

STEVENS FOREST ELEMENTARY



BOBCAT NEWS

June 14, 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

September 5 - First Day of School 2017-2018
(Additional details regarding the first day for PreK, if different from 9/5, will be communicated later in the summer)

Have a Great Summer!

Ms. Albright and I would like to thank the entire SFES school community for their support and hard work this year. It has been wonderful to see the physical, intellectual, emotional, and social growth of all students. We especially thank our staff for their dedication and hard work in support of SFES students.

We also send out a **HUGE THANK YOU** to two teachers who are retiring this year after many years of service to Howard County, SFES, and their students.

Yes, Ms. Grace Derenberger and Ms. Debbie Osborn will both retire at the conclusion of this school year. Please join us and the thousands of students who benefitted from their positive impact in wishing Ms. Derenberger and Ms. Osborn the very best as they embark onto their next adventure.

We are well into the planning stages for the 2017-2018 school year and look forward to welcoming students on the **first day of school, Tuesday, September 5, 2017!**

Changes to the Elementary School Model for 2017-2018

The Elementary School Model (ESM) will be changing for the 2017-2018 school year.

- Strengths Development will no longer be funded by HCPSS. However, we will continue to focus on the 5 Principles of 'Grow Strong'.
- Departmentalization will be adjusted as follows:
 - Departmentalized instruction will no longer take place in Grade 1 at ESM or any other HCPSS schools.
 - Decisions about departmentalized instruction in grades 2-5 are school-based decisions. At SFES, we have decided to keep grades 3-5 departmentalized. Grades PreK - 2 will not be departmentalized.

The other parts of the model will remain in their current form. If you are seeking information regarding the Elementary School Model, please visit this [link](#). I am looking forward to our continued work on this initiative. Please feel free to contact me if you have any additional questions.

Howard County Public Library Summer Program

We encourage all SFES students and families to take advantage of the Howard County Public Library System Summer Program to continue practicing their reading skills now that the summer is a bit longer. Students will enjoy fun activities and earn virtual badges and prizes. Please visit <http://hclibrary.org/hclsummer/> for more details and registration information.

Summer Spanish Practice

We are pleased to announce that SFES students will be able to access their "Santillana" Spanish textbook

online over the summer to continue their learning. The Spanish teachers will be sending specific details with the students in the coming days regarding this voluntary yet worthwhile opportunity.

Are you Moving?

If your family is moving for the 2017-2018 school year, please contact the front office at (410) 313-6900 so we can assist you. Visit this link <http://www.hcpss.org/enroll/> for more enrollment/transfer details within Howard County.

Free Summer Meals

In 2015, about 3.8 million children received Summer Meals - far fewer than the 21 million children who receive free or reduced price lunches through the National School Lunch Program during the school year. This means that during the summer we are not reaching the vast majority of children who rely on school meals to meet their nutritional needs.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) operates summer meals programs to address this problem. The HCPSS will be participating in the Summer Food Service Program, where meals will be provided at Stevens Forest Elementary School to all children without charge regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability. **Free summer meals will be provided in the cafeteria from June 26th to August 4th, 2017 from 12:30 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. at SFES.**

Please review the details below and contact our office at (410) 313-6900 if you have any questions or need additional details.

HCPSS Community News

The school system provides community news items on a weekly basis on its website at this link <http://www.hcpss.org/community-news-and-programs/>. Please visit regularly for updates.

BIKE WITH A COP in OAKLAND MILLS



Thursday, June 15, 2017
5:30pm

Meet in front of
the police trailer
5851 Robert Oliver Place

Kids ages 5-11 and their parents are invited to bike the pathways of Oakland Mills with officers from HCPD's Pathway Patrol Section. A brief bicycle safety lesson will be given prior to the ride.

Children ages 9 and under **MUST** be accompanied by an adult and helmets **MUST** be worn.

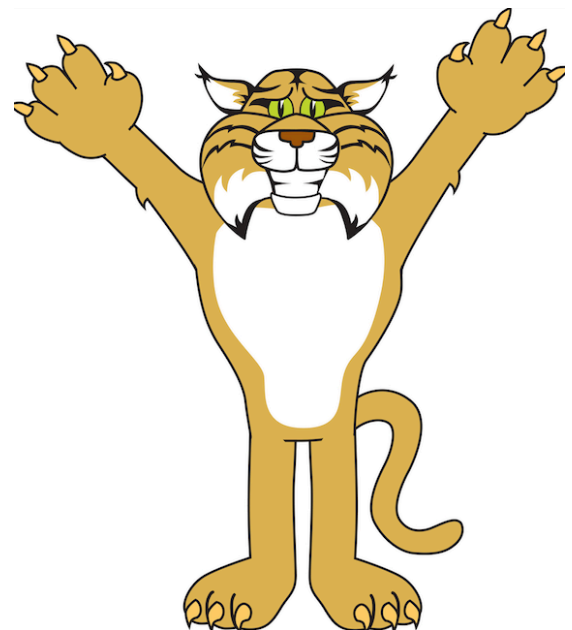
For more information, please contact Brigitta Warren at 410-730-4610 or events@oaklandmills.org.



Sponsored by HCPD's Pathway Patrol and Oakland Mills Community Association's Safety and Security Committee.



Have a Great Summer!



FREE SUMMER MEALS for KIDS & TEENS
Being Served in your Community

OPEN to ALL children, 18 and younger.

NO Application, NO Enrollment, NO Cost!

Open Sites:

Harper's Choice Middle School
5450 Beaverkill Rd., Columbia, MD 21044
June 26 - August 4, 2017
(11:30 am - 1:00 pm)

Murray Hill Middle School
9989 Winter Run Rd., Laurel, MD 20723
June 26 - August 4, 2017
(11:30 am - 1:00 pm)

Thomas Viaduct Middle School
7000 Bambarby Dr., Hanover, MD 21076
June 26 - August 4, 2017
(11:30 am - 1:00 pm)

Stevens Forest Elementary School
6045 Stevens Forest Rd., Columbia, MD 21045
June 26 - August 4, 2017
(12:30 pm - 2:00 pm)

For more information please contact HCPSS Food and Nutrition Services at www.hcpss.org/food-services or at 410-313-6743.