

STEVENS FOREST ELEMENTARY



BOBCAT NEWS

December 1, 2017

Ernesto Diaz
Principal

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Tracey Albright
Assistant Principal

<http://sfes.hcpss.org/>

School Hours are 9:00am to 3:30pm

Doors open at 8:45am

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

December 6 - PTA Meeting, 6:30pm

December 20 - Interim Progress Reports Issued

December 21 - Winter Chorus and Choir Chimes
Concert, 9:30am and 7:00pm

December 25-January 1 - Schools Closed, Winter
Break

January 2 - School Reopens

Physical Education Spotlight/Reminder

The goal of The Howard County Public School System's Physical Education program is to help prepare students for college and career readiness by developing physically-literate individuals who have the knowledge, skills, and confidence to enjoy a lifetime of healthful physical activity. Students are encouraged to question, integrate, analyze, communicate and apply cognitive, psychomotor and affective concepts helping them gain a wide multicultural view of the world through physical education learning experiences. It is our hope that through positive experiences students will value physical activity and acknowledge its contributions to a healthful lifestyle.

An important part of the physical education program focuses on safety. To that end, it is important that all students wear clothing and footwear that allows for safe and free movement. The following should be adhered to:

- Appropriate athletic and supportive footwear is needed for safety, protection, and performance. Students should wear an athletic shoe with a non-marking molded rubber sole. Heeled sneakers or fashion style

sneakers are not acceptable. Sneakers need to be on, laces tied and/or velcroed.

- Appropriate athletic clothing that allows for free and safe movement.
- Nothing around or on the:
 - Neck (necklaces, lanyards, garments)
 - Wrist (watches, bracelets)
 - Hands (gloves, rings)
 - Ears or head (earrings except for stud earrings, hard sharp hair holders)
- No dangling clothing (scarves or clothes that are baggy).
- Jewelry should not be worn during physical education class with the following exceptions:
 - Stud earrings are permitted.
 - Medical alert bracelets/necklaces are permitted if they have a break away feature that allows it to be easily removed during an emergency situation.
 - Religious bracelets/necklaces are permitted if they have a break away feature that allows it to be easily removed during an emergency situation.
- No food products in the mouth.

Please contact the SFES PE teachers, Ms. Morrison and/or Mr. Csajko if you have any questions or need additional information.

Superintendent Search

The Howard County Public School System invites community members to participate in one of two community forums to provide feedback regarding

desired leadership characteristics and priorities of the next superintendent.

The forums are scheduled for the following dates and locations:

- Thursday, November 30, 4-5 p.m. at Centennial High School
- Tuesday, December 5, 7-8 p.m. at Wilde Lake Middle School

Members of the public unable to attend one of the forums may provide input by completing an [online survey](#). [Paper copies of surveys](#) may be downloaded and sent to the Board of Education, 10910 Clarksville Pike, Ellicott City, MD 21042, or emailed to boe@hcpss.org. Responses will be collected until noon on Wednesday, December 6, and will be shared with the Board of Education to inform the superintendent search process.

Title I Information

Did you know that our school receives resources from Title I? Title I, Part A is contained in the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), which was signed into law in 2015. This legislation reauthorizes the 50-year-old Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). Title I, Part A is a federal program that provides financial assistance to local school systems and schools with high percentages of poor children to support the academic achievement of disadvantaged students. All twenty-four local education agencies in Maryland receive Title I funds. These funds provide additional academic support and learning opportunities to help low-achieving children who attend Title I schools master challenging curricula and meet state standards. Title I funds support extra instruction in reading and mathematics, additional teachers, materials of instruction, as well as after-school and summer programs to extend and reinforce the regular school curriculum. More details can be found at this link <http://sfes.hcpss.org/about/title-i-program>

Testing Information

An integral part of our instructional program includes both formative and summative assessments to help identify academic strengths and areas for growth. Our instructional staff value the information from these tests since they help to meet and exceed student needs. More detailed information regarding the various tests administered at the elementary, middle, and high school level is available at this link <http://www.hcpss.org/academics/testing/testing-schedule/> Please feel free to contact Ms. Albright or

Mr. Diaz if you have any questions or need additional information.

BSAP Saturday Math Academy

The Howard County Public School System's BSAP Saturday Math Academy (BSAP-SMA) has been in existence since 1992. The program was developed in collaboration with the HCPSS and parents as a response to requests for opportunities to network. The priority was to learn instructional mathematical strategies to support their children at home and to accelerate academic achievement.

Certified teachers work with a diverse population of students on all levels of mathematics. Teachers assess student levels before placement in classes and plan accordingly. In addition to receiving weekly instruction, students have multiple opportunities to engage in STEM related activities such as robotics and MESA (Math, Engineering, Science Achievement) and 30-minute chess instruction which is taught by chess tutors and community volunteers.

The BSAP Saturday Math Academy is open to all students in grades 3 - 12 in the Howard County Public School System. Students must be registered in order to attend the fall or spring sessions which meet on Saturday mornings from 9:00AM - 12:00PM at Oakland Mills High School.

Community members and parents of enrolled students and are introduced to a variety of math related topics during weekly information meetings. Visit the www.hcpss.org or contact the SFES BSAP Liaison, Ms. Dillah, at Margaret_dillah@hcpss.org for more details.

Spring Dates - 2018 are
January 20th - Registration
February 3, 10, 24; March 3, 10, 17, 24

Community News

Tickets are on sale for the 2017 Concert for Kids <<http://www.concertforkids.net>> to benefit the WBAL Radio Kids Campaign <<http://www.wbal.com/kids>>! The Concert for Kids features two performances; a 1:00pm Family Matinee and a 7:30pm Evening Concert. Both concerts feature full symphonic orchestra, choir, dance and professional soloists ringing in the holidays with music of the season. Performances by the Oakland Mills High School Jazz Band, the Oakland Mills Middle School Jazz Band, and Oakland Mills High School Choir students will also help to "make your spirit bright". Pictures with Santa and a do-it-yourself holiday craft will be available for the children. The Family Matinee concert is a shorter version of the Evening Concert suitable for younger children and families. For more information and to purchase tickets go to <http://www.concertforkids.net> <<http://www.concertforkids.net>>. The past two years the Evening Concert has sold out so get your tickets before it's too late!