



# RCES Chronicle

## Summer 2017 Edition 2

Day/ Date	Monday 8/21/17	Tuesday 8/22/17	Wednesday 8/23/17	Thursday 8/24/17	Friday 8/25/17
Event(s)		<p>The first day of school is <b>two weeks from today</b>, September 5, 2017. Please click <a href="#">HERE</a> to view the RCES recommended Grade Level Supply List for 2017-18.</p>		<p><b>Next Thursday</b> morning, August 31, 2017, class lists will be shared via a Connect-Ed email. Families have the opportunity to visit classrooms to meet their teachers at the Sneak Peeks scheduled by grade level on that day. Staff will be available to assist families who are unsure of who their child's teacher is.</p>	

*Hello! I enjoyed meeting many families at the STEM Challenge and the Popsicles on the Playground Meet & Greets this week. I am looking forward to meeting even more families next Thursday, August 31, 2017, at our Sneak Peek. Remember to take advantage of the last few days of Tax-free Week in Maryland. This is a great opportunity to finish your back-to-school shopping tax-free. It ends this Sunday, August 19, 2017. I hope you are enjoying these last moments of summer. I'll see you soon! –Mrs. Hammond ☺*

### A Look Ahead:

- 8/31/17 Class lists shared via Connect-Ed
- 8/31/17 Patrol Meeting, Gym, 9:00 a.m.
- 8/31/17 Sneak Peek, Grades 4 and 5, 10:00-11:00 a.m.
- 8/31/17 Sneak Peek, Grades 2 and 3, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
- 8/31/17 Sneak Peek, Kindergarten and Grade 1, 1:00-2:00 p.m.
- 8/31/17 Kindergarten Parent Meeting, All Purpose Room, 2:00 p.m.
- 8/31/17 Kindergarten Popsicle Playdate, Playground, 2:30 p.m.
- **9/5/17 First Day of School for Students**

### Quote of the Week:



- 9/13/17 Back to School Night, Kindergarten-Grade 2, 6:30 p.m.
- 9/14/17 Back to School Picnic
- 9/19/17 Back to School Night, Grades 3-5, 6:30 p.m.
- 9/21/17 No School for Students or Teachers
- 10/3/17 PTA Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 10/13/17 Dads and Donuts

**Additional Information:**

- Please click [HERE](#) to **share your thoughts about Rachel Carson Elementary School with your new principal.** What do you want to preserve and protect? What would you like to reexamine? What do you need from you principal to have a successful school year?
- Please click [HERE](#) to view the RCES **bus routes** for the 2017-2018 school year.
- School hours for the 2017-2018 school year are 9:00 a.m. to 3:25 p.m. The **daily schedule\*** for the 2017-2018 school year is as follows:

8:15 a.m.      *School Office opens*  
 8:25 a.m.      *Beginning of the duty day for teachers*  
 8:40 a.m.      *Students may enter the building for breakfast.*  
 8:50 a.m.      *Fist Bell – Students may enter their homerooms.*  
 9:00 a.m.      *Second Bell – All students should be in their homerooms. Students arriving after this bell must sign in at the office.*  
 11:35 a.m.     *Morning Pre-Kindergarten dismissal*  
 12:50 p.m.     *Afternoon Pre-kindergarten arrival*  
 3:25 p.m.      *Student dismissal begins*  
 3:55 p.m.      *End of the duty day for teachers*  
 4:15 pm        *School Office closes*

\*On early dismissal days, dismissal begins at 12:55 p.m.

\*In the event of two-hour delay, students may enter the building at 10:50 a.m.

- The following procedures are in effect during the 2017-2018 school year regarding **absence and tardy reporting**:
  - Students who arrive at school more than two hours late will be recorded as absent for a half day.
  - Students who leave more than two hours early will be recorded as absent for a half day.
  - If your child will be absent, or late for school, please notify the school office by calling 240-740-1840 or emailing
  - Students who are absent from school are expected upon their return to bring a note from a parent explaining the reason for the absence.
- To ensure safety and security for the children, **all parents and visitors to the school must sign in at the office.** Children who arrive late must stop in the office, sign in, and obtain a late slip before going to their class. Parents who need to take a child out of school for an appointment are asked to sign him or her out in the office before 3:05 pm.
- **Breakfast and lunch prices** for the 2017-2018 school year are as follows:

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL MEAL PRICES	
Lunch Meal	\$2.55
Reduced-price Lunch Meal	\$0.40
Breakfast Meal	\$1.30
Reduced-price Breakfast Meal	\$0.00
Milk	\$0.60

Please click [HERE](#) for the **MCPS 2017-2018 Cafeteria News and Elementary School Meals information document**. Please click [HERE](#) for the September **Breakfast and Lunch menus**. The **Lunch and Recess schedules** are below.

<b>Regular School Days</b>	<b>Who is eating lunch?</b>	<b>Who is at recess?</b>
<i>10:30-11:05 am</i>	Grade 2	Grade 3
<i>11:05-11:40 a.m.</i>	Grade 3	Grade 2
<i>11:40 am-12:15 pm</i>	Kindergarten	Grade 1
<i>12:15-12:50 pm</i>	Grade 1	Kindergarten
<i>12:50-1:25 pm</i>	Grade 4	Grade 5
<i>1:25-2:00 pm</i>	Grade 5	Grade 4

<b>Early-Release Days (no recess)</b>	<b>Who is eating lunch?</b>
10:00 am-10:30 am	Grade 2
10:35 am-11:05 am	Grade 3
11:10 am-11:40 am	Kindergarten
11:45 am-12:15 pm	Grade 1
12:20 pm-12:50 pm	Grades 4 and 5

<b>Delayed-opening Days (no recess)</b>	<b>Who is eating lunch?</b>
11:25-11:55 am	Grade 3
12:00-12:30 pm	Grade 2
12:35-1:05 pm	Kindergarten
1:10-1:40 pm	Grade 1
1:45-2:15 pm	Grades 4 and 5

- The school cafeteria uses a computerized cash register system. Every student in Montgomery County schools has an account to use. All students have a PIN (personalized identification number). To access the account at mealtime, a student enters his/her PIN on a keypad. When a cashier rings up breakfast, lunch or a la carte items, the total amount of the sale is deducted from the prepaid balance in the account. Students who receive free and reduced price meals enter their PIN when purchasing a meal. The system recognizes their PIN and charges, or does not charge, accordingly. Any amount can be deposited into the student’s account. Meals and a la carte items are deducted from the account only at the time of purchase. The **school meals account** is not a credit system. Deposits to the school meal account can be made with a check. Write the student’s name and PIN number on the front of the check and make it payable to the school cafeteria. If you have more than one child in school, you can write one check for all your children. Be sure to write each student’s name and PIN on the check so that it can be properly credited. Please indicate the deposit amount for each student next to the name. Place the deposit money in an envelope with “Cafeteria” written on the front so the office staff knows where it should go. At the start of the school year, any money left on the account from the previous year will be available for the new school year. Students returning to the same school keep the same PIN. When a student enters a different Montgomery County school from the last year, the student receives a new PIN.
- Free and reduced meal benefit eligibility from last school year will remain current only through September 2017 or until a 2017-2018 application is processed. We will send the forms home to eligible families with the youngest child in each family once they are available.

- **My School Bucks** is an optional service for parents to view recent purchases and make prepayments on your child’s cafeteria account via the internet using a debit or credit card. This service is offered as a convenience for interested families. There is a 41.95 convenience fee for each transaction.

4 EASY STEPS TO ENROLL			
<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
Go to www.MySchoolBucks.com and click on “Sign up today!”	Create an account for yourself, and add your children. You will need the student’s name (exactly as it appears on their report card), school, grade, birth date, and six digit student ID number (not their PIN).	(OPTIONAL) Provide credit or debit card information, if you would like to make pre-payments to your child’s cafeteria account.	Select a Meal Payment Option to make a pre-payment, or select your child’s name to view recent cafeteria purchases.

- Please click [HERE](#) to **register for the George B. Thomas Sr. Learning Center Saturday School program**. Saturday School is a 6<sup>th</sup> day of academic instruction with certified teachers in a nurturing and supportive environment. The curriculum is aligned with that of MCPS and focuses on reading, language arts and math. Sessions begin September 9, 2017.
- **Support the 2017 Give BACKpacks Campaign**. The 2017 MCPS Give BACKpacks campaign has launched and the district needs your help to raise money to purchase backpacks filled with schsupplies for students in need. The Give BACKpacks campaign was created in 2013 in response to a growing need in Montgomery County. Many families are facing financial struggles and need help providing their children with school supplies. Currently, more than 55,000 MCPS students receive Free and Reduced-price Meals (FARMS)—an indicator of poverty. Last year, thanks to the generous donations of MCPS parents, staff, and community members, the district was able to provide nearly 18,000 backpacks to students. MCPS is hoping to serve even more students this year. A \$10 donation will provide a student in need with a new backpack filled with school supplies. You also have the option to give at the following levels: \$300, \$1,500, \$6,500, \$25,000, or \$50,000. Visit [www.mcpsgivebackpacks.org](http://www.mcpsgivebackpacks.org) to learn more and donate.

