

STEVENS FOREST ELEMENTARY



BOBCAT NEWS

October 6, 2017

Ernesto Diaz
Principal

(410) 313-6900
FAX (410) 313-6903
<http://sfes.hcpss.org/>

Tracey Albright
Assistant Principal

School Hours are 9:00am to 3:30pm
Doors open at 8:45am

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- October 10** - Kindergarten
Math/Reading/Homework Night, 6:30pm
- October 11** - PTA Meeting, 6:30pm
- October 12** - Interim Progress Reports Issued
- October 19** - Grades 1 & 2 Math/Read Night, 6:30pm
- October 19** - Fall Student Picture Day
- October 20** - Schools Closed for Students, Professional Work Day

2017-2018 Calendar Change

The Board of Education approved a change to the 2017-2018 school calendar, making the last three scheduled days of school—June 12, 13, 14—three-hour early dismissal days for all students. Visit this link, <http://www.hcpss.org/calendar/>, for the complete calendar.

Safety on Stevens Forest Road

We have noticed some families parking on the west side of Stevens Forest Road directly across from the school who then cross the street at that location. ***That action is dangerous!*** Please use the designated crosswalks or tunnel at Kilimanjaro Road or the crosswalk across from the pool to cross Stevens Forest Road. Safety is our first priority. Thank you for your cooperation!



Safety at SFES

All HCPSS schools use a system to record school visitor information. Due to a recent change in our system known as “Lobby Guard,” all visitors are asked to bring a driver’s license or other similar government issued and scan-able identification to complete the process. Visitors without that type of identification should ask one of the secretaries for assistance. Lobby Guard will issue a visitor tag that must be worn at all times while in the building. Thank you for helping us keep our building safe.

How Girls Code Afterschool Program

There are still openings in Foundations of Computer Science led by Rachel Kastner and Allison Malihom through HowGirlsCode. Classes begin on Tuesday, October 10th and meet weekly from 3:35 - 5:05 PM. This course is FREE thanks to the generous support of our sponsors. To see full details and register, visit www.howgirlscode.com.

Early Dismissal

We understand that circumstances may arise when a student may need to be dismissed early for appointments or other reasons. It is important to stress that parents/guardians must report to the front office no later than 3:05 p.m. when picking up their child for an early dismissal. Early dismissals after that time are disruptive to the afternoon dismissal procedures. Students will be called to the front office for dismissal upon the parent’s/guardian’s arrival. If someone other than the parent/guardian is picking up the child for early dismissal, the person must be granted permission as indicated in FAMILY File or by providing a signed note from the parent/guardian.

On a Related Matter...

Should you need to communicate a change in how your child gets home from school on a given day, please call the front office before 3pm so that the message can be delivered to your child in a timely manner.

SFES School Improvement Team

Are you interested in joining the SFES School Improvement Team (SIT)? This team meets approximately four times each year to review school-wide data and suggest/monitor strategies to make SFES even better. Please send Mr. Diaz an email at Ernesto_diaz@hcpss.org if you are interested in joining this year!

The G/T Connection

Instructional Seminars

Students participating in an instructional seminar will be receiving an acceptance/commitment letter in their Friday Folder this week. Please fill out all sections on the bottom portion of that letter, and have your child **return it on their first session**.

Most seminars will be starting next week. The start and end date is included on the acceptance/commitment form. Students in before school instructional seminars should meet Mrs. Kastner in the front lobby. If your child is in CA, you will need to write a note to CA, giving permission for Mrs. Kastner to meet with your child before school. Mrs. Kastner and Mrs. Lepore will pick students up for recess seminars.

We still have spaces in the following instructional seminars. Interest Forms can be found on the bulletin board outside of the GT room. Please complete those forms as soon as possible.

Grade 2

-“Dice, Cards and Dominoes” - Tuesdays at recess (10:35 - 11:05 am)

Grade 3

-“24 Game” - Tuesdays at recess (12:50 - 1:20 pm)

-“Unheard Perspectives” (UP) - Fridays before school (8:00 - 8:45 am)

Grade 4

-“Mistakes That Worked” - Tuesdays before school (8:00 - 8:45 am)

-“24 Game” - Thursdays before school (8:00 - 8:45) (Nov 30 - March 22)

-“Unheard Perspectives” (UP) - Fridays before school (8:00 - 8:45 am)

Grade 5

-“Mistakes That Worked” -Tuesdays before school (8:00 - 8:45 am)

-“Simple Machines” - Tuesdays at recess (2:05 - 2:35 pm)

-“Math Through Art” on Tuesdays at recess (2:05 - 2:35 pm)
October - November

-“Battle of the Books” on Tuesdays at recess (2:05 - 2:35 pm)
November - April

-“24 Game” - Thursdays before school (8:00 - 8:45) (Nov 30 - March 22)

- “Unheard Perspectives” (UP) - Fridays before school (8:00 - 8:45 am)

HCPSS Student & Parent Handbook

Did you know that the HCPSS Student and Parent Handbook is available online? While all HCPSS families receive a paper copy of the Student & Parent Handbook at the start of the school year, please visit this link, <http://www.hcpss.org/about-us/handbook/>, for an electronic version in various languages. Both versions outline district-wide practices and policies related to parents and students. Each section of this handbook contains sub-topics that individually describe various services, procedures, and protocols implemented in Howard County Public Schools.

Federal Forms

On or about October 20th, students will bring home their Federal Impact Aid Survey. Federal law provides funding for local public school systems based on the number of students whose parents/guardians work on federally owned property in the State of Maryland. These funds are provided by Congress to compensate the public for the land areas removed from the tax rolls for government use, increased student attendance in the public schools because of the government installations, or a combination of the two. The parent/guardian can be employed by the federal government working in the State of Maryland or be a contractor working on a project on federally owned property located in the State of Maryland. Also counted are students whose parents are serving as active military anywhere in the world. Please complete and return the completed survey if it applies to you or your family.