 8/25 at 1:30 p.m. Please try to make it!**

For EVERYONE -- ALL STUDENTS & FAMILIES-- The PTSA is planning a **WLMS Family Block Party/Picnic** on **Thursday, August 25th from 5:00–7:00 p.m.** 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, 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.

Morning Routine: ALL Students can enter the building at 7:45 a.m. Upon arrival, they will go straight to their homeroom where breakfast will be served and is available free of charge for ALL students. Students will be able to visit their lockers to drop off belongings & pick up books between homeroom and first period.

Important Immunization Information for the 2016-2017 School Year

All children must have the required State of Maryland immunizations in order to attend school. Students out of compliance may not be admitted to school in the fall. Requirements for the 2016-2017 School Year include:

- 2 doses of Varicella vaccine for entry into Kindergarten AND 1st grade
- 1 dose of Tdap vaccine for entry into 7th AND 8th grades
- 1 dose of Meningococcal vaccine for entry into 7th AND 8th grades

Details on immunization requirements can be found <http://www.hcpss.org/health/immunizations/>

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: www.hcpss.org/schools/transportation/schedule.shtml. 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/>

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER DATES:

August 25th - New Student Orientation (**ALL 6th Graders & NEW 7th and 8th grade Students to WLMS**) – 1:30-2:30 p.m.

August 25th - **ALL STUDENTS AND FAMILIES-** 5:00-7:00 p.m. 3rd Annual WLMS Family Block Party/Picnic **Students should be accompanied by an adult.*

August 29th - **The First Day of School**

September 6th – PTSA Meeting – Media Center – 7:00-8:30 p.m.

September 14th – Back to School Night – 6:30-8:30

- 6th Grade Outdoor Education Parent Meeting – 5:30 – 6:00
- Gifted & Talented Program Presentation– 6:00 – 6:30

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

Sincerely,

Anne Swartz, Lexi Couch, Denise Young, & James McVey