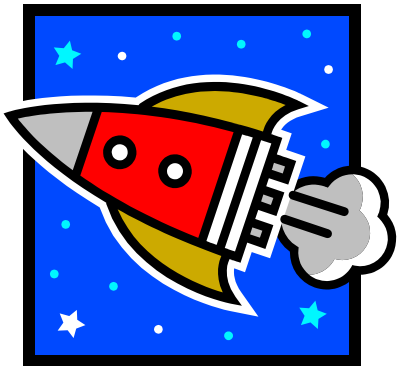


ROLLING KNOLLS ROCKETS

PRINCIPAL'S CORNER…

SEPTEMBER 2015



It is hard to believe that we are back in full swing and ready for an exciting school year. The staff and I would like to thank everyone who attended our Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten Back to School Night, Pre-Kindergarten, Kindergarten and 1st Grade Picnic and/or Back to School Night. We encourage your continued active participation with our school programs. The next scheduled event will be our PTO General Meeting on September 8 at 6:00 p.m. Come out and hear about the new Kindergarten and 1st grade curriculum as well as updates on the construction.

We are excited to introduce our new staff members and staff changes. We are so excited for them to share their expertise and leadership. The following is an update of the changes and additions:

Lori Hoffman, Pre-Kindergarten Teacher

Kim Dixon, Kindergarten Teacher

Kristen Elder & Jen McLaughlin, 1st Grade Teachers

Meghan Fletcher, Pamela Perry & Jen Stotler, 2nd Grade Teachers

Tracy Winters, 3rd Grade Teacher

Kelli Myrick, 4th Grade Teacher

Michelle Bassett & Tina Earley, 5th Grade Teachers

Ashley Kennedy, ESOL Teacher

Daliza Cabrera, Mills Dancy & Chase Kennedy, Special Education Resource Teachers

Crystal Covington, School Counselor

Hilda Torres-Ramirez, Bilingual Facilitator



On September 15, we will be hosting our volunteer orientation in the media center from 6:00-7:00 p.m. Our 2nd volunteer orientation will occur on September 24 in the media center from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. Say cheese, fall pictures will be on September 25. More information will be coming home with your students. On September 30, students will be able to participate in the first PBIS celebration of the year. Students will be choosing their activities with their classmates. Students will use their Rocket Dollars to purchase their entry into the events. On September 7, 14 and 23, all Anne Arundel County Public Schools will be closed. We hope you are able to enjoy some extra quality family time. October 5 we will kick-off our Book fair in the media center.

I look forward to an exciting year filled with engaging activities for all of our families and staff.

Sincerely,

Shira L. Dowling, Principal

Month At a Glance:

September 7– Schools Closed

September 8—PTO Meeting 6PM

September 14– School Closed

September 15—Volunteer Orientation 6-7 PM

September 23—School Closed

September 24—Volunteer Orientation 1-2PM

September 25—Picture Day

The Anne Arundel County Public School System does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, age, national origin, religion, disability, or socioeconomic status in matters affecting employment or in providing access to program. Questions regarding nondiscrimination should be directed to: Leslie N. Stanton, Specialist in Human Relations, AACPS, 2644 Riva Rd., Annapolis, MD 21401:(410) 222-5500.

Counselors Corner

Ms. Crystal Covington

I am looking forward to an amazing year as your child's school counselor. I am so excited to work with you and your child this school year. Here is a little information about my role at Rolling Knolls Elementary School.

First and foremost, it is my responsibility to help your child get the best possible education. As you know, getting a great education does not only include learning to read, write, and be successful in math, but includes possessing good social skills. Specifically, this means, learning how to get along with others, recognizing our own strengths and weaknesses, respecting differences, making good and safe decisions, controlling anger, accepting responsibility, and being compassionate and empathetic individuals. Many of these skills are taught at home. It is my intent to supplement the learning of these social skills from home through classroom guidance lessons, small group, and individual counseling when necessary.

Each month I deliver classroom lessons on important subjects, such as, test taking skills, personal safety, conflict resolution, teamwork, responsibility, respecting differences, and exploring career options. I also will hold small groups to target more specific skills, like making friends and getting organized.

At the request of a parent, teacher, administrator, or student I will provide individual counseling and academic advisement. My goal this year is to collaborate with all stakeholders to get to know my Rolling Knolls families. I am also in the building to help students who are facing challenges. Family disruptions such as an illness, death, or divorce may affect children at school. If your family is experiencing anything out of the ordinary, please let me know.

Remember, as your school counselor, I can serve as a valuable resource to your family by connecting you with community organizations. It is important to remember that when school stakeholders and parents work collaboratively, it is a winning combination for all of us!

I am so excited to be at Rolling Knolls and to have the opportunity to work with your family. If I can be of assistance please don't hesitate to call (410)222-5280 or email me at ccovington@aacps.org. If I am not available I will contact you as soon as possible. Please don't forget to come out and volunteer!! Our volunteer Orientation Dates are Sept. 15th @ 6:00 p.m., Sept. 24th @ 1:00 p.m. and October 8th @ 6:00p.m.



Notes from Mrs. Curley

NEWS ABOUT PARCC

Please read the following document from MSDE summarizing the changes to PARCC. The window for PARCC for AACPS is set for April 19- June 1. More detailed windows for specific grade levels will be shared after January. If you have any questions or concerns feel free to contact me: ekcurley@aacps.org

What's changing on the test?

There are three helpful changes:

1. Instead of two "windows" of testing in the spring, there will be just one window for English Language Arts and Math—all done in 1 month or less.
2. The tests will be shorter for all grades—by about 90 minutes overall.
3. Kids will sit down to take PARCC fewer times—6 or 7 sessions, instead of 8 or 9.

How will these changes improve the PARCC experience?

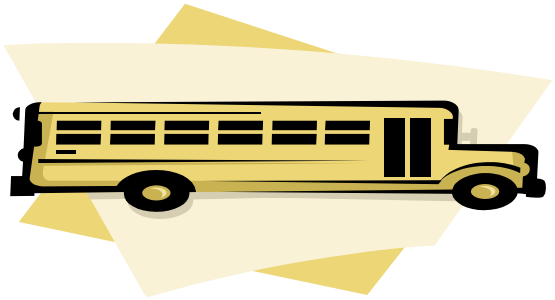
Kids will spend less time testing. Teachers will have an easier time planning because the testing schedule is streamlined. Everybody's normal routine will be far less disrupted. And the testing will be over much more quickly.

Will the changes make PARCC less effective?

No. The test will include fewer questions overall—but it's still a very valid and reliable way to see who is ready to move ahead in school, and who needs extra support. These changes mean PARCC will be more feasible—more practical—so it fits into the school day better.

What is the schedule for PARCC in 2016?

Your school sets the exact calendar for PARCC. But the good news is, one testing window means it all happens in one 30-day period, close to the end of the semester or the school year.



EARLY DISMISSALS

When your student must leave school early, please follow these steps to help ensure that the dismissal will be handled in an efficient manner:

A note should be brought to school at the start of the school day and turned into the teacher. The note should state the date and time of the departure and the nature of the appointment.

The note should contain the student's full name and grade.

There must be a phone number where a parent/guardian can be contacted for verification of the dismissal.

If your student has not brought a note to school for the early dismissal, please expect a 10-15 minute wait.

ALL STUDENTS WILL REMAIN IN THE CLASSROOM UNTIL THE PARENT/GUARDIAN HAS ARRIVED.

Tardiness and Absenteeism negatively effect your student's learning and achievement in school. Please help us by ensuring your student is present.



Join the Band and Orchestra! It's Fun!



Lunchtime reminders

Children love to bring in cupcakes and cookies to share with classmates for birthdays and special occasions. However, because of numerous allergies, we cannot allow homemade goodies – only store bought treats with the ingredients listed on the label can be brought in to share during lunchtime as dessert.

Also, on the topic of sharing – sharing of food is not permitted of any type. Please do not bring any balloons to school, they are not permitted.

Cafeteria snacks for purchase will be offered on: Monday for1st grade, Tuesday for 2nd grade, Wednesday for 3rd grade, Thursday for 4th grade and Friday for 5th grade.

On Wednesday, September 30, 2015, your child will bring home a Federal Impact Aid Survey form. Please assist us by filling out the information requested on the form and:

Elementary Schools – **return it to your child's school (add your school name).**

Secondary Schools – **return it to Anne Arundel County Public Schools in the self-addressed, stamped envelope provided.**

The U.S. Department of Education has now requested a separate survey form for **each child**, the **complete address of the Parent/Guardian's Employer if they work on Federal Property**, the **complete address of the Federal Property on which they work**, and **each survey form must be signed and dated by the Parent/Guardian**. If needed, additional forms may be obtained from the school or downloaded from the AACPS website (www.aacps.org) under **Students**, **Forms**. The Federal Impact Aid Survey form for 2015-2016 will be available to download on September 30, 2015. We will also be using our Connect-Ed Automated Telephone Notification System to remind everyone about the significance of completing and returning this survey. The school system receives approximately $2 million in funding from the Federal government in support of our children after the forms are processed.

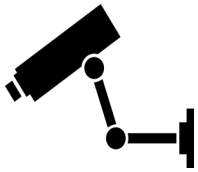
Thank you in advance for your support and assistance. Should you have any questions regarding this information, please contact Ms. Donna Barker at 410-222-5200.



EMERGENCY DRILLS

During each school year, various drills are conducted at every school to ensure that staff and students are prepared in the event of an emergency. These drills include monthly fire/evacuation drills.

In addition five drills with scenarios developed by the school system's Office of School Security and based upon various possible emergency scenarios are done each year. These include, but are not limited to: evacuation for natural gas emergencies; shelter for tornado and earthquake; shelter for outside hazardous materials release; lockout for danger outside of the school building, reverse evacuation back into the school for students and staff outside; and lockdown for a person with a weapon inside of the school.



Rolling Knolls Elementary School is equipped with a video camera system. It covers selected interior and exterior public portions of the building and grounds. It is NOT monitored constantly, but is monitored during emergency situations. During certain events, when the safety or security of students may be in question, authorized personnel form local, state, or federal police or fire emergency units may be given access to view images projected on the cameral system. If you have any questions about the system, you should call the Supervisor of School Security at 410-222-5083.

School Closings, Delayed Openings, and other Notifications from the Board of Education come from information you the parents provide the school. If you are not receiving these notifications, please send a note in with your student. If you are new to RKE this year, you will receive paperwork to complete and return with your child.

A little birdie told me...

Rolling Knolls Elementary is now on Twitter!

Follow us @RollingKnollsES

Get news and updates from our school and AACPS

School PICTURE Day is September 25th!!

Please remember to bring your order forms and money on September 25th. Dress your best and smile BIG!

This is a fundraiser for our school, we appreciate your participation! Thank you!

Current aerial view of construction of the new Rolling Knolls ES.



Parent Link



Connecting You and Your Child to Information on Our Journey to Greatness

The evidence is consistent, positive, and convincing: families have a major influence on their children's achievement. When schools, families, and community groups work together to support learning, children tend to do better in school, stay in school longer, and like school more." Anne T. Henderson, Karen L. Mapp

September 2015

Smooth, Smart School Start & Daily School Routine

Comfortable and consistent routines bring easier mornings, smoother homework habits, and healthier bedtimes for everyone!

- ✓ **Get to school on time.**
- ✓ **Start with a healthy breakfast.**
- ✓ **Set a regular homework time & place.**
- ✓ **Get ready for the next day.**
- ✓ **Get plenty of sleep and exercise.**
- ✓ **Read together every day.**

Children Who Have

- regular school attendance and
- a positive attitude toward school

… are more likely to do better in school.

Parents are the Key!

Be School-Involved and Engaged:

- Know what your child is learning and studying.
- Know the teachers' expectations.
- Read *together* for 20 minutes daily (through middle school).
- Attend parent/teacher conferences and school events.
- Make sure your child has supplies throughout the school year.

Welcome, Volunteers!

- To prepare classroom materials at home.
- Help in the classroom, media center, with school events or field trips.
- Join a committee.
- Register to volunteer and ask how to log your hours!!



Family Involvement Conference

Saturday, November 14, 2015

8:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

*** Watch for Details ***

◆◆◆

Volunteer of the Year

2014-2015

Barbara Wingernuk

Rolling Knolls & Mayo Elementary Schools

… for generously dedicating her passion for music and gift of performance to over 5,000 lucky students.

Volunteer of the Month

June 2015

Tony Anzalone

Retired School Personnel Association of Anne Arundel County

◆◆◆

To nominate outstanding volunteers for the AACPS Volunteer of the Month Award, email ttudor@aacps.org

Office of School & Family Partnerships AACPS TV Programs:
Comcast and Broadstripe Channel 96,
& Verizon Channel 36.
Parent Connection, Parents' Corner, World View
Nuestra Comunidad (Our Community), *and*
¡Charlemos Juntos! (Let's Chat)

A Bi-Monthly Publication by:
The Office of School & Family Partnerships
410-222-5414; ttudor@aacps.org

Parent Link



Conectándolo a Ud. y a su Hijo a la Información en Nuestro Camino a la Grandeza

"La evidencia es consistente, positiva y convincente: las familias tienen una gran influencia en el rendimiento de sus hijos. Cuando las escuelas, las familias y los grupos de la comunidad trabajan juntos para apoyar el aprendizaje, los niños tienden a mejorar en la escuela, permanecer en la escuela por más tiempo y les gusta más la escuela." Anne T. Henderson, Karen L. Mapp

Septiembre 2015

Empezar la Escuela Inteligentemente y Tranquilo
Y una Rutina Diaria Escolar

¡Rutinas cómodas y consistentes son más fáciles en la mañana, hábitos de deberes más suaves y acostarse a tiempo es más saludables para todos!

- ✓ **Lleguen a la escuela a tiempo.**
- ✓ **Empiecen con un desayuno saludable.**
- ✓ **Tengan un lugar y hora regular para hacer tareas.**
- ✓ **Prepárense para el próximo día.**
- ✓ **Duerman bastante y hagan ejercicio.**
- ✓ **Lean juntos todos los días.**

Niños que Tienen

- asistencia regular a la escuela y
- tienen una actitud positive hacia la escuela

… son más propensos a hacerlo mejor en la escuela.

¡Los Padres son la Clave!
Estén Involucrado y Participen en la Escuela:

- Saber lo que su niño está aprendiendo y estudiando.
- Conocer las expectativas de los maestros.
- Leer juntos durante 20 minutos todos los días (hasta la escuela intermedia).
- Asistir a las conferencias de padres/maestros y eventos escolares.
- Asegúrese de que su hijo tiene útiles durante el año escolar.

¡Bienvenidos Voluntarios!

- Preparar materiales del aula en la casa.
- Ayudar en el aula, biblioteca, con eventos escolares o excursiones.
- Unirse a un Comité de Padres.
- Matricularse como voluntario y preguntar cómo registrar sus horas!!



Conferencia de Participación de la Familia
Sábado 14 de noviembre de 2015
8:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

**** Estén Pendientes para los Detalles *****

◆◆◆

Voluntario del Año
2014-2015
Barbara Wingernuk
Escuela Primaria Rolling Knolls y Mayo
… por su generosidad dedicando su pasión por la música y el don de rendimiento a más de 3.000 estudiantes suerte.

Voluntario del Mes
Junio 2015
Tony Anzalone
Retirado Asociación de Personal Escuelas del Condado de Anne Arundel

◆◆◆

Para nominar a voluntarios sobresalientes al Premio Voluntario del Mes de AACPS envíe un correo electrónico a ttudor@aacps.org

Programas de TV de la Oficina de Relaciones entre la Escuela y la Familia de AACPS: Comcast y Broadstripe Canal 96, Verizon Canal 36.

Parent Connection, Parents' Corner, World View
Nuestra Comunidad (Our Community), *and*
¡Charlemos Juntos! (Let's Chat)

Publicado cada dos meses por:
La Oficina de Relaciones entre la Escuela y la Familia
410-222-5414; ttudor@aacps.org

Physical Education (PE)
Page

Welcome to the PE page! My name is Mr. Acosta and this will be my second year at Rolling Knolls and ninth year teaching.

The goal of PE is to educate the children on the importance of being physically active for 60 minutes a day outside of school and healthy eating habits. This is where the collaboration of school and community need to partner. With the help of you, the parents/ guardians together we can accomplish this goal. I have also attached some clubs and/or programs that will help us achieve success.

Mighty Milers run club: (Grades 3-5 male & female students welcome! 30 students limited)

- Meets Mondays & Wednesdays after school from 4:00 – 5:15
- Starting Sept 28 – third week of November (Track meet 5pm @ Annapolis HS)
- Students will train to run a 1 mile race
- See Mr. Acosta for Permission slip

Fuel Up To Play 60: (Ages 5 – 13)

- In – school activities (Breakfast helpers, Lunch time fun, PE class, In – Class Brain Boosts & much more!)
- 100 Mile club (Tracking the miles the students run/ walk in school)
- **Pledge to be active for 60 minutes a day!!**
- Sign up at: https://www.fueluptoplay60.com/
- Prizes for points

Anne Arundel County Dance Festival:

- Permission forms will be available in October
- Starts in Oct (No set date at this time) – February
- Requirements: Purchase a costume, attend practices and MUST attend the performance in February!

Communication:

- Mr. Acosta's email: cacosta@aacps.org

Upcoming Units:

- Football (Catching, Throwing, Kicking & Punting)
- Soccer (Kicking, Punting, Passing, Blocking, Teamwork & Sportsmanship)
- Fitness Gram Assessments (Cardiovascular, Muscle Strength, Flexibility, Agility & Muscle Endurance

Thank you,

Chris W Acosta

Chris W Acosta


GAME CLOCK
TIME OF DAY
FUEL UP to Play 60
Eat Healthy.
Play 60.
Have Fun.