

CARROLL MANOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

4434 Carroll Manor Road

Baldwin, MD 2101

Phone: 443-809-5947

<http://carrollmanores.bcps.org>

[@CarrollManorES](#)

SEPTEMBER 2023 NEWSLETTER

Principal: Angela McNelly

Assistant Principal: Tracy Hanley



PRINCIPAL'S PERSPECTIVE

I truly hope that everyone had a relaxing and rejuvenating summer break. Although summer always seems to go by too fast, it has been very exciting to welcome our students back to Carroll Manor for the 2023-2024 school year. It will certainly be a year filled with new faces, new learning, and new initiatives.

Our Back-to-School Night Open House was held on 8/24. It was a considerable success with so many families represented. We encourage parents and family members to be active participants in their child's education. Please remember, if you would like to volunteer at the school in any capacity including attending field trips, you must complete the Volunteer Training on the [BCPS website](#) each year. Please turn in your application to Mrs. Hardesty via "kid-mail" or email to shardesty@bcps.org.

We continue to build community and relationships with the HOUSE program called "Mindful Manors." Our students pledge to follow our Code of Conduct daily: I will take care of myself, I will take care of others, I will take care of our school. Every student and staff member are assigned to a Mindful Manor HOUSE color (red, orange, yellow, green, blue, purple). Throughout the school year students can earn points for themselves and their HOUSE by following our school Code of Conduct or exhibiting the monthly virtue. There will be monthly HOUSE Days - celebrations and team building activities to practice the virtues, relate them to the Code of Conduct, and acknowledge accomplishments. Students will develop skills and relationships that will help them be productive community members. The virtue for the month of September is teamwork!

A few reminders for the upcoming school year to ensure continued comfort, safety, and instructional excellence. Students should dress in layers throughout the school year as the temperatures in the classrooms vary. Have your child(ren) wear sneakers to school because we go outside for recess daily. Practicing independence with materials and meals is also critical for students; please encourage your child(ren) to open packages, eat, and clean up after themselves on their own at home. If you are volunteering, it is imperative that you enter the building through the front doors, check in with the office immediately, and receive a visitor's badge. Visitors are not permitted to visit their child's classroom or walk them to their room unless an appointment has been scheduled with the teacher. Please remember that no students should be dropped off before 8:30 am unattended. At no time should students be walking in the parking lot or crossing Carroll Manor Road alone; there are cars and buses

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coming from all directions. Please keep your child's dismissal plans consistent each day, send in handwritten notes with your child if there should be a change, do not email the teacher with changes (should he/she not be here that day), and avoid calling after 3:15 pm to change dismissal procedures if possible.

We will work to ensure that this year is packed with quality instruction, numerous challenges, new successes, and as many special events as safely possible. As always, we are committed and dedicated to building quality relationships with our Carroll Manor students and families as we carry on our long and outstanding tradition of excellence. Thank you for your continued support. We are looking forward to a spectacular and productive 2023-2024 school year!

Mrs. McNelly

Principal

HANLEY'S HAPPENINGS



In the first few weeks of school, I will be meeting with all students to introduce myself and to discuss and to review the *BCPS Student Handbook*. We will review the behavior expectations at Carroll Manor Elementary, specifically the Discipline Code which was created to ensure that every student can achieve in a safe, secure, and supportive environment. We hope that you review the *Student Handbook* with your child and/or children and place emphasis on good behavior in all parts of the schoolhouse, specifically the cafeteria, at recess, and on the school bus. It is also important to note that the *Student Handbook* is in effect for all school-sponsored activities (i.e. field trips, activity nights, Spring Fair, etc.). Students and parents should return the signed handbook acknowledgment form or electronically sign the *Student Handbook* in FOCUS.

We met with the PTA and have many wonderful events planned for this school year. We are looking forward to getting our HOUSES back together, to school pictures, to some safety drills, and much, much more.

Don't forget: it's always cool to choose kindness. We are going to have a fantastic 2023-2024 school year 😊

Mrs. Hanley

Assistant Principal

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COUNSELOR'S CORNER

Welcome back to school! Here we are at the start of another school year after, what I hope, was a fun and relaxing summer! It has been a joy to see all of your kids back in the building and being together again.

As we begin this new school year it is important to remember that the beginning of any new school year is a transition for our kids. Learning new expectations, creating new friendships, getting to know our teachers, managing schoolwork, learning our way around the building, and even getting up early, taking the bus and all the “back to school” routines that are back again at home. It is normal and understandable that our kids may be feeling overwhelmed and anxious. You may have noticed that your child does not want to leave home or expresses feelings of worry or stress.



The transition back to school will take some time for our students to become adjusted and comfortable in the new routine. Below are a few tips to keep in mind when helping your child adjust back to school:

- **Allow space for your child to express how they are feeling-** Identify the feeling and validate it. It is ok to be overwhelmed, worried, stressed etc.
- **Discuss what they can do to help themselves when they have that uncomfortable feeling,** i.e. coping strategies! Here are some to suggest: *deep breathing, fidget, positive affirmations, grounding, talk to someone etc.*
- **Show excitement and positivity!-** Children feed off of what we project. Continuing to have a positive attitude about school and show confidence in their ability to go to school each day will help them to feel more assured.

School Counseling Program

The mission of the School Counseling program at Carroll Manor Elementary is to provide each student the information and services vital to academic, career and interpersonal decision-making. Through counseling, consultation, and coordination, the school counselor serves to support and advocate for **all** members of the Carroll Manor Elementary School community.

YOU are extremely important to your child's future. As the School Counselor at Carroll Manor, I can assist you in helping your child achieve his/her potential. HOW??? Through...

Counseling: I am available to meet with students individually and in small group settings. *Some topics include: Friendship, Organization, Anxiety/Worry, Family Changes, etc.*

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Consultation: Meetings with parents and staff will help us all better understand students and their individual needs. *Parent Conferences, Letters, Phone Calls, Emails, Team Meetings, etc.*

Coordination: I organize and manage the counseling program and aid in helping families access the many support services available. *GIFTS our school-based therapy program, further outside counseling resources, etc.*

Instruction: I provide developmental and preventative education in classrooms throughout the school. Some topics for various grade levels include: *Bullying Prevention, Career Awareness, Friendship, Tolerance, Appreciating Differences, Personal Safety, Stranger Safety, etc.*

Virtues Program

As in years past, we will continue our monthly Virtues Program, where we will highlight a specific virtue and discuss it school-wide on announcements, during our HOUSE days, and incorporate them into the daily practice in the classrooms and around our school building. We hope that you will carry it over as well into your home and practice with us! The following is a list of our virtues for the 2023-2024 school year:



Month	Virtue
September	Teamwork
October	Self-Control
November	Generosity
December	Kindness
January	Honesty
February	Unity
March	Tolerance
April	Integrity
May	Perseverance
June	Confidence

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Grade 5 Magnet School Information

- Middle School Magnet Program brochures will be distributed to all 5th grade students in early September. Please be on the lookout!
- Applications will be available online through the Magnet Programs' website (www.tinyurl.com/BCPSmagnet) from noon on **September 12, 2023, until 1 p.m. on Friday, November 3, 2023.**



I look forward to a wonderful school year together!

Mrs. Hashimoto, NCC shashimoto@bcps.org
School Counselor

ART NEWS



Welcome back to school! It is going to be a great year.

If you do not know me already, I am Mrs. Adkins and I am excited to be back here at CMU for my 28th year of teaching. This is year 6 for me at Carroll Manor.

In Art, the first few weeks, we will be establishing routines and expectations for the year and will be getting started on our first projects. Look for some amazing student artwork to be coming home soon.

If you have not done so already, make sure to send in an old tee shirt in a Ziplock bag, with your child's name on it, to use as a smock (**Please, no smocks with ties**). I will store them in the art room and return them at the end of the school year.

Mrs. Adkins
Visual Arts

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MEDIA MATTERS

I hope everyone has had an amazing summer and is feeling as recharged! I am so happy to be starting my third year as the Library Media Specialist at CMES! Last year was great and I know this year will be even better 😊😊 For those new to our school, I'll share a little about myself. I am starting my 19th year teaching. Before transitioning to the library, I spent 7 of those years teaching 3rd grade here at CMES.

During our first week back, the students will explore where everything is in the library and the library expectations. Book check out for first grade students will start the second week of school and book check out for our kindergarten students will begin the third week. All students are allowed to have two books at a time at home. Books are automatically assigned for a two-week period in the computer system, but your child can exchange them earlier if they would like. Also, if your child would like a book longer, we can renew without them even having to bring the book back into school. Please reach out if you have any questions. This is going to be a great year!

Mrs. Evans

Library Media Specialist

READING IN AND AROUND CARROLL MANOR



Hello from your CMES Reading Specialists! We are so excited to work with your children as we start a brand-new reading curriculum called HMH Into Reading. This new program implements strategies and instructional approaches that align with *The Science of Reading*. Students will be receiving explicit and systematic instruction with fun, new complex texts in their Student Mybooks. Teachers sent home a family resource at the start of their first "module" (replaces the term "units") that describes the topics for the module. We look forward to working with you and supporting your child's reading and writing with HMH Into Reading.

One of the resources is the Family Room that will help you gain an understanding of the ELA instruction. You can access this from home. Scan the QR code below to learn more.



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Open Court will remain the phonics curriculum for the primary grades, while grade four and five will use the foundational skills from HMH Into Reading.

Remember to have your child turn in their Carroll Manor Summer Reading logs if they chose to participate! We will be acknowledging your child's hard work and reading with a prize in September!

We are also here as a resource to you! Please reach out if you have any questions or if you would like some advice related to your child's reading and writing!

Mrs. Wright twright4@bcps.org

Mrs. Dominick mdominick@bcps.org

Reading Specialists

NOTABLE NOTES



Once again, the halls of Carroll Manor are resounding with music! The vocal music curriculum includes the following components which are aligned to the *National Core Arts Standards*: rhythm, melody, harmony, texture, form, timbre, expression, style, vocal technique, movement, improvisation, aesthetics, criticism, historical context, and cultural context. The sequential enriching music program consists of singing, playing instruments, listening to music, improvising and composing music, and moving to music. Also included are learning experiences designed to develop the ability to read music, use the notation and terminology of music, analyze and describe music, make informed evaluations concerning music and understand music and music practices in relation to history and culture and to other disciplines in the curriculum.

Music education provides many benefits for children beyond the realms of music itself. Numerous studies have shown that music education significantly contributes to child development by improving intellectual, motor and social skills and abilities. Here at Carroll Manor, we have a vibrant music program in place. This could not be accomplished without the continuous support of the music program by the parents and the PTA. We appreciate your support and generosity!

Mrs. Wenck

Vocal Music

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GYM SHORTS



Welcome back CMES students! There are many exciting activities planned for the month of September. Please make sure students are dressed appropriately and wearing athletic shoes on their assigned gym days. Clothing should allow for physical activity.

Kindergarten and 1st grades:

- Orientation and class management activities
- Manipulative skills using hula hoops and bean bags
- Throwing skills

2nd and 3rd grades:

- Orientation and class management activities
- Manipulative skills using hula hoops
- Throwing skills
- Football skills and lead up activities

4th and 5th grades:

- Orientation and class management activities
- Manipulative skills using hula hoops
- Long-rope jumping skills
- Football skills and lead up activities

Carroll Manor Early Bird program is back and scheduled to start Friday, September 1st. Registration is posted on the CMRC site, via Stone Alley. See Mr. Wall for details or email questions to mwall@bcps.org.

Let's go Ravens & O's!!



Mr. Wall

Physical Education

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NOTES FROM THE NURSE



Welcome to the 2023/2024 school year! Below you will find some helpful information from the health suite.

- ✓ Medical paperwork for all Kindergarten and new students should be turned in by the beginning of the school year. BCPS (Baltimore County Public Schools) will exclude a child from school after 20-days from the first day if they do not have immunization records in school or an exemption.
- ✓ If your child is not new to Carroll Manor and has a change in his/her medical history, please contact the health suite.
- ✓ If you would like your child to have prescribed medications/inhaler/EpiPen to be given/stored in case of emergency in the health suite, please have your pediatrician complete the form attached to this newsletter. No medications can be given (except in the instance of anaphylaxis) without your doctor's consent.
- ✓ Please complete the discretionary medicine form you will be receiving on the first day of school, even if you would not like your child to be given over-the-counter medicine at school.
- ✓ BCPS is continuing to follow a 5-day quarantine period for positive cases. Onset of symptoms is considered "day-0" with a return on day-6 if symptoms are improving, and the student has been fever-free for 24 hours without use of fever reducing medicine.
- ✓ If your child is coming off a 5-day quarantine for Covid, they must wear a mask for the next 5-days unless they test negative after day 5.
- ✓ BCPS is no longer testing in the health suite for Covid. At home test kits can be requested once we receive a supply.
- ✓ If your child has a fever of 100 degrees or over and is not testing positive for Covid, they must stay home until they are fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medicines.
- ✓ Please contact the health suite any time your child is absent. You can email at rschafer2@bcps.org or call 443-809-3455. This helps us keep track of illnesses around school as well as attendance concerns.

Feel free to contact me anytime with questions, concerns, or changes to your child's health record.

Have an AMAZING and HEALTHY start to the new school year!

Mrs. Schafer
School Nurse

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BAND NEWS



Hello Carroll Manor! My name is Andy Mueller and I'm very excited to be the new instrumental music teacher! I have been teaching instrumental music with BCPS for almost 10 years and I can't wait to meet all the staff and students here at CMES. I started playing the saxophone in 4th grade but now my favorite instruments to play are the guitar and banjo. My hobbies include playing hockey, gardening, aquariums, disc golf, and playing music with my band. This year I will be at Carroll Manor on Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Friday afternoons.

I will be teaching 4th grade exploratory music and 5th grade band and orchestra. If you are a 5th grader, I really hope that you choose to play an instrument this year! I will be coming to 5th grade classrooms the first week of school to hand out materials and provide more information on how to enroll in instrumental music. During weekly lessons students will develop note reading and performance techniques, learn how to play with proper tone and pitch accuracy, and prepare material for our Winter and Spring concerts. We hope to begin lessons starting the final week of September. Please email me at Amueller@bcps.org if you have any questions. I'll see you at school!

Mr. Mueller

Instrumental and Exploratory Music
